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45th Annual
July 21-24, 2014
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Tina C., Director of Graduate Studies
Class of 2011

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As I contribute my last letter to MoACTE, I recognize my goals as MoACTE President have not changed. During the last two years I have gained more from this experience than the membership received from my contribution. My hope is three or four years from now my name is not said in vain – as the person that caused negative things to occur within our organization and CTE. Only time will tell what the results of decisions made during the last year will have on our organization.

**Decisions** - the budget committee had to make some decisions that were not welcome but in my opinion necessary. The cuts that were made have caused stress within our organization—specifically reimbursement for travel to committee meetings, the decision included many other travel cuts – but because this affected several people it may have been the most notable. If the work of our committees is needed and each Division expects to be heard we can survive without mileage reimbursement. I believe the changes made will help MoACTE survive without the need of a large dues increase; we needed to cut first before asking for higher taxes (dues). If the divisions can grow membership—then hopefully some of the cuts could be discussed and possibly added back into our budget.

**Membership** - If you are a Division Leader or have read any of this STUFF I write you know this has been a strong focus of mine during the year — we must stop losing membership and begin to increase our numbers — if MoACTE and the individual Division survive, membership is the key. June 10th I spent a few minutes with our Superintendent talking budget, we have been friends for several years, budget was the topic, the negative impact legislation may have on our income the theme — all of the cuts here and there yes do have an impact, BUT the number one reason why we (Chillicothe Schools) continue to struggle with budget is membership. When I moved to Chillicothe 25 years ago class size ranged from 170-200 students, today 125-150, multiply the student loss times 12 grades times per pupil reimbursement, it adds up quick. Now Mo-ECTE, I believe in some old records I saw Mo-ACTE membership at over 3500, today 1991 — same math times $25 plus decreased attendance at conference. Membership is very important not only for paying bills but also when discussing topics with legislators and other policy makers. Several divisions have worked at turning the tide—please join us and try to get that neighbor next door or down the road to join their division and our ACTE organization.

**DESE** - I want to thank Dr. Helwig for reducing my negative when the letters D E S E were mentioned. She graciously invited me to a meeting at her office; we had a very good and honest discussion. I learned several things that morning—but most of all I learned that Dr. Helwig believes in educating all students and providing as many opportunities as possible for students and teachers to develop an education system based more on we can than...
Today's students need to be aware of and prepared for a global economy. No matter what career they pursue, having a global awareness and building competencies to investigate the world, recognize a variety of perspectives, communicate with diverse audiences, and translate ideas into action, are necessary.

Over the coming year, the College of Education at the University of Central Missouri and the Missouri Center for Career Education will embark on a funded project titled “Concentrating on Reality Education for Global Citizenship.” The focus of this project is to develop a new course for career and technical educators to help integrate global competencies into their career education program curriculum in a way that aligns with the Common Core State Standards. This work is being funded by a grant from the Longview Foundation for Education in World Affairs and International Understanding. It will include the delivery of a pre-conference course for college credit at the 2015 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference.

This grant is a first-of-its-kind project for the Longview Foundation in its focus on working with career and technical educators. “The University of Central Missouri has long held the importance of preparation for the global workplace and the importance of technical skills, and we are very excited to bring the two together in this project,” said Michael Wright, dean of the UCM College of Education.

Project directors Michelle Conrad and Larae Watkins will work with educational partners including Missouri ACTE and member organizations (MBEA, MCCTA, MCEA, MTTA, and MVATA) to develop a program of instruction for career educators that focuses on global competence and builds on prior Concentrating on Reality Education projects through UCM. Global competence issues include environmental sustainability, economic development, global conflict and cooperation, human rights, and cultural identity, many of which are familiar to career educators.

After delivering the course as a pre-conference to the 2015 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference, online resources and activities as part of the class will continue through the 2015 fall semester. The fall programming will support participants as they infuse what they have learned about global competencies into their curriculum. Following this first year, project directors will evaluate the program and prepare for continued offering of the instruction as an online course through UCM.

Founded by William L. Breese, the Longview Foundation for World Affairs and International Understanding has been helping young people in the United States learn about world regions and global issues since 1966.

For more information about this project, contact Michelle Conrad at mconrad@ucmo.edu.

President's Message (from page 1)

we can’t. I also have had the opportunity to serve on the Ad Hoc CTE Advisory committee and observed first-hand decisions made and carried out that we (CTE) asked for and received. This group has the opportunity to make a difference and I believe in the support of Dr. Helwig.

