LANSING _ LCC has received a second National Science Foundation (NSF) award of $30,000 for faculty fellowships and student internships to work at Claytec, Inc., an East Lansing-based nanotechnology startup company, for the coming year. This brings the total funds made available for fellowships and internships to $60,000 from LCC’s relationship with Claytec.

“Our internships and fellowships in partnership with Claytec have given our faculty a great opportunity to participate in cutting-edge science and our students a great chance to apply their skills and get a head start in the new high technology economy,” said Dr. Thomas Deits, LCC Science Department Chair.

During the past year, Claytec was able to support a faculty member and three LCC students to work with them, and LCC expects to be able to support additional students in the coming year. The two students currently working for Claytec are Deborah Hagerty and Mary Foster. LCC adjunct faculty member and Claytec employee Prof. Joel Dulebohn was instrumental in working with Claytec and LCC to secure this funding.

Claytec was founded by Prof. Thomas Pinnavaia, a University Distinguished Professor in the Chemistry Department at Michigan State University. The NSF Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Program is funding some of the work of commercializing discoveries made by Prof. Pinnavaia in his research. Claytec is developing materials called mesoscale nanocomposites which are manufactured from inexpensive raw materials, enabling applications in such areas as creating stronger and lighter plastics for the automotive industry and improving processes in the chemical and environmental fields.

LCC is currently discussing the possibility of additional funded internships through this program with three additional nanotechnology companies in Michigan.
About Lansing Community College

Lansing Community College is Michigan’s third largest community college with more than 32,000 students attending each year. The College has more than 240 degree and certificate programs. 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 www.lcc.edu.