Dear Missouri ACTE Members,

Tomorrow is the first day of fall and, even though the thermometer is not indicating it, every day, signs of the season surround us everywhere. Fall is my favorite time of the year and I am anxious to see nature’s wonderful display of colors again this year!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Summer Conference. As always, the program planners provided us with relevant topics for us to use back at our schools. Rita Pierson was an excellent keynote speaker. Even though I had heard her several times, her message of building relationships with our students is still an important reminder for me.

The Annual ACTE Conference will be held in Las Vegas the first week in December. I have looked at the agenda and again our ACTE is preparing another top-notch conference. Each week, I get an update on progress for the Conference and I get more and more excited about the excellent workshops, speakers and trade show. I am especially anxious to hear Saturday’s keynote speaker, Matthew Crawford, the author of Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work. Let me encourage you to attend the Annual Conference, if possible. You will not be disappointed.

We recently held our annual budget meeting for our organization and, even though membership still continues to decline, we were able to create a balanced budget. Please consider all the benefits of being a member of Missouri ACTE and share those with a colleague who is not a member. The benefits we receive from our organization are tremendous. Without any of the other benefits considered, the lobbying efforts and advocacy on behalf of our profession and students is worth the $25 in dues.

I hope you have had a wonderful start to your school year. It continues to be my pleasure to serve our organization as president.

For the organization,

Laura Hendley, Missouri ACTE President
This past summer, our Region III Conference was held in Kansas City and hosted by Missouri. The Conference was held at the Ameristar Hotel and highlighted the SkillsUSA Competition. This was an opportunity for the six states in Region III to get together and share information about what is happening and what is working in each state. The theme for the Conference was “Now is the Time for CTE.” We had 55 attendees, representatives from each of the states, and a great showing from Missouri.

The workshops were wonderful and well received. I really appreciate all the people who worked to make it a success. The session speakers were all Missouri educators that spoke for free; for the love of their students and their profession. I also want to thank Joy Behrens and her committee for the fabulous goodie bags. Jan Bray, our National Executive Director, always attends and provided a wonderful session on “Leadership.” We collected $920.00 at our Silent Auction for the National CTE Support Fund, which Jan took back with her. In all, our Conference made a profit of $3,000.00; we kept half and sent half to National ACTE to put in the Region III account. A wonderful Conference with wonderful people!

Next year, the Region III Conference will be in Terre Haute, Indiana on June 13-15th with the theme “Leadership is a Matter of Choice.” The purpose of the Region III Conference is to grow our leadership, while networking with other members of our Region. Make plans now to attend this wonderful leadership opportunity.

Lastly, at this year’s National ACTE Conference in Las Vegas, our own Karen Mason (FACS Division and Policy chair) will be running for President Elect of ACTE. She needs our support and needs ALL of us to vote. Of the over 3,000 Missouri ACTE members, only 125 voted in the last election. We would like to see a significant increase in the number of Missouri voters. Please encourage your ACTE division members to go online in December and cast a vote for Karen Mason. Until the National Convention and she becomes an official candidate, we can say “vote for Karen Mason;” after that time, we can only ask you to vote! Karen is the best candidate and we need Missouri to have a strong voice at the national level. Thank you for your support!
The two challenges Career and Technical Education faced starting last fall with the proposed changes with MSIP Cycle 5 and with the omission of Career and Technical Education from the original reorganization chart last spring led our organization to question the real intent of our state department's educational objectives. Our disenchantment due to lack of transparency and collaboration left us all with deep feelings of uneasiness. Efforts of educators across the state during the summer months provided some reprieve but let us not get too comfortable.

Tough decisions by our directors and administrators will continue as they tighten belts to survive budget deficits. Now more than ever CTE educators must do our utmost to promote the value in what we do. Follow are a few reminders of how we all need to continue to stand up and be counted.

1) Public relations. Be sure to frequently promote your programs throughout the year. Publish what your students are learning, doing and achieving.

2) Continue to do your job in the classroom. The most effective measure of your value as an educator is solid lesson plans evident by student performance.

3) Remind our State Commissioner periodically how imperative it is for Career and Technical Education to have a solid presence in DESE with state CTE staff and for students to have the opportunity to be involved in their organizations above the local level.