Thank you Mo-CTE members for the privilege to represent you the last two years. Even with what we consider to be problems we have so much more to be thankful for, many states in our region and nationally look to our state organization as a leader within all CTE. It is because of dedicated people within your Divisions that step up and represent you well locally, statewide and even on the national level. I plan to continue to serve you and be an advocate for CTE students and teachers.

Rusty Black
Missouri ACTE President, 2013-14

P.S. Thank you Donna and Margie for putting up with me — Karie knows your pain.
Monday, July 21

9:30 a.m.
Missouri ACTE Board of Directors Meeting
University Plaza - Colorado Room

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Missouri ACTE Conference Registration
EXPO Center - Hall A & B - 635 St. Louis Street

Tuesday, July 22

7:30 a.m.
All Missouri ACTE Committee Meetings
University Plaza Convention Center - Arizona Room

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Exhibits Open
EXPO Center - Hall A & B - 635 St. Louis Street

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Missouri ACTE Conference Registration
EXPO Center - Hall A & B - 635 St. Louis Street

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
Missouri ACTE “Show-Me Marvel” Special Sessions
Expo Center - Choose one to attend.

Understanding Missouri’s New Teacher Evaluation System
Presenter: Marc Doss, Ed.D., Heart of Missouri – RPDC Director, College of Education, University of Missouri

Set Students Up For Success
Presenters: Lea Taylor, VariQuest Specialist, Cindy Birdwell and students with the Otterville, MO FBLA

Planning for Retirement
Presenter: Stacie Verslues, Member Education Coordinator

Tuesday, July 22 (Cont.)

8:45 a.m.
New Professional Reception
University Plaza Convention Center - Arizona/Georgia/Iowa

10:00 a.m.
Opening General Session
EXPO Center - Hall C - 635 St. Louis Street
Welcome; Awards; President-Elect Speeches;

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Springfield Cardinals Baseball

Wednesday, July 23

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Missouri ACTE Late Registration
University Plaza Hotel Lobby

3:30 p.m.
House of Delegates Meeting
University Plaza Hotel - Illinois Room
(Changed from last year)

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
All-Division Social
Ramada Plaza Hotel & Oasis Convention Center; 2550 N. Glenstone

Thursday, July 24

12:00 p.m.
Missouri ACTE Board of Directors Meeting
University Plaza - Colorado Room
Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.
Our Opening Session Speaker

What do Oprah, a Texas billionaire, a global shipping tycoon, Mickey Mouse and the White House have in common? They are just a few of the organizations who have counted on Ryan Underwood and TeamTRI for superior training and development, event logistics, and association management. His gift is understanding how strategy, leadership, and ideas come together to create innovation and positive impact.

Ryan believes in service. He has advised and helped raise millions for America’s top charities such as the March of Dimes and contributed to the startup of promising nonprofits such as Illuminate India. Ryan brings a civic and social entrepreneurship approach to government, NGO, and nonprofits. He served as a logistics consultant on White House initiatives including Helping America’s Youth, the President’s Malaria Initiative, Preserve America, and International Development.

Ryan is passionate about education and youth. He serves on the ACTE School Reform Task Force. He’s been invited as a thought leader, organizer, and panelist at education initiatives such as America’s Promise GradNation, NBC Education Nation, and Aspen’s National Education Summit. Ryan is the co-creator of Personal Leadership Insight leadership curriculum.

We are very fortunate to welcome Ryan Underwood as our Opening Speaker at the 2014 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference and Career and Technical Education Workshops.

General Attendee Information

Registration
All persons who attend the Conference must be registered. You must wear your name badge at all times for admittance into meetings and the exhibit area.

General Session
This year we are pleased to welcome Ryan Underwood as our Opening Session speaker. You won’t want to miss a word of Mr. Underwood’s energizing talk on Tuesday, at 10:00 a.m. at the Springfield EXPO Center (635 St. Louis Street - Hall C).

Exhibits
Exhibits will be open to attendees between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Monday and 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday. You are encouraged to tour the exhibits at the Springfield EXPO Center. Many new products, services and supplies will be on display with representatives on hand to answer your questions.

