



A Message From Our President



Ronna Ford
Missouri ACTE President

Greetings from the winter wonderland of Laclede County. This past week's ice storm across our section of Missouri has been quite a challenge. Like Gilligan's Isle, we had no phone, no lights, no motor car, not a single luxury. The week has also been a testament to the strength, self reliance and generosity of our citizens. People have pitched in with whatever talents and skills they have to help the community.

As career and technical educators, those same qualities of character have served us well as we worked together to gain support for the Carl Perkins legislation. It takes continuous visibility in Jefferson City and in Washington to maintain funding and support for our programs. Please plan to attend Missouri ACTE's legislative day on February 14 in Jefferson City and ACTE's National Policy Seminar March 5-7 in Washington D.C. If you can't go yourself, be sure that your division is sending representation and help support them. Send along photos and student success stories to share with legislators. Send an email to your senator(s) and

representatives that day. Be sure students from your area will be in Jefferson City for Legislative Day. These student representatives are such powerful ambassadors for CTE. Finally, be sure your ACTE and Missouri ACTE membership dues are current. There is power in numbers.

Summer Conference will be here before we know it. The Program Improvement and Professional Development Committees have been working with DESE and MCCE to address the professional development needs of members.

We are so excited that Dr. Harry Wong will be our featured presenter. I know many of us have read his books and seen his videos in various education classes. He is highly respected in the field of education. What a great opportunity we'll have in July to sit in his class to learn more. Be sure the other CTE educators in your building know that this opportunity is coming to Springfield, MO July 23-26.

If you have suggestions of businesses you would like to see at the Career and Tech Expo, please contact me or Donna Vossen as quickly as possible.

Keep warm, enjoy the growth of your students in the season of competitions and I'll see you February 14, as we support Missouri ACTE.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Ronna Ford in black ink.

Ronna Ford

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The Missouri ACTE Reporter is a quarterly publication of the

Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education

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Your comments and suggestions are welcome!

Missouri ACTE Legislative Day

by Rusty Black, Legislative Committee Chairperson

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

***State Capitol Building
Third Floor Rotunda
Jefferson City, Missouri***

***8:00 a.m. House Chamber – Side Gallery
Briefing - Bill Gamble & Sarah Topp, Gamble & Schlemeier***

***8:30 a.m. 3rd floor Capitol Rotunda
Networking with Legislators/visits to Legislator's offices***

***10:00 a.m. Governor Blunts' Office – Room 216
Proclamation signing ceremony for CTE Week
CTSO & Division Representatives***

Missouri ACTE Legislative Day is an opportunity for you and your students to have a positive impact upon Career and Technical Education. The short meeting you have with your state representative or senator may begin a relationship with you and your program that could have an impact upon important legislation in the future. Daily, you influence students to better themselves, rarely do you see the rewards of your efforts, but each of you can look back at that one note, conversation, invitation, etc. that reinforces to you that you CAN and DO make a difference. Your attendance at Legislative Day may mirror this experience. We need the dedicated teachers, with or without your students, discussing career education and the impact it has in your (the legislator's) local communities. Sarah Topp and Bill Gamble (Gamble & Schlemeier) do a fantastic job of communicating with our legislators about the value of Career Ed, but they would be the first to inform you that your communication with your legislator is the most important when discussing tough issues facing Career and Technical Education. This communication should be an ongoing process - not a HELLO-THE SKY IS FALLING. Legislators want to communicate with constituents they feel comfortable with and can trust. Your attendance at Legislative Day can strengthen a relationship you may already have or begin a new friendship with your representative or senator. Please consider spending Valentines Day in Jefferson City with some of your closest friends (Missouri ACTE members) and your state legislators.

BRING CTSO Students to Legislative Day

We all like to brag about our CTSO students. Put on the uniform, fix up the hair, shine their shoes, load them up. We all believe our students are the best and our organization provides the greatest opportunities. Think seriously about bringing two or three of your students to Jefferson City for Missouri ACTE Legislative Day. These students will make you proud and demonstrate to your legislator the value of your program and CTSO in your home district. Students are our greatest assets; let's not hide them. We have observed the positive impact your students have had at Legislative Day. Please consider this as an opportunity your students and school to benefit from. If you believe you can not attend with students this year, place it on your calendar for next year. You will be rewarded for your effort.

If you have questions about bringing students, please check the Missouri ACTE website (www.MO-ACTE.org) or call 573-634-7366 for more details.



Perkins Act Emphasizes Achievement, Accountability

By Nancy J. Headrick, Assistant Commissioner,
DESE Division of Career Education



New Perkins legislation calls for stronger partnerships between education and business to better meet the needs of the workforce.

On Saturday, August 12, 2006, President Bush signed into law the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006. Also known as "Perkins IV," the federal legislation received unanimous support by the Senate and near unanimous support by the House by a 399-1 vote.

Perkins is one of the largest federal investments in high schools. Its \$1.2 billion support of career and technical education programs in all 50 states over the next six years is a key component of the secondary and postsecondary education systems. The reauthorization strengthens the Perkins program by helping states better utilize funds for secondary and postsecondary career and technical education programs, increases accountability and emphasizes student achievement, and strengthens opportunities for coordination between secondary and postsecondary career and technical education.

There are several new provisions in the Act including:

- The term "career and technical education" instead of "vocational education."
- Tech prep program is maintained as a separate funding stream.
- State administrative funding remains at five (5) percent of the state's allocation.
- Authorization through Fiscal Year 2012, for a total of six years.
- Local accountability that was not in the 1998 law.
- Separate performance indicators for secondary and postsecondary programs.

- Development of Career and Technical Education Programs of Study.

The Perkins Act allows states to submit a transition plan for the first year. Missouri, like almost every other state, will be submitting a transition plan. This will give the state and local recipients time to develop and implement valid and reliable accountability measures.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Act requires local recipients to agree to accept the state levels of performance or negotiate performance measures with the state the same way the state negotiates with the federal government. And student progress in achieving these performance levels is to be reported on an annual basis. Additionally, the data are to be disaggregated by special populations and use the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) subgroups. Under the new Act, states and locals will be required to negotiate adjusted levels of performance

three times during the six-year reauthorization.

On the secondary level, Perkins IV requires academic attainment to be measured using the academic assessments a state has approved under NCLB. For Missouri, this means the MAP. Graduation rates are to be reported as defined in NCLB. And, technical proficiency is to include student achievement on technical assessments that are aligned with industry-recognized standards when possible.

At the postsecondary level, academic attainment will no longer have to be reported. Just like the secondary level, technical skill proficiency should include student achievement on technical assessments that are aligned with industry-recognized standards when possible. Also, postsecondary student placement in high wage, high skill, or high demand occupations or professions will be measured. These categories are yet to be defined.