Finally, be sure to plant the seed and cultivate relationships with our legislators and industry leaders. Career and Technical educators are unique in that we develop relationships with students as we prepare them and assist them in meeting their future career goals. Developing relationships with our legislators and the industry leaders that employ them will be the absolute key in being able to maintain the advantage we have in the way we educate students.

I leave you with this quote:

“If you stand up and be counted, from time to time you may get yourself knocked down. But remember this: A man flattened by an opponent can get up again. A man flattened by conformity stays down for good.”

— Thomas J. Watson, Jr.
Jim Comer was born in Arkansas and moved, at an early age, to western Oklahoma where he attended high school. Jim graduated from high school and moved to Oklahoma City where he started working full-time, rented an apartment, and enrolled in college ... all before his 18th birthday. He continued to work full-time, up to 60 hours per week, while attending the university full time, as well. Jim graduated with a BBA and spent the next 20 plus years working in the banking industry and rose from clerk to Executive Vice-President. While in banking, Jim attended many graduate level schools for bankers.

After his banking career, Jim started a manufacturing company and subsequently sold to his partner. He then entered the Healthcare industry, serving as the Personnel Director, Assistant Business Manager, and Business Manager for hospitals.

Jim started his career in Vo-Tech, and subsequently Career Tech, as the Small Business Instructor, and also started a program for entrepreneurs. He then went to work for the state agency, where he directed the Small Business and Self-Employment Programs for the state of Oklahoma. Jim later served as Field Services Coordinator and worked with many of the Technology Centers as their Liaison to the State Agency.

Jim now serves as the Continuing Education Coordinator for Francis Tuttle Technology Center. Past offices in Vocation Education include: State Vice-President of New and Related Services, President of CBITS, State President Of OkACTE, Vice-President of Adult Workforce Development Division, member of the Executive Committee for ACTE, Chair of various committees, and currently President-Elect of ACTE. He has served as President of the Oklahoma Business Incubator Association, and holds certification as a Certified Economic Development Professional.
This past July, through a collaborative effort with Missouri ACTE, DESE offered new, alternatively-certified educators a unique experience in a combined New Teacher Institute (NTI) — Missouri ACTE Summer Conference. The Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) welcomed 79 participants to NTI for the 7-day event. Participants were assigned to cohorts of same-subject area colleagues facilitated by Teacher Leaders. NTI sessions began on Friday, July 23 and ended the following Thursday evening, July 29, in a “wrap-around” delivery that provided Foundations of Education course credit through the University of Central Missouri and Missouri ACTE Summer Conference attendance.

NTI curriculum, aligned to national and state standards and designed to prepare new teachers for the first days and weeks of school, was presented by career center administrators, DESE staff, and other Missouri educational leaders. Lesson topics included curriculum, instruction, assessment, classroom management, and career and technical student organization sponsorship. After the large-group lesson presentations, Teacher Leaders extended the learning to emphasize practical classroom applications. In addition, they guided their cohorts through conference registration, exhibits, and sessions.

Dr. Dennis Harden, DESE Coordinator of Career Education, affirmed the value of the redesigned institute. “Wrapping NTI around Missouri ACTE provides a powerful learning experience that equips new teachers to meet the demands of classroom instruction and connects them to a network of supportive colleagues.”

Watch for an article about the NTI — Missouri ACTE Wrap-Around event in the December issue of Techniques Magazine from ACTE.
Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley (left) congratulates Tracey Newman on her “Teacher of the Year” Award.

Cara Posegate (right) accepts her “Outstanding New Teacher of the Year” from Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley.

Dr. Don Claycomb, Linn State Technical College President, accepts his Certificate of Appreciation from Laura Hendley (left) and Glenda Whitney.

Tracy Miller (right) accepts the Professional Development Committee Scholarship Award from Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley.

Representative Joe Aull (26th - Maryville) receives the Legislative Recognition Award from Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley.

Mary Lou Michler, retired Glencoe McGraw-Hill representative (right), receives her Certificate of Appreciation from Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley.

(Pictured at left) Dean Machinery and Fabick CAT representatives pose for a picture after receiving a Missouri ACTE Certificate of Appreciation.
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
The Missouri ACTE Awards Committee would like to take this opportunity to recognize the individual winners from each of the divisions. As you all know, “it takes a village to raise a child” and it is important to take time out of our busy schedules to recognize the outstanding contributions of our peers.

