Colby Free Press Wednesday, August 18, 2010

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Solar energy expert to speak

Although wind farms and small wind turbines are increasingly the alternative energy source of choice for Kansas residents, Colby Community College instructor Tom Moorhous will be presenting other sources in his Introduction to Energy Technologies course scheduled to begin next Monday.

The class will meet from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Aug. 23-27 in room 710 of the Bedker building on the southwest corner of campus.

"I am very pleased that Chris Fox, one of the area's premiere experts in the solar photovoltaic industry will be speaking to the class on Tuesday, Aug. 24," said Moorhous. "He will have a mini hands-on solar photovoltaic lab for those in the class. He will be bringing the basic parts to demonstrate solar photovoltaic systems and how they can be utilized by residential and commercial customers."

Fox is co-owner and community education director of Namaste Solar located in Denver. He began working in the industry in California prior to joining the Namaste team in early 2007. He was a system installer in California and is now working as a system designer.

The company is community values based and emphasizes community education. Fox shares his experience by helping system owners understand the "nuts and bolts" of the installation process. He completed a three-day workshop at the University of Colorado in Boulder earlier this month.

"Fox will demonstrate solar equipment including the basic parts and how they work," said Moorhous. "He will answer questions regarding costs and potential rebates and incentives for solar power. This will be a very hands-on lab with one of the leading experts in the industry. Community members are the college admissions department at 460- ternative energy program, call Moorhous at welcome to attend.'

To enroll in the one-credit-hour class, call



Debbie Schwanke/Colby Community College

Colby Community College alternative energy instructor Derek Reilley displayed a "solar stik" which he built on the college campus. The college is offering several alternative energy classes this fall, many during the evening hours. For information, contact Tom Moorhous at (785) 460-5534.

For information about this class or the al-

(785) 460-5534.

Conference features Colby instructors

munity College instructors Dr. Mi- ance costs and issues of accountchael Thompson and Krista Carter ability and monitoring.' were chosen to present seminars at the Summer Institute for Distance Learning and Instructional Technology held Aug. 5 and 6 on the Johnson County Community College campus.

Joining Thompson and Carter this year was Dr. Linda Davis-Stephens, who discussed her work with learning spaces.

Sponsored by Colleague 2 Colleague, the Institute brought together over 400 educators from across the country to share their expertise.

Blended learning was seminar the topic on Aug. 5. The Higher Education Opportunity Act was the focus on Aug. 6. "Blended

Krista Carter

learning courses make better use of time and space on campuses today," said Thompson. "By combining the best of face-to-face instruction with online learning technology, blended approaches can reduce time on campus while contributing to better learning outcomes by involving students more actively with course material."

"The Higher Education Opportunity Act has created a lot of concern and discussion regarding the costly and complex changes required in the e-learning environment particularly in the areas of academic integrity and student authentication," said Carter. "Our courses. For information about presentation discussed what the on-line and blended classes, terms of the Higher Education call the admissions department at Opportunity Act meant to the col- (785) 460-4690.

For the third year, Colby Com- leges including potential compli-

Dr.

Davis-



M. Thompson

Stephens' presentation cused on ways to look at the kinds of classroom environments presently used and what can be changed to improve student learning.

"Classrooms designed for textbook learning can be adapted for the blended environments of virtual learning and face to face," said Davis-Stephens. "The lecture style delivery of course content transforms the built environment to foster ideas and promote student-centered learning. In addition to renovations to the classroom, attention to architecture and learning spaces is important to distance learning. Course and instruction design are considered along with classroom design." Thompson,



Stephens

Carter and Davis-Stephens were instrumental in implementation of the college's blended class offerings using the Axio learning system developed by Kansas State University.

The college is expanding distance learning classes this fall with the addition of several new

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Students do well at Phi Beta Lambda nationals

After an exceptional perfor- plete in two events. Colby student Pounds. "Siebert received sevmance at the state competition David Siebert competed in Help enth in Help Desk and fourth in Analysis and Decision Making. during the spring semester, sev- Desk as an individual event, and Network Design. He graduated in eral Colby Community College in Network Design as a team with May from the college with a destudents were recognized for their Brett Bandy and James Bomba. achievements at the national Phi July 9-12 in Nashville, Tenn.

"The students were recognized Beta Lambda Conference held at the awards ceremony for placing in the top 10 in the individual Students were allowed to com- events," said sponsor Crystal Help Desk. Robert Borneman vate colleges and universities.

plans to take additional courses this semester.'

placed eighth in Management

Phi Beta Lambda is the largest professional business leadership gree in computer science and he organization for college students in the U.S. with over 12,000 members. The competition included Bandy received first place in two- and four-year public and pri-

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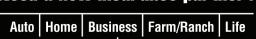
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