

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **SIAST students win national award**

*Water Resources Eng. Tech. students win for culvert design*

**July 6, 2010** – Two SIAST students have won a national award for their engineering technology design project. Kerri Webb and Dawson Meier won Best College Paper in this year's Corrugated Steel Pipe Institute (CSPI) Educational Outreach Program College Award. The competition is open to all post-secondary institutions.

The CSPI competition recognizes the best and most complete design project that incorporates corrugated steel pipe as a major component of the project. Art Skibinsky, instructor for Water Resources Engineering Technology at SIAST, worked the project into his classroom teachings and encouraged his students to enter the competition. Skibinsky commented, "This competition acknowledges both the practical nature of what we do in the Water Resources Engineering Technology program and the relevance of the curriculum to the industry. It's a great opportunity for my students to work on a solution for a real-life problem."

Meier felt similarly about the opportunity to work on a tangible issue. "It was an exciting opportunity to take part in the design of a real engineering project," he said.

Webb and Meier's project consisted of a design for a culvert at a crossing of the TransCanada Trail just south of the Moose Jaw River. They determined the contributing area, estimated the design flow through the culvert and used standard design practices to select the culvert size and characteristics.

Webb was surprised at the intricacies required to design a project like this. "Before the project began, I had no idea about the amount of work required to design a culvert. I really enjoyed getting out of the classroom and seeing the proposed site for the culvert installation," Webb said.

The award recipients each received a certificate and a cheque for \$900.

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.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:

Kim Mack, SIAST Marketing and Communications  
Office: (306) 691-8513  
Mobile: (306) 630-9968

Information about SIAST can be found at [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com).