### MCCTA - Administrators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Career &amp; Technical Education Professional</td>
<td>Tom Quinn, Assistant Commissioner, Career and Technical Education</td>
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### MHSTE - Health Science

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Achievement in Practical Nurse Education</td>
<td>Monica Hamilton, Waynesville Technical Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Achievement in Secondary Health Occupations</td>
<td>Leslie Quint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition Awards</td>
<td>Barbara Rojas &amp; Kim Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retiring Health Occupations Educator</td>
<td>Janie Bonham</td>
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### MSCA - Counselors

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<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Counselor of the Year</td>
<td>Cathy Westbay, Rockwood School District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle/Junior High School Counselor of the Year</td>
<td>Brenda Etzold, Jackson School District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance Director/Supervisor of the Year</td>
<td>Carolyn Roof, Columbia Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator-Counselor Advocates of the Year</td>
<td>Dr. Sandra Logan, Columbia Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Ailor Memorial Award</td>
<td>Dr. Carolyn Magnuson, Lincoln University, Jefferson City</td>
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### MCEA - Marketing

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<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MCEA Marketing Teacher of the Year</td>
<td>Stephanie Williams, Cameron High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCEA Marketing Teacher of the Year</td>
<td>Jessica Wade, Odessa High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCEA Coop Teacher of the Year</td>
<td>David Okenfuss, Hart Technical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation in Marketing Award</td>
<td>Vicki Hillsman, Eldorado Springs High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(All divisions were given an opportunity to submit the names of their award winners.)*
Bart Ackley is a Building & Grounds Maintenance Instructor at the Arcadia Valley Career Technology Center in Ironton, Missouri. He was nominated as an Outstanding Instructor for the Breaking Traditions Award by an interpreter, who also became a student. The statewide contest honors people who have helped students become successful, nontraditional students by gender. The contest has been held in Missouri as an annual event for several years.

Bart was nominated by Valarie Shaw Williams who was an interpreter for a male deaf student taking the Building and Grounds Class taught by Mr. Ackley. As an interpreter for the student, and the only female present in the class, Ms Williams worked by Ackley’s side, listening and watching him interact with all students.

Valerie nominated Mr. Ackley for the Award because of his encouraging attitude that women can learn and need to learn about the building trades as much as men. While in the class as an interpreter, she decided to enroll in the class for credit because she saw that Mr. Ackley would interact with her with respect and expect her to accomplish as much as any of the other students.

In her nomination form, Valerie mentioned that she had always had an interest in areas such as construction, electrical work, welding, plumbing, etc. However, she had always felt intimidated that it was man’s work. Under Mr. Ackley’s guidance, she felt he gave her the same opportunity as the rest of the class in practicing her skills and working with new tools.

In Valerie’s words, “Mr. Ackley has created an environment in his classroom that pushes for excellence but is also a place where we can make mistakes and learn from those mistakes. He has opened a door for me personally to consider a field that I never thought I could do.” She encourages other females to enroll in his classes and consider a career in construction.

Missouri ACTE President Laura Hendley (pictured left in each picture above) presents Diversity Action Committee Awards to Nancy Wegge with Breaking Traditions (left picture) and Linda Mueller-Drendel with the St. Louis Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program (pictured above, far right)
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
A former Columbia Area Career Center student has received a graphic design internship with the Notre Dame Alumni Association. Heather Eaton, a 2010 graduate of Patrick Sasser’s Digital Media and Graphic Design program, now attends Notre Dame University. Upon arrival at Notre Dame, Eaton was looking for a way to pursue her passion by majoring in Graphic Design. She also wanted a way to supplement her income, so she pursued a graphic design position with the Alumni Association. Eaton was in competition for the position with several other Notre Dame students including seniors in their Graphic Design program.

As an incoming freshman, Eaton was able to impress the Alumni Association with the portfolio that she developed while at the Career Center. The position of Graphic Design intern has never been given to an incoming freshman. In her current position, Eaton produces flyers, brochures, logos, and web banners for the Alumni Association whenever they want to publicize an event on campus or to the general public.

