

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SIAST takes health care simulation province-wide**

*SIAST nursing, paramedic students benefit from new wireless technology*

**October 23, 2009** – SIAST unveiled today four state-of-the-art wireless patient simulators at its campus in Regina. These health care simulation mannequins are new on the market, and SIAST is first in the world to receive the wireless model – METIman.

METIman is the next generation of patient simulators and will be used by SIAST nursing, paramedic and continuing care students across the province –1,270 students in 12 program areas. The simulators are fully wireless with on-board fluid, pneumatic and electrical systems, operating via a laptop computer and web-based software. METIman is programmed to respond to questions and actions of the students as a real-life patient would.

“Incorporating technology into education exposes students to a variety of situations that they might not encounter on their clinical placements or practicums,” stated Netha Dyck, SIAST’s dean of Nursing. “It allows them to practise a range of health care and critical thinking skills in a near-to-real environment.”

Simulation education is not a new concept for SIAST. For the opening of its first Simulation Learning Centre in Regina, SIAST purchased three patient simulators. These mannequins are housed within the simulation lab, wired to a computer.

The new METIman models, because of their portability, are not confined to a designated wired simulation environment. This means that SIAST students from across the province have the opportunity to benefit from patient simulation. One of the models will stay in Regina at SIAST Wascana Campus, and the other three will be available to students in Prince Albert at SIAST Woodland Campus and in Saskatoon at SIAST Kelsey Campus and SIAST Kelsey 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Centre.

SIAST is Saskatchewan’s primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise

and innovation. More than 13,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws almost 32,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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