



## News Release

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### **Dakota County Technical College and Flint Hills Resources Announce Program for Entrepreneurs**

*Rosemount, MN* – Prominent entrepreneurial leaders will share their expertise with students at Dakota County Technical College's new Business Entrepreneur Institute, under a program announced today by the college and Flint Hills Resources.

"We are dedicated to ensuring ideas born in Minnesota don't have to go somewhere else to become a reality," said DCTC President Ron Thomas. "Through the new Business Entrepreneur Institute, DCTC has embraced a new way of thinking in job creation."

"There is no better breeding ground in the country for entrepreneurship than Minnesota," Thomas added. "Our state is known for its ingenuity and strong work ethic, and DCTC has teamed with Flint Hills Resources to encourage this tradition by helping entrepreneurs get the skills they need to be successful."

On a monthly basis, the DCTC/Flint Hills Resources Entrepreneur Speakers' Series will feature a local entrepreneur who will share his or her expertise with individuals looking to start their own businesses or who are in larger organizations but interested in learning more about entrepreneurial principles. Flint Hills will also fund an endowed teaching chair in entrepreneurial studies. The Business Entrepreneur Institute is housed at the college's new Apple Valley facility.

"Encouraging entrepreneurship has been an important part of the culture of Flint Hills Resources," said Dave Robertson, president of Flint Hills Resources. "That is why we are excited about supporting a project that will have successful entrepreneurs sharing their knowledge and expertise."

The gift was announced today at Flint Hills Resources' annual Community Partners Luncheon held at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul. The gift marks the sixth year in a row that Flint Hills Resources has contributed to a local Dakota County community project. Past gifts have funded parks and trails in Rosemount, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, and Lebanon Hills Regional Park, as well as lab equipment for Inver Hills Community College. The company focuses its giving on the environment, education and human services.

*Dakota County Technical College has been a leader in technical education for more than 30 years. DCTC has vast experience in providing state-of-the-art technology to students looking for new careers, and professionals seeking to upgrade their skills. The college offers more than 50 programs in a variety of areas, online courses, and convenient hours to meet diverse student needs. For more information, go online at [www.dctc.edu](http://www.dctc.edu).*

*Flint Hills Resources, LP is a leading provider of transportation fuels used in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Flint Hills Resources' Pine Bend refinery has a 280,000-barrel-per-day capacity and employs approximately 700 people full-time. Flint Hills Resources, based in Wichita, Kan., produces fuels, base oils for lubricants, and other petrochemical products. The company also operates refineries in Corpus Christi, Texas and recently purchased a refinery located in North Pole, Alaska, along with refined product terminals in Fairbanks and Anchorage. More information is available at [www.fhr.com](http://www.fhr.com).*

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