

# FLATE FOCUS

March 2025



Register now for the Spring 2025 ET Forum!

**FORUM**  
on Engineering Technology

**PHSC**  
PASCO-HERNANDO STATE COLLEGE

April 3 - 8:30AM - 4PM  
April 4 - 8:30AM-1PM

Pasco Hernando State College  
New Port Richey Campus  
10230 Ridge Rd, Room 151  
New Port Richey, FL

[Register Here](#)

**LAST CHANCE!**  
Nominations Close March 28, 2025



**MOST INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING  
STUDENT EVENT AWARD**



**Nominate Your  
Event Now**

**Upcoming Professional Development**

# Dive into the Exciting World of Machine Learning through an Interactive Case Study

## Using Python for Machine Learning in Manufacturing

*Data Handling and Model Architectures*

### Webinar Details:

*Date: March 28, 2025*

*Time: 10 AM - 11 AM ET*

## A Case Study in Machine Learning Using Transfer Learning Models

*Group Activity-Based Learning Workshop*

### Webinar Details:

*Date: April 11, 2025*

*Time: 10 AM - 11 AM ET*



Register Now!

Certificates of Attendance for CE/PD Credit available upon request.



WEBINAR SERIES

## FLATE Webinar Series

**April 9, 2025 10 AM - 11 AM EDT**

*Insights Into the Workforce of the Future*

*Employees across generations are different in how they see work and engage with their employers and co-workers. Discover trends and tools to understand the differences so you can share with your students how to create an environment where all generations are heard, equipped and elevated.*



**Register Now**



## Implications of Artificial Intelligence for Educators

May 8 - 9, 2025 - Hillsborough Community College

This free two-day workshop equips faculty with the knowledge and tools to integrate AI into teaching and curriculum development. Explore lesson planning, interactive content, dynamic assessments, and ethical AI use.

Through hands-on activities and real-world examples, learn to enhance student engagement, streamline tasks, and prepare students for an AI-driven future. The session also prepares attendees for the Microsoft Azure AI Fundamentals Certification exam (exam cost not included).

**NCYTE CENTER**  
National Cybersecurity Training & Education Center

**Implications of Artificial Intelligence for Educators**  
Empowering Educators to Leverage AI both in the Teach and Learning Process.

**IN PERSON EVENT**  
May 8-9, 2025 • 8:00am -4:00pm ET  
Hillsborough Community College, Brandon Campus  
1061 Nancy Williams Dr, Tampa, FL 33619  
Room B55B 214  
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

**REGISTER FOR THIS WORKSHOP HERE:**  
Use Code: AI0117W  
https://openAIHQ2025

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION**  
This workshop equips faculty, staff, counselors, and advisors with the knowledge and tools to integrate AI into teaching and curriculum development. Participants will explore lesson planning, interactive content, dynamic assessments, and ethical AI use. Through hands-on activities and real-world examples, they'll learn to enhance student engagement, streamline tasks, and prepare students for an AI-driven future.  
The session also prepares attendees for the Microsoft Azure AI Fundamentals Certification exam (exam cost not included).

**WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS**  
**AI in Action:** See how AI improves decision-making, problem-solving, and data analysis.  
**Interactive Applications:** Try hands-on AI activities for classrooms and admin tasks.  
**Ethics & Challenges:** Tackle misinformation, Deep Fakes, and privacy concerns.  
**AI Tools:** Design adaptive assessments, course bots, and virtual assistants.  
**Curriculum Integration:** Embed AI into lesson plans for better learning.  
**Future-Ready Students:** Build critical thinking and AI skills for success.

For more information about our workshops, visit: [bit.ly/NCyTEvents](https://bit.ly/NCyTEvents)

Whatcom Community College | EPNC | Hillsborough Community College

The National Cybersecurity Training and Education Center is a proud member of the National Cyber Security Center. © 2025. All rights reserved. This event is hosted by the Hillsborough Community College. Hillsborough Community College is an Equal Opportunity Institution. Microsoft

Register here

## AMTEC Institute for Industry 4.0 Innovation Training for Post-Secondary & Secondary Educators May 20-21, June 11-12, July 10-11 or Oct 7-8 Owensboro, KY

This professional development for post-secondary and secondary educators will provide hands-on training in Industry 4.0 technologies that you can take back to your classroom as you teach students who are preparing to enter manufacturing careers.

### Sessions Include:

- Industry 4.0 concepts and training
- Competency based education
- Virtual reality
- Using these tools in the classroom
- Funding resources

Travel assistance and stipend for completing the program will be available. Attendees will also gain access to virtual monthly community-of-practice sessions featuring industry partners, peers, and best practices.

**AMTEC<sup>®</sup>**  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING TECHNICAL EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

**INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRY 4.0 INNOVATION**

Choose from multiple dates to attend one of the two day trainings (more dates will be announced):

**May 20-21, 2025**    **June 10-11, 2025**

Owensboro, Kentucky

Join us for a two day training with hands-on programs featuring nationally recognized trainers and equipment focusing on Industry 4.0 skills!

**Sessions Include:**

- Industry 4.0 concepts and training
- Competency based education
- Virtual reality
- Using these tools in the classroom
- Funding resources

**Bonus: Travel assistance and stipend for completing the program will be available.** You will also gain access to virtual monthly community-of-practice sessions featuring industry partners, peers, and best practices. Please contact us at 270-686-4410 or email [cadie.underwood@kctcs.edu](mailto:cadie.underwood@kctcs.edu) for more information and questions.

