

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACTE Announces Nevada Counselor as National Award Finalist

ALEXANDRIA, VA—The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) announces Sue Rodriguez, a counselor at Washoe County School District in Reno, Nevada, as the winner of the 2015 ACTE Region V Career Guidance Award. The ACTE Career Guidance Award recognizes guidance counselors and career development professionals who have made significant contributions to advocate, educate and communicate the value of CTE as a viable career option to a variety of audiences in their communities.

Sue Rodriguez has been a high school counselor for 21 years, and for the past 14 years has also served as lead faculty and counselor educator at the University of Phoenix for School Counseling and the Human Service programs on the Reno Campus. Rodriguez teaches career guidance at the university and takes an active role outside the classroom by working to place all her students in internships and practicums. In her years as an instructor, she has won both graduate and undergraduate faculty of the year awards.

With the inception of the Signature Academy programs in Washoe County, Rodriguez was designated as the counselor for the Red House Project at Reno High School, a digital technology program with an emphasis on graphic arts, web design and CADD. She is solely responsible for tracking the students through their traditional high school and CTE paths, and in total counsels over 400 students. She also assists with all proficiency exams, the Accuplacer and the SAT; is the coordinator for the PSAT and AP program; and works as the backup registrar. Since other high schools do not have designated counselors for their signature programs, many in the district will direct any questions related to CTE to Rodriguez, who acts as a liaison between the schools, counselors and school district administrators. She also serves on the board of the Nevada Counseling Association. "Sue is a tireless counselor and a strong advocate for all her students," says Linda Feroah, assistant principal at Reno High School. "I cannot recommend anyone more highly."

Rodriguez 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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