The Alumni Association is responsible for over 100 Notre Dame Clubs across the nation and overseas. Eaton works in the Alumni Association, but is also given the freedom to work remotely from anywhere on campus.

Eaton considers the skills that she learned at the Career Center to be invaluable. “So much of what Mr. Sasser taught me isn't available until Graphic Design 2 or 3, which you can't take until your junior year. I'm so thankful I took Mr. Sasser’s classes ... they put me miles ahead of anyone here and landed me a job that is never ever given to a freshman.”

Congratulations to Heather on her accomplishment and to Mr. Sasser for inspiring her to achieve her dreams!

Partnering with Lee’s Summit CARES, Lee’s Summit High School DECA initiated a school-wide market research project to determine how much students knew about the effects of energy drinks that contain high levels of caffeine and alcohol.

Rebecca Foley and Rebecca Rejnin were the project leaders. Their Creative Marketing project placed first at the 2010 district level of competition. Placing 2nd at the Missouri DECA Career Development Conference, the Rebecca’s competed at the International Career Development Conference in Louisville, KY at the end of April. They placed in the top ten at the ICDC. Rebecca and Rebecca are shown with Laura DeCourcy from Lee’s Summit CARES.
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
“I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds ...”

With the start of a new school year, these words echo down the halls as first year ag students memorize the FFA creed. These words also sum up the sentiments of Agriculture Educators across the state. The future of Agriculture Education in Missouri is very bright and teachers are each proving this with lessons that range from animal production to food safety, field trips that connect students with food and fiber production, and Career Development Events that allow students to exhibit their real world skills in action.

Our Summer Conference theme was “Hand-on Experience for Life Changing Results.” Our members had the opportunity to attend workshops and sessions that were developed to provide material and information that can be incorporated into their curriculum.

We would like to congratulate our award winners from Summer Conference:

**Outstanding First Year Teacher**
Megan Richner, Midway High School

**Outstanding Young Member**
Mrs. Jennifer Hawkins, a national finalist,
Linn R-II High School

**Outstanding Teacher**
Mr. Eugene Meyer, Sacoxie R-II Schools

**Outstanding Program**
Milan Agriculture Department and FFA Chapter

**Our Distinguished Service Award**
Tom Riley
John Wyatt
Steve Schniedermeyer
Danna Kimmons
Randy Garrett
Rob Caliven
Van Kirkwood
Nick Nordwald
Ron Dickes

At Conference, we said good-bye to 15 teachers who retired from our profession. These individuals have a combined 433 years of service to the profession. We also had the opportunity to welcome 30 new teachers to our profession.

In closing, I would like to leave you with the closing lines of the FFA Creed which sum up our desire each and every day in the classroom:

“I believe that American Agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in home and community that will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.”

Scott Stone
MVATA President

The Missouri Association of Career Services got off to a great start for the upcoming school year at the annual Missouri ACTE Summer Conference held in Springfield, MO on July 26-29, 2010. The MACS Division Conference was held at the Ramada Oasis Hotel with approximately 40 members in attendance.

Conference sessions included Perkins, MOSIS, and TSA Technical Skills Updates, in addition to many career related sessions, providing members with wonderful career resources. One of the highlights of the Conference included a surprise visit from the ACTE President-Elect, Jim Comer. Jim spoke to MACS members gathering their input and concerns regarding career legislation. His presentation not only actively involved members, but he also assured members of his continuing effort in supporting educators in career services. The annual tailgate party event provided members with opportunities for networking including drawing for prizes, food and dancing.

Tawni Boman, Lee’s Summit R-7 School District, accepted the responsibilities of President for the upcoming 2010-2011 term. Sarrah Dobson was elected President-Elect; Stacie Wild will remain in the position of Treasurer; and Kathy Hueste will remain in the position of Secretary. Look for new and exciting resources coming soon from MACS! Contact Tawni at tawni.boman@leesummit.k12.mo.us or visit the MACS website at http://macs.mo-acte.org for updates.

One of our long term members, Joan Clouse, retired in May from Saline County Career Center in Marshall, MO. On behalf of all members of MACS, we want to wish her well in her future endeavors.

The MACS Fall Conference was held September 23-24, 2010 in Columbia, MO. Look for details in the winter edition of The Reporter.
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
The members of the Missouri Business Education Association held their joint Summer Conference with Missouri ACTE on July 27-29, 2010 at the University Plaza in Springfield, Missouri. This year’s theme was: “Technology In A Flash.”

