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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Madison College to Dedicate Advanced Cell Culture Education Suite
Only Community College Professional Program in Human Embryonic Stem Cell Technology

(MADISON) Jan. 9, 2012 – Madison Area Technical College is dedicating its new Advanced Cell Culture Education Suite on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the Truax campus.

The 2,700 square foot expansion will support Madison College's place as a pioneer in stem cell biotechnology education. It will also expand the College's courses and program offerings in cell culturing, protein purification and molecular biology.

"To our knowledge, we are the first and only two-year college in the nation to prepare students to be professionals in the area of human embryonic stem cell technology," says Madison College biotechnology instructor Dr. Jeanette Mowery. "This is made possible by our collaboration with WiCell Institute. They provide us with the cells on a regular basis and work with us to develop curriculum and instructional materials."

Human embryonic stem cells are already playing an important role in testing new medical treatments. By 2016, stem cell company revenues in the U.S. are estimated to approach \$8.5 billion. That projected growth is expected to increase demand for specialized biotechnology education and skills in many areas of the country.

"These skills are already in high demand in both public and private sector laboratories," says Mowery.

The dedication of the Advanced Cell Culture Education Suite is scheduled for 4 p.m. in Truax room 178. Tom Still, president of the Wisconsin Technology Council, will be the guest speaker.

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Madison Area Technical College serves approximately 40,000 individuals annually, providing "real world smart" education through a comprehensive curriculum of technical, liberal arts and sciences, adult basic education and continuing education, as well as customized training for employers.