"Perkins" >p4







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Perkins *(from page 3)*

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Throughout the Act, provisions are stated for the development and implementation of career and technical education programs of study. States are to develop the programs of study in consultation with local programs. And each local recipient receiving funds under the Perkins is required to offer the relevant courses of at least one program of study.

The programs of study are to:

- Offer a connection between secondary and postsecondary learning,
- Include academic and career education content that is coordinated in a non-duplicative sequence of courses,
- Provide opportunities for secondary students to acquire postsecondary credits,
- Lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree, and
- Identify and address current or emerging occupational opportunities.

Missouri, like most other states, will be using Career Clusters to develop the programs of study. Sixteen Career Clusters were identified by the U.S. Department of Education as representing career opportunities for this century's economy. Career Clusters are groupings of occupations and industries that can be used as an organizing tool for curriculum design, instructional plus guidance model, and seamless transition. To learn more about Career Clusters go to www.careerclusters.org

Beginning in January 2007, the Division of Career Education will be convening advisory councils comprised of representatives from Missouri business and industry. The purpose of these advisory councils will be to review and confirm the career cluster knowledge and skill statements for the programs of study for the 16 broad clusters and 81 career pathways. Educators will then work to achieve alignment of courses for each program of study and seek review and feedback from their respective industry advisory council. Secondary and postsecondary teachers, administrators and counselors will serve on the educator councils.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Changes to professional development were the most extensive for state leadership required activities. Professional development is to be provided for both secondary and postsecondary levels (Missouri already does) and the details related to the professional are quite prescriptive. For instance:

- Provide in-service and pre-service training for career and technical education teachers in the integration and use of rigorous academic with technical subjects and provided jointly with academic teachers whenever possible, and use scientifically based research and data to improve instruction.
- The professional development is to be high quality, sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused in order to have a positive and lasting impact on classroom instruction and the teacher's performance in the classroom and NOT be one-day or short-term workshops or conferences.
- Help ensure teachers and personnel can effectively develop rigorous and challenging, integrated academic and career and technical education curricula jointly with academic teachers.
- Develop a higher level of academic and industry knowledge and skills in career and technical education.
- Ensure teachers can effectively use applied learning that contributes to the academic and career and technical education knowledge of the students.

TECH PREP

The Perkins IV legislation allows states to roll the tech prep funds into the basic grant or keep it separate. On December 12, a group of area career center directors, community college deans, and tech prep coordinators (selected by their peers) met with staff in the Division of Career Education to decide if Missouri should keep the funds separate or roll the funds in to the basic grant.

The committee voted to keep Missouri's tech prep funding separate for the transition year, the 2007-08 school year. The tech prep coordinators will identify three to four goals on which to focus related to Perkins IV. Division of Career Education staff members Billie Walkenbach and Kyle Heislen will work with the tech prep coordinators to identify the three to four goals.

SUMMARY

It took two years for Perkins to be authorized. Many advocates and the Congress worked together to craft the federal legislation that will build on and extend the existing best practices and successes, as well as promote innovation in career and technical education. The legislation gives the flexibility needed to continue to improve instructional offerings, strengthening the secondary and postsecondary connections, and improve the connection between career and technical education and academic rigor. For more information see our website at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/perkins_iv.htm.

Vocational Education Is Shifting Focus

by Georgina Gustin, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

It was once the refuge of high school students who weren't headed to college; for the kids who didn't excel at academics or preferred getting their hands dirty. But "vocational" education - the former province of budding mechanics, welders and secretaries - is shedding its grease-stained, dictation-taking image.

"It used to be that vocational ed was grimy," said Cindy Gagich, of Granite City High School, which has a long tradition of job-focused teaching. "But it's shifting. Now it's engineering and Web design. It's training for white-collar jobs."

Signifying the changes, recent federal legislation even gave vocational education a new label. Now, officially, it's Career and Technical Education, or CTE. And the new CTE can mean anything from nanotechnology to robotics to biomedical sciences.

"With technology it's absolutely changing," said Gayle Appel, director of instruction at O'Fallon Township High School, in O'Fallon, Ill. "We no longer teach shorthand or office machines - it's all computer-driven. No longer is it drafting with a pencil, it's a computer program. Electronics is now digital electronics."

The increasing sophistication of CTE courses has meant more students. Since 2000, the number of high school and college students taking CTE courses across the nation has jumped from roughly 9.6 million to 15.1 million, according to the Department of Education, and educators believe those numbers will climb even higher.

Some schools in Missouri and Illinois, too, are seeing a rise in demand for classes and enrollment. In Madison County, which appears to be leading the way, the numbers have already started to inch upward countywide over the past several years.

"It used to be 'Here's how to make a cake,'" said Cynthia Garcia, the coordinator for CTE programs in Madison County. "Now it's 'What was the chemical reaction of the ingredients?'"

Educators have theorized that the interest stems from several things: rising college tuition, coupled with the sometimes dim prospects of a high-paying job upon graduating with a four-year degree; and the increased demand for high-skilled jobs that require technical, rather than academic, training.

Cheryl Hood coordinates CTE programs in six St. Clair County high schools. She said, "I think we send too many kids to four-year-degree schools. Not all jobs require a four-year degree. If a student is content and makes good money, if they're a productive citizen and happy, then why are we pushing them to four-year degrees?"

Job-focused training has long been a component of American high schools. As many schools attempt reform, hands-on, applied learning - the essence of CTE programs - is getting more attention.

"Schools are trying to show students the relevance of applied learning," said Alisha Hyslop of the Virginia-based Association for Career and Technical Education. "School reform models are taking their cues from CTE."

For example, Hyslop explained, one model is the career academies model, in which students are grouped by area of interest throughout their high school career.

In some schools CTE classes are even being applied toward academic credit and graduation requirements. At O'Fallon Township High School, for example, students who take a CTE course in electronics can earn an academic science credit. "Any time you can teach academics in an applied manner, kids can grasp it better," said Appel.

At the same time, the economy is demanding that high-skilled blue-collar workers have a higher level of sophisticated training. That means high school students who want those jobs often start their training earlier, and, increasingly, they need associate degrees from community colleges to secure them.

"There's a lot of competition for jobs, good jobs, out there, and they won't be ready for those jobs until they have the training," said Randy Dillon, director of technical education for the Special School District of St. Louis County, which provides services to 23 districts and runs two technical high schools. "Kids are pretty sensitive about where things are heading. They see the need for getting some skills."

