



David Jordan is a marketing teacher at Central High School in St. Joseph, MO. His commitment to making a difference is demonstrated by his numerous professional memberships and lengthy list of community projects to which he has donated his time and talent. One of his colleagues used the words dedication, professionalism, work ethic, role model, innovator, and dedicated leader to describe Mr. Jordan to the Missouri ACTE Awards Committee. Sometimes, though, the best description of a teacher's talents is demonstrated through the lives of the students he has taught.

Such is the case with David Jordan, Missouri ACTE's 2012 Teacher of the Year. We couldn't possibly list all the students Mr. Jordan has influenced or how that influence has changed their life paths. But, Bradley Schlange puts it very well in his letter to the Missouri ACTE Awards Committee:

"Throughout the years of high school, a student is most definitely going to cross paths with many different types of teachers. Some of these teachers will always brighten your day, while others go above and beyond in teaching their class. Some teachers make every day exciting and full of joy. Some of these teachers are motivators, and some offer guidance that comes from experience and wisdom. I have been lucky enough

Missouri ACTE Teacher of the Year ~ David Jordan ~

to cross paths with a teacher who possesses all such qualities and has touched my life in an extremely positive way. This person is my business teacher, David Jordan, at St. Joseph Central High School.

"Mr. Jordan has built a strong reputation at Central High, as well as in our school district. He teaches a variety of high school classes including marketing, international business, internship, and International Bachelorate ITGS and economics. He does a phenomenal job as a business teacher, making sure that he fully meets his duties. Mr. Jordan has also gone above and beyond his job expectations by assisting students after school hours on projects, attending numerous annual DECA conferences, and organizing every event for the club. He also oversees the business department and career investigations at our school, and is also the head DECA advisor. He is the business department coordinator for the entire school district. All of these duties show how dedicated and committed to excellence Mr. Jordan truly is. He has impacted Central in so many positive ways and works hard to establish personal relationships with his students.

"I have had Mr. Jordan for two years during my time at Central. As a junior, he taught my Marketing class and introduced me to DECA. DECA is a club that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. I would not have become as involved as I am today without the guidance from Mr. Jordan. He made the classroom setting a place that was enjoyable, yet also a place which strongly encouraged learning. As a senior, he taught my International Business class, which was an honors course. I am the president of Central's DECA chapter. I would not

have taken on this role without the continued support of Mr. Jordan. He has worked countless hours with me over the years perfecting my DECA projects. I was lucky enough to participate at the International Career and Development Conference in Orlando, Florida in May 2011. I spent a lot of time away from the classroom with Mr. Jordan, learned a lot from him, and had a wonderful time. He truly cares and loves each of his students individually, and I have experienced this firsthand.

"He has impacted my future by steering my career course in the direction of business. He has made it seem like something I would want to do for the rest of my life. He has also influenced my social skills by being a role model. Mr. Jordan is always punctual, and displays the utmost amount of character. He is thoroughly respected within the walls of our building. He has built his reputation up to be the finest example of a "Teacher of the Year" award winner. My life has been easier, more enjoyable, and enriched from having the opportunity to work with him. For these reasons and the many more, I recommend David Jordan for Missouri ACTE Teacher of the Year."

Bradley M Schlange

Bradley M. Schlange





Outstanding Career and Technical Educator ~ Lori Mann ~

course description guides. During the 2011 - 12 school year, Lori and the other Career Education Coordinators have facilitated conversations with secondary counselors around this new template. Program of Study templates are included in the planning guide, to help students, parents and staff be aware of all the course options in any given career cluster.

"In addition to assisting with state-wide initiatives, Lori willingly helps at the local level, as well. To increase female participation in Project Lead the Way [PLTW] programs, Lori is working with a team of educators in the Smithville School District to write a grant that will help eighth and ninth grade females, with an aptitude and/or interest in engineering, explore engineering and become aware of PLTW offerings.