Following the Missouri ACTE Opening Session, MBEA members were able to have lunch together if they chose. The luncheon was followed by our Opening Session. After introductions, greetings were brought to the membership by FBLA State President Parker LiaBraaten, NCBEA Representative Michelle Lindsey; ACTE President Elect Jim Comer; Missouri ACTE President Elect Janelle Allred; and DESE’s Dennis Harden.

Fellow business educators were honored for their outstanding contributions to education.

**Who’s Who Initiates**
- Cheryl Chiarottino, Bevier C-4
- Rose Ann Cole, DeSoto HS
- Cathy Dailey, Wellsville-Middletown HS
- Beverly Jean Pettit, Willow Springs HS

**New Professional of the Year**
- Jolanna Turner, Wheatland RII

**Outstanding Business Educator, Secondary**
- Lee Ann Morris, Monett HS

**Distinguished Service Award**
- Diana White, Mound City/Rock Port

**Program of Excellence**
- Carthage High School

Additionally, scholarship recipients were recognized:

**Joanne Newcomer Scholarships**
- Ethan Colbert, Bowling Green HS
- Ben Salmon, Hermitage HS
- Shelby Tucker, Crystal City HS

**Charles Newman Scholarships**
- Megan Stackle, Ste. Genevieve HS
- Jacob Stanton, Marshall HS

We are proud of our programs, teachers, and students and the efforts they exhibit to create outstanding contributions throughout the state.

Conference attendees were able to choose from numerous concurrent sessions and, for the first time, laptop labs were provided on site by Crystal City High School for educators to use in their hands-on workshops. A barbeque was held at a local Springfield park which many members and their families attended.

At the Closing Session, the following members were elected as MBEA officers for the 2010-11 year:

**President:** Teresa Harmon, East Central
**President-Elect:** Gina McLachlan, Central
**Secretary:** RuthAnn Williams, University of Central Missouri
**Treasurer:** Becky Beydler, Sedalia
**Past-President:** Janet Barnes, St. Louis

Our closing speaker was Tonya Skinner, Jackson HS. She introduced us to new technologies, entertained us with stories, and most importantly motivated us for a GREAT start of our 2010-11 school year.

Teresa Harmon
MBEA President 2010-11
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
Janice White has been named the 2010 MoEFACS Teacher of the Year. Janice taught Family and Consumer Sciences in the public schools for 28 years. Her teaching career began at Lebanon Junior High and then, for the next four years, she taught at Clever Senior High before moving to the Nixa School District where she taught for 23 years.

Janice is very proud of the fact that she has been an FCCLA advisor during all of her teaching career. She stated that, as a graduate of Nixa High School, she felt honored to be able to return to teach there. Janice has also been very active in her professional organizations, serving in several different positions on the MoEFACS Board.

One of the things Janice has especially enjoyed is working with young people entering the field of teaching and particularly those who will be teaching Family and Consumer Sciences. She has served as a mentor in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s Career Education Mentoring Program. She has been a cooperating teacher to many student teachers.

Janice not only was named Teacher of the Year but she also retired from the Nixa School District at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Currently, she is teaching a course for Missouri State University and supervising student teachers. “I made so many memories with students and I will never forget them and all of the special times in the classroom. I love hearing from them and seeing what they are accomplishing in their lives and hopefully I had a little something to do with that.”

**Missouri ACTE Teacher of the Year**

**Tracey Newman**

What higher honor can there be than to be nominated for Teacher of the Year Award by a former student? The next best thing is to be selected as Teacher of the Year. Former student, Jenna Gegg tells the impact that Tracey has had on her life.

“Mrs. Newman’s greatest ability is to see great potential in shy, reserved individuals - individuals very much like myself when I walked into her classroom at the age of 14. Four years later, I walked out of high school experiencing nothing less than the entire package. Mrs. Newman has the great ability to ‘plant seeds’ in her students … to achieve the unimaginable — and she gets to sit back and watch beautiful gardens grow.” Tracey teaches Family Consumer Sciences at Ste. Genevieve High School.

