

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACTE Announces Retired Nevada Associate Professor and Coordinator, Career & Technical and Postsecondary education as National Award Finalist

ALEXANDRIA, VA—The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) announces Clifford R. McClain, a retired associate professor and coordinator for career, technical and postsecondary education at University of Nevada Las Vegas in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the 2015 ACTE Region V Postsecondary Teacher of the Year. The ACTE Postsecondary Teacher of the Year award recognizes career and technical teachers and teacher educators who have demonstrated excellence and best practices in CTE at the postsecondary level.

Before he retired with emeritus status in 2015, Clifford McClain was an associate professor and the program coordinator for the Career & Technical and Postsecondary Education (CTPE) program within the College of Education at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where he served as a faculty member since 1988. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska in administration, curriculum and instruction, with an emphasis in Agricultural Education. Through his efforts, the CTPE program at UNLV provided highly qualified and dedicated teachers for the CTE needs within Las Vegas and throughout the state, and has graduated hundreds of secondary, postsecondary and adult CTE instructors and administrators; public and industry trainers; and local, state and national policymakers and leaders.

McClain began his CTE career leading a small, award-winning rural agriculture program in western Wyoming in the 1970s. Since then, he has filled a number of high-level positions within Nevada and has taken those opportunities to champion CTE to diverse political, economic and social constituencies across the state. He has authored over 100 publications and presentations, developed grants totaling nearly \$2 million and maintains numerous professional responsibilities and commitments at the local, state, national and international levels. Throughout his 38 years as a CTE educator, he has always considered himself, first and foremost, a teacher. As a postsecondary classroom instructor, his student ratings for the more than 50 classes he taught approached the highest in nearly all categories. "I have enormous respect for Dr. McClain's teaching and education skills," says former student Greg Richens, currently a CTE specialist for the Utah State Office of Education. "He is energetic and persistent about career and technical education."

McClain is one of five finalists for the 2016 national title. The national winner will be announced at the [ACTE Awards Banquet](#), a dinner and award presentation recognizing the best CTE educators in the country. The event will take place on Thursday evening, November 19, during ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Awards Banquet is sponsored

by Express Employment Professionals, Kuder, CareerSafe, Certiport, and Stratasys. For more information about the ACTE Excellence Awards, [visit our webpage](#).

About ACTE

The [Association for Career and Technical Education \(ACTE\)](#) is the nation's largest not-for-profit association committed to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. ACTE represents the community of CTE professionals, including educators, administrators, researchers, guidance counselors and others at all levels of education. ACTE is committed to excellence in providing advocacy, public awareness and access to resources, professional development and leadership opportunities.

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