Dillon said enrollment at the two high schools in the district is climbing because more students are making the switch to a vocational track. And more graduates are going on to two-year colleges for additional training, while a few are parlaying the more sophisticated coursework into academic, four-year degrees.

While the schools focus on more of the traditional vocational areas, like welding and auto body, they also offer courses in robotics, EMT training and law enforcement. "You should see some of our diagnostic equipment," Dillon said. "It's way more mental than it is physical."

Some schools are struggling to keep up with demand. In the Hazelwood school district, for example, there are more students who want certain CTE courses than there are teachers.

"Shifting" >p7

Shifting *(from page 6)*

The district has recognized the need for more classes and has launched a pre-engineering program. Next year it plans to add a biomedical program, a pilot and the first of its kind in the state. The program will be on the CTE track but is taught by science teachers. "That's where CTE is going," said Gail Stewart, who coordinates CTE programs for the district. "We're not building birdhouses. We're doing things that people need, especially in this area, with all the hospitals and research going on."

Some changes in CTE are under way because of the recent reauthorization of the Perkins Act, the decades-old federal legislation that supports vocational training in high schools and community colleges. Under new rules, schools that receive Perkins funding must have programs geared to either high-skilled, high-demand or high-wage jobs, and those programs must be approved by the state. The law also demands more integrated teaching that recognizes the crossover potential between CTE and academic classes.

"We're continuing to see how academic teachers and CTE teachers can work together," said Nancy Headrick, of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. "How can a geometry

teacher take something (a student) is doing in a construction trades class so they can apply it in geometry class and say, 'I get it.'"

Yet, while the new Perkins legislation is bolstering CTE and was seen as a victory by many educators, other federal and state mandates are making life difficult for CTE students, teachers and administrators. In both Missouri and Illinois, recently increased graduation requirements are forcing students to take more academic classes, leaving little room for electives.

The number of students taking CTE has dipped in both states in recent years, but educators expect those numbers to climb quickly. Ultimately, it will be up to the students and their place in a changing economy.

"Demand from the students drives it," said Stewart, of the Hazelwood district. "And that demand comes from what's needed in the business world. We have to provide the programs."

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MO-ACTE PAC

MO-ACTE PAC (Political Action Committee) is a voluntary organization formed to advance the cause of career and technical education through participation in campaigns for those supporters seeking elective office.

Invest In Your Profession

You have made an investment in your occupation through education, training and dedicated service over the years. It makes sense that you should also make an investment in those individuals who will be setting public policy that funds and governs your employment.

Strength In Numbers

Educators in the field of career and technical education total over 3,000 in this state. Can you imagine the impact this group could have when they speak with one voice? When you pool resources with others who have a common goal, you benefit from speaking with many rather than alone

Be Part Of The Process

The democratic process of electing a representative form of government is alive and working in this country and in Missouri. When you contribute to a common Political Action Committee, you are becoming part of the process we value so much.

Make Your Contribution Now

Missouri has limitations on maximum contributions from a single source, which necessitates a candidate establishing a broader base of support. Since these limitations are tied to election cycles, it is a matter of practicality that candidates continue to raise funds in the off-election years in order to have adequate dollars to operate a successful campaign.

Return this portion of the page, along with a check to your PAC headquarters as listed below.

_____ Yes! I want to make a contribution to MO-ACTE PAC and my check is enclosed (An amount of \$5 is suggested.)

Name: _____

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Make the check payable to MO-ACTE PAC and mail to: Missouri ACTE; P.O. Box 1955; Jefferson City, MO 65102. Contributions or gifts to the MO-ACTE Political Action Committee are not deductible for income tax purposes. All disbursements are reviewed and approved by a committee of your peers.

Karen Mason, Candidate for ACTE Region III Vice President

We are pleased to announce that Karen Mason, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at East Newton High School at Granby, has been selected as a candidate for ACTE Region III Vice President. Karen completes her term as Vice President for the ACTE Family and Consumer Sciences Division on June 30, 2007. She also currently serves as Policy Chair for Missouri ACTE and is the FCCLA representative on the National FCS Coalition. Karen is a past President and active member of the Missouri Educators of Family Consumer Sciences Board of Directors. Congratulations, Karen!



Just a friendly reminder ...

**Missouri ACTE 2007
Summer Conference
July 23-26, 2007
Springfield, MO**

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ACTE Annual Convention and Career Expo - 2006

by Barbara Mountjoy

Georgia was ready for a great professional development conference. The weather didn't cooperate fully; it was very cool, windy and RAINY! Of course, back here in Missouri one of the worst ice storms in many years was paralyzing the state. (It is really difficult for a classroom teacher to be gone when snow days occur. Snow days translate to "unexpected but welcome gifts"). This convention provided many opportunities for those career and technical educators looking for Professional Development experiences.

After various committee meetings all day on Wednesday, the first general session started things off with a BANG. Dave Weber, a Georgia native and a phenomenal speaker spoke to us regarding "Overcoming Life's Goliaths." Weber emphasized the power of vision and choice. Goliaths are the barriers, obstacles, challenges and changes people face in their lives that keep them down or hold them back from achieving their goals, he explained. "Every person has their own Goliaths, which are as different as the people in the world," he said, offering examples such as changing jobs, marital troubles, death, anger, resentment, loneliness, depression, fear, and trying to do too much. "I'm always amazed at all of the stuff people will cram onto their plates. It can be overwhelming and discouraging."

Weber, described as a "Chihuahua on caffeine," instructed his audience to stretch and give the person next to them a back rub then he got down to business. Using humor and storytelling he certainly got his point across.

He took the audience back 3,200 years to the valley floor of Elahin in the Middle East, the site of many ancient battles, including the legendary story of David versus Goliath. David, a teenager from Israel, defeated Goliath, a Philistine who stood a reported 13 feet tall, after negotiations failed between the two civilizations.

David, around 15, made the decision to take on Goliath after insults were hurled at the Israelites and also hearing that the prize for slaying the giant included never having to pay taxes and the opportunity to marry a princess.

"He had an unwavering commitment to his vision. He took his eyes off the barrier and put it on the reward," Weber said, describing how David killed Goliath using a slingshot and smooth stone from the river and, eventually, Goliath's own sword. "He had a shift in his vision of the way things are to the way they will be, offering life lessons that can still be used today. We must learn to shift our vision. Attitude is a choice,

infecting those around you. What you choose to become can have a greater influence on who you are today than all your yesterdays."

Weber concluding his rousing story, by telling us he had a truck load of lovely black smooth stones from the Colorado river delivered at the convention center, so upon exiting we could each one have a reminder of how we too can conquer our Goliaths and inspire our students to do so also.

