This semester, students from the Wolverine Racing Team traveled to California to get an up close and personal look at the professional automotive world and also get some guidance in how to better operate the Wolverine race car.

Todd Low, Automotive Professor, who races the car, said last year the Automotive Department purchased data acquisition equipment from AEM, a company in California, and installed it on the car. That equipment measures speed, rpms, fuel ratio and other metrics that give the racing team better information about the car to ensure better performance.

However, once installed, the team had issues reading the outputs and working the equipment. Thus, they made the trip out to visit AEM at its facility, with the Wolverine race car in tow, to learn how to better run the system. While there, students were able to rub elbows with engineers and use the facility’s professional equipment to work on the car. Students were also able to ask questions and learn from professionals about how to better operate the equipment.

“The team got to see firsthand actual engineers using modern equipment in the real world,” Low said. “That was a really valuable experience.”

The team also visited a few other companies including CP Pistons and Edelbrock, a business that manufactures high performance parts and performance products. While there, students were able to tour an engine build room, where workers build crate motors, and then observe how they were being built and used.

Low said because the trips are such a valuable experience for the students, he plans on going again next year.

UVU wins big at state SkillsUSA

Last month UVU continued the institution’s winning tradition at the State SkillsUSA competition in Salt Lake City.

UVU won gold medals in 26 different contest categories. Counting silver and bronze, UVU won medals in 49 contest categories overall.

Those winnings from UVU alone equate to more medals than any other post-secondary institution in the state of Utah.

The gold medal winners will now advance to the nationals to be held in Kansas City, Missouri June 23-28.

During last year’s national SkillsUSA competition UVU brought home 12 national medals and ranked 2nd among all colleges and universities in the United States.
Jacelle Erickson has been named a recipient of the Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Award of Excellent for 2014.

Jacelle was recognized for establishing partnerships in bringing high school students to participate in conferences, which provide students opportunities to see what is available to them through Career and Technical Education programs.

UVU serves as a highly efficient engine of economic impact and growth in Utah. According to a recent economic impact study, UVU’s mere presence in the center of Utah’s population growth generates a significant economic imprint.

The study, by Jack Faucett Associates, Inc., indicates UVU’s robust suite of Career and Technical Education programs and activities aids the state’s emphasis on economic development.

Among those findings were that every dollar the state government used to fund the UVU CTE program produced a return on investment of $1.83. Measured in terms of value-added, CTE’s total economic impact was $42.5 million at the service region level and $47.4 million at the state level.

Moreover, for every federal Perkins program tax dollar invested in UVU, CTE had a return of $42.81 for state of Utah and $38.35 for the service region.

Additionally, according to the study, CTE provides an approximate increase in lifetime earnings, for those achieving above a high school diploma, of $130,444 for those who earn a certificate and $280,136 for an associate degree holder.

The study also indicated that CTE had a large impact on employment. UVU employs 492 faculty involved in CTE instruction, while UVU CTE indirectly supports an additional 791 jobs in its service region.

The award also acknowledged her efforts to improve CTE’s visibility through spreading CTE program success stories through monthly newsletters and a department year-end report.

Criminal Justice holds sexual assault awareness workshop

Criminal Justice is calling last month’s Sexual Assault Awareness Workshop, where they partnered with Provo Police Department and other community advocacy groups, a huge success.

Around 120 students and community members attended the free informational workshop on sexual violence, where experts presented information and fielded questions on how to help those who fall victim to assault.

The workshop also provided help for those in the community that wanted more information about reporting, or the options when not wanting to report, sexual violence.

“This is all important, as sexual violence is prevalent in our community,” said Bobbi Kassel, Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement assistant professor.

“It’s extremely important that we are able to talk about the issues, and more importantly that we know the resources and the correct information to give someone who has been a victim of a sexual assault in order to assist them in giving them options and to help them gain control of their lives.”

Workshop participants were given safety tips on how to protect themselves, and information on how the police handle such investigations.

They also learned about the forensic exam that is performed at the Gappmayer Clinic in Provo, and the ways in which victim advocates are available to help victims through the entire process.

“We wanted to send the message that victims of sexual violence have options and many resources available to help them,” Kassel said.

A number of Criminal Justice students also attended the event, which served as an opportunity for them to see the different options for careers in this field.

Many other UVU departments, including Turning Point, Women’s Success Center and Student Conduct/Conflict Resolution were also available with resources and information for those who attended the event.

CTE Department Award

CTE Informational Outreach Coordinator Jacelle Erickson has been named a recipient of the Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Award of Excellent for 2014.

Jacelle was recognized for establishing partnerships in bringing high school students to participate in conferences, which provide students opportunities to see what is available to them through Career and Technical Education programs.

Please contact us with any news or events you would like to see in the CTE newsletter. Email: jacelle.erickson@uvu.edu