"The team is partnering with several engineering firms in the Kansas City area to have volunteer engineers participate in 'Lunch and Learn' meetings with these students, provide field trip experiences, participate in an 'Engineering Summit' and provide a scholarship to a senior female student who has completed PLTW courses and intends to pursue post-secondary education in the engineering field.

"Lori strongly believes in career and technical education and works diligently to provide opportunities in career education for students and staff within her region.

"Her leadership and collaboration with DESE initiatives ensure students, parents, and staff are provided the best opportunities available."

When Jessica Newport entered the Northland Career Center to study Law Enforcement/Crime Scene Investigation, she had no idea what an impact Lori Mann would have on her life. Due in large part to Ms. Mann's constant

encouragement and example, Jessica is successful and hopes to be a role model for other women on a non-traditional path. In Jessica's words:

"When I first started at the Northland Career Center, I had no idea that I was a non-traditional student. The thought had never crossed my mind until I looked around the room at my new classmates, and recognized that the majority of my peers were male. As a first year, female student enrolled in the Law Enforcement/Crime Scene Investigation class, it was slightly intimidating. I wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement, but I did not realize that there would be gender barriers that I would have to overcome. Lucky for me, Mrs. Mann is an excellent Breaking Traditions teacher.

"... Mrs. Mann took me, a non-traditional student, and turned me into a non-traditional leader. She gave me the courage to strive to do great things. Not only am I a woman in the law enforcement field, but I am a successful woman in the field. I feel like I have done great things not only for myself, but for my gender, as well. I feel silly when I look back at myself thinking that I was intimidated by my male peers. I want the other girls in the class to look at me and think of me as a role model and an inspiration. This year I have broken traditions. I just needed a little push from an outstanding teacher."

After reviewing her nomination, it was obvious that Lori Mann was the perfect choice for Missouri ACTE's 2012 Outstanding Career and Technical Educator. To quote her nomination form:

"Lori Mann began at Northland Career Center in August, 2006 as a Regional Career Education Coordinator, primarily serving non-traditional students enrolled in nine career and technical schools. Since taking this position, the state has expanded her role to include providing technical assistance for teachers at these schools, and the 60 districts within the region, and assisting in the development of statewide initiatives such as Programs of Study.

"With these expanded duties, Lori has become a leader in the state and has been instrumental in new initiatives. She facilitates meetings for K-12 and career and technical counselors throughout her region and worked with a team of colleagues to draft a state-wide Program of Student template. The new template allows course offerings to be listed on one page, by career cluster interest, and will be invaluable to students, parents, and staff.

"In the summer of 2011, Lori served on a committee to look at course guides. With Dr. Bragg Stanley's leadership, course books were analyzed and Lori drafted a state-wide Career and Educational Planning Guide to replace





Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher ~ Samantha Cosper ~

The excitement Samantha Cosper, Missouri ACTE's 2012 Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher, has for her chosen profession shines through all her activities. She is obviously dedicated to both her students and her career and is well on her way to exemplify the best of what we, as career and technical educators, can be.

Ms. Cosper received her undergraduate degree from Pittsburg State University and is currently working toward a Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction from William Woods University.

She began her teaching career at the Southwest R-IV School District in January 2009, shortly after her graduation in December. During the 2½ years she taught at that district, she developed working curriculum for all courses which were aligned with FCS National Standards, form an Advisory Committee, and received grants for both equipment and professional development. She attended many workshops on Programs of Study and Technical Skill Attainment and headed the initiative to implement them in her district. She administered her first set of Technical Skill Assessments in the Spring of 2011. She also began building a relationship and path to post-secondary by articulating two courses with Ozarks Technical College.

The Southwest FCCLA chapter grew from five members to 38 members. She

had two students who ran for Regional Office and were elected to serve, and four students who advanced to State Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) Events Competition. Her chapter planned and carried out multiple community service activities, many of which became an annual occurrence, such as the Halloween Dance, Community Easter Egg Hunt, and Homecoming Alumni Social.

Ms. Cosper is currently teaching at Cassville R-IV School as the High School Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher. This role is very near and dear to her heart, as it is her alma mater. Her former teacher retired in the Spring of 2011, and she took over the position in the Fall.