On Friday, December 1st Troy R. Justesen, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education addressed the attendees of the 2nd General Session. Mr. Justesen was nominated to his post by President George W. Bush on May 8, 2006 and confirmed by the Senate on July 26, 2006. He serves as the principal advisor to Secretary Spellings on Departmental matters related to career, technical and adult education; high schools; lifelong learning; and community colleges, as well as workforce and economic development.

With reauthorization of the *Perkins Act* completed by Congress a week after his confirmation by the Senate, Justesen said the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) is now focusing on implementing the reauthorized *Perkins Act* and, with the help of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, extending the principles of *No Child Left Behind* to the nation's high schools.

Born in the ranching and coal-mining town of Orangeville, Utah, Justesen attended Emery County public schools and was a FFA member. He earned his associate degree in general science from the College of Eastern Utah in nearby Price before matriculating at the Utah State University in Logan, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in education in 1989. So you see he truly started as one of us. I felt as though he would be able to identify with career and technical educators better than many others who have served in this office.

He cordially invited us to visit his office in Washington D.C. and we intend to do so during our visit to our nation's capital in March.

At this General Session, we also had ACTE's National Awards program – a chance to recognize the best CTE educators in the country. And we had one of our own up on the national stage. Mark Sponaugle represented Region III and the great state of Missouri in the Community Service category. We were all very proud of him.

"ACTE Convention" >p5

ACTE Convention *(from page 4)*

On Saturday, what a treat we had in store for us! Christopher Gardner, "The Pursuit of Happyness" guy spoke to us for a fascinating 90 minutes. Always hard working and tenacious, a series of circumstances in the early 1980's left Gardner homeless in San Francisco and the sole guardian of his toddler son. Unwilling to give up Chris Jr. or his dream of financial independence, Gardner started at the bottom. Without connections or a college degree, he earned a spot in the Dean Witter Reynolds training program. Often spending his nights in a church shelter or the bathroom at a Bay Area Rapid Transit station in Oakland.

Gardner was the sole trainee offered a job at Dean Witter Reynolds in 1981. He spent 1983-87 at Bear Stearns & Co., where he became a top earner, and then in 1987, he founded the brokerage firm Gardner Rich & Co in Chicago. This company is an institutional brokerage firm specializing in the execution of debt, equity and derivative products transactions for some of the nations largest institutions, public pension plans and unions. The company has expanded into Christopher Gardner International Holdings and now has a business project underway in South Africa.

Gardner is particularly committed to many educational organizations. One of his favorites is the Chicago Teachers' Union, sponsoring activities and outings for Chicago public school kids.

Chris's remarkable story of struggle, faith, entrepreneurship, and fatherly devotion has catapulted him beyond the notoriety he has found on Wall Street. He has been featured on many television programs, as well as the newly released movie, *Pursuit of Happyness*, taken from the book he has written by the same name. It was a tremendous treat to hear him and worth the two hour wait in line to get his autograph on his book.

So, in spite of the windy, rainy weather, the collegiate football playoff game and the rabid fans it encouraged, and the city of Atlanta's Christmas parade that tied up traffic for blocks, and everybody at home "enjoying" coveted snow days, it was a great convention.

It's Time to Shine!

Everyone knows outstanding teachers and educators so please take the time to acknowledge them by nominating them for one of the 2007 Missouri ACTE awards.

The award applications must be mailed to Donna Vossen, Executive Director, PO Box 1955, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 postmarked no later than **March 15, 2007.**

If you have any questions please contact your division representative on the Missouri ACTE Awards Committee or Donna Vossen at 573-634-7366 or donna@mo-acte.org.

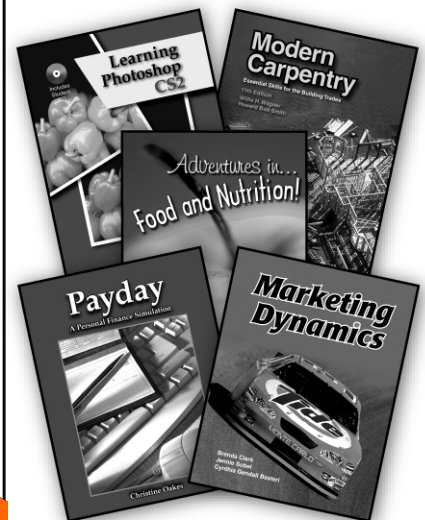
For the Awards information you can go to our website www.mo-acte.org and download the Award forms and criteria.

NOTICE: To be eligible for any and all awards, you must be a tri-level member - ACTE, Missouri ACTE and your division.

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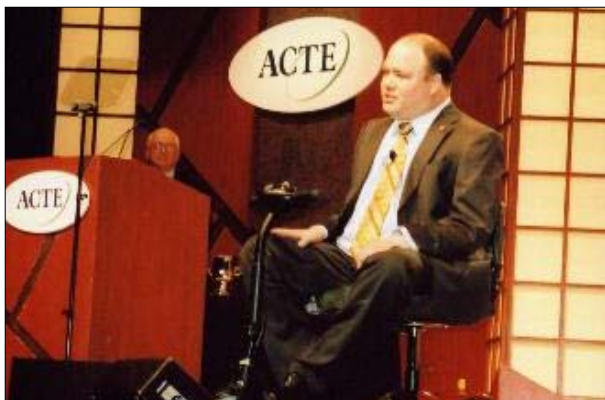
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ACTE National Conference

by Sherry Struckhoff, Past President of Missouri ACTE



I had the pleasure of attending the National ACTE Conference held in Atlanta, GA, in December. The Missouri delegation was present in force and it was a great convention. The Opening speaker, Dave Weber, spoke about overcoming life's "Goliaths". He was very motivational and his book "Sticks and Stones Exposed" speaks to the power of our words.

Friday's opening speaker was Troy Justesen, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) at the US Department of Education. I was very impressed by his speech and he seems to be a REAL advocate in the office for us. The Missouri delegation plans to visit his office during the Policy Seminar in D.C. in March.

Saturday's opening speaker was Christopher Gardner, the real life person for which the movie "The Pursuit of Happyness" was made. Mr. Gardner spoke for two hours, 45 minutes over his time and it was wonderful. His was truly an inspirational story of success in the world of work.

I really appreciate my school, school district and Missouri ACTE for allowing me to attend the National Conference. It is a wonderful opportunity to network, gain new information and become inspired. Thank you.

Another Perspective on the ACTE Convention

by Mark Sponaugle, Region III Representative

Atlanta, the city built on southern charm and grace, was open for business as the Association for Career and Technical Education began its Annual Convention. The Convention hosted one of the largest groups for attendees in its history and, believe me, ACTE has not "Gone With The Wind" but is made up of those who "Have A Dream" for the future.