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2014 Missouri ACTE House of Delegates

**MCCTA (Administration)**
- Keith A. Davis
- Jacqueline R. Jenkins
- Robert J. Larivee

**MVATA (Agriculture)**
- Charles Barker
- Oscar E. Carter
- Jason H. Davis
- Darren K. Farmer
- Douglas Henke
- Nicole Honan
- Jared Brock Jeffries
- Robbie Richter
- Deanna Thies
- Jeff Voris

**MBEA (Business)**
- Buddy Alberson
- Theresa A. Bynum
- Brenda Kaiser
- Roger K. McMillian
- Theresa Taylor

**MACS (Career Services)**
- Frank North

**MoEFACS (Family & Consumer Sciences)**
- Suzanne Beck
- Karlene L. Harrison
- Kathy Nash
- Debra Price
- Jayla Smith

**MSCA (Counselors)**
- Lori Hicks

**MHSE (Health Sciences)**
- Ernema T. Boettner
- Rhonda Hutton Gann

**MCEA (Marketing)**
- David Jordan
- Raghib Muhammad

**MSNA (Special Needs)**
- Karen Kennedy

**TEAM (Technology)**
- Brad Boettler
- Steve McNaught

**MTTA (Trade & Technical)**
- Edward Frederick
- Kenneth G. Kerns
- Dorothy Loges
- Ted Stanfield
- Jock Thompson
- Debra A. Zoglmann

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- Reality Check Redesign
- Combined Report of Assessments
- Learning Styles and Employability Skills Assessments
- Personal Learning Plan Report
- Checklists

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Meet Our President-Elect Candidates

Once again, we have two outstanding candidates for Missouri ACTE President-Elect. They are members of the Missouri Health Science Education (MHSE) Division and come highly recommended by their peers. It is impossible to condense the talents and dedication of these candidates down to the limited space available, so we encourage you to get to know them and learn for yourself what great leaders these women are. Below are a few highlights:

**Rhonda Hutton Gann**

**Employment:**
Ms. Hutton Gann currently serves as the Interim Associate Dean of Nursing and Division Chair of Allied Health at State Fair Community College (SFCC).

**Additional Activities (Abbreviated):**
- MO Action Coalition - Co-Lead, Education Committee; member, Leadership Task Force
- MHSE - President; Chair, Associate Degree Nursing Cluster Chair
- Blue Ribbon Health and Wellness Team - Member
- Benton County Health Coalition - Member
- MO League for Nursing - Member
- MO Associate Degree Nursing - Board of Directors; Chair, Legislative Committee
- MO Council of Practical Nurse Educators - Member; Chair, Legislative Committee
- Served on more than one DESE task force for Secondary Health Occupations

**From her letters of reference:**
“Rhonda is very good at her job and works hard to maintain a quality nursing program. She has a passion for technical education and constantly strives to provide faculty with meaningful training to be applied immediately.”

**Barbara B. Houk**

**Employment:**
For the last 19 years, Ms. Houk has served as Health Occupations Instructor at the Clinton Technical School.

**Additional Activities (Abbreviated):**
- SkillsUSA, Representative to MHSE Board, 1997 - Present
- Master Teacher for DESE, New Teacher Institute, 1998
- Professional Development Committee Member, 1998-Present
- Clinton Technical School Outstanding Teacher, 2006, 2010
- MHSE, President, 2010-2011
- SkillsUSA West Central District, Lead Advisor, 2010-2011
- Selected to Attend the Master Teacher Institute, November, 2013

**From her letters of reference:**
“As a teacher, she has developed a network of professionals who are invested in her program to help influence the opportunities that her students have for learning. Her desire to be the best at what she does is apparent in the way that she manages the growth of her program. ... She embraces change and leads others who may be hesitant.”
Proposed Bylaws Change

Policy – Karen Mason reported that the Policy Committee proposed changes to the bylaws dealing with Divisions. She made the motion to delete [info italicized in brackets]. The bylaws changes listed below will be voted on at the House of Delegates Meeting on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. at University Plaza Hotel – Illinois Room.

ARTICLE IV – DIVISIONS

Page B-2

• Delete [Special Needs (Missouri Special Needs Division)] Delete Special Needs Division (MSNA), as they are combining membership with Missouri Association of Career Services (MACS) Division.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

Page B5 – B6

• Delete 8. [The Diversity Action Committee shall encourage greater participation and leadership of individuals with diverse backgrounds and address issues of career, technical and vocational educators.]

Bylaws changes were approved by the Missouri ACTE Board of Directors on 03/21/14.

Published in the Spring 2014 Reporter.

Karen Mason, Policy Committee Chair

Missouri ACTE’s “Show-Me Marvel” Special Sessions

Tuesday, July 22

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. • Expo Center

Choose one to attend.

