



2009 STUDENT PROJECT SHOWCASE

Friday, April 3, 2009

Since 2006, Florida Tech has hosted the annual Design & Research Showcase in the Clemente Center on a Friday in early April. This Showcase includes dozens of posters and other project materials developed by undergraduate students, working on their own or in teams, from all academic departments in the College of Science (COS) and the College of Engineering (COE). Our students participate in these research projects to gain hands-on experience in applying science and the fundamental principles of their major. The students must conceive, research and/or design and implement the project. Additionally, they will prepare a final write up in a scientific journal format appropriate to their major, and present the final outcome of their work. The project simulates a real-world research and work environment in a variety of science fields. The students apply theory, think creatively and develop practical skills such as teamwork, professionalism and leadership. This year projects will be showcased in the Florida Tech Clemente Center for Sports & Recreation on Friday, April 3rd, 2009.

Professionals from outside the university and from other Colleges within the university are asked to visit campus and review these student projects for either of two purposes. First, Mrs. Stephanie Hopper (shopper@fit.edu), Coordinator of this Showcase, and Dr. Hamid Rassoul (rassoul@fit.edu), Co-Coordinator of this Showcase, seek professionals to review and judge projects from the COE and COS (respectively), for the purpose of selecting the top student projects in each academic field. This type of review and judging is done annually. Second, once every 2-3 years, student projects entered into this Showcase are reviewed as part of Florida Tech's "Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)". Essentially, the QEP is a university-wide initiative designed to engage all undergraduate students in scholarly project work toward the end of their degree program (e.g., capstone design or research projects, thesis projects, applied research carried out as part of pre-professional internships, and so on). Nearly all of the student projects in this Student Project Showcase were developed in courses that are part of Florida Tech's QEP. Dr. Tom Marcinkowski (marcinko@fit.edu) is spearheading the QEP activities for the entire University.