Region III voted to financially support two individuals from within the region to attend the National Conference. Through a lottery system, the states of Iowa and Wisconsin were selected to attend this year. We met those individuals at the Regional III business meetings and heard a brief report from them on who they were and how this trip to Atlanta has been so beneficial to them personally. I believe this "Send a Member to Convention" program is a great way to encourage ACTE members to participate beyond the local or state level. Region III and ACTE will reap the benefits created by this program for years to come. Remember, Missouri's turn will be this coming December, as we travel to Las Vegas.

The other news that was discussed at the Convention was the ACTE reorganization. Yes, I know, it's the 353rd verse of the same song but the fat lady has finally sung. The ACTE House-of-Delegates voted in the changes and I am sure you are all breathing a sigh of relief because I can stop talking about the reorganization.

The "REALLY" big news from the region is that Karen Mason is running for the Region III Vice President's position that is currently held by Bryan Albrecht, Wisconsin. Bryan's term will end on June 30, 2007. Many of you already know that Karen currently serves on the ACTE Board of Directors as the Vice President of the Family and Consumer Science division. She has also been an active member of Missouri ACTE, where she currently serves as Policy Committee Chairman. Karen went through an interview process in Atlanta and was elected as one of three candidates to run for this office. Voting will take place electronically through email addresses that ACTE has on record. Please watch for the email, from ACTE, that refers to the voting process. Read and follow your instructions carefully to complete the process. If you are unsure if ACTE has your correct email address on file, please confirm soon. We want every Missouri ACTE member to be able to vote for Karen when the time comes. When the voting process begins, if you have trouble casting your vote call ACTE, immediately. If calling ACTE does not work, call or email me.

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great start back to school. As always, it is a pleasure to represent Missouri at the regional level. I thank you for the opportunity to serve. Please feel free to contact me at 417-359-7026 or sponauglem@carthage.k12.mo.us if you have any questions or concerns.

Importance of Professional Development Receives Renewed Attention for Missouri ACTE

by Paul Mackay, Program Improvement Committee Chairperson

Historically, the Missouri ACTE Program Improvement Committee focused on conference logistics, theme, and keynote speaker. While not deviating from that charge, this year's Committee sought broad input on professional development needs for all Missouri ACTE members.

The Committee conducted an online membership survey last fall. The outstanding 33% response rate was valuable to the Committee in its efforts to improve the Missouri ACTE Summer Conference. The Committee is also weighing new criteria for professional development, as outlined in the new Perkins Act.

"The Missouri ACTE Summer Conference has an elevated charge to provide meaningful professional development for Missouri ACTE members," said Paul Mackay, who led development of the survey.

A Summary of Survey Results

The majority of respondents were located at comprehensive high schools, with members from area career centers having the second highest response rate. MBEA members had the highest divisional response rate and MACS, TEAM, and MSNA had the lowest response. The majority of those attending identified the funding source for their attendance as either the local district and/or Perkins funds.

Most respondents feel that the Summer Conference is valuable, with the strongest attraction cited as the opportunity to network with colleagues. Divisional programming received positive responses; however, postsecondary members did express concern about relevant programming for their needs.

While 51% of the respondents indicated that they did not attend the opening session, 83% of survey respondents indicated the opening session had importance, including 13% of respondents saying it was very important. The Committee received many comments concerning relevance of the keynote speaker. Most respondents indicated that a motivational keynote was important but needed a message relevant for teachers to take back into the classroom. For complete survey results, contact Paul Mackay at mackay@cmsu1.cmsu.edu.

Professional Development Partnership Expands

Using data from the fall survey, a previous CTE survey, and new professional development requirements in the Perkins IV Act, over 30 educators representing members from Missouri ACTE's Executive Committee,

Program Improvement Committee, Professional Development Committee, Missouri Center for Career Education, and DESE staff met in a two-day planning session, November 20-21, to develop joint professional development strategies for Missouri Career and Technical educators. The session was led by Deborah Fite, a facilitator from the Southern Region Education Boards' High School's That Work initiative. The combined group identified several needs; however, the overarching theme that generated an overwhelming consensus among the participants was **Defining Rigor in the Different CTE Disciplines**.

"Professional development needs to be a systematic process with a clear and concise vision of the improvements needed. It needs to engage teachers in planning, with information given over time and directly linked to improving student learning. It is time for professional development to be planned using data that supports the need. This means the Division of Career Education, Missouri ACTE and the Missouri Center for Career Education need to work together to plan professional development. We need to evaluate all professional development and coordinate efforts with our partners."

Dr. Nancy Headrick
Assistant Commissioner, Missouri Career Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Program Improvement Committee Puts Plans into Action

After studying the survey results and the recommendations from the two-day planning seminar, the Missouri ACTE Program Improvement Committee recommends "Rigor and Relevance" be the Conference theme and that it be carried throughout the year for all CTE professional development. The Committee members further determined a speaker needed to be identified who will be motivating to members and can fulfill the professional development theme of "Rigor and Relevance." Based on that criteria, the Committee made a recommendation to the Missouri ACTE Executive Committee that Dr. Harry Wong be contracted to provide a two-session in-service to all Missouri ACTE members on Tuesday, July 24, and that a box lunch be provided to allow additional opportunity for all members to benefit from Dr. Wong's important message.

Rigor and Relevance >p6

Rigor and Relevance *(from page 7)*

"...I do believe the focus on joint professional development as it pertains to effective strategies for improving student performance is an efficient and sensible approach to helping all CT teachers contribute to the success of our students."

Dr. Julie Lyman, Director
Business and Marketing Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

"The topic of rigor and relevance and the opportunity to learn more from Dr. Wong will be beneficial to all career educators, as we learn how to effectively improve student performance in the classroom."

Dr. Terry Heiman, Director
Agricultural Education
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

About Dr. Wong ...

Dr. Harry K. Wong is possibly the most motivating, exciting and dynamic speaker on classroom management and education today.

His presentations result in positive audience behavior change. He leaves his audiences with practical, useful techniques for how to succeed in the classroom.

His expertise is in classroom management and student motivation. Although Dr. Harry Wong regards himself as "a plain old classroom teacher," his record shows that he has been an excellent teacher who has shared his success with thousands of teachers internationally. During more than 33 years in the classroom, Dr. Harry Wong has developed methods which resulted in his having a zero dropout rate, no discipline problems, a 95% homework turn-in factor, and the ability to demonstrate master level learning by each of his students. His students won over 200 awards.

