

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Agreement adds degree options for Computer Systems Technology grads

September 17, 2008 - Students in the Computer Systems Technology (CST) diploma program at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) now have the option to transfer their diploma and continue in a degree program through the University of Saskatchewan's College of Arts & Science.

This agreement, which was officially signed during an event held today at the university, will enable graduates of SIAST's Computer Systems Technology program to continue their studies in either a Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science (Honours) or a Bachelor of Science (Honours) – Software Engineering degree program within the university's College of Arts & Science. The transfer agreement will apply to past and future graduates of the SIAST Computer Systems Technology program.

"The Department of Computer Science is excited to offer SIAST students the ability to continue their studies in this dynamic and growing field with us," said Eric Neufeld, head of the Department of Computer Science at the U of S. "This is an important agreement that allows SIAST graduates of Computer Systems Technology the ability to pursue a degree in Computer Science while remaining in Saskatchewan."

Graduates from SIAST's Computer Systems Technology diploma program who meet the entry requirements will now be able to complete one of the Computer Science degree programs in two years as a U of S student.

"This agreement adds to the versatility of a Computer Systems Technology diploma," said Arnold Boldt, dean of Technology, SIAST. "Students gain marketable skills during their two years at SIAST, while at the same time having the option to gain a degree in an accelerated time frame."

The University of Saskatchewan has secured, and continues to pursue, transfer articulation agreements with domestic and international post-secondary institutions, allowing for more options and flexibility for transfer students. SIAST has negotiated credit transfer options, including entry into degree programs, with a number of universities and colleges across Canada.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. Almost 12,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws more than 29,000 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.

Located in the heart of Saskatoon, the University of Saskatchewan is one of the leading medical doctoral universities in Canada. With 58 degrees, diplomas and certificates in over 100 areas of study, the University is uniquely positioned in the areas of human, animal and plant studies. World-class research facilities, renowned faculty and award winning students make the U of S a leader in post-secondary education.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:

Clayton Cunningham
SIAST Marketing and Communications
Tel: (306) 765-1653
Cell: (306) 961-3036
cunninghamc@siast.sk.ca

Kirk Sibbald, Communications Officer
College of Arts & Science
University of Saskatchewan
Tel: (306) 966-1982
kirk.sibbald@artsandscience.usask.ca