

For Immediate Release:

Contact:

Katharine Kellar
Public Relations Coordinator
724-653-2221
kkellar@dec.edu

MEDICAL AND BUSINESS STUDENTS AT DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER ENCOURAGE HEALTHY LIVING THROUGH STUDENT AND STAFF HEALTH FAIR

MONESSEN, PA., SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 - Rhonda Terry's hands worked diligently around President Jeffrey Imbrescia's arm.

Terry, a second semester medical assistant student at Douglas Education Center, carefully examined and placed a blood pressure cuff around Imbrescia's arm.

"Do you have a history of high blood pressure?" Terry asked.

Imbrescia chuckled slightly and admitted he had a bit of a history.

"You can lower the risk of high blood pressure by making healthy lifestyle changes, and if needed, by taking medicine," Terry offered.

Imbrescia was one of approximately 50 people who attended the free DEC Student and Staff Health Fair. "We are very proud to be able to offer such a high-quality learning experience to our students. The Fair is a wonderful chance for our students to showcase their new skills and advancing career training."

The DEC Student and Staff Health Fair, chaired by medical coordinator Tammy Savage and lead business instructor Rene Karnash, is a collaborative effort among the medical and business programs at Douglas Education Center (DEC). The Fair is an attempt to inform, educate and empower the internal community of DEC to adapt healthier lifestyle behaviors as well as show students that in a real-world setting there needs to be a deep level of trust and collaboration between healthcare professionals and those organizations that provide the tools they need to deliver efficient patient care.

For two years these programs have come together to not only promote healthy living, but also to offer an array of testing, medical screenings, and insight to the participating students all FREE of cost.

The Fair was held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at DEC's Medical Technology Building, located at 456 Donner Avenue. The Medical Technology Building is a fully-equipped, simulated physician's office setting designed to accommodate competency-based learning concepts. The complex includes a wide variety of

instruments and equipment used in a physician's office such as surgical instruments and a state-of-the-art instructional demonstration mannequin just to name a few.

The Medical program organized all of the hands-on skills performed on the day of the event. For the entire length of the semester, DEC medical students prepare for the skills they will be performing at The Fair. Medical instructors oversee all procedures performed on the day of The Fair in order for the day to be carried off with the utmost safety for DEC students and participants.

"Our students, both business and medical, gain invaluable experience by participating in the health fair. It gives the students some real-life experience to better prepare them for the workforce," noted Savage.

The Business program planned, coordinated, and executed all of the preparations for the Student and Staff Health Fair. These students made the flyers, result cards, purchased snacks and organized and ran the entry station.

"It is wonderful that DEC promotes collaborative efforts among programs." said Karnash. "We love the health fair! Students and staff look forward to the event each semester."

Douglas Education Center is dedicated to providing educational programs that prepare students for entry-level positions in a competitive, rapidly changing workplace. DEC offers program in special make-up effects, digital film, illustration, graphic design and web, cosmetology, medical and business.

To learn more about DEC and its programs, please visit www.dec.edu.

###

ABOUT DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER'S MEDICAL PROGRAMS

Douglas Education Center's (DEC) Medical Programs are taught by registered nurses with a combined work experience of 40+ years. Students graduate with an Associate in Specialized Business Degree or diploma in their chosen field of interest. Medical Programs include Medical Assistant Program, Health Information Technology Program, Medical Transcription Specialist Program, Medical Unit Clerk Program, and Medical Billing Clerk Program. Facilities replicate real-world medical settings and students receive a laptop full of software.

ABOUT DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER'S BUSINESS PROGRAM

Douglas Education Center's (DEC) Business Program is developed through ongoing consultation with management professionals. The Business Program is the Professional Business Technology Program. The curriculum has been re-designed to provide a strong foundation in the principles of sales and marketing, entrepreneurship and small business, financial planning and management, and integrated office projects. Business students receive laptops loaded with the necessary software needed for the program.



130 Seventh Street
Monessen, PA 15062
T 724.684.3684
1.800.413.6013
F 724.684.7463
www.dec.edu

ABOUT DOUGLAS EDUCATION CENTER

Established in 1904, Douglas Education Center (DEC) is the premier creative career institution located in Monessen, PA. DEC creates an educational atmosphere that not only fosters the highest standards of excellence in all students, but also helps these students develop an awareness of social responsibility and ethical behavior. DEC offers programs in special make-up effects, digital film, illustration, graphic design and web, cosmetology, medical and business. DEC instructors are industry professional who have actual working knowledge and experience in the programs in which they teach.