Dr. Harry Wong's classroom management presentations are of universal appeal. Business people, homemakers, students, and people from all walks of life will profit personally from his message of self-motivation. "In my 30 years of being in public education, I have never seen or heard anyone have the impact that your presentation has had on our teachers and administrators." Comment from recent Building Bridges conference attendee. For more information on Dr. Harry Wong you can go to <http://teachers.net/gazette/wong.html>.

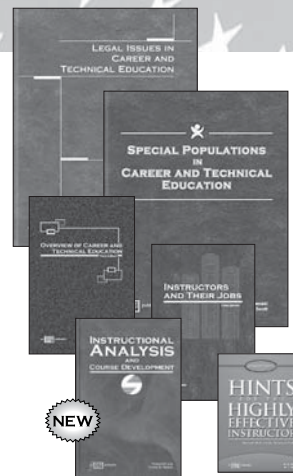
"MCCE looks forward to participating in this collaborative effort specifically targeted to improve student learning. The Center will support the work begun at the 2007 Summer Conference through an ongoing series of professional development opportunities such as regional workshops, in-service training, and coordination of the Building Bridges Conference. The content of these professional development endeavors will align with the themes and priority needs identified by Missouri's career educators."

Dr. Barbara Harrison, Co-Director
Missouri Center for Career Education
University of Central Missouri

The Missouri ACTE Program Improvement Committee is composed of the following divisions and their representatives who have worked very hard to continuously improve our Summer Conference:

Paul Mackay (MCCTA), Chairperson
Diana Reynolds (MSNA)
Carol Helton (MACS)
Janice L. Somerville (TEAM)
R. Suzanne Dudenhoeffer (MoEFACS)
David A. Heath (MBEA)
Pam Proffitt-Rowland (MVATA)
Greg Bauer (MTTA)
Sandra L. White (MSCA)
Tracy Christie (MCEA)
Sherry Struckhoff (MoSAHOE) (sub)

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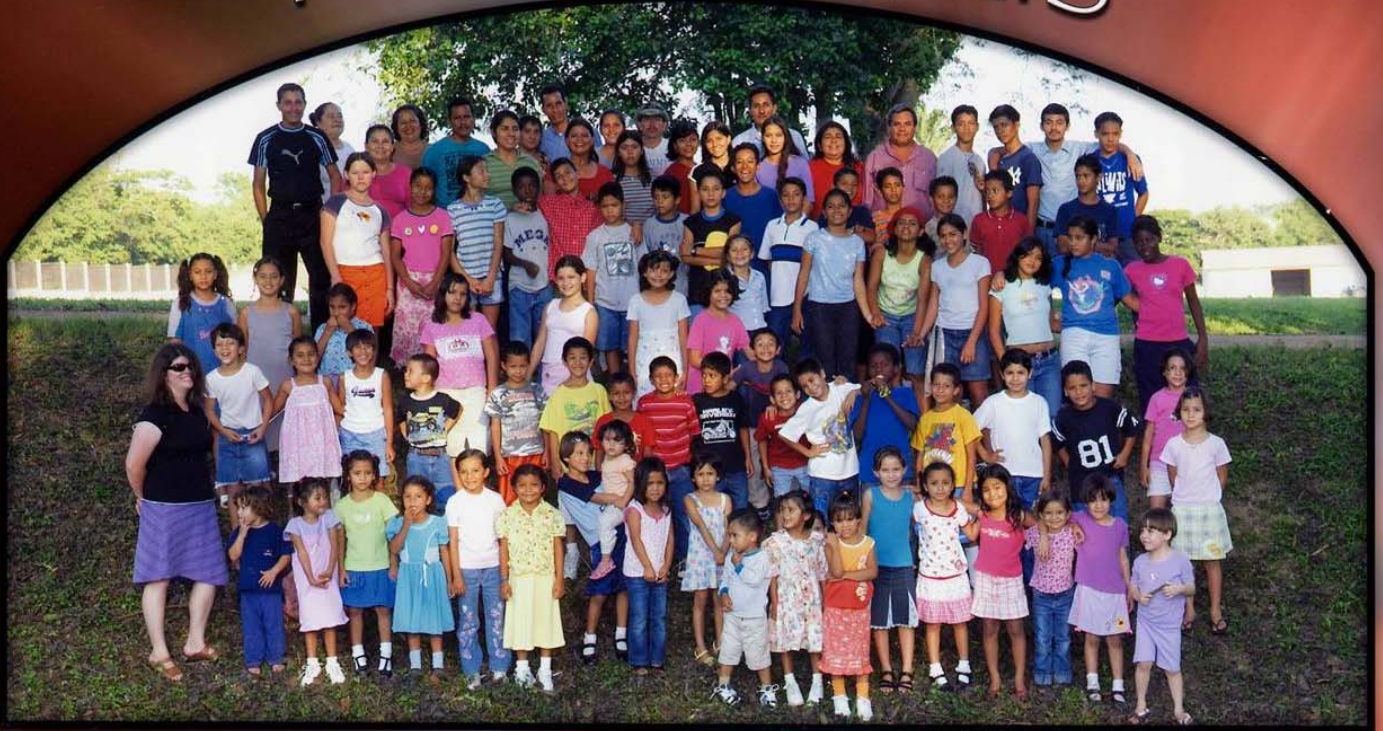
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Missouri DECA Helps Vocational Programs in Honduras

Missouri DECA members had the opportunity to assist the development of vocational programs thousands of miles away thanks to a retired Missouri marketing and cooperative education teacher.

Missouri DECA chapters raised \$2,000 during its annual fall civic project that culminated at the Fall Leadership and State Officer Election Conference in October. Members across the state contributed money to the "Hope for Honduras" initiative. The State Action Team even held a miracle minute where they ran up and down the isles to collect change from members in less than a minute during Missouri DECA's morning general session. More than \$400 was raised in this single minute.

The proceeds benefited the development of vocational programs in Honduras through the Faith Home Childcare Center. Retired Gainesville DECA advisor and Marketing and Cooperative Education teacher Sid Smith and his wife, Vicki,

(pictured below) are in Honduras providing leadership and hope for this worthwhile project.

Missouri DECA promotes civic consciousness, vocational understanding, social intelligence and leadership development. Partnering with the Smiths was extremely rewarding for Missouri DECA members because the cause is closely related to the goals of career and technical education. The continuing development of vocational programs is congruent with Missouri DECA's mission of developing essential skills in career and technical education.

For more information contact Christopher Young at 573-751-4367.



Congratulations to these Missouri ACTE Members!

