

Castle Visits Christiana Hospital's Medical Technology Lab, Addresses Shortage of Medical Technology Professionals in U.S. -- April 27, 2007

Newark, DE -- Following a number of recent medical research laboratory visits in the region, Delaware Congressman Mike Castle today visited Christiana Care's Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine to tour the state-of-the-art technology and meet with UD students studying at the lab who are beginning their medical technology careers. Specifically, Rep. Castle visited the Micro-Biology, Hematology, Chemistry, and Blood Bank Departments.

"I am always so impressed by the developing technology and research taking place at Christiana Hospital and today is certainly no exception. The University of Delaware students who are studying here have an excellent opportunity to learn from some of the most experienced staff and professionals in the field and I am sure will go on to distinguished careers of their own. However, today, I also saw first hand that there is a serious shortage in the field of medical technology professionals.

"Professionals in the field of medical technology are in high demand in Delaware and nationwide. We need creative incentives for recruiting talented professionals to meet the health care industry's needs in Delaware. One helpful program at the federal level is the Community Based Job Training and Laboratory Leadership, Workforce Training and Management Development Grant Program. I encourage Delawareans to take advantage of this and other grant opportunities," Castle said.

Congressman Castle visited the National Institutes of Health in January 2007 as well as the DE Public Health Lab in Smyrna, Delaware in early April 2007 and most recently the Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Cancer Center and Stem Cell Research Labs.

Christiana Care's Department of Pathology currently includes a team of more than 130 medical technologists who perform over 4,000 different procedures.

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