



SIAS

SASKATCHEWAN INSTITUTE OF
APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

SIAS's Virtual Campus lets students learn anywhere, any time

*Continuing education calendar lists hundreds of distance education
options, as well as on-campus evening courses*

August 18, 2009 – For many students – full- and part-time – going back to school this fall will simply mean turning on a computer. With the addition of 26 additional online courses, more than 200 SIAST courses are now available through SIAST's Virtual Campus.

There are many compelling reasons for taking online courses, says David Francis, academic director for the Virtual Campus. Students can take a course any time from anywhere, he notes. This means that parents can achieve a work-life balance, spending time with their families and later attending to their online courses. Working students can take courses no matter what their work schedule might be. People can be free to travel and attend class from anywhere that has internet access.

SIAST's recently published continuing education calendar provides information about courses available through online learning as well as print and video distance courses. It is easy to see why a growing number of people are taking distance education courses. Accessibility, flexibility and quality - all contribute to the attractiveness of this mode of learning.

"SIAST has experienced significant growth in courses offered by non-traditional means in recent years," says Francis. "For example, total number of registrations in online courses, courses offered via SCN and print-distance courses exceeded 11,000 in the past academic year."

SIAST's continuing education calendar provides information on courses offered through the organization's four campuses. The calendar highlights numerous courses offered on campus or through distance education in the following areas: Academic Upgrading, Agriculture, Applied/Visual Media, Business, Career Transition Programs and Services,

Community/Human Services, Computer Training, Engineering Technology, Health Services, Hospitality/Food Services, Industrial/Trades, Natural Resources, Nursing, Personal Interest, Recreation/Tourism, Science and Technology.

To obtain a copy of the SIAST continuing education calendar call 1-866-goSIAST or visit www.goSIASTCE.com or visit SIAST Palliser Campus, Saskatchewan Street & 6th Ave NW in Moose Jaw.

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.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:

Daphne May
Continuing Education Marketing Specialist, SIAST
(306) 659-3799

Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.