Blue Springs South High School Employee of the Month

Employee of the Month

Shelli Ray was named the January Employee of the Month for the district. Shelli teaches business classes at Blue Springs South High School and is also the sponsor of both DECA and the Touch of Silver Dance Team as well as the Southside Steppers. Shelli has been with the district for eleven years and has taken an active role in her school. Shelli has also been a presenter at the state leadership conference and a state mentor for area marketing teachers. Shelli was named the Missouri Marketing Education Teacher of the Year for 2006-2007 and currently serves as the president-elect of the Marketing and Cooperative Education Association.

Keith Maxey, Shelli's principal said of her, "Shelli has great relationships with her students and high expectations. She leads her students by example and as a result her students do well in competition as well as in class." Shelli and her husband Pat have two boys, Jordan at MRMS, and Jared at CME.

Shelli keeps busy with the Touch of Silver dance team and the Southside Steppers along with serving on several State committees for her Marketing classes. She enjoys watching her children play sports, and when she isn't practicing dance steps or taking kids to a ball practice, she likes to go to garage sales as a hobby. Shelli was joined at the meeting by her husband Pat and her sons. Congratulations to Shelli Ray.



Region III Outstanding Teacher in Community Service



← *Mark Sponaugle proudly displays the Region III Outstanding Teacher in Community Service Award which he received at the ACTE Conference in Atlanta, GA.*

We're Searching for Winners ...



the 2007 Missouri ACTE Awards deadline is March 15, 2007.

The award applications must be mailed to Donna Vossen, Executive Director, PO Box 1955, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 postmarked no later than **March 15, 2007**. You can download the awards form and criteria at www.mo-acte.org.

Lee's Summit Marketing Students Partner with Hy-Vee in Springtime Party Competition



← **Back Row:** Eric Williams, Justin Erisman, Brad Jochems, Lesli Cruz, Brandy Kading, and Hy-Vee Manager Steve Culbertson; **Front Row:** Aimee Dowthit, Alicia Gant, Berlice Salgado, and Danielle Jeffries

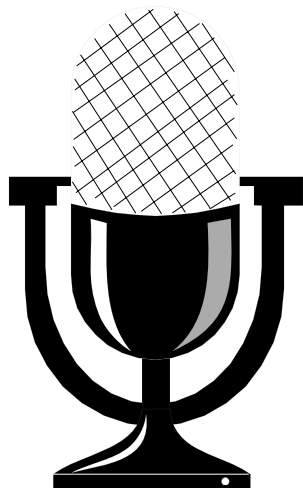
Marketing students at Lee's Summit High School were given the opportunity to apply marketing skills and concepts in the recent Springtime Party Promotions Project at both Hy-Vee stores. Marketing 101 students in one class partnered with Hy-Vee East with an amusement park theme and another class partnered with Hy-Vee West with a zoo theme.

Students were divided into teams and had to come up with a promotional plan for the Hy-Vee Springtime Party contest. Students were given a budget of \$2,000 and had to research ideas to promote Springtime Party, as well as activities for the employees and customers. Team members presented their ideas to the management teams from each store. The Hy-Vee managers picked a team they liked the best and that team's ideas were put into action (some of the other team's ideas were also used).

Students made calls, designed flyers, helped decorate, arranged for face painting, etc. Students were also present during the judging, selling their ideas to the judges.

Hy-Vee West placed first in the competition. Manager, Steve Culbertson presented the winning team members with \$500 to be used for the marketing education program. Team members were Stephanie Davis, Leslie Cruz, Alicia Gant, Danielle Jeffries, Brad Jochems, Berlice Salgado and Eric Williams.

It was a great learning tool in that students had the opportunity to apply what they've been learning in class to a real life situation. The Hy-Vee stores are the Partners in Education for Lee's Summit High School.



On the Air!

In observance of February as Career and Technical Education Month, DESE's Division of Career Education and Learfield Communications have developed four one-minute public service announcements that will air throughout the state in February. In addition, another 60-second "tagged" spot has been developed and is being distributed via e-mail to community colleges and area career centers for their individual placement with radio stations playing to their target markets.

To hear the four PSAs and vote online for your favorite, go to http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareer/cte_month.htm. For information about the "tagged" radio spots, contact Michele Clark at DESE, (573) 526-4297 or e-mail michele.clark@dese.mo.gov.

MVATA - Agriculture



Representative Pearce is pictured seated and again with the committee members.

Pearce Addresses Agriculture Teachers at Capitol

In November, State Representative David Pearce, (R-Warrensburg - 121st District), met at the State Capitol with legislative committee members of the Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

The committee met with state leaders to plan its 2007 legislative agenda and to gain some insight into how to more effectively interact with the legislature.

Pearce said, "It is important to get to know your elected officials and find ways to acquaint them with your instructional program."

Pearce commented on the importance of agricultural education and the role of the local agriculture teacher. He referenced his father Clarence Pearce having been an FFA Advisor for over 30 years and the fact that he appreciated the role of agriculture instructors and the FFA organization.

MBEA - Business

MBEA (Business) Division News

by Michelle Lindsey, MBEA President

Over 225 members attended the 15th Annual Missouri Business Education Association (MBEA) Fall Conference held at The Resort at Port Arrowhead in Lake Ozark, Missouri November 17-18, 2006.

Friday began with sessions for new business teachers and their mentors. Patti Palmer conducted a pre-conference session on Personal Finance. Following registration, attendees were able to visit with vendors and see demonstrations of current technology, such as the Classroom Performance System (CPS).

The evening's keynote speaker was Karla Heeter who provided humor and insight with her presentation, "If You're Too Busy To Laugh, You're Too Busy." On Saturday morning, after a time of networking, participants had the opportunity to attend a variety of breakout sessions including, podcasting, personal finance, teach-nology tools, accounting, digital communications, FBLA, and business etiquette.

Several of these topics were a follow-up to our Summer Conference in our efforts to meet the Perkins requirement for high-quality, sustained professional development.

The Marketing/Linkages committee sold a variety of items for members. An NBEA table encouraged members to attend the NBEA Conference in New York in April 2007. Brent Whelan hosted a Missouri ACTE table to encourage new memberships and promote the benefits of Missouri ACTE. Members found the Fall Conference format was just what they needed to get re-energized with new teaching tips and resources.

We encourage our members to join us for Legislative Day on February 14. In addition, members can find valuable updates and instructional materials by visiting the MBEA website at

http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/biz_mbea.htm

MBEA - Business

Business Educators Meet

The 15th Annual Missouri Business Education Fall Conference was held November 17 and 18, 2006, at The Resort at Port Arrowhead in Lake Ozark.