Understanding Missouri’s New Teacher Evaluation System

“Network for Educator Effectiveness” – University of Missouri Web-Based Teacher Evaluation System – Learn about the process, components of the evaluation and get answers to your questions.

Presenter: Marc Doss, Ed.D., Heart of Missouri – RPDC Director, College of Education, University of Missouri

Set Students Up For Success

Getting Creative with Student Based Enterprises – If you are in search of ideas for a student based enterprise that does not involve things like selling concessions during the lunch hour, this is a workshop for you. Learn how schools are using the VariQuest Tools to establish self-sustaining enterprises to help students apply real-world business skills and understand the essentials of entrepreneurship and financial accountability.

Presenters: Lea Taylor, VariQuest Specialist, Cindy Birdwell and students with the Otterville, MO FBLA

Planning for Retirement

The Public School Retirement System of Missouri – (PSRS/PEERS) – A PSRS/PEERS representative will be available to answer any questions you may have about retirement, as well as provide you with resources to help you better prepare for retirement.

Presenter: Stacie Verslues, Member Education Coordinator

Coffee & Donuts!

There will be complimentary coffee and Krispy Kreme donuts available at the Expo Center Tuesday morning July 22, 2014. Sponsored by the Springfield CVB & Krispy Kreme Donuts. Come and enjoy!
## 2014 Fall Online Courses

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<td>12099</td>
<td>Methods of Teaching Business &amp; Marketing Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hybrid</td>
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<td>CTE 4145*</td>
<td>12101</td>
<td>Curriculum Construction in CTE</td>
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<td>CTE 4280</td>
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<td>Implementing CTE Programs &amp; Lab Management</td>
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*Also Available:*

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For more information or enrollment assistance, please contact:
Katie Harris (660)543-4984
kharris@ucmo.edu
Graduate School (660)543-4621
gradinfo@ucmo.edu

For a complete listing of faculty and course offerings, please visit [www.ucmo.edu](http://www.ucmo.edu)
Cheryl Landers holds a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics Education from Central Missouri State University and a Master in Education in Family and Consumer Education from Iowa State University. Since 1994, she has been a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher for the Consolidated School District #4.

To summarize in one page all that Cheryl Landers has accomplished for her school district, students and community in her 20 years as a teacher in the field of Family and Consumer Sciences is, to put it simply, an impossible task. As Cheryl put it in her application “Without the contributions of those before me, I would not be the educator I am today, so it is my turn to give back.” And, “give back,” she has. Here are some comments from those who have benefitted from Cheryl’s time and talents:

**From a parent ~**

As parents of three who have gone through Grandview C4 schools, please know that we have a fairly extensive experience in working with teachers. Just as kids fall onto a bell curve, so do teachers. Since our children span 10 years in age, we have gotten to know, much better than many, where most teachers fall on the curve.

Cheryl instills desire in kids to excel. She has been teaching for over 20 years, but her energy is nearly that of a new-hire. Her knowledge and expertise are witnessed by those within, and outside, the district. She continues to improve, expand, and promote the programs in her department.

**From a colleague ~**

I have observed Cheryl’s strengths and skills from the classroom transfer to her leadership abilities as: Practical Arts Department Chair, FCCLA Sponsor and ProStart Sponsor.

Cheryl has been in charge of the ProStart program since its inception at GHS during the 2004-2005 school year. The ProStart students, under her tutelage, have been recognized for their culinary skills in area competitions and at events they have catered throughout the school district.

Cheryl consistently puts students needs in the forefront and is always willing to assist in any capacity necessary.

In each of her leadership roles, Cheryl has gained additional experience and opportunity to: act as a liaison for student, parent and staff communication; review data; and provide input on program direction, planning and supervision.

Among Cheryl’s numerous strengths is her ability to manage and relate to a diverse group of people and situations. She has insight from experience to work collaboratively with a wide range of interests and skill levels. She is exceptionally professional, conscientious, solution-driven, analytical, practical and well versed in her area of content.

Cheryl Landers has the capability to lead and the willingness to accept responsibility.

**From a student ~**

Cheryl Landers is an outstanding teacher, mentor, and advisor. I have taken two foods classes with her and I have developed a deeper relationship with her through my time as an FCCLA member. Mrs. Landers is a hard working, dedicated teacher. She invests her time in the classroom, but is also an advisor for our local FCCLA chapter and the ProStart teacher. She spends many hours outside of the classroom working with students at various conferences, meetings, and competitions.

