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Newsletter Editor:
Kathleen Kennedy

**Your Partnership with ACTE
and ACTEN**

The first decade of the 2000's has proved to be challenging for educators. All across our state and country, teachers and administrators have faced challenges on multiple levels with federal mandates and testing requirements as they relate to No Child Left Behind and schools meeting Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

The push has pressured CTE teachers as well. While the outside focus targets core area teachers in Math, Language Arts and now Science, CTE teachers are facing battles as well. Due to remediation, elective programs are feeling the squeeze in many of our schools as students taking CTE classes are now taking extra core classes to improve test scores. In our schools, funding follows school improvements to enhance test scores, rather than evenly distributing funding to CTE program to the likeness of non-CTE programs. Some CTE teachers have even been asked to give up computer labs for multiple days to facilitate with online statewide testing requirements, displacing our students and classroom teachers.

Your membership in ACTE and ACTEN provides you a voice at the national level. ACTE National Executive Director Jan Bray recently mentioned at the 2010 Region V Conference how ACTE's voice does make a difference in Washington.

Everyday, ACTE is knocking on doors of lawmakers, making sure our presence is known and that our programs are critical to the economic success of our nation. ACTE also maintains critical relationships with those who shape policy with the U.S. Dept. of Education.

ACTE and ACTEN are constantly looking out for the best interest of CTE educators and students. ACTE has recently published a document stating college ready is really career and college ready, with emphasis on career. The document illustrates that essentially all postsecondary and college education is career preparation.

In Nebraska, ACTEN has committed to statewide challenges as well. ACTEN members were critical in the support of and pressure at the State Capitol in Lincoln to pass LB476 last year. We continue to be involved in discussions that involve the future of that bill and funding, should state policy makers target those funds. We also look forward to the development and our involvement with the Center for Student Leadership

ACTEN members have presented themselves at the State Capitol to lawmakers. Several ACTEN members joined FCSTN last February during their annual Legislative Day. Students and educators networked with State Senators



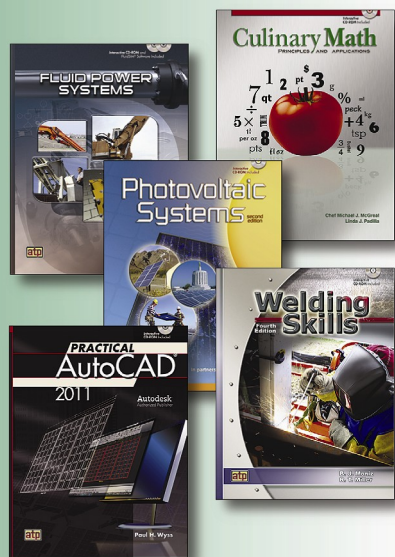
DeLayne Havlovic
ACTEN President 2009-10

demonstrating the importance of CTE programs in our state.

ACTEN has also been a visible entity at many activities related to Partnerships for Innovation, our statewide Perkins Consortium fighting the challenge of linking industry and education. ACTEN members have been involved in the past year in visioning forums, leadership cadre sessions and leadership training through the 2010 Nexus Workshop, that took place before the June NCE Conference in Kearney.

Thank you for your continued membership in ACTE and ACTEN. I challenge you in the next year to encourage a non-member colleague to join and become more active. Both at the state and national level, many voices are stronger than one voice. I have been pleased to see Nebraska's membership hold fairly constant while other states have seen membership decline in this economically distressful time. Nebraska, thank you for your leadership and dedication.

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News from Nebraska DECA

More than 200 Nebraska students competed with nearly 16,000 other students at the 2010 DECA International Career Development Conference in Louisville, Kentucky April 24-27.

Nebraska students who won first, second or third place honors at the state conference qualified to attend. Overall, Nebraska had eight preliminary finalists, 14 top ten finishers and four international winners. Students competed in the areas of marketing, management, finance, hospitality and entrepreneurship.

Kurtis Conkel, a senior at Lincoln East High School, was elected international DECA president at the conference. Conkel is the first Nebraska student elected to this position in more than 30 years. Conkel served as Nebraska's 2009-2010 Vice President of Alumni/Collegiate DECA. During the conference, Conkel campaigned for three days, met with nearly 40 state/provincial delegations, competing with four other candidates from across the country.