Jenna attributes the fact that she is enrolled in the #1 program for Hospitality Administration, at an Ivy League University to Mrs. Newman. You can read more about Tracey on page 7 of the Summer Conference program at [http://www.mo-acte.org/publications/2010/summer](http://www.mo-acte.org/publications/2010/summer).

**Certificate of Appreciation**

**Mary Lou Michler**


Mary Lou has given valuable input into statewide curriculum development projects, and helped provide support for Summer Conference and regional workshops, not only for Family and Consumer Sciences but all areas of career and technical education.

Dr. Arendt says, “Mary Lou has always been a good partner with the Family and Consumer Sciences Section at the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.”

**Professional Development Committee Award**

**Tracy Miller**

Tracy Miller, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Clarkton C-4 was awarded the Missouri ACTE Professional Development Committee scholarship. The $500 scholarship can be used as payment toward tuition, lab fees, or books. Tracy will use the scholarship to attend the Family Economics and Financial Education (FEFE) National Training, June 14-17, 2011 in Tucson, AZ.
2010 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

“My overall experience was fantastic.”

From Pre-Conference registration to the last whistle at the Carousels, the 2010 Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Summer Conference reflected the MoEFACS conference theme, “Creating the Experience.” Over 300 Family and Consumer Sciences and Human Services educators attended the three-day Conference in Springfield from July 27-29.

“Rita Pierson is awesome.”

Participants gathered at the Springfield EXPO Center to view the many exhibits, greet new professionals at a reception and attend the Missouri ACTE Opening Session. MoEFACS was well represented at the Awards Ceremony, with Tracey Newman named “Teacher of the Year” and Tracy Miller receiving the Professional Development Committee Award. Opening speaker Dr. Rita Pierson presented ten lessons on being a master teacher in the morning and continued her presentation in the afternoon at a joint Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS/NTI session.

“Great concurrent sessions! The day went by quickly.”

Wednesday, July 28 featured the MoEFACS division meetings, the Family and Consumer Sciences resource room, and concurrent sessions. Concurrent session topics this year included nineteen different topics! Many FCS faces were seen at the Missouri ACTE All Division Social dancing, snacking and winning prizes!

“Closing General Session - I always look forward to the "pump me up" to head home and gear up for school”

Daniel Santiago gave a motivational speech entitled “Live Your Legacy: You Were Created for Greatness” and shared his insights, experiences and practical strategies to help maximize leadership.

“Round tables - love new ideas. Keep it coming!”

The final activity of the Conference was the Carousel/Roundtable Sessions featuring a variety of speakers and topics.

Conference gets me motivated and excited to go back to school!”

Mark your calendar now for the 2011 conference to be held in Springfield, July 26-28, 2011!

Thank you to those who provided the comments I used above from the attendee evaluations!
~ Merilee Thoenen ~

CAREER EDUCATION + LIFE SMARTS = GREAT COMBINATION

LifeSmarts is a national educational program that teaches students about marketplace issues. The program includes an online student competition, a state in-person competition for top scoring teams, a national competition for the top Missouri LifeSmarts team and many teacher resources. The topic areas include personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology and consumer rights and responsibilities.

The LifeSmarts Varsity program is open to all teens in grades 9-12. The Junior Varsity is for students in grades 6-12. The participation of special needs students, exchange students, alternative schools, work study groups, home school groups, and community organizations is encouraged and welcomed. Coaches can be public, private or home school teachers, leaders of community groups such as 4H or a church youth group, or any adult interested in working with students to increase their marketplace knowledge. All Career Education teachers have the background to make great LifeSmarts coaches!

The program is free. Those who qualify for state or national competitions will have most of their expenses paid. The Junior Varsity Missouri in-person competition will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011 in Jefferson City. The Varsity Missouri competition will be held the following day. The winning Varsity Missouri team will be invited to compete at the national competition from April 29-May 3, 2011 in Los Angeles, California.

Sign up now to be a LifeSmarts coach and you will have access to a wide variety of resources in all the topic areas. A resource packet will be sent to all coaches after registering at:

The Missouri program is sponsored by the Missouri Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and the financial sponsor is American Century Investments of Kansas City.

Join us for the 2010-2011 LifeSmarts competition!

For more information visit Missouri’s LifeSmarts website.

