



Miami Valley Career Technology Center Press Release

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MVCTC Students Participate in Once in a Lifetime Opportunity

Dayton, Ohio – Over the past ten months, students from the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) have participated in a once in a lifetime opportunity to work with industry, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and academia to investigate, research, and solve real world issues. This amazing experience was made possible by a partnership between MVCTC and Tec^Edge. Tec^Edge is located in Dayton and according to their web site, “is a stimulating and rapidly reconfigurable environment for government/university/industry teams to explore challenging problems in national defense and public safety”. Students from MVCTC worked with Dr. Rob Williams, Research Director, Tec^Edge ICC, once a week during the school year as part of this collaboration.

The Tec^Edge goal in working with educational institutes is to, “expand opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) students at all levels, recruiting eminent university researchers and increasing resources and capabilities in areas of interest to Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL).” Dr. Williams would meet with 40 MVCTC junior and senior high school students once a week on the MVCTC campus. The students were put in groups to brainstorm, research, discuss, and analyze problems designated by Tec^Edge in the Adult Education Learning Center. The criteria to participate in the Tec^Edge “Think Tank” were that students be thinkers, willing to work on a team, willing to share ideas even if their idea was not accepted, creative, and ability to keep up on their class work at MVCTC.

Some of the projects the students worked on in the Tec^Edge “Think Tank” were the Watch Dog Robotics Project, Guess-Your-Weight Project, Virtual Collaboration Project, using gaming technology to accelerate healing of brain damage/disorders, Solar Powered UAV, and Remote Controlled Robots. The

Tec^Edge projects gave students the chance to visit the Tec^Edge laboratories and to meet with “content area experts” from Wright Patterson Air Force Base to assist them with their research.

Over the summer, two MVCTC students entering their senior years at MVCTC were selected to participate in the “Summer at the Edge Research Internship”. The purpose of the internship was to bring together high school and college students with industry and academia to investigate research and solve real world issues. The two students were Gordon Clark (Computer Technology Academy student from Milton Union) and Thomas Adamson (Air Force Junior ROTC student from Miamisburg).

MVCTC Computer Technology Academy instructor, Melissa Seifman, presented to the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA) on August 21, 2010, in Arlington, VA the discoveries made and the benefits of using virtual worlds in education for the DARPA CS-STEM (Computer Science, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) national initiative kick-off.

Ms. Seifman had to say of the Tec^Edge experience, “This summer's theme was to embrace chaos by discovering while having fun. I can say it was a chaotic, challenging, and highly enjoyable learning experience for me as well as the students.”

MVCTC looks forward to continuing the partnership with Tec^Edge to provide our students the opportunity to work with some of the best minds in the area and the opportunities Wright Patterson Air Force Base can offer. This has been an amazing opportunity for MVCTC students and staff.

For more information about MVCTC, please visit, www.mvctc.com.

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Photo: MVCTC Computer Technology Academy Instructor, Melissa Seifman, and MVCTC senior, Gordon Clark (Milton Union) with a Centerville student team member at the Tec^Edge Summer Program Open House.

Photo: MVCTC Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) senior Thomas Adamson (Miamisburg) sharing his summer Tec^Edge project with military personnel at the Tec^Edge Open House.