

November 20, 2007

## Moraine Valley to host robotics competition

Members of Moraine Valley Community College's Student Robotics Club and students enrolled in the college's Introduction to LEGO Robotics course invite the community to witness a free event as the students challenge each other in a robotics competition at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, December 1. The competition will take place in room T921A, located in the college's Center for Contemporary Technology, on campus at 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills.

The competition will be broken up into five separate events, including:

- RoboSumo—two robots try to push each other out of a ring
- RoboSpeed—two robots drag race against each other
- RoboBowl—competitors' robots act as "bowling balls" attempting to topple 10 pins
- RoboLine—robots follow designated paths as quickly as possible
- RoboPush—robots push a series of weights for as possible

Students also will demonstrate a "Rube Goldberg machine" built using LEGOs, as well as robots that can perform common daily tasks. In addition, Thanksgiving parade floats built by children in one of the college's Valley Learning Center courses will be on display.

"We're excited to share some of these events with the community," said Wendy Grupka, Student Robotics Club secretary/treasurer. "It gives us a chance to demonstrate what the Robotics Club is all about and also goes a long way in showing the spectators how much fun they can have when they become involved in some of the great activities Moraine Valley has to offer."

Larry Langellier, club advisor and coordinator of the college's Management Information Systems, also is excited about the event.

"The Robotics Club urges students to take their programming knowledge and attribute that to real-world problems using the LEGO devices," he said. "The students that are programming the functions of these robots may be programming the functions of your new cell phone or a cool new video game in the future."

For more information about the robotics competition, or about the Student Robotics Club, contact Langellier at (708) 974-5627, or e-mail [langellier@morainevalley.edu](mailto:langellier@morainevalley.edu).