June 23, 2011

Educators receive technology honors

At the recent the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) conference, faculty and graduates from Valley City State University (VCSU) received significant honors.

James Boe, VCSU Instructor and Chair of the Department of Technology Education, was presented with the Distinguished Technology Educator Award, one of the highest honors bestowed by the ITEEA. The award recognizes documented evidence of leadership/management skills, continuing participation in association education programs, and demonstration of leadership in association, community, and personal activities.

Annette Beattie, a 2008 graduate of VCSU’s online Master of Education program, received the Program Excellence Award in recognition for her contributions to the profession and the outstanding programs at North Central and Wimbledon Courtenay Schools. Annette’s program was one of just 21 other programs recognized from across the United States.

Bruce Hase, a 2001 graduate, received the Teacher Excellence award in recognition for providing technology and engineering education instruction of high quality, learner centered and relevant to a study of technological literacy. Bruce teaches at Linton Public Schools and was one of 36 teachers recognized for teaching excellence at the conference.

Research and curriculum initiatives by VCSU’s Technology and STEM Education faculty were presented to address the conference them of “Preparing the STEM Workforce.” Presentations delivered by the VCSU faculty included:

- “Best Practices for Online Delivery of Technology Education Coursework” – James Boe
- “ITEEA Teacher Excellence Awards” – James Boe and Peder Gjovik
- “Great Plains STEM Education Center: Opportunities for Elementary Teachers” – Roger Skophammer
- “Online STEM Certificates and Endorsements” – Don Fischer and Peder Gjovik
- “Comprehensive STEM Education Demonstration Unit” – Don Mugan, Don Fischer, and Peder Gjovik

The ITEEA conference was held March 23 – 26 in Minneapolis, and was attended by professionals from across the United States, Canada and numerous other countries for professional development, research presentations and educational tours.