



SIAST

SASKATCHEWAN INSTITUTE OF
APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Editors: See accompanying chart for a list of affected programs and locations.

SIAST realigns program capacity

Targeted program cuts necessary to accommodate growth elsewhere

April 16, 2010 – SIAST is reducing capacity in a number of programs and is suspending six to accommodate growth in other program areas. The changes will take effect in the 2010-11 academic year.

“Enrolment growth at SIAST in recent years has stretched our capacity to respond,” says David Walls, SIAST’s senior vice president, academic. “In the last five years, enrolment has increased 16.2% percent. Growth has been greatest in apprenticeship training, which has increased 43.3% in the past two years alone.”

As a result of programming reductions, 20 SIAST employees received layoff notices this week. An additional four employees received layoff notices in an unrelated reallocation of resources.

The programs selected for reductions have experienced relatively low student or employer demand. In some cases, the programs will continue to operate with reduced capacity, or they are available at other SIAST locations. Three of the programs are two-year diploma programs; students currently in the first year of these programs will have the opportunity to finish the second year.

The affected programs, which have a combined capacity of 272 seats, are listed on the accompanying chart.

For information about programs continuing to accept students for fall 2010, visit www.goSIAST.com/choices.shtml.

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.