Career and College Ready

ACTE Announces "Career Ready" Definition

On April 13, 2010, the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) released a paper titled "What is 'Career Ready?'" that outlines three broad sets of skills students need to be career-ready: core academic skills, employability skills and technical skills. ACTE created the paper to broaden the national discussion around the term "career readiness."

Recently, the Obama Administration and such groups as the National Governors Association (NGA), Council of Chief State School Officers (CSSO) and other national and state policy-makers have discussed the importance of high schools preparing students to be college-and career-ready. However, most of the discussion has centered on college readiness, with little focus on actual career readiness.

Career readiness includes core academic skills and the ability to apply those skills to concrete situations in order to function in the workplace and in routine daily activities, employability skills essential in any career area, such as critical thinking and responsibility, and technical, job-specific skills related to a specific career pathway.

"ACTE believes it is important to expand the conversation to include career readiness and increase the recognition of the broad range of skills

students need to succeed in the global economy." said ACTE Executive Director Jan Bray. "Career readiness, like college readiness, should be the responsibility of the entire school and education community." From a business perspective, the "career ready" definition is critical to developing a qualified workforce. Allyson Knox, academic program manager for National Partnerships, U.S. Partners in Learning, at Microsoft Corporation, commented, "Ensuring that all students possess strong academic, employability and technical skills is critical as we face the growing demands of the global economy."

"Today's release regarding career readiness reinforces the collective importance of academic skills, employability skills and technical skills for career success," said Iowa ACTE Executive Director Dave Bunting, a former postsecondary administrator. "It bridges the perspectives of both employers and postsecondary institutions regarding a student's preparation for their future, and it will guide all educators in preparing students to compete in the 21st century economy."

The ACTE Career Ready document is available online at <http://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Publications and Online Media/files/Career Readiness Paper.pdf>

Region V Conference Attendees Make Their Way to Anchorage

The 2010 ACTE Region V Conference was held at the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center in beautiful Anchorage, Alaska. Though it was a long journey to get to Anchorage, five ACTEN members represented Nebraska at the event.

Virginia Whidden from St. Edward schools was Nebraska's Region V CTE Teacher of the Year nominee. Whidden represented Nebraska very well with four other nominees from across the region who competed. Being a finalist for this honor demonstrates Whidden's commitment to education and success with her students. Congratulations Virginia for making the cut as an award finalist.

Two groups of Nebraskans also demonstrated Nebraska's leadership through providing breakout sessions during the conference. DeLayne Havlovic and John Schultz, both of Omaha Public Schools presented on Pathways and Programs of Study as they relate to Perkins IV guidelines. They discussed the process used by the Omaha Public School District in auditing and documenting district wide programs of study.

A second presentation team, Kayla Wichman from Nathan Hale Magnet Middle School in Omaha and Ken Spellman from Omaha Public Schools presented on creating an exploratory summer school program for Career Education students. Wichman and Spellman shared their experiences through a summer program at the Omaha Public Schools Career Center that began in the summer of 2009. The program targeted at-risk high school sophomores and provided them four week-long CTE exploration opportunities. The program created more CTE interest among these students, provided them with high school elective credit and the

data proves to be a success as all participants are still on track to graduate from high school one year later.

Conference keynote speakers included Sharon Bowman, a dynamic speaker who had the audience motivated and actively engaged from literally her first words. She also lead a leadership preconference activity and provided a breakout session following the keynote. Fran Ulmer and Tom Hamill, both Alaska natives also presented keynote sessions.

ACTEN President DeLayne Havlovic provided Region V attendees Nebraska's State of the State address. Each state in attendance provided an annual report, shared structure ideas, successes and challenges within states. Havlovic also represented Nebraska at the annual Region V Delegate Assembly.

Conference attendees had a little time to explore the Anchorage area. Nature's beauty was overabundant in the Anchorage area. While it was a bit early for Alaska tour season, there was still plenty to see, experience and taste around Anchorage.

