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**News Release**

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**Unique master's degree in clinical research offered**

St. Cloud, Minn.– St. Cloud State University will begin offering a new Master's of Science in Applied Clinical Research degree program this fall uniquely focused on the medical technology industry.

St. Cloud State's Applied Clinical Research degree will provide professionals with the necessary skills, tools and competencies needed to design, conduct, manage, and evaluate human clinical trials for the medical device industry. Like the Regulatory Affairs master's degree offered at St. Cloud State it leveraged a powerful group of top industry experts in Minnesota to create the unique curriculum that targets an underserved area of the medical device industry in significant need of more, well trained professionals.

Clinical research is critical to developing safe and effective medical products available to patients worldwide. Clinical research professionals ensure valid and ethical research protocols are designed that adhere to federal and international medical device regulations for safety and efficacy. In short, they provide the scientific validation of medical devices under strict scientific and ethical standards.

"A more comprehensive and well-rounded program is beneficial to both students and future employers," said Dan Schaber, vice president of clinical research for

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Medtronic's Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management, when asked about the value of the Applied Clinical Research degree program to the medtech industry and students.

"Gaining additional experience about the profession in the educational environment means that these students will be prepared to hit the ground running upon hire. As a hiring manager, if I can spend more time on trial development and execution versus developing and delivering dedicated training programs, the result is enhanced productivity."

Classes will be held evenings and weekends at the St. Cloud State Twin Cities Graduate Center in Maple Grove. Interested students may contact the SCSU College of Science and Engineering at 320-308-2167, or by email to [acr@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:acr@stcloudstate.edu), and for more information visit the program website at [www.msacr.com](http://www.msacr.com).

The College of Science and Engineering at St. Cloud State University houses 12 departments offering 60 undergraduate programs, 12 graduate programs and 15 professional programs. Degrees are offered in aviation, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, earth and atmospheric sciences, electrical and computer engineering, environmental and technological studies, mathematics, mechanical and manufacturing engineering, nursing science, physics, astronomy and engineering science and statistics/computer networking.

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For more information, contact Susan Jordahl, director of marketing, communications and community relations for the Center for Continuing Studies, College of Science and Engineering and Herberger College of Business at 320.308.3994 or [smjordahl@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:smjordahl@stcloudstate.edu).