

PRESS RELEASE

PCTI Opens Doors to German Delegates

Wayne, NJ – **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – On Wednesday November 20th, representatives from the Federal Republic of Germany arrived at Passaic County Technical Institute (PCTI) as part of their six-city tour to sample the vocational training students receive in the United States. Their goal was to experience a model career and technical education high school for training in the Manufacturing and Engineering Industries.

Attendees toured PCTI, the largest Career & Technical high school in the state, to experience the prestigious high school's classrooms in the Manufacturing, Engineering and Architectural Drafting programs (among others), where students conduct work using real-world and state-of-the-art equipment such as 3D Printers as well as tool, dye and milling machines. German delegates learned about the skills students develop in these career paths and the partnerships in which they participate, both of which set solid foundations for pursuing a career in the world after high school.

At the tour's conclusion, visitors met with Manufacturing, Engineering, Drafting/CAD, Automotive, Auto Body, and Welding students to conduct an informational Q&A session. Guests stressed the need for skilled individuals in the industry. Representatives from the German Contingency included Josh Moon & Daniel Swartzel (Stihl Inc. USA of Virginia), Norbert Fuhrmann (Felix-Fechenbach-Berufskolleg), and Matthias Duewell (Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Washington). Other distinguished guests included William Kraus (US Department of Labor) Gale Tenen Spak (Associate Vice President of NJIT Continuing Professional Education) and Judy Savage (Executive Director of NJ Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools) who highlighted the importance of pursuing careers in New Jersey's growing Manufacturing field.

The visitation of German delegates coincided with efforts between the State Labor Department and its ManufactureNJ Talent Network, NJIT, the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development, and the state office of the Secretary of Higher Education. The ultimate goal of these affiliates is to encourage the involvement of Garden State employers within high school curriculums, colleges, and other educational institutions.



Photo Caption: Representatives from the Federal Republic of Germany speak with manufacturing students of Passaic County Technical Institute.