



FANUC

The MCCF has purchased multiple robots for its automation programs. This year, the MCCF purchased a FANUC robot. These robots have enabled the industrial faculty to use National Science Foundation (NSF) funding to advance MCC's automation curriculum. As manufacturing continues to move toward Industry 4.0, the advanced curriculum and hands-on robotic training will create a highly skilled workforce. The robotic hands-on skills cannot be simulated. Each semester 10 to 20 students work with the robots as they prepare to complete the automation program. To further their value, we have aligned a national certification to the curriculum. We are also working to share Industry 4.0 with local businesses, while also improving the trailer curriculum to increase recruitment and awareness through demonstrations and camps. This work has allowed us to partner with Grand Rapids Community College, Muskegon Community College, and Michigan Works to write a Department of Labor (DOL) grant focusing on increasing the automation workforce as DOL plans to decrease the number of H1 visas. The grant will increase program enrollment and increase Industry 4.0 awareness. The total DOL grant will be \$7 million and we can use the funds to pay for tuition or discounted tuition. n

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