You can also send email to the Missouri LifeSmarts coordinator, Merilee Thoenen:
merilee.thoenen@dese.mo.gov.
Thank You Missouri ACTE Exhibitors!
Missouri FCCLA Claims National Awards in Chicago

Maysville Junior/Senior FCCLA

Maysville Junior/Senior FCCLA was selected to receive the 2010 National STOP the Violence — Students Taking On Prevention Middle School Award. STOP the Violence is a peer-to-peer outreach initiative that empowers young people to recognize, report, and reduce the potential for youth violence. STOP the Violence Awards recognize outstanding chapters that develop, carry out, and analyze exceptional projects. As a national middle school winner, the Maysville FCCLA chapter received a $1,000 award, presented to them at the 2010 FCCLA National Leadership Conference, July 4-8 in Chicago, Illinois. The Maysville FCCLA Chapter organized a presentation on personal safety, after a young teenage girl was abducted from a Kansas City, MO Target store. Members wanted to make sure that didn’t happen to anyone else. They worked with the Missouri National Guard in demonstrating safety methods to protect oneself from danger and harm. The students were shown personal safety techniques of how to prevent possible abductions and measures of not putting oneself in vulnerable, dangerous situations.

Hermann Senior High FCCLA

Hermann Senior High FCCLA won the 2010 National Career Connection High School Award. They received their award at the 2010 National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois. In their project, “FCCLA Worker Auction,” chapter officers were challenged to create ways to introduce national program projects to chapter members. They planned a hands-on Career Connection project/fundraiser. Members chose age-appropriate jobs, created short resumes for bidders to review, and conducted a silent auction at a basketball game. Students learned more about careers, promoted the FCCLA chapter, and raised money at the same time.

Ste. Genevieve High FCCLA

Ste. Genevieve High FCCLA was named the 2010 National Family Economics and Financial Education (FEFE) High School Runner-Up winner. They received their award at the 2010 National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Their "Get a Clue About Identity Theft" project increased the public’s awareness about the methods that are used to steal a person’s identity. They wrote a skit based off the “Clue” board game, and partnered with the school’s drama class to get some help with the acting and set design. A grant from Youth Service America helped fund the project, three shredders and a netbook computer were given away as attendance prizes.

FCCLA members Jordan Schilly, Ste. Genevieve High School and Ashley Yount, West Platte High School were announced as 2010 winners in the Leaders at Work program. Jordan Schilly received recognition in the Food Production and Services area and Ashley Yount received recognition in the Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation area.

Ashley Yount, West Platte HS

Ashley Yount, West Platte HS

FCCLA Awards >p21
Ashley realizes the importance of strong communication skills, because she has to work twice as hard as other teens her age to understand the world around her. Ashley has a hearing impairment, which requires her to have a cochlear implant and use an interpreter with sign language during her high school classes. For Ashley to take a job in the community and overcome her disability is a credit to herself, as well as her employer. In addition to her excellence on the job, Ashley continues to educate others about having a hearing impairment and teaches her peers sign language after school.

Jordon Schilly, Ste. Genevieve High School, applied her culinary arts skills in an entrepreneurial setting to earn her Leaders at Work recognition. Jordon has offered take-out lunches to faculty members at her school. Her project included much more than food preparation, as she created the menus, determined and controlled costs, and managed her time and resources to deliver a quality product to her customers.

Jordon served as a chapter FCCLA officer for two years and has competed at the state level for two years in STAR Events, FCCLA's competitive events. Her career plans include earning her degree from Sullivan University and opening her own restaurant.

Two Missouri FCCLA members had an experience of a lifetime this summer in Japan, courtesy of FCCLA and Youth For Understanding (YFU USA). Brandi Kern, Kelly High School and Holly Benbrook, Greenfield High School were two of fourteen FCCLA members who won scholarships that placed them with a Japanese family this summer. They experienced attending school, as well as cultural activities and family life in Japan.

Missouri FCCLA Receives Silver State Achievement Award

In recognition of the outstanding work in the areas of membership, national program awards, program participation and public relations efforts, the Missouri FCCLA state association was awarded the Silver State Achievement Award for the second year in a row. To see for yourself the many activities in which Missouri FCCLA chapters participate, please visit the Missouri FCCLA Blog at www.mofccla.blogspot.com.