



(From left to right) Southwest Florida College students, Kyle McClinton, Max Tinkey, Scott Siebert and Oscar Lopez won a first place, two second place and a third place medal at the 2009 LAE Region 5 Conference of the National Grand Chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association.

SWFC CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS PLACE FIRST AT REGION 5 CONFERENCE

Fort Myers, Fla. (October 8, 2009) – Four criminal justice students from Southwest Florida College ventured to Richmond, Kentucky to observe the 2009 Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE) Region 5 Conference. They had no intentions of entering the competition, but the four students returned, however, with a first place, two second place and a third place medal.

“We decided to enter just to see what it was like and to get our name out there,” said Max Tinkey, student at Southwest Florida College and President of the Southwest Florida College Criminal Justice Fraternity Club.

“I am ecstatic to know that a small school like ours can stand toe to toe with large universities and walk away as a winner,” Tinkey said.

Max Tinkey, Kyle McClinton, Oscar Lopez and Scott Siebert, all members of the American Criminal Justice Association, subchapter of Delta Omega Gamma Zeta, at Southwest Florida College, competed against other regional colleges and universities such as the University of Central Florida; Eastern Kentucky University; Florida State; ITT Tech Alabama; and ITT Tech Jacksonville.

“From a professor’s point-of-view, it shows that our education ranks among some of the top universities that competed in this regional event,” said Denise Womer, Program Manager of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies at the college.

The LAE Region 5 Conference of the National Grand Chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association was held on September 24-26. Southwest Florida College student, Tinkey, placed second in the Police Management examination and third in the Criminal Law examination. Lopez, also a student at Southwest Florida College, placed second in the physical agility test and Tinkey, Lopez and Criminal Justice Fraternity Club Fundraising Chairman, Siebert, all placed first in the team Firearms Competition.

"I attribute my accomplishment to the dedicated and knowledgeable faculty at Southwest Florida College as well as my past experience in firearm training while in the Marine Corps." Tinkey said.

"I am very proud of our Criminal Justice students who went to compete at the ACJA regional competition," Womer said.

Southwest Florida College is an accredited, private, nonprofit institution of higher learning centrally located in Fort Myers, Tampa, Port Charlotte, and includes the Institute of Interior Design located within the International Design Center in Estero. The College has been providing post secondary education to Floridians since 1974 and offers programs in Allied Health, Business, Design, Education, Information Technology and Legal Studies. Its mission is to provide educational opportunities for individuals to acquire knowledge and skills that will help prepare them for rewarding careers in fields with high growth potential. For more information, call toll free 888-526-7973 or visit www.swfc.edu.

###