The 2011 ACTE Region V Conference is slated for April 6-9, 2011 in our bordering state of South Dakota. The conference will be held in beautiful Rapid City, right in the midst of South Dakota's Black Hills. Several exciting conference tours and activities have been planned, sure to please attendees. Plan now to attend! For 2012, Region V will also border Nebraska as Wyoming was just approved to host in Jackson Hole. There has never been a better time to get involved in ACTE Regional activities!

Personal Finance Institute July 20-22 at WSC

Last year Nebraska hosted its first Insurance Education Institution with funding being provided by the Griffith Insurance Education Foundation. This summer, a Personal Finance Institute was held at Wayne State College on July 20, 21, and 22, 2010. A total of 51 secondary and postsecondary teachers of personal finance courses earned graduate credits from either Wayne State College or the University of NE-Lincoln. Dr. Sherry Roberts, Middle Tennessee State University, and Dr. Mike Casey, University of Central Arkansas, were the guest speakers with Dr. Patricia Arneson of WSC and Dr. Rammie Fischer of UNL acting as instructors of record for their respective course.

Each Personal Finance Institute participant created a syllabus for a Personal Finance course for his/her school. At the end of the training, teachers took the W!SE financial literacy certification exam.

Institute partners include the Nebraska Dept. of Education, Partnerships for Innovation, Nebraska Council on Economic Education, Centris Credit Union, Metropolitan Community College, Nebraska Certified Financial Planners and the Federal Reserve Bank of Omaha.

An agenda for the Personal Finance Institute is available at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/BMIT/Curriculum/PFI.html>. Throughout the summer, updates will be posted.

Kearney Culinary Students Participate in Their First ProStart Competition

The National Restaurant Association Solutions and Nebraska Restaurant Association Hospitality Education Foundation administer the ProStart program. ProStart is a two-year curriculum designed to teach high school students the management skills needed for a career in the restaurant and food service industry. When students meet academic standards, complete a checklist of competencies and participate in at least 400 hours of a mentored work experience, they are awarded the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement that signifies they are well qualified to enter the industry workforce.

The Nebraska ProStart Competition is broken into two competitions: culinary and management. Teams participating in the culinary competition demonstrate their creative abilities through the preparation of a meal consisting of a starter, entrée, and dessert.

Teams participating in the management competition demonstrate their knowledge of the restaurant and foodservice industry by competing in a case study, where students are tested on their communication skills and ability to apply their knowledge of the industry to practical situations.

Kearney High School culinary students participated in the ProStart Competition this year for the first time. Kearney students qualified at the regional competition held in Lincoln to compete against 16 schools at the ninth Annual Nebraska ProStart Competition held at Central Community College in Hastings in March for the opportunity to travel to the National competition in Overland Park, Kansas. The Kearney Team placed 1st in Best of Beef Award, Best Food Safety and Sanitation, and Best Team Starter and they placed 2nd for the Culinary Team Award. Carol Kreutzer, a Family

and Consumer Sciences teacher at Kearney High School coached the Kearney culinary team. Shawn Engberg, head chef at Alley Rose, was their mentor. For more information about the Kearney Team's preparation for the competition, visit the Kearney Hub newspaper at http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/local/article_6f465e78-39a9-11df-9006-001cc4c002e0.html?mode=story.

The Roncalli High School ProStart Culinary Team (Aric Erdman, Corey Kitt, Darek Jensen, Will Braesch and Zach Dunning, teacher Cathy Leak and mentor Kimbler Harrold, Magnolia Hotel) and Management Team Papillion LaVista South (Brianna Bazemore, Kara Aerts, and Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Louise Dornbusch) represented Nebraska at the National ProStart Invitational April 30-May 3 in Overland Park, Kansas.



Best Safety and Sanitation State Runner-up Culinary Team from Kearney High School: Kaitlyn Olson, Adam Buerer, Allyx Gibbs, Dan Gibbs. Courtney Jones was on the team also, but competed only at Regionals, but not at State due to a prior commitment. Each member received a scholarship from Johnson & Wales valued at \$500.

ProStart Management team of Kaitlyn Olson and Adam Buerer placed third. Each member received a \$250 scholarship from JWU.



