



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 10, 2009**

### **Industrial Technology Program at Clarion University–Venango Campus Earns National Accreditation**

OIL CITY, PA—Clarion University’s Industrial Technology program, offered through its Department of Applied Technology that is located at Clarion University–Venango Campus, was awarded national accreditation by the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) on November 10, 2009, at the ATMAE Board of Accreditation hearing in Louisville, Kentucky. ATMAE is recognized as the premier professional association for the accreditation of industrial technology programs in colleges, universities, and technical institutes.

The organization is also responsible for the promotion of industrial technology in business, industry, education, and government, as well as certification of industrial technologists and recognition of their continued professional development.

ATMAE accreditation ensures that the university has met a series of national standards to provide industry with highly competent employees and assures the graduate of an ATMAE-accredited program that they are receiving a marketable degree through relevant curricula. Clarion University’s Industrial Technology program’s accreditation followed a rigorous and comprehensive evaluation process, which included a three-day onsite visit by an ATMAE team of external reviewers in April, 2009.

“The Department of Applied Technology was developed in 2003 in response to a critical need in the region for specialized technical training identified in the Bosworth Study,” said Dr. Christopher M. Reber, executive dean of Venango Campus. “The report led the university to develop the innovative model that utilizes educational partnerships to provide opportunities to enhance and expand programs, extend outreach, share resources, and meet the changing needs of the Commonwealth and its workforce. It is very gratifying to see that the department has matured to the point that it has earned national recognition from experts in the field.”

The Department of Applied Technology offers 21 concentrations of study in Industrial Technology, and concentrations in insurance and office technology under its Administration Technology program. Under a unique partnership model, students complete general education and business courses at Clarion University–Venango Campus and the technical component of the degree through licensed, certified, accredited and/or otherwise approved technical education providers. Graduates receive an Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology or Administration Technology degree from Clarion University. Over 100 students are currently enrolled in the Venango Campus’ applied technology programs and graduate job placement exceeds 93%.

According to Dr. William Hallock, chair of the Department of Applied Technology, “We are very happy to have earned this accreditation and grateful for the ongoing support and guidance of our Industrial Technology Advisory Board. The future of the department is virtually limitless, with possible expansion into fields such as agile robotics, wind energy technology, and others. The design of the degree enables the university to respond to the needs of industry not only in developing curricula to meet educational needs, but in providing that education when and where they need it. We are currently offering three concentrations of the associate degree in industrial technology in the Ridgway/St. Marys area and are considering further expansion.”

Clarion University–Venango Campus, located in Oil City, is the oldest regional campus in Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education. The campus provides high-quality educational programs and personalized services to help students succeed. Students can begin any of Clarion University’s 90+ bachelor’s degrees at the Venango Campus, earn an associate degree, a bachelor’s or master’s degree in select areas, obtain a one-year certificate or participate in a variety of professional development and personal enrichment courses. The campus is home to Clarion University’s School of Nursing and Allied Health, the Department of Applied Technology, and the Venango Department of Arts and Sciences. Clarion University–Venango Campus is committed to serving the needs of the community.