This year her FCCLA chapter has had many successes. The membership has increased from 60 to 86 members. At Regional STAR Events and Elections in January, the chapter had one student elected to serve on the State Executive Council and one student elected to serve as Regional Vice-President of Public Relations. Her chapter had four teams that competed in STAR Events; two of these teams are advancing to state.

As Ms. Cosper puts it, "The best part of being a FACS Teacher and FCCLA Advisor is the moments when you see your students succeed and achieve their goals. Watching my students be installed into office and receive medals for their hard work is amazing. It is their efforts that got them there, but just to have a small part of it is so joyful. To have a student who truly seizes the opportunities that you have laid out in front of them makes all of the paperwork, extra hours, and traveling more than worth it."

Recognizing the tremendous benefits of professional trade association, Ms. Cosper began attending Missouri Association for Career and Technical

Education (Missouri ACTE) Conference as a collegiate so that she could have a head start in networking with professionals and learning about upcoming trends and best practices for her field.

This year she began serving on the Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences Board as a committee member. She says that she "did not realize how much hard work goes into preparing the conferences and workshops that are made available every year. I have enjoyed being a part of the process and hope to serve on the board for many years to come."

In addition, Ms. Cosper was recently asked to participate in a new initiative titled, "Math in CTE." This program involves creating lessons that bridge the gap between math class and career education classes.

To summarize, Ms. Cosper says, "There is no other job in the world I would rather have. I remember just before I began teaching people sending me warnings, 'The first few years are the hardest.' Well I have made it through the first few years, and all I can say is I have had a blast! If the past is an indicator, then I know that I will have a long and fulfilling teaching career ahead. I am looking forward to the new changes that are coming to CTE and anxious to implement them in my classroom." And we are anxious to watch Ms. Cosper's career blossom, along with those of her students!





Summarizing a career's worth of accomplishments is always a difficult job, but when Missouri ACTE's 2012 Diversity Award winner Don P. Reeves was nominated, his colleagues did a great job! Below are some of the comments from Michelle Charlebois-Didreckson, Career Education

Diversity Action Committee Award

~ Don P. Reeves ~

Coordinator at Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) and Susan Blakey, OTC Assistant Career Center Director-Programs and Assessment.

"Don Reeves is an exceptional instructor at Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) who has always strived to do what is the very best for ALL students. He works with both secondary and post-secondary students in the Auto Collision Repair Technology field. He has also been significantly involved with Skills USA for more than two decades and is currently one of the Skills USA Southwest District Advisors and the Lead Advisor for OTC. During his tenure as Lead Advisor, the Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) at OTC has grown immensely. He has many other accomplishments in the past, including involvement with MTTA,

Missouri ACTE, and the Collision Repair National Committee.

"He is forever finding ways to better assist, encourage, teach, and promote his students. It does not matter who that student is, if they are in his or any other CTE program, or if they may have a special circumstance that may make their learning process or finding a job a challenge. This desire to help his students be the best has led to several special projects he has been involved in over the years including supporting the 'Breaking Traditions' program at OTC and the 'Breaking Traditions Award Competition' that is held each year for the state of Missouri.

"Mr. Reeves is to be applauded for his commitment to student development and the promotion of CTE opportunities."



The Outstanding Service Award is given to recognize educators who have made the highest meritorious contributions to the improvement, promotion, development and progress of career and technical education. And, this year's winner, Cheryl Hill, is a prime example

Outstanding Service Award

~ Cheryl Hill ~

of those traits. While Ms. Hill may have retired from serving at Northland Career Center's Director for the past seven years, she has not retired from her passion for career and technical education.

Ron Webster, who worked for seven years with Ms. Hill at Northland Career Center, says:

"Her commitment to career and technical education abounds from every facet of her work.