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FCSTN Partnership Award

The Family Consumer Science Teachers of Nebraska (FCSTN) Partnership Award is presented to an individual, business or organization that has made a positive impact on youth, families and communities. The 2009-10 recipient is Senator Kate Sullivan of Cedar Rapids, Nebraska representing the 41st Legislative District.

Senator Sullivan was elected to the Nebraska Legislature in 2008 and has just completed her second year of a four-year term. She serves on the Education Committee, the Government, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee and the Legislative Planning Committee.

She demonstrates the attributes of the FCSTN Partnership Award through her education in Home Economics (BS 1971/MS 1975), support of the FCCLA and FCSTN Legislative workshop, continual work on the Education Committee and support of LB476 which created the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning.

Thank you, Senator Sullivan, for your continued support of Family and Consumer Sciences teachers and students involved in these programs.



Dr. Rachel Wise Recognized

Dr. Rachel Wise was awarded the Elaine Stuhr Leadership and Advocacy Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2010 Nebraska Career Education Conference in Kearney. The award is presented by the Nebraska Department of Education and the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska to recognize an individual who has demonstrated outstanding statewide leadership and provided consistent advocacy for quality Career and Technical Education over a period of years.

As a young Family and Consumer Science teacher at Tekamah-Herman High School, Rachel found her passion in helping students develop their potential and prepare for success in their career and life, especially students with special needs. Her career has included service as a special education instructor at Winnegabo and Logan View Public Schools, Assistant Director of Student Services for



Dr. Rachel Wise

ESU#7 in Columbus, Assistant Principal at Omaha Burke High School, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education for Omaha Public Schools, Director of Secondary Education at Omaha Public Schools and she is currently the Chief Operating Officer for Building Bright Futures in Omaha.

Rachel has a strong belief in career and technical education as a strategy for engaging students and preparing them for both college and career.

Under her leadership, Career and Technical Education flourished in Omaha Public Schools. She played a vital role in the development of Omaha's magnet schools.

Dr. Wise has served the Nebraska CTE community through her leadership in a variety of professional organizations. She is a past president and secretary of the Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska (ACTEN); served on the NE Department of Education Steering Committee for Rethinking Career and Technical Education; Co-Chaired the Governor's Task Force for Agriculture and Natural Resources Education; served as secretary for the Accreditation Commission for Career Schools and Colleges of Technology, along with numerous other professional organizations. In her current role, she is working to improve the quality of education and of life for students in the Douglas and Sarpy County area.

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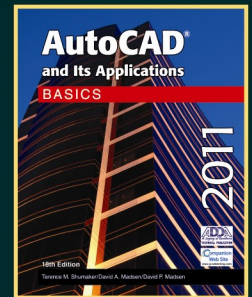
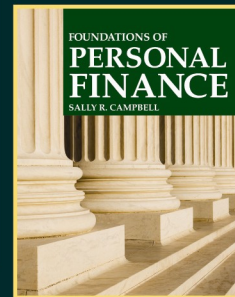
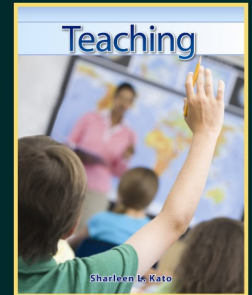
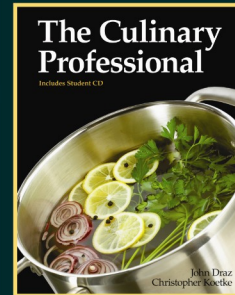
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following members have recently joined or reactivated their membership in ACTE and ACTEN:

Agriculture

- ◆ Ashley Benes
- ◆ Rebecca Cox
- ◆ AnnaLisa Estrala
- ◆ Kurt Heideman
- ◆ Tim Hendricks
- ◆ Dustin Lambertsen
- ◆ Patrick Morgan
- ◆ Amanda Olson
- ◆ Les Roggenkamp
- ◆ Josh Schieber
- ◆ Kylie Sweeter
- ◆ Anita Wollenburg

