

# TECH *MTI* TREK

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Mitchell Technical Institute

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## Student Rep Board Seeks New Members

Are you a person who enjoys getting friends together for an evening of fun activities? Do you like to be involved? Are you a potential leader? If you answered yes to even one of the questions listed above, then we need you on the Student Representative Board!!!

SRB is made up of four first year students, four second year students, and the student body president, Corinna Willrodt, who was elected last spring. Some of the responsibilities of the SRB are to plan a variety of activities throughout the year, including the mindreader on Sept. 26, Dodgeball Tournament, Bowling night, Christmas Party, etc. We meet regularly (meeting times are arranged with your class schedule in mind).

If you are interested, or know someone who is, please complete the attached application and drop it off in the Bookstore or in Student Services (Admissions).

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Laurie Kenworthy (Bookstore), Dale Moke (Electronics instructor), Corinna Willrodt (SRB President), or Julie Hart-Schutte in Student Services!

## President Welcomes Students to MTI

*by Chris Paustian, MTI President/CEO*

It seems like every fall when I write a 'back-to-school- column,' I end up talking about change. I told myself that wasn't going to happen this year and yet again I find myself facing the beginning of another school year and having my thoughts drifting to where MTI has been and where MTI is going. Some of those thoughts are because of the number of years I've been at MTI. Of course there are instructors who have been here longer and they can really talk about the 'good old days.'

For all of you at MTI, these are your 'good old days,' strange as that sounds. Since that first day in 1968 when it was called the Mitchell Area Vocational Technical School, the institution has seen a myriad of changes, and well it should. At MTI we want to ensure that students are prepared to meet the challenges that life holds for them as well as being prepared for the changing needs of business and industry.

During the coming year, MTI is embarking on a number of initiatives. One of them includes a study of the curriculum of what traditionally has been called Telecommunications.

Remodeling on campus continues as we build a new radiologic technology laboratory. This will allow our students continual access to a laboratory environment. Along with that we're developing a Radiation Imaging program that will begin in the fall of 2006. An addition this summer is a new welding laboratory in order to better serve business and industry in the Mitchell area. The Technology Center at MTI's south campus has new occupants: MTI's Office of Technology and the new Network Operations Center. Made possible by a congressional appropriation, former Senator Tom Daschle and Senator Tim Johnson helped make this a reality. Lastly, a new computer forensics laboratory will become a reality during the second semester in the Computer Systems Technology program.

These are challenging times for higher education. But even with these challenges, MTI continues to move forward with program development and expansion so that we can provide quality technical education for current and future students.

Best wishes for a successful year!

## MTI Students Win, Place at Nationals

Keri Muntefering, a student in the Medical Laboratory Technology program, was awarded first place in the nation in Job Skills Demonstration at the 41st annual SkillsUSA Championships. The competition was held June 20-24 at several sites in Kansas City, Missouri.

Muntefering demonstrated the process that lab technicians perform to collect a specimen and diagnose influenza. She had previously won the South Dakota competition with the same demonstration. Job Skills Demonstration contestants show and explain an entry-level skill used in the occupational area for which they are training. The demonstration may

come from any career area, not just

Over 4600 students participated in 80 contests from every state and three territories. SkillsUSA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education. It sponsors the SkillsUSA Championships annually to recognize the achievements of career and technical education students and to encourage them to strive for excellence and pride in their chosen occupations.

Nine state winners from MTI participated in the contest. There were accompanied by MTI instructor Tom Nelson. SkillsUSA advisors at MTI are Doug Fuerst and Jen Schumacher.



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TECH TREK is a bi-weekly publication put out by the Marketing Office. Distributed on alternate Thursdays during the school year, deadline for submission of articles is the Wednesday before publication at 10:00 AM. Articles may be dropped off in the Marketing Office. Let us know how we can serve you!



presents the  
**SUB BIRTHDAY CLUB!**

Stop in the Subway store at 510 S. Sanborn for a free six-inch or four-inch round sandwich with the purchase of a 20 oz. or larger drink during your birthday month. Must present student ID. Offer good only at Mitchell Sanborn Street location. Offer good for students and staff. One sub per person.

