



Northwest Iowa
Community College

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NEWS RELEASE

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Adam Besaw Northwest Iowa Community College's 2011 Alumnus of the Year

Each year, one outstanding graduate of Northwest Iowa Community College is recognized for his or her success in their chosen profession and support of NCC.

The recipient of the 2011 Alumnus of the Year Award is Adam Besaw.

Besaw earned his degree from the Manufacturing Engineering Technology Program in May of 2000. Since then he has been a Product Designer with Maintainer Corporation of Iowa, Sheldon, Iowa. Besaw specializes in designing custom lubrication truck bodies that are sold throughout the US and Canada. Since 2006 he has also been the Chapter Chairman for the local chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Besaw also has been an active member of NCC's Computerized Manufacturing Technology Program Advisory Committee since 2000 and a judge for the State of Iowa's SkillsUSA competition.

Besaw commented, "I would like to say thank you to NCC and the Foundation for what they have given me. With my President's scholarship, I was able to graduate debt free. With my education, I've been able to succeed in a career that is very fulfilling. I feel very honored to receive this award. I'm proud to have been a small part of NCC's success over the past decade."

Besaw continued, "There is no doubt that my education at NCC prepared me for my career. The program gave me the exact skills needed at the time. The company I went to work for after college didn't have 3D modeling yet, but the instructors at NCC had already exposed me to this style of design during school. When the company switched over to 3D, I had a big advantage compared to others in the department that were only used to 2D drafting. NCC always makes sure their students are using the latest equipment and technologies. For example, SMART boards are the 'new' thing in area elementary and high schools. NCC had one in our drafting classroom back in 1998!"

Besaw found the entire faculty and staff at NCC very friendly and willing to help in any way they could. "It seemed like everyone wanted you to succeed! I failed my very first drafting test. That failure just made me study harder. By the end of the school year, I had placed second in the state SkillsUSA drafting competition."

A class that stands out in Besaw's memory was his Automated Manufacturing class. "Our class project was to design and build an automated workcell. We had to design the parts to be manufactured, make all required tooling and fixtures, and program the robot and CNC machining centers. Finally, we had to create a narrated video of the workcell in action. We couldn't have completed the project without learning to team with others. We had to work with many other departments such as electrical to help with wiring and the marketing department to produce the video. I keep one of the workcell products on my desk at work."

Adam and his wife, Barbara, have two children Jacob (5) and Rachel (3) and are residents of Sheldon.

We are pleased to present Adam Besaw the 2011 Alumnus of the Year Award.