



"I am a strong believer in the community college's place in preparing people for the four-year experience. There is no better way to take most of your general requirements."

—Cheryl Trombley Butz

President's Corner Cheryl Frank

Partnering with you, our friends and alumni

This newsletter is written to honor our past, maximize our present and to thoughtfully plan for our future through partnerships.

Partnering has never been more important in the history of the college. A new emerging initiative through the college's Center for Workforce and Professional Development has partnered with businesses to meet new emerging needs in network security. We are working with CISCO, local business and the Federal Government to advance this work to a very high level. Local government has helped as well by providing Minnesota Job Skill Training dollars to develop curriculum that is state-of the art.

It is all about partnering. It has been such a joy for me to hear what many of you are doing today when you've re-connected with us via this newsletter. We are trying to highlight several of you in each publication. That has led to some of you re-connecting with classmates from your past and have even offered to help me with strategic initiatives of the college today. Ultimately we want to get your feedback on ideas for new initiatives and programs to best meet our community's needs for the future. So, I encourage you to stay in touch.

Let us know if any of you are interested in serving on one of our program advisory committees or the President's Advisory Committee where you can help us shape the future on a firsthand basis. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Frank



In Touch: community

Flint Hills, a new corporate partnership

Good energy comes from partnerships, positive results that benefit all the participants.



Good energy is being generated in Dakota County and the communities surrounding Inver Hills through partnerships initiated by Flint Hills Resources, a leading energy company that produces transportation fuel used in the region at its Pine Bend refinery.

In 2003, its fifth consecutive year of supporting local environmental and educational projects, Flint Hills announced that it will fund laboratory equipment purchases for biology laboratories in Heritage Hall. To recognize the \$70,000 contribution, a lab will be named after the company.

College president Cheryl Frank calls the gift, "a wonderful opportunity for Inver Hills Community College to be connected to Flint Hills," especially in economically challenging times. "We appreciate partnering with businesses in our community. They are one of our next door neighbors and we are thrilled about their support for one of our science lab's," says Frank.

At Flint Hills, the "good energy" phrase is a corporate message the company has used to describe its community outlook. In 1997 Flint Hills began a significant campaign to reduce emissions, operate more efficiently, and become one of the cleanest and safest refineries in the nation. And generating energy in its relationships in the community came along with that commitment to set Flint Hills apart. This education-related involvement with Inver Hills complements the company's decade-long history of awarding scholarships to outstanding high school students in the area and complements its ongoing support for environmentally related projects.

"This donation is especially important to us because we strongly support science education," said Flint Hills President Dave Robertson. "We are excited to assist the important work that Inver Hills Community College is doing in science and technology education and training for people in the community."

Bill Lucking, chair of the Foundation Board of Directors, says that partnerships are what make communities, and that energy is what makes partnerships work.



"Partnerships are the very spirit of the human experience. They provide an amazing amount of positive energy and ideas to achieve our common efforts," says Lucking. "Partnerships are about bringing people together for good reason." ♦

Flint Hills Resources, Pine Bend facility