She deserves this award so much. Someone who is as passionate as she is when working with students deserves to be recognized for their hard work. She is one of the best teachers that I have ever had.

As you can see, Cheryl Landers is a very worthy recipient and we are proud to name her Missouri ACTE 2014 Teacher of the Year.
Angie Wyatt holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication with a Minor in Marketing and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Missouri State University. Although she began her career in the corporate world, teaching kept calling to her and, as evidenced by her letters of reference, she made the right choice! Below are some examples of how her natural skills as a teacher have had a positive impact on students, parents, and colleagues, alike.

From a parent ~
There are not enough words to describe her enthusiasm for teaching and dedication she gives to her students. Teaching is most definitely not a 7:25 to 2:25 job to her; it goes well beyond these school hours. The amount of extra time she devotes to her students is utterly amazing. She demonstrates on a daily basis the qualities and attributes that our school and community strive to achieve in their educational professionals. Angie is molding the next generation of students and giving them the tools they need to succeed in the real world.

Specifically, I am very impressed with her leadership in the Business Department at Willard High School. Under her leadership these past two years she has had students compete at both DECA international conferences in Anaheim, California and Atlanta, Georgia. She also advised, encouraged and supported Willard High School’s very first DECA Central Region’s vice president by devoting endless hours of her time.

Through her efforts, Willard High School has supported numerous areas of the community, including the Red Cross, Muscular Dystrophy, and Children’s Miracle Network.

I could only wish that all teachers had her drive, enthusiasm, energy, and dedication.

From a colleague ~
During Mrs. Wyatt’s two years as a business instructor, students have become enthusiastic, requesting to be in her class. Student engagement has been extremely high; students are making application through projects; and, students have been observed using presentation and communication skills. Students recognize true concern, authentic leadership, and relevant instruction.

Over the past two school years, DECA has become an innovative and emergent student organization at Willard High School under Mrs. Wyatt’s direction. Students are enhancing their skills in project management, leadership, and entrepreneurship through the Willard DECA program under Mrs. Wyatt’s guidance.

Angie has earned the respect and confidence of the Willard High School students, fellow staff members, and administration.

From a student ~
Mrs. Wyatt was new to the Willard School district last year, but has already made a huge impact on the students that she teaches, as well as the faculty she interacts with. It is evident throughout the building that everyone has an unending respect for her and the DECA organization that she heads.

The reason that she is such an amazing new teacher is because she didn’t simply try to fit into the position that had been vacated, but implemented her own way of doing things, while still maintaining the previous success of the program.

The more motivated a teacher is, the more motivated his or her students become. This is clear in Mrs. Wyatt’s classroom as the excitement she feels toward her subject is transferred to her students. This, in turn, brings more productivity and drive throughout the students in her class, as well as the members of DECA.

She inspires greatness in her students and because of her belief in them, they deliver it.

It’s apparent that Angie’s choice to leave the corporate world for teaching was absolutely the right one. And, she deserves the 2014 Outstanding New CTE Teacher of the Year!
Teacher of the Year in Community Service

Betty Glasgow

The students helped in the development of the Playter Park in Bolivar, and they spoke to numerous community groups and organizations. These efforts were recognized as the group qualified for national competition in the STAR Events of FCCLA.

From a parent ~

Professionally, there is no one who works harder than Mrs. Glasgow. She is dedicated to providing excellence in the classroom and extra curricular activities. She supports students by encouraging them to become involved through FCCLA, securing funding and donations for activities, and personal development through seminars.

One can see that she views her calling as more than a job by her personal investments of time, finances and concern for students. She is available to make sure students receive the help and inspiration they need to be successful.

She has developed a culinary arts program in our school that is preparing students for exciting careers. She provides leadership to students through mentoring, training, and guiding them to their personal best.

Some investments take years to see profit, but I already see the rewards of her hard work and leadership in our school system. Our students will continue to see rewards from her leadership as they pursue future homes and careers.

From a student ~

Mrs. Glasgow understands the importance of what Career and Technical Education (CTE) and the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) provide the numerous students that walk into her classroom each year.

Not only is she promoting to students but also to the Bolivar community. There isn’t a business in Bolivar that hasn’t been exposed to the efforts of our FCCLA chapter. She is continuously promoting our chapter and working with businesses to donate towards chapter programs, community service projects, and state/national competitions. The connections she has built with the community not only provide financial support but also opportunities to create community service projects.