**To receive updates on registration and additional training dates, scan the QR code with your phone and complete the form.**

Thank you to our partners!

**zSpace**

**MST Multi-Skill Training SERVICES**

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Click here to apply

## News & Opportunities



### FLATE Moderates 'AI in Business' Panel at the University of South Florida's Stavros Center

On February 18, Dr. Marilyn Barger, Senior Educational

Advisor of FLATE, moderated a panel of Tampa Bay industry leaders on an insightful discussion of the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in business at the Gus A. Stavros Center for Industry Leaders. The panel included two of FLATE's manufacturer partners. The experts shared how businesses harness AI to drive innovation, streamline operations, and enhance customer experiences. The panel explored the role of AI in shaping future careers, the importance of digital literacy, how they used AI in their hiring processes, and how educators can equip students with the knowledge to succeed in an increasingly automated workforce. The Panel included:



- Bryon Spahn - Sr. Director Technology Operations and Services- Coca-Cola Beverages Florida
- Mike Parrillo- Director, Tax Information Reporting- Citigroup
- Peter Cirak- VP of Quality- Seal Dynamics; and
- Dean Bartles- CEO MTDG - Manufacturing Technology Deployment Group

Nearly thirty educators from elementary and secondary schools in the greater Tampa Bay area excitedly shared how they are using AI tools in their work both in and out of the classroom to engage students better and improve student learning. Their many examples aligned directly with the AI uses shared by the industry panel. They also discussed how students are beginning to use similar tools and how important it is to guide students' use of AI. The session provided many practical insights into integrating AI concepts into the curriculum and preparing students for tomorrow's opportunities.

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## FLATE Launches Recruitment Videos for Florida State College Engineering Technology Programs NSF Grant #2148138

The 15-minute documentary explores how statewide 2-year engineering technology degree programs are aligning with 4-year bachelor's degrees specializing in automation.



### What You'll Learn:

- The seamless transfer process from associate to bachelor's degree
- The role of industry partnerships in shaping curriculum
- How automation specialization prepares students for high-demand careers
- Student and faculty perspectives on the benefits of the aligned programs

**Why It Matters:** With the growing need for skilled automation professionals, this alignment ensures that students gain hands-on experience, industry-relevant knowledge, and a streamlined educational path to a rewarding career in automation.

The video was created as part of NSF Grant #2148138 which has confronted the technician workforce skills deficiency in the manufacturing industry by building a model for cooperative interactions between industry and education resulting in modification to meet industry needs.

Watch in the April newsletter for video shorts highlighting the programs at three of our Florida State Colleges!

[Click here to view the Video!](#)

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# Florida Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Florida's Manufacturing Industry 'Coolest Thing Made in Florida' Contest

The Florida Chamber of Commerce has launched the **Coolest Thing Made in Florida**—a statewide initiative that highlights innovation and the impact of Florida's manufacturing industry.



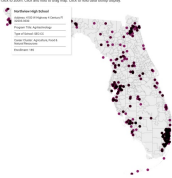
The Coolest Thing Made in Florida is a bracket-style competition designed to spotlight the incredible products manufactured in the Sunshine State. Manufacturing fuels Florida's economy, employing hundreds of thousands and driving innovation across industries like aerospace, healthcare, agriculture, and consumer goods. This competition isn't just about winning, it's about recognizing the businesses that keep Florida's economy strong.

Nominate your favorite Florida-made product and help showcase why Florida is on track to become a Top 5 manufacturing state by 2030!

Nominations open until May 31, 2025

## FLATE Resources

Academic Programs at Secondary Education Curriculum Institutions that Support Manufacturers



### FLATE's Manufacturing Matters Dashboard

A tool highlighting manufacturing education, careers, industry, and their impact on Florida's economy.

Manufacturing Matters  
Dashboard

## FLATE Webinar Series - Watch on Demand

- Data Analytics in Manufacturing (November 2024)
- Necessary Skills Now: Resources for Integrating Employability Skills into Technical Programs (October 2024)
- Edge Computing: A Feasible & Integrated Approach to Collecting System Data
- A Universal Programming Approach for any make of Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs)
- Best Practices for your CNC Course or Program
- Overview of AI in Manufacturing
- Overview of Teaching PLCs
- Leveraging an Open Lab to Provide Greater Access for Students in your Manufacturing Program
- Developing Local Articulations to Increase Enrollment in College Programs
- How to Create Work-based Learning Opportunities
- Recruiting Strategies Best Practices
- Robots for AI and Industry 4.0 Training and Demo
- Creating Videos using Classroom Projects and Student Success Stories
- How to Increase Student Diversity in ET Programs



- How to Develop ET Dual Enrollment or Early College Programs
- Cybersecurity for Manufacturing Series (4-part)
- Overview of Teaching PLCs

View Webinars on  
Demand



[flate.org](http://flate.org)

**FLATE's**wiki  
...full of great FREE RESOURCES for you!

[FLATE wiki](http://FLATE wiki)



[madeinflorida.org](http://madeinflorida.org)

## Florida Department of Education Resources

**GET THERE**

Florida's Workforce Education Initiative

With Career, Technical and Adult Education (CTAE), you can train for a better career quickly and affordably.

**APPRENTICE  
FLORIDA**

Apprenticeship programs are a proven training method benefiting job seekers and businesses.

### Check Out Our Previous Newsletters:

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