

STCC students are MIT interns

Two Springfield Technical Community College students this summer are working as interns at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Defense research and development center in Lexington.

MIT Lincoln Laboratory selected Douglas Bednarczyk, of West Springfield, and Shane Richardson, of Hebron, Conn., students from the Optics and

Photonics Technology program at STCC. They will intern at the Lexington facility through August.

Students in the Optics and Photonics Technology program learn about the practical applications of light, optics and electronics. High-tech applications include lasers, fiber optics, holography, laser materials processing, optical systems and much more.

Nicholas Massa, department chair for Optics and Photonics Technology, helped Richardson and Bednarczyk land the internships. He said there are not enough trained candidates to meet the demand for jobs in the optics and photonics industry.

"I get calls every day from companies asking about candidates for internships and full-time positions. Nearly all of my students who graduate from the program get hired, and they often get multiple job offers," he said.