

April 13, 2010

Jill M. Trinklein, HVACR Programs
(231) 591-2695, trin12@ferris.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HVACR Teams accept awards at the 2010 Energy Conference hosted by the College of Engineering Technology at Ferris State University.

BIG RAPIDS-Three teams of Ferris students representing the Heating Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) program were awarded honors in a poster competition at the Energy Conference held March 31 – April 1, 2010 .

First place in the Alternative Energy Student Poster Board group competition was awarded to; Michael Burns (Belding, MI) and Scott Ostrander (Belding, MI). The poster highlighted solid oxygen fuel cells per Bloom Energy's recent introduction via the February episode of "Sixty Minutes".

Second place winners, Thomas Mickley, (Malvern, OH) and Timothy Haggeman, (Kalamazoo, MI) illustrated the concept of gasification of cow manure and how it can be used to supply heat to homes and businesses.

The fifth place winning team in the Alternative Energy Student Poster Board group competition included Corey Giles (Alma, MI) and Markus Brower (Hudsonville, MI). The team assembled a poster board highlighting the advantages of using a chilled beam heating and cooling system and the associated cost savings.

More than 200 leaders from industry, research, government and education gathered in Big Rapids between March 31 and April 1 to share information and ideas on energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability as part of the Michigan Energy Conference. The collaborative event also provided valuable insight to current faculty and students alike who actively participated in the two-day series of sessions.

"The Michigan Energy Conference provided a broad forum for dialog on important energy issues," said Ron McKean, associate dean of Ferris' College of Technology. "The student poster board competition created student awareness and encouraged investigation into contemporary energy issues." adding, "We were pleased with the outcome of this conference and look forward to continuing our efforts to foster collaborative solutions that convert our energy challenges into opportunities for Michigan.