

February 15, 2019

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*For immediate release:*

## **GENE HAAS FOUNDATION DONATES \$10,000 TO ACC FOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

ALPENA, MICH. — Alpena Community College recently received a \$10,000 grant for scholarships from the Gene Haas Foundation for students who will be enrolling in a college-level machining-based training program including ACC's Machine Tool Technology program. This is the second time the Gene Haas Foundation has given ACC \$10,000 for student scholarships.

ACC has elected to divide the scholarship dollars between students attending ACC during Spring Semester 2019 and Fall Semester 2019. The five ACC Machine Tool program students who each received \$500 for Spring Semester are:

- William Reinholz
- Nicole Zinke
- Charles Rieman
- Peter Huizinga
- Olivia Haske

Scholarships are also available for Fall Semester 2019. Scholarship amounts will range from \$500 to \$1,000 and be awarded to full- or part-time students enrolled in ACC's Machine Tool Technology certificate or associate degree programs.

Applications for scholarships are available from the Alpena Community College Foundation office or at any local high school counseling office. The deadline for applying for ACC scholarships for Fall Semester 2019 is March 11.

About ACC's Machine Tool Technology programs:

ACC's Basic Machine Tool Technology Certificate trains students in the operation of manual lathes, milling machines, and surface grinders. Students become proficient in applied mathematics and reading blueprints and are introduced to the theory of machine shop practices and operation of computer numerical control (CNC) equipment.

The Advanced Machine Tool Technology Certificate program teaches students to use computer-aided design (CAD) software and learn to set up, program, and operate CNC equipment including lathes, milling machines, wire EDM, and inspection equipment. Students also gain skills in computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) and quality control to prepare for a career in computerized industrial machining operations.

The Machine Tool Technology Associate of Applied Science degree familiarizes the student with machine tools and manufacturing processes, develops skills in the operation of computer-aided drafting software, and provides hands-on experience setting up, programming, and operating Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines and advanced inspection equipment. Computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) and statistical process control (SPC) are skills integrated within the curriculum to prepare the student for employment as CNC programmers, machinists, toolmakers, and quality assurance technicians, or move on to complete a four-year degree in Manufacturing Engineering.

About the Gene Haas Foundation:

In 1999 Gene Haas started the Gene Haas Foundation. Growing up with a strong social conscience instilled by his family, Haas initially formed the foundation to fund the needs of the local community and other deserving charities. Haas is the owner Haas Automation, Inc., America's leading builder of CNC machine tools, which he started in 1983. Haas Automation is now a billion dollar company and this extraordinary growth has all come in an era when Americans were being told that the United States doesn't manufacture anything here anymore. Gene's commitment to the importance of US manufacturing inspired him to grow his personal foundation and direct his foundation board to focus on manufacturing education, and grants for scholarships for students entering CNC machinist training have been a key area of focus. Grants are funded that help strong technical programs that teach these skills grow and expand.

According to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, jobs for CNC machine tool programmers is projected to grow 38% from 2012 to 2022.

Photo caption:

From left: ACC Machine Tool Instructor Andrew Paad, and ACC students Nicole Zinke, Olivia Haske, Charles Rieman, Peter Huizinga, and William Reinholz.



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