



News Release

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NMCC computer-aided drafting program receives donation through efforts of graduate

Aroostook County - Students enrolled in the computer-aided drafting program at Northern Maine Community College will benefit from a donation made to the College by an individual who knows all too well the benefit of his gift.

Dan Murphy of Houlton, a former student in NMCC's CAD and electrical construction and maintenance programs, began working this summer for SGC Engineering in Orono. Shortly after his hire, Murphy learned the company was looking to replace a high quality color laser printer. Recalling that his alma mater could use such a piece of equipment, he approached management about donating the Sharp AR260P laser color printer to the computer-aided drafting program at the Presque Isle College.

After getting the go-ahead from his supervisor, Murphy contacted his former instructor Roger Crouse, who retired as a full-time faculty member from NMCC last spring but continues to teach at the College part-time.

"The printer is extremely beneficial to the CAD program," said Crouse. "It provides students the opportunity to print colored CAD images using laser technology quickly and efficiently on paper up to an 11" by 17" size. Our budget did not allow for purchase of this equipment which costs approximately \$2500. We are so grateful to Dan for giving back to the College in this manner."

Pam Buck, the lead instructor in the CAD program has already begun to put the recently acquired equipment to good use with students in her classes this semester.

"The larger paper size, along with the color feature, makes this an especially valuable tool for the computer-aided drafting lab. We are always using the 11" by 17" size paper, and in the past had to use the large format ink jet printers for color prints in this size. The laser printer is more economical and efficient to use in terms of the cost of ink and wear and tear on the machine when compared with the large format ink jets," said Buck. "Gifts such as these from industry allow this program to improve without direct cost to the College, and show a support and respect for our students by the industry of which they are about to become part."

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Northern Maine Community College part-time instructor Roger Crouse (left) and computer-aided drafting instructor Pam Buck with the new laser printer donated by SGC Engineering of Orono. The gift to the College was arranged by NMCC alumni Dan Murphy of Houlton.