I am a true believer that the efforts of CTE and CTSOs have shaped who I am today. My key to success all began eighth grade year when Mrs. Glasgow asked me to join an organization that she was passionate about.

The efforts of this one teacher has influenced so many futures, both those of her students and her community. We are proud to name Mrs. Betty Glasgow the 2014 Missouri ACTE Teacher of the Year in Community Service.
The support of community leaders provides a direct link between the success of a career and technical education program and the success of its students. In the case of State Technical College of Missouri, formerly Linn State Technical College and Capital Regional Medical Center, that link is Ed Farnsworth. The Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director at STC puts it best when she says:

In 1994, in response to a severe shortage of physical therapy personnel, State Technical College of Missouri (STC) sought to begin a Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program. However, resources on the college campus were inadequate to support development at that time. Ed Farnsworth, president of Capital Region Medical Center (CRMC) was instrumental in helping bring together resources available at the medical facility in order to launch the PTA program.

For nearly 20 years, CRMC has provided a facility to house the educational program. Learning opportunities for the enrolled students have been strengthened because of the unique relationship between the college and CRMC. Students have been able to gain early exposure to an actual medical facility, to state-of-the-art equipment, and to content experts.

Mr. Farnsworth and CRMC have been exceptionally responsive to program needs. As a result of the continuing support, the college has been able to graduate over 300 physical therapist assistants who contribute to meeting the health care needs of Missourians.

The unique collaboration between STC and CRMC was possible because of Mr Farnsworth’s ability and willingness to think outside the box and take a visionary approach that would bridge education and personnel recruitment. This model is mutually beneficial, and has stood the test of time.

The STC President, Foundation Board Chair, and Foundation Executive Director echo those sentiments when they state:

As a board member and a donor, Mr. Farnsworth is a champion for continuous improvement in technical education, as well as the promotion and awareness of career opportunities.

The success of the PTA program and the graduates of the program would not be possible without Mr. Farnsworth’s generosity.

Missouri ACTE is proud to recognize Ed Farnsworth for his continued commitment to CTE.

Our Cover Artists

Kailyn Anderson, 2014 graduate of Fulton High school, designed the cover with the help of another graduate, Kylie Ferro. They are both attending William Woods University in the fall and are both majoring in elementary education.
Legislative Recognition Award

Rep. DAVID WOOD

Rep. Wood is an outstanding example of legislative leadership. After hearing testimony around the state during an interim committee on education, he took the initiative to resolve an issue expressed by students who want more flexibility in their schedules to take career and technical education courses. Rep. Wood successfully passed a bill to allow CTE courses where appropriate to qualify for core credit towards graduation, thus freeing up schedules for obtaining career ready skill attainment.

Rep. Wood (R-58) represents Morgan County, parts of Moniteau County, and Miller County in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2012.

In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Wood has worked as a Telecom Administrator for Capital Region Medical Center. He taught mathematics and computer science in Versailles for 25 years and was also a Tech Coordinator.

A 1979 graduate of Eldon High School, Rep. Wood has a bachelor's degree in education with a specialization in Mathematics from the University of Central Missouri.

Diversity Action Award

TANYA DEGONIA & KRISTI UNGER

Both Tanya DeGonia, DESE College and Career Counselor for Region V, and Kristi Unger, Assistant Director-Secondary Programs at Cape Girardeau Career and Technical Center, have spent their careers making young women aware of the tremendous opportunities which await them in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), as well as other non-traditional fields.

Through career fairs, public presentations, workshops and working with sending-school counselors, they have made great strides in connecting young women with the high demand, high paying, high tech world of STEM.

In addition, they have worked to help the students who choose a non-traditional career program overcome any obstacles which may divert their dreams by establishing support groups and connections with women currently working in STEM or other non-traditional careers.

This year, Tanya and Kristi teamed up to organize and facilitate the “Big Bang Theory: A STEM Workshop for Girls” at the Cape Girardeau Career and Technical Center, Mineral Area College, and Jefferson County Community College. This workshop provided hands-on activities and guest speakers who introduced their audience, girls in grades 8-12, to a world of possibilities.

Both Tanya and Kristi have more than earned the Missouri ACTE 2014 Diversity Action Award through their continued dedication to an under-represented sector of our workforce. And their efforts have, according to one colleague, “influenced thousands of students” and, according to another, helped students “achieve their dreams.” Congratulations, Tanya & Kristi!
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