



Florida Advanced Technological Education Center

NEWS from
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROTEIN IS THE CASH

Biomanufacturing workshop for Teachers at Hillsborough Community College

Florida Advanced Technological Education Center, a National Science Foundation regional center for excellence in manufacturing located at Hillsborough Community College (HCC) in Brandon, is partnering with FCoE-BITT (Florida Center of Excellence for Biomolecular Identification and Targeted Therapeutics) at the University of South Florida and Northeast Biomanufacturing Center and Collaborative (NBC²) to offer a week-long biomanufacturing workshop for Hillsborough County School District teachers. “Protein is Cash: An Introduction to Biomanufacturing,” will provide information on new, advanced technology career paths in biomanufacturing, will be provided free of cost to all participants, and held June 14-18 at HCC in Brandon.

Course content is geared to cover a wide range of topics. The “protein” component will be derived from transforming cells with foreign genes through the transformation of DNA into RNA. The “cash” component will come from the process of maximizing protein production. The workshop also offers 30 in-service points to current teachers, and 3 graduate credits at the University of South Florida along with a stipend of \$23.25 per hour for Hillsborough County teachers.

(MORE)

1st add HCC Biomanufacturing Workshop

During the workshop, participants will learn how to transform cells with foreign genes through hands-on exercises; learn how these transformed cells are cultivated in increasing numbers to maximize the amount of protein, how protein is purified from the cells or nutrient medium, and how quality control tests are used to determine the characteristics of the produced protein. Participants will also get an opportunity to engage in a clinical trials board game, explore career pathways in biomanufacturing and biotechnology, and tour labs at Moffit Cancer Center.

Dr. Marilyn Barger, executive director of FLATE hopes “the workshop will catalyze the development or expansion of the local education, training and workforce infrastructure to support the growing numbers of regional biomanufacturing and biotechnology industries. Barger hopes the workshop will yield increased commitment from local high schools, community colleges, universities and companies to work together to develop local workforce initiatives and provide additional resources for teachers to introduce their students to exciting career pathways/opportunities in biomanufacturing and biotechnology.

For more information on the workshop, visit <http://www.fl-ate.org/projects/bitt.html>, or contact Dr. Marilyn Barger at [813.253.6578](tel:813.253.6578)/barger@fl-ate.org.

FLATE is a National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence, committed to ensure Florida has a well prepared workforce for advanced and emerging technologies related to manufacturing. Created in 2004, FLATE is one of 36 Advanced Technological Education Centers in the United States funded by the National Science Foundation focused on improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and training to meet the needs of American advanced technology industries. For more information visit www.fl-ate.org.

(MORE)

2nd add HCC Biomanufacturing Workshop

FCoE- BITT (Florida Center of Excellence for Biomolecular Identification for Targeted Therapeutics) is a state legislatively-supported biotechnology-based applied research center. The research and development center is located at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and its workforce development program is housed at Hillsborough Community College in Brandon. FCoE-BITT is one of several Florida centers of excellence committed to transitioning applied research to local and statewide economic development. For more information visit www.fl-ate.org/projects/bitt.html.

NBC² (Northeast Biomanufacturing Center and Collaborative) is a National Science Foundation - Advanced Technological Education Center committed to coordinate local and regional efforts into a national biomanufacturing education and training system, and to promote, create, and sustain a qualified workforce. Created in May 2008, NBC² is a nationally recognized center of excellence that develops a world-class sustainable biomanufacturing workforce. For more information visit www.biomanufacturing.org .

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