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For Immediate Release

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Washington D.C. - Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, announced today that the Robotics Curriculum Project (RCP) is officially under way at California University of Pennsylvania.

Through collaboration between California University and Carnegie Mellon University, this multi-year project will develop an integrated robotics curriculum to meet the anticipated demand for technicians, technologists, and engineers working within southwestern Pennsylvania and across the country. Robotics and intelligent systems make up a \$500 billion a year emerging industry in which Pennsylvania is playing a leading role.

Faculty and students from California's degree programs in Engineering Technology, Computer Science, and Technology Education (the third largest technology education program in the United States) will work with CMU's Robotics Institute (the largest robotics research organization in the world). Robotics courses will be linked directly to high school level robotics programs. A robotics certificate program is also expected to be developed for high school teachers and university students to prepare current and future teachers to teach robotics.

"The end result of the Robotics Curriculum Project will be more students pursuing and receiving much-needed science and technology degrees," said Angelo Armenti, Jr., President of California University of Pennsylvania. "The impact of this collaboration on improving the size and quality of the technologically prepared workforce in western Pennsylvania will be tremendous. I applaud our faculty for their leadership in this endeavor and I thank Congressman Murtha for his help in securing the necessary funding for this project."

"There is a current need of robotics specialists for the ongoing development and manufacturing of unmanned vehicles," said Murtha. "This project combines the expertise of two local universities to inspire young people to pursue a career in science and technology, which in turn provides the knowledge and skills needed within our military and defense industry."

The Robotics Curriculum Project (RCP) is being funded through the Office of Naval Research, the National Science Foundation (NSF), and a consortium of industry, government, foundation, and education partners.