

MEDIA RELEASE

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Enrolment continues to increase at SIAST

Some seats still available in programs that offer marketable skills

July 14, 2010 – Enrolment at SIAST continues to grow as more students seek employment-related post-secondary education.

The increase in enrolment is led by apprenticeship training, which preliminary data indicates grew by approximately four percent in 2009-10. This latest increase in apprenticeship enrolment builds on double-digit increases in each of the previous two years. SIAST is anticipating another increase in apprenticeship training beginning this fall.

Overall enrolment was up 4.4 percent in 2008-09, the most recent time period for which full enrolment data is available. Despite the boom, however, there are still some opportunities available for students interested in an education that leads to employment, says David Walls, SIAST's senior vice president, academic.

"Certificate and diploma programs are filling up for fall, but several still have a few seats available," says Walls. "There are excellent opportunities for a job-ready education in fields as diverse as business, engineering technology, science and community services."

SIAST has been promoting program openings through a spring campaign that focuses on the hands-on attributes of its programs, with copy such as, "Hire education," and "Don't like lectures? Neither do we." For information about openings in certificate and diploma programs, visit www.goSIAST.com, click on "Choices for 2010."

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 14,000 students were enrolled in SIAST programs in the most recent academic year; additionally, the organization drew almost 30,000 individual course registrations. Through program and course registrations, SIAST served almost 26,000 distinct students with programs that touch every sector of the economy. SIAST 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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Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.