Adult Workforce Development

- ◆ Paul Hans

Business

- ◆ Diana Ingwerson
- ◆ Kellie Means

Family and Consumer Sciences

- ◆ Allison Kreifels
- ◆ Susan Biba
- ◆ Kathy Cahill
- ◆ Veronica Dorsey
- ◆ Leigh Fuhrman

- ◆ Jeanine Kemp
- ◆ Suzanne Myers
- ◆ Kimberly Rempel
- ◆ Elizabeth Rosinski
- ◆ Nancy Schlautman

Health Sciences Technology

- ◆ Stacia Weaver

Trade and Industrial

- ◆ Tony Glenn

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Business

- ◆ Shari Becker
- ◆ Lucas Bingham
- ◆ Anthony Blum
- ◆ Ashley Broesch
- ◆ Kate Gerhart
- ◆ Mary Ann Gute
- ◆ Luke Hofer
- ◆ Collin Hute
- ◆ Brent Jarosz
- ◆ Jay Lukassen
- ◆ Katie Nunnekamp
- ◆ Ben Obrecht
- ◆ Rick Planos
- ◆ Jason Schapmann
- ◆ Ashley Stroh
- ◆ Steve Swett

Business continued

- ◆ Steve Swett
- ◆ Brent Thomas
- ◆ Sam Towne
- ◆ Dana Wertz
- ◆ Barbie Wilson

Family and Consumer Sciences

- ◆ Emila Force
- ◆ Kelsey Hannon
- ◆ Teresa King
- ◆ Rachel Landsness
- ◆ Elyse Marvin
- ◆ Laura Noah
- ◆ Mila O'Rourke
- ◆ Samantha Koehler-Overton

- ◆ Dawn Ruzicka
- ◆ Clair Schmidt
- ◆ Mary Stauffer
- ◆ Jordan Went
- ◆ Katie Wenz

Trade and Industrial

- ◆ Patrick Dvorak
- ◆ Colby Eymann
- ◆ Aaron Jones
- ◆ Kristin Malone

FBLA State Leadership Conference

The Nebraska Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) recently recognized the winners of its state competitive events and named new officers.

More than 2,000 students and advisors from 109 Nebraska schools attended the Nebraska FBLA State Leadership Conference in Omaha. Members competed in over 60 chapter, team and individual events. Students receiving first, second and third place in most events qualified for the FBLA National Leadership Conference, July 13-18 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Other Nebraska FBLA State recognitions included:

Outstanding Local Chapter Advisor

- * Cindy Talley, Fillmore Central FBLA Chapter

Advisor Service Recognition Awards

25 years

- * Kathy Dobesh, Litchfield

15 years

- * Patti Salyard, Columbus Scotus
- * Nick Jarzynka, Elkhorn
- * Ron Long, SEM

10 years

- * Julie Jensen, Aurora
- * Jennifer Coe, Crete
- * Lisa Bohling, Diller-Odell
- * April Knust, Ewing
- * Sylvia Smith, Johnson-Brock
- * Shari Schlichtemier, Ogallala
- * Barb Shanahan, Wahoo

5 years

- * John Matzen, Lincoln North Star
- * Billy Wilson, North Platte
- * Patti Layer, Platteview
- * Karma Yantzie, Shickley

Honorary Life Member Award

- * Richard Katt, NDE

NE FBLA National Businessperson of the Year

- * Chuck Pickering, Syracuse

NE FBLA Business of the Year

- * Two Rivers State Bank, Arlington



2009-10 Nebraska FBLA State Officer Team

Left to right:

- Lance Johnson, Bellevue West, Vice President
- Tyler Wellman, Syracuse, Secretary
- Jenna Woitaszewski, Wood River, Parliamentarian
- Ashley Wood, Minden, President
- Noah Carpenter, Omaha Northwest, Treasurer
- Isaac Thompson, Arlington, Reporter

NE FCCLA—Star Events

The objective of the STAR Program is to assist students in developing personal leadership, citizenship and occupational knowledge and skills for personal, family & community living.

This year 580 students representing 72 chapters from across Nebraska participated in the State Competitive Events Program.

Forty event categories were held resulting in 38 state champions, 93 gold medals, 147 silver medals and 53 bronze.

Nebraska will have 60 FCCLA members participating in 28 competitive events at the National competition.