Karla Heeter, Maple Lake, Minnesota, spoke at Friday evening's Opening Session. Her topic was "If You're Too Busy to Laugh, You're Too Busy!" This entertaining presentation focused on our fast paced world, encumbered with so many obligations, expectations and stresses, that we forget the importance of taking care of ourselves. Having survived cancer, she recently co-authored the book, The LMNOPs of Surviving Cancer in which she shares her attitudes, beliefs and challenges, reflections, stories and thanksgivings.

Sixteen vendors exhibited educational materials, classroom equipment, software, industry certification materials, and professional association information Friday evening and Saturday morning during the come-and-go country buffet breakfast.

Twenty-nine concurrent sessions were available to the almost 250 business educators from school districts, colleges, and universities around Missouri. Classroom assessment techniques, digital media programs, graphics in the classroom, accounting, Adobe Acrobat 8, Adobe Studio 8, personal finance, and a great

assortment of strategies for teaching business education were among the sessions the teachers could choose to attend. In addition to these structured programs, teachers had opportunities to share valuable ideas with their colleagues from around the state.

In conjunction with the conference, three other events were held. A training session was held Friday for the business education mentors and protégés, who planned together activities for the remaining months of the academic year. On Friday afternoon, a pre-session on Personal Finance was presented by Patricia Palmer, "The 'Biz' on Personal Finance, Everything You Need to Know About Teaching It." In addition, the MBEA Executive Board met to conduct business of the Association.

The 16th Annual MBEA Fall Conference will be held November 16 – 17, 2007. The location will be announced at a later date.

Call for Proposals

The 2007 ACTE/MBEA/NCBEA Call for Proposals can be found on the web at:

<http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/conferences.htm#MBEA>

MACS - Career Services

The Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS) held its Fall Conference on September 28 and 29 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia. There were over forty career services professionals in attendance. A pre-conference session included an Executive Board meeting for all officers and region representatives.

Conference speakers and topics included:

- **Employer Panel** featuring J2 Scientific — Jeff Wiseman, CEO; City of Columbia — Vee Boehm; and All Star Automotive — Bob Buchheit.
- **Workforce Development Model at Crowder College** — Scott Sattler, Workforce Development and Lora Burch, Crowder College.
- **Student Employment Issues** — Kristen Morrow, DESE attorney.
- **DESE Updates on Perkins Funding** — Don Walker, Perkins Accountability Team.

- **DESE Updates on Core Data and 180-Day Follow-Up** — Connie O'Brien, Supervisor, Administration & Accountability Services.

Dinner included an entertaining video put together by Sharon Bergman and the 2005-2006 awards presentation for Outstanding Career Services Coordinator of the Year to Laurel Hall, Ozark Mountain Technical Center and Outstanding Employer of the Year to David Lake, Septagon Industries. A special presentation was made to Larry Baine, North Technical High School, for a commitment to and longevity within the organization.

Friday morning began with a General Membership Business meeting. The conference ended on a great note with a wonderful presentation, *Thinking Outside the Box* by Dr. Virginia "Ginny" Barnes, nationally recognized speaker and consultant.

If you have questions about the Missouri Association for Career Services, contact President Cindy Phillips at phillipc@otc.edu. MACS business and other information of interest to career services professionals is now available online at <http://macs.mo-acte.org>.

MACS - Career Services



Pictured above left (L to R): June Swanson nominated Laurel Hall from Ozark Mountain Technical Center who posed with MACS President, Cindy Phillips, after accepting her award for Outstanding Career Services Coordinator of the Year. Above right: MACS attendees participate in some fun and informative conference activities.

MSCA - Counselor



Dr. Lela (Lee) Kosteck Bunch, executive director of the Missouri School Counselor Association, was recently recognized as "Outstanding Guidance Professional" by the Guidance Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) at its national conference in Atlanta. Prior to taking her current position, Lee was an assistant professor in the

Division of Counseling and Family Therapy at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. She also served for three years as the Director of Guidance and Placement for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Lee has been an educator for over 30 years, working in all facets of education at virtually all levels (K-17). She has 13 years professional school counseling experience, both at the elementary and secondary level, and five additional years experience in the delivery of psychological services in an agency setting. Lee has worked as a supervisor of adult education, after completing vocational supervision certification from the MCTTA Leadership Academy.

Lee has a Ph.D. in School Psychology with an emphasis in educational administration and family systems from the University of Missouri - Columbia, and a Master's Degree in School Counseling from Pittsburg State University. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Missouri, as well as a National Certified Counselor (NCC).

Lee has been actively involved in numerous professional organizations and has assumed many leadership roles. She presently represents Guidance on the Diversity Committee of the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (Missouri ACTE). In addition, she serves on the Guidance Policy Committee of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) and represents Guidance on the ACTE Communications Committee.



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MoEFACS - Family & Consumer Sciences

by Karen Mason, East Newton High School, Granby; MoEFACS Vice President

Thanks to all of the Missouri family and consumer sciences teachers who joined ACTE this year! When you join through Missouri ACTE, this helps our membership numbers grow, making our representation stronger at the national level. The annual convention was recently held in Atlanta, Georgia. We had good representation from our state at the meetings. The opening speaker this year for the FCS Division was Frank Fort from New Mexico. Frank did a great job!

I want to say thank you to all the Missouri FCS teachers who serve on committees for ACTE and our division. We had a lot of presentations in our division at the ACTE convention. The call for presentations will be opening soon, so please submit presentations if you are going to the convention in Las Vegas next December.

We inducted Judy Hetherly from Texas in the Roll of Honor and recognized three outstanding educators for their contributions to the National Standards for Educators at our division luncheon. The three recognized were Dr. Wanda Fox, Dr. Pat Erickson and Dr. Daisy Stewart. We awarded three graduate fellowships this year, and a total of \$10,000 in scholarship monies.

I have been appointed to serve as the FCCLA representative on the National FCS Coalition and look forward to assuming this role for FCCLA. We have two candidates for our division vice-president. They are Becky Cox from Utah and Tara Gotwalt from Oklahoma. They are both excellent candidates who would fulfill the duties wonderfully, so be sure to vote in February.

All voting for the ACTE elections is done online! You must be an ACTE member to vote and all ACTE members will receive ballots via email. If you have any problems voting, please let me, ACTE, and/or the company doing the elections know so we can correct the problem and you still can vote before the deadline. If you do not get a ballot, contact ACTE by phone immediately at 1-800-826-9972. We will be voting for our FCS Division Vice President and Region III Vice President.

The National Policy Seminar is in Washington, D.C. March 5-7, 2007. Make plans to attend if possible. This is a great opportunity for educators to visit with legislators at the federal level. I have had a busy three years as your Vice President and count it an honor and privilege to have served in this capacity. Thank you for your continued support!



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