August and September birthdays will be published in the next edition of TECH TREK.

## Culinary Student Wins Cooking Contest

Culinary Academy student Mercedes Lux, Sioux Falls, was the winner of the 2005 Professional Chefs Cooking contest (appetizer) at the recent Sioux Empire Fair. Lux's Tomato Panzerotti recipe was

adapted to include soy flour and soy cheese. A total of 12 cooking contest categories were judged.

Lux is currently enrolled in the Culinary Academy. She will graduate in May 2006.

## MTI Staff Titles Change

Mitchell School Superintendent Dr. Joe Graves announced recently that several administrative, faculty and staff titles at Mitchell Technical Institute are changing. To allow MTI to be consistent with common practice in higher education, MTI Director Chris Paustian has been named President/CEO. The three assistant director positions have

been changed to Vice Presidents: Vice President of Academic Affairs; Vice President of Administrative Services; and Vice President of Technology and Information Systems.

The technical institutes now provide transferability of the AAS Degree due to new articulation agreements with South Dakota public colleges and universities. So while titles will change, the school's mission will remain the same, along with the name 'institute.'

Other title changes will include changing "Department Heads" to "Program Directors." Area coordinators will become directors (Director of Student Services, Director of Industry Training, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, etc.). All title changes were distributed to staff members attending the opening session of the fall in-service for the 2005-06 school year.

## PBL Students Place at National Conference

The Mitchell Technical Institute chapter of Professional Business Leaders/Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) recently attended the PBL National Leadership Conference and skills competition held in Orlando, FL, June 29-July 3. Heidi Berg, Alexandria, a Computer Software Specialist student placed second in Multimedia Presentation. Jessica Kolbeck, a Computer Software Support graduate, placed sixth in Computer Applications. Other students attending included Lorri Geppert, Canova, and Jamie Schladweiler, Mitchell. The group was accompanied by adviser Laura Miller, MTI Accounting/Computers instructor.

PBL is a nonprofit educational association of students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. More than 240,000 active members participate in more than 13,000 chartered chapters in 50 states, the District of Columbia, US territories and Canada.

### Movie Tickets

### On Sale

### MTI Bookstore

### \$4.50 Each

Good for any movie,  
any day at the  
Luxury 5 Cinema!

Part of the money from  
these tickets goes to support  
MTI student activities.  
Get out, see a movie, and  
support MTI!

# Counseling Corner

Tips to make school and life  
easier from the  
MTI Counseling Office.

## Ensure Your Academic Survival

Classes have begun...you've got your books...you're going to class every day, every time. Success is yours! But, are you getting the most out of your classes? Here are some tips to ensuring your academic survival:

### Listen Carefully and Actively:

- Focus your attention on what your instructor is saying, not on the upcoming weekend.
- Evaluate what you hear, think about what your instructor's words mean and how they relate to you.
- Take notes...you can't remember everything that is said. Develop a system for taking notes so you capture the key points.
- Ask questions about anything you don't understand.

### Actively Participate:

- Be prepared for class. Complete any assigned reading.
- Participate, but don't dominate. Knowing when to listen is just as important as knowing when to speak.
- Ask questions if you're confused or if you missed a point.
- Respect others' opinions and be courteous.

### Budget Your Time:

- Develop a schedule that includes all regular activities, including class time, jobs, meals, recreation, and study time. Don't forget sleep time!
- Plan ahead for major projects and exams.
- Try to study the same subject at the same time each day.
- Choose quiet, well-lit places that are free of distractions to study.
- Gather all needed materials before you begin.
- Try to study in the same place each day.
- Take short breaks in studying. You need and deserve them.

### Get Help If You Need It!

- Contact your instructor if you have questions or don't understand a concept.
- If a certain subject matter is difficult for you, seek a tutor, if available.
- Form a study group...there's safety in numbers!

These are just a few tips to get you off on the right foot. If you would like additional information or need some help with ensuring your success at MTI, contact Julie Hart Schutte in Student Services.

Reprinted from "Academic Survival Skills: A Scriptographic Booklet" by Channing L. Bete Co., Inc.