NEW ENGLAND
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

NEWS RELEASE   **Contact: Linda Dionne**
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New England Tech Launches New Electronics, Robotics and Drone Technology Degree Program

EAST GREENWICH, RI – Dr. Douglas H. Sherman, Senior Vice President and Provost at New England Institute of Technology, announced that the university will now offer a new Associate in Science Degree program in Electronics, Robotics, and Drone Technology (ERD). This program will provide graduates with the knowledge and hands-on skills required to be successful in these emerging, high-tech industries.

Research shows that the increasing use of robots and aerial drones will dramatically change our economy and everyday life in areas ranging from driverless cars and medical procedures to automated manufacturing processes and aerial product delivery. The Federal Aviation Administration anticipates the creation of 100,000 new jobs in the drone technology field. *USA Today* reports that the use of drones is predicted to boost the U.S. economy by $13.6 billion within the next three years.

The new ERD program provides leading-edge education and training through active, hands-on experiences. Since electrical and electronics engineers working with robotics and automated systems are responsible for the design, testing and operation of robotics and associated equipment, the curriculum includes robotic programming languages, robotic architecture and operating systems, and software interfaces. The program will begin with electronic foundation courses and culminate in aerial drone, robotics and automation systems.

Laboratory projects highlighted in ERD courses include hands-on experiences with robotic control systems and drone applications, data acquisition/control/communication, digital electronics, microprocessor control, and programmable automation controllers (PACs) and will simulate actual job conditions.

Aerial drone-specific courses will prepare students to sit for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Section 107 Commercial Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) exam for pilot certification. In addition, technical elective courses include drone engineering, renewable energy systems, computer networking, CAD, and manufacturing quality for more in-depth study.

Dr. Sherman stated, "We are very excited to launch our new Electronics, Robotics and Drone Technology program at a time when these industries are growing so rapidly. Graduates from this program will be qualified for a wide range of entry-level positions in robotics, drone mission programming, automated manufacturing, research and development, new product design, product testing, field service, controls engineering, installation, marketing, and customer service. We also encourage our associate degree graduates to continue their education in the university's Electrical Engineering Technology Bachelor of Science degree program."

For more information regarding this exciting cutting edge program, visit http://www.neit.edu/Programs/Associate-Degree-Programs/Engineering/Electronics-Robotics-Drone-Technology or contact NEIT's Admissions office at 800-736-7744 or by email at NEITAdmissions@neit.edu.

Under the leadership of President Richard I. Gouse, New England Institute of Technology is a private, non-profit technical university with an enrollment of more than 3,000 students. Founded in 1940, the university offers more than 55 associate, bachelor's, master's, and online degree programs and is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. For more information, please visit www.neit.edu or follow news of the university on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, and the New England Tech Blog.