



Dr. Chrys Panayiotou

2006-2009 J. Douglas Stephens Endowed Teaching Chair in Technology

As the 2006 J. Douglas Stephens Endowed Teaching Chair in Technology, **Dr. Chrys Panayiotou** developed a Photonics and Robotics Institute to reverse the declining enrollment of the Electronic Engineering Technology Program. The establishment of research companies, such as Scripps and Torrey Pines, to our area further supported the need for trained technicians and professional development for companies specializing in these emerging technologies.

The Institute appeals to today's youth with cutting edge technologies, provides career opportunities leading to high-wage jobs, assists in economic development, and updates the skills of the current workforce. Dr. Panayiotou has worked with the E-learning Department to create online educational resources that can be used in training for occupations in Photonics/Lasers/Optics and Robotics/Manufacturing Automation. These online resources are used in a blended program that includes laboratory exercises and face-to-face tutoring, making training more accessible for the working student.

In order to increase the awareness of the Institute, Dr. Panayiotou made presentations to vocational directors and high school technology teachers in our service district, held a Summer Photonics and Robotics Camp, and presented papers at national and international conferences.

