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## Small is the New Big: Leading the Way at Nano Day

Lansing, MI – Lansing Community College is once again taking a lead role in the fifth annual Nano Day at Impression 5 Science Center to give students a better understanding of nanotechnology – the study of teeny tiny sub-microscopic materials that hold gargantuan possibilities of changing the world we live in.

The free event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 16 and about 800 inquisitive students – primarily from 8th grade through high school – will learn about this fascinating field from area scientists. They'll also get hands-on experience using 30 larger-than-life exhibits to better conceptualize nanotechnology – and the unlimited potential it holds in countless fields.

Already more than 1,500 products using nanotechnology are in commercial use – ranging from extra durable tennis balls and self-clearing windows to auto parts that are ten times lighter and stronger than those mainly used on vehicles today, said Tom Deits, chair of the LCC Science Department, who has played an instrumental role in bringing Nano Day to Lansing. Additionally, for every product in use today using nanotechnology (sometimes called molecular manufacturing) there are 10 applications pending, Deits said.

Nano Day is made possible through a grant from the National Science Foundation which also provides a combined $3 million in financial support to Nano-Link – a collaborative nanotechnology research project being conducted by LCC, five other community colleges in the Upper Midwest, and the University of Minnesota.

"Every student should know something about nanotechnology and some need to be nano-savvy in terms of having an appreciation of why it's something worth thinking about" said Diets "Ten years from now there will probably be more jobs involving nanotechnology than there are in the auto industry today. It's remarkable to think how fast things are changing."

***About Lansing Community College***

*Lansing Community College is Michigan's third largest community college with more than 30,000 students attending each year. LCC offers courses in general education for those interested in transferring*

*to a four-year institution, career and workforce development, developmental education and personal enrichment. To meet the professional development and training needs of regional employees, the college offers customized programs for credit, non-credit and continuing education. The University Center at LCC offers students the opportunity to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from six partner universities on the downtown LCC campus. For more information, visit lcc.edu.*