



Northwest Iowa  
Community College

603 West Park Street  
Sheldon, Iowa 51201  
Phone 712-324-5061 or  
toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

**May 12, 2010**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*May be published  
when received.*

### **Northwest Iowa Community College Recognized for Service to the State SkillsUSA Organization**

Northwest Iowa Community College Instructor Steve Pearce, Industrial Instrumentation & Control, was recognized at the Iowa State SkillsUSA Leadership Conference held April 30-May 1 in Des Moines, Iowa. Pearce was recognized for his six years of service as a State Board member.

SkillsUSA leadership programs help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the lab and classroom, and promote community service. SkillsUSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and is also cited as a "successful model of employer-driven youth development training program" by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The mission of SkillsUSA is an applied method of instruction for preparing America's high performance workers in public career and technical programs. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work: high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free-enterprise system and involvement in community service.

Pearce has been involved in SkillsUSA ever since he started teaching at NCC in 1999. Pearce commented, "SkillsUSA is a good opportunity for the students to show their leadership skills and what they have learned in their classes. They also have a lot of fun."

Pearce continued, "Taking students to the State and National competitions is very gratifying. I love hearing the students name called to go up to the stage and receive their medal. It's always very exciting. One of my most memorable moments of SkillsUSA is of one particular student. He wasn't a very sociable student in the beginning of the school year but I encouraged him to get involved and participate in SkillsUSA. By the end of his time at NCC he had become an elected State Officer in the SkillsUSA Organization. You could just see the dramatic growth of this young man and see him develop as a student as well as a person."

This year NCC brought home 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> place twenty two times earning thirty two medals in twelve of thirteen competitions with twelve students advancing to the National SkillsUSA Leadership Conference. NCC students won a total of 12 gold medals, 14 silver medals, and 6 bronze medals.

"Being on the SkillsUSA Board at the state level gives you and the College the opportunity to have input on the direction the state organizations goes. It's important to have NCC's (and Northwest Iowa's) voice heard."

For more information on SkillsUSA, or about any of the more than 40 programs offered at Northwest Iowa Community College, contact us by calling 712-324-5061 or 1-800-352-4907 or visit our website at [www.nwicc.edu](http://www.nwicc.edu).