IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 25, 2011
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Madison College Receives “Green” Grant from Thermo Fisher Scientific

Madison Area Technical College has received a $10,000 Thermo Fisher Scientific INSPIRE Grant to support student participation in Renewable Energy for International Development.

The course, which is offered through Madison College and the Consortium for Renewable Energy Technology (CERET), examines energy and economics in developing countries with special consideration to renewable energy sources. The class combines eight weeks of online instruction with 10 days of study and hands-on work in Costa Rica. Students design and install working renewable energy systems that can be applied in developing countries.

“These scholarships will help support several of our promising science, technology, and engineering students, who will be able to advance their knowledge of renewable energy while gaining valuable international experience and intercultural skills,” says Dr. Ken Walz, Madison College Chemistry and Engineering instructor. “Furthermore, this opportunity will provide a context for students to apply their education in a very practical way that improves the environment and quality of life for families of lesser economic means.”

The INSPIRE Grant provides six $1,500 scholarships, as well as a $1,000 stipend that will be given to a program participant from Costa Rica to offset their expenses to attend related workshops in Madison.

“This program truly matches the mission of Thermo Fisher’s grant program to inspire young people to pursue careers in science leading to advances that will make the world healthier, cleaner and safer,” says Brian Davies, Acting Vice President and General Manager, Spectroscopy for Thermo Fisher Scientific.

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Madison Area Technical College serves approximately 40,000 individuals annually, providing “real world smart” education through a comprehensive curriculum of technical, liberal arts and sciences, adult basic education and continuing education, as well as customized training for employers.

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