"Cheryl has been a supporter of CTE for over 30 years. She has trained special education students for employment, worked as a Vocational Evaluator, ran the Northwest Regional New Perspective/Traditions program, was an Assistant Director for four years, and a Director for seven years. Cheryl

has also served on many State and National boards. However, her professional legacy will not be measured by job titles or the boards she served on. Her efforts will be measured by the connections she made with students, staff, and the many administrators she has worked with over the years. She has passionately worked to protect the foundations of career and technical education while building up those around her.

Cheryl retired last year but continues to support students and staff as a consultant. Her main body of work this year has been to focus on issues related to Title IV. She has worked tirelessly to keep Title IV alive in order to save 100's of jobs across the state of Missouri. If CTE is in trouble, she is the first to take charge and go to bat for all involved."



Legislative Recognition Awards

Missouri ACTE proudly presents Rep. Tom Shively and Rep. Jason Smith with the 2012 Legislative Recognition Award for their commitment to education, both personally and professionally, and specifically, their continued support of Career and Technical Education, as well as Career and Technical Student Organizations.

~ Rep. Tom Shively (D-008) ~



Rep. Tom Shively, a Democrat, represents part of Linn, Macon, Shelby and Sullivan Counties (District 8) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to the House in November, 2006.

In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Shively is retired after spending more than 30 years as a farmer and vocational agriculture educator. He also served in the United States Air Force.

During his 30 years as a vocational agriculture teacher, Tom helped prepare thousands of students to handle the modern challenges of farming.

He understands the importance of education. "A solid educational system not only prepares young minds, it equips our next generation to compete in a complex agribusiness environment. That will help more of your children and grandchildren to stay here in rural Missouri, find quality jobs here, and sustain our rural quality of life."

A 1964 graduate of North Shelby High School in Shelbyville, Missouri, Rep. Shively earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture in 1968 from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

~ Rep. Jason Smith (R-150) ~

Rep. Jason Smith represents parts of Crawford, Dent, Phelps and Reynolds Counties (District 150) in the Missouri House of Representatives. Elected to the House in a special election in 2005, Rep. Smith serves as Majority Whip and is a member of the following committees: Administration and Accounts, Ethics, Professional Registration & Licensing, and the Special Standing Committee on Redistricting. He also serves on the Joint Committees on Court Automation and Legislative Research and as co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Representative Smith is committed to community involvement and is a member in the following organizations: National Rifle Association; Salem, Steelville and Cuba Chambers of Commerce; Missouri Bar; Farm Bureau; state board member of the Missouri Community Betterment Association; past

President and current board member of the Salem FFA Alumni Association; and past board member of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate).

Rep. Smith has earned two Bachelor of Science Degrees in Agricultural Economics and Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance from the University of Missouri - Columbia, MO his Law Degree from Oklahoma City, OK University School of Law, and spent a summer studying international law at Trinity College in Cambridge, England.





Certificate of Appreciation ~ The Foundation for Missouri Women ~

state Breaking Traditions winners to support their continued education in a non-traditional field for their gender. The competition is a state-wide competition for non-traditional students in career/technical programs. With the Foundation's assistance, many women have completed their education.

This year, The Foundation for Missouri Women is also sponsoring competitive statewide grants and their goals are as follows:

1. Fund programs to build economic self-sufficiency for women and help girls to be economically self-sufficient in adulthood.
2. Provide operating support to organizations creating a systemic change that will increase


opportunities for economic self-sufficiency for women and girls.

3. Promote awareness of the issues affecting economic self-sufficiency for women and girls and build support for systemic change to enhance the economic status of women.

The Certificate of Appreciation Award honors individuals or organizations that contribute to improvement, promotion, development, and process of career, technical, and/or practical arts education. The Foundation for Missouri Women significantly contributes to the goals of this Award and we are pleased to recognize them as the 2012 recipient of the Missouri ACTE Certificate of Appreciation.

The Missouri 2012 Certificate of Appreciation recipient is The Foundation for Missouri Women. The Foundation's mission is to support females throughout the state of Missouri and create educational opportunities for girls and women.

To meet this noble goal, the Foundation has provided funds for both regional and



*Congratulations
to all our winners!*