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DAYTON, Ohio, May 25, 1989—Robert L. Mott, former chair of the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department at the University of Dayton, has been named director of the UD Center for Advanced Manufacturing.

The Center will coordinate educational offerings and interdisciplinary services for students, industry and government, aimed at improving U.S. manufacturing capabilities and competitiveness. Programming is expected to start later this summer.

"The need for interdisciplinary interaction is at the core of developing a modern manufacturing enterprise," said Mott, a Miami Twp. resident. By encouraging links and building teams among business administration, engineering, engineering technology, education, law, social and natural sciences, and the humanities, the Center aims to promote integrated courses and services related to design and manufacturing.

"In this country, there's no shortage of technology, but there is a shortage of knowledge about technology and a shortage of people skilled in the implementation of technology," said Mott, who envisions the Center providing an outreach to small and mid-size industries.

Inquiry into moral and ethical issues is also part of the Center's mission. For example, what is the impact of technology in developing Third World economies? How does interaction with robots affect workers? How can all members of a manufacturing industry work together to improve competitiveness?

The author of three textbooks, Mott holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from General Motors Institute and a master's from Purdue University. He is a registered professional engineer, whose design experience ranges from refrigeration systems to transmission components. In 1981, he won UD's Alumni Award for Teaching.