

# Engineering Technology Forum – A Vehicle for Change

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## ABSTRACT

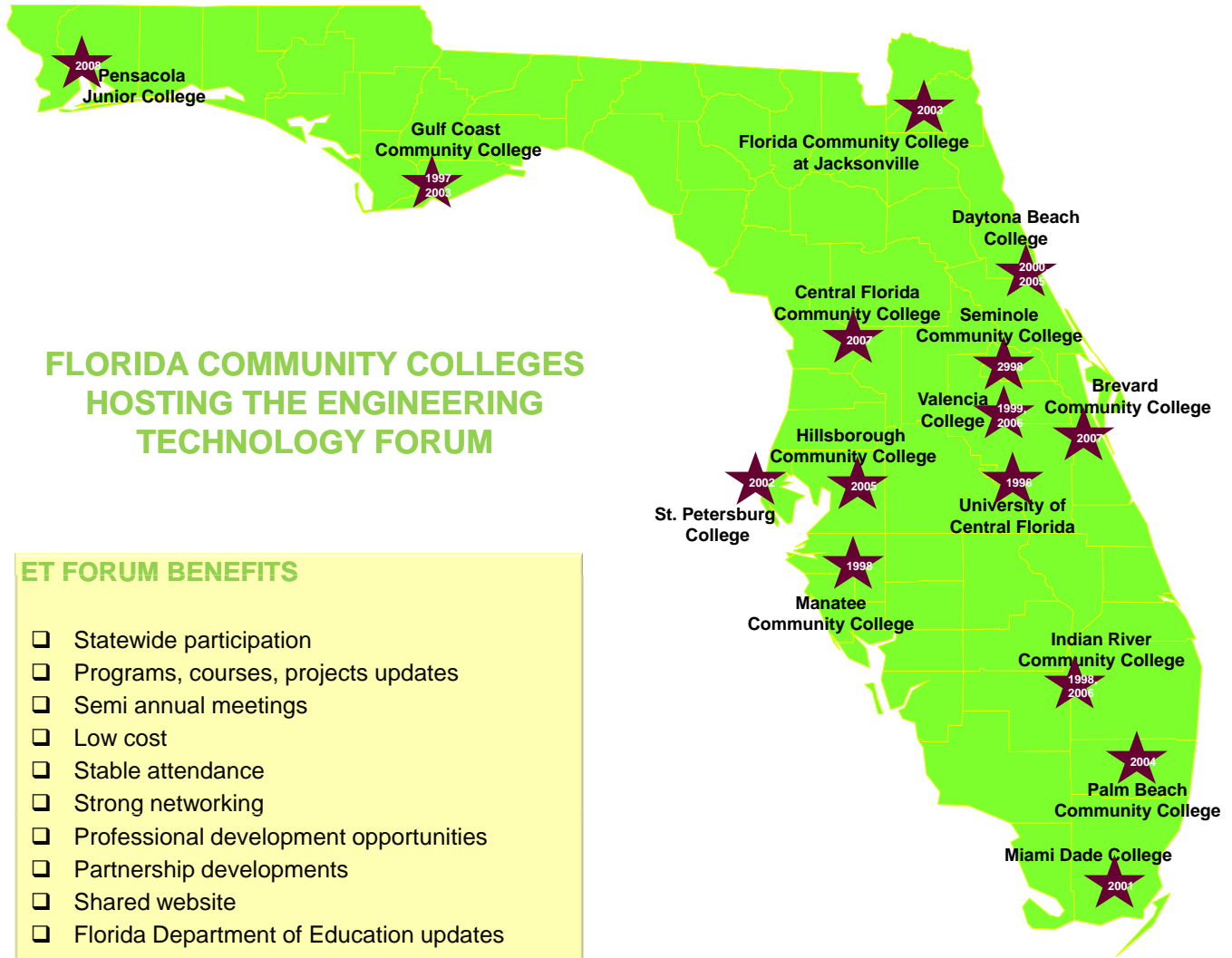
The Florida Engineering Technology Forum (ET Forum) is an important vehicle to bring together the diverse and geographically dispersed colleges with common issues and challenges. FLATE, the NSF-Advanced Technological Education Program funded Florida Regional Center, utilizes the Forum to strengthen FLATE's Technology Consortium ; to focus academic programs; to mobilize community colleges interested in Advanced Manufacturing and related high tech industries cooperating to realign Florida's Department of Education frameworks for the creation of a new and industry-relevant associate of science degree in Engineering Technology with multiple, viable and accessible upward and downward articulation pathways.

This poster presents the structure and operating characteristics of the Florida Engineering Technology Forum as a model organization for other disciplines and career clusters in Florida as well as technical disciplines in other states. This exportable model brings the community colleges and their university counterparts together with representatives from the Florida Department of Education Workforce Education Division to discuss common issues, best practices, institutional and programmatic news, and to seek solutions that better unify the programs serving students, industry, and academic institutions.

## TYPICAL 2- DAY AGENDA ARCHITECTURE

DAY 1	DAY 2
Welcome, introductions, overview	Open Forum - continued
Open Forum – issues, concerns, news	Industry Advisory Committee Panel
Enrollment & Retention – guest presentation	FL DOE Updates
Engineering Technology Degree updates	Evaluation, next meeting, closure
<b>LUNCH</b> with Vendor demos/presentations	<b>LUNCH</b> for ET Workshop
Tour /Demos – host college labs	FLATE Engineering Technology Workshop
Learning Objects – guest presentation	
SCNS (State Common Course Numbering System) Updates	
Group dinner	Workshop closure





## FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGES HOSTING THE ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY FORUM

### ET FORUM BENEFITS

- Statewide participation
- Programs, courses, projects updates
- Semi annual meetings
- Low cost
- Stable attendance
- Strong networking
- Professional development opportunities
- Partnership developments
- Shared website
- Florida Department of Education updates
- Vendor demos and products



### ET FORUM IMPACTS

- Led curriculum reform for statewide associate degree programs
- Foundation of strong partnerships between colleges
- Started reform and reorganization of common course numbering for relevant courses
- Unified input to Perkins IV state implementation plan
- Support CAPE and other CTE legislation



**FORUM**  
on Engineering Technology

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 0402215. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

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