

Improving Industrial Technology Education with Flexible Learning Options and Student Support Services

Heartland Community College's (HCC) Flexible Learning for Industrial Technology Education (FLITE) project will demonstrate a new model for industrial technology education that employs an open manufacturing lab and flexible delivery of curriculum to enhance student access and meet industry workforce needs.

FLITE Project Goals Have FIVE Key Objectives:

- 1.** Creating an open lab for industrial-based equipment
 - Modify space for the FLITE Open Lab
 - Offer online maintenance technology courses where the students have complete flexibility for when/where to complete the knowledge-based portion of their class and then complete the entire hands-on portion in the FLITE Open Lab
- 2.** Incorporating innovative student success resources to complement the open lab
 - CTE Program Coaching now offered by full-time program coordinator faculty
 - Supplemental Instruction (SI) strategies being adapted into the FLITE Open Lab
 - New Associate Director of Career and Technical Education advising current students, recruiting new students, and supporting student success
- 3.** Adapting curriculum
 - Review, revise and update syllabus and then work through instructional re-design for each additional course to be offered in the FLITE Open Lab format
- 4.** Promoting equity through educational access
 - Work with Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) to attract and retain previously underserved students
 - Work with Student Success Coaches to provide support services to promote student success
- 5.** Increasing industrial technology career awareness
 - New Associate Director of Career and Technical Education recruiting new students through community events and school visits

In This THIRD Year Of The Grant, We Will:

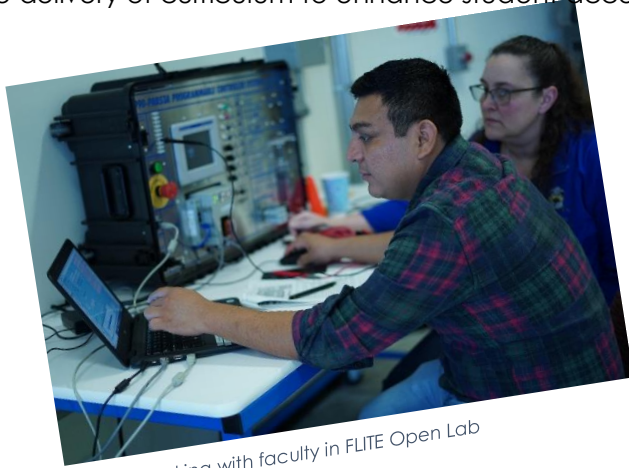
- 1.** Continue to update the online design of the maintenance technology courses offered to better support student success
- 2.** Offer maintenance technology courses in the open-access laboratory space
 - FLITE Open Lab hours are covered by faculty, facilitators, staff, and peer leaders to offer broad perspective and wide availability
 - The hours in the FLITE Open Lab have expanded each semester! We are currently open
 - i. Monday from 8P-5P
 - ii. Tuesday from 8A-8P
 - iii. Wednesday from 1P-5P
 - iv. Thursday from 8A-8P
 - v. Friday from 8A-2P
 - vi. Saturdays from 12noon-3P (by appointment)
- 3.** Evaluate the project on several levels
 - Compare student success in F2f classes with student success in online classes
 - Determine the use of the open lab by students in F2F classes
 - Instructors report that ALL students in ALL online sections are on track to succeed in these courses
 - Our apprenticeship program enrollment is growing; it will be important to see the affect of this on how the courses are offered and how they are received by students and employers
 - There is demographic variety in all maintenance technology classes (female, African American, and 25+ for age); the WEI has significantly impacted this
- 4.** HCC working with industry partners and advisory committee members to further develop this project; may include dual credit secondary partnerships to enhance workforce pipelines and promote career pathways and career lattice awareness for area students

For More Information:

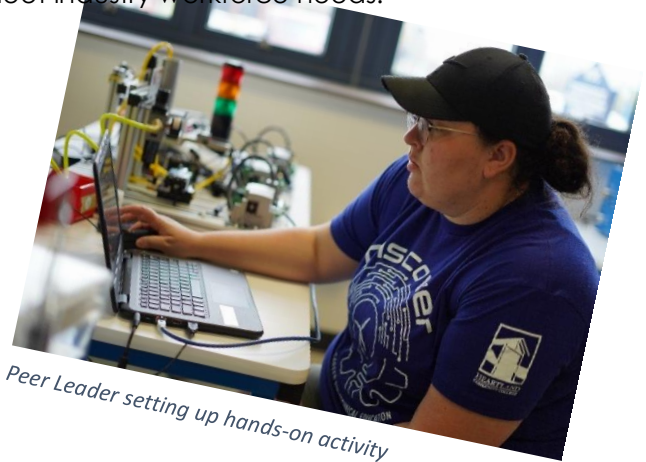
Kimberly Travers (PI), Distinguished Professor of Industrial Technology (Kim.Travers@heartland.edu)
Chris Miller (Co-PI), Distinguished Professor of Industrial Technology (Chris.Miller@heartland.edu)
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IMPROVING INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION WITH FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPTIONS AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

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Student working with faculty in FLITE Open Lab



Peer Leader setting up hands-on activity



Team of faculty and staff for the FLITE Open Lab - it's all about the team work!

For More Information:

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