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MTI Health Occupations Students Win Most Medals in State

(Bradenton, FL—April 12, 2011) The Manatee Technical Institute Postsecondary Chapter of the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) won the most postsecondary medals in the state at the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Jacksonville last week.

All 31 MTI contestants scored in the top five in the state, with 26 of them bringing home gold, silver, and bronze medals. By comparison, the second place postsecondary school, Pensacola State College, won 10 medals. The top three medalists or teams for each competition earn the right to represent the state of Florida at the National Leadership Conference to be held in Anaheim, California, in June.

During the Friday recognition session, MTI was also honored with a special plaque for having the largest postsecondary chapter in the state with 310 members and the Centum award for having a chapter larger than 100 members. Accepting the plaques for MTI was MTI HOSA President Steven Pawluk, a student in the Optometric Assisting Program. MTI HOSA Advisor Ronai Krugh, a career counselor at the east campus, was honored as the Florida HOSA Rookie Postsecondary Advisor of the year, an award given to a new advisor who has had less than 2 years experience in HOSA.

MTI now looks forward to the 2011 National Leadership Conference and hopes to repeat last year's feat in becoming the number one postsecondary HOSA school in the nation.

MTI Health Occupations Students of America State Winners

Dental Terminology

1st: Elizabeth Witting – Dental Assisting Program
2nd: Katarzyna Misztal – Dental Assisting Program

Medical Spelling

4th: Jennifer Martinez – Medical Assisting Program

Medical Terminology

4th: Natalia Heyduk – Medical Assisting Program
5th: Sue Helms – Practical Nursing Program

Medical Math

5th: Jonathan Richmond – Pharmacy Technician Program

Knowledge Test - Nutrition

1st: Jen Washington – Massage Therapy Program

Knowledge Test - Pathophysiology

3rd: Lynnette Riffel – Massage Therapy Program

Knowledge Test - Pharmacology

1st: Mandee MacDonald – Pharmacy Technician Program

Dental Assisting

1st: Devon Whitlock – Dental Assisting Program

2nd: Ivonne Morales – Dental Assisting Program

3rd: Brandy Lewis – Dental Assisting Program

Extemporaneous Health Poster

1st: Jordan Fletcher – Pharmacy Technician Program

4th: Jamie Yucha – Dental Assisting Program

Medical Photography

1st : Morgan Clark – Surgical Technology Program

2nd : Helena Chavarria – Massage Therapy Program

Job Seeking Skills

1st: Amy Gray – Surgical Technology Program

2nd: John Dembiec – Surgical Technology Program

Creative Problem Solving

2nd: William Rockwell – Pharmacy Technician Program with Nadean Cowser and Allison Lenehan – Massage Therapy Program

3rd: Tony Leon, Caela Jackson and Marcos Alvarez – Massage Therapy Program

Career Health Display

1st: Michelina Recule and Olga Concepcion – Pharmacy Technician Program

2nd: Kevin Whitcomb and Hector Cadena – Surgical Technology Program

Health Education

1st: Steven Pawluk, Robin Myers and Chris Kotchi – Optometric Technician Program

Recognition Session Awards presented to MTI

Outstanding Rookie Advisor - Postsecondary

Ronai Krugh

Largest Postsecondary Chapter

Centum Chapter

About HOSA

HOSA is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education Division of Adult Career and Technical Education. HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. HOSA provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition exclusively for secondary, postsecondary, adult, and collegiate students enrolled in Health Science Education programs. Since its inception in 1976, HOSA has grown steadily reaching nearly 120,000

members through 47 chartered HOSA State Associations and approximately 3,200 secondary and postsecondary/collegiate chapters in 2009-2010.

About Manatee Technical Institute

Manatee Technical Institute is a postsecondary career and technical education center under the School District of Manatee County offering over 40 career preparation programs. It is fully accredited by the Council on Occupational Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The mission of Manatee Technical Institute is to meet and exceed our community's training and educational expectations. MTI is a 2007 Tampa Bay Business of the Year, and its students have won more SkillsUSA medals than any other school in the nation for the past seven years.

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