As a high school agricultural education teacher in Woodstock, Illinois (1978-1984) and Forest Lake, Minnesota (1984-2011), Robert (Bob) Marzolf was a change agent establishing new courses and engaging instruction for all students. His curriculum aligned to state and national agricultural education standards. Career and technical education (CTE) student organization leadership, business/industry partnerships, and community involvement were also integrated into his courses. Bob’s program was a model agricultural education program in Minnesota. He has been a member of ACTE and National Association of Agriculture Educators for almost 50 years of his professional career. Bob has been involved in CTE professional associations at the state, regional, and national levels.

Jacklyn (Jackie) has served as Executive Director of the Minnesota Secondary Associations of Business Professionals of American (BPA) and DECA for more than 30 years. Annually, she works WITH more than 200 teachers and FOR almost 6,000 CTE students in 200 schools throughout Minnesota—impacting roughly 180,000 members of the CTE community during her tenure. From serving on multiple national task forces, such as the DECA Competitive Events Task Force, for each respective organization to ensure their assessment programs (competitive events) align with standards and integrate with curriculum to the highest levels, she works to make certain that these two CTSO’s are an integral, intra-curricular part of the CTE program of study in Minnesota schools.
Patrick Lair’s 24 years of experience in career and technical education has been dedicated to providing students career information and direction. In his current role as Director of Student Success, he supports and advises students within the Individualized Studies program - Associates in Science (AS) degree. This program is designed for students who do not yet know what career to pursue. A Career Exploration class is required of all new students - a great introduction to any program at the college. Patrick also assures students success with career development resources such as Virtual Job Shadow. He also makes himself available to discuss career options with students – just one example of why he is MnACTE’s Career Guidance Award winner for 2018!

Craig Spreiter is a 9th-12th grade Marketing teacher offering courses in sales, financial advising, event planning, marketing and business. A fundamental approach to teaching CTE courses is Craig’s integration of community service and strong business partnerships into his curriculum. This approach was the driving force behind his quest in 2013 to establish a student-run branch of Ideal Credit Union inside of his DECA school store. Over the past 4 years, Ideal Credit Union has gifted nearly $24,000 to 240 students who have successfully completed that training! This program has become so successful, it is now offered during 2 summer sessions to teens from any of Ideals 7 branches and a training ground for DECA students hired by Ideal Credit Union.
In her sixth year, Katie teaches at the Academy for Sciences and Agriculture (AFSA) in Vadnais Heights. She is committed to building and maintaining a strong program dedicated to students who are not aware of the breadth and depth of Minnesota’s agricultural industry. Katie teaches a wide range of agriculture education classes including Metals and Welding, Floriculture, Leadership and Veterinary Science classes. She also serves as a co-advisor of FFA. Katie assists students in preparation of Career Development Experiences (CDEs) and other awards. In 2016, AFSA students competed in the talent CDE and placed in the top 16 nationally. Katie also encourages her students to participate in community service projects with local businesses.

Lori Brumbaugh is a Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) teacher at Champlin Park High School, Anoka-Hennepin District. She has taught FCS for 30 years, focusing on child-related classes for 25 years. She currently teaches sequential courses in this area. Recently Lori worked with her colleagues to implement an International Baccalaureate (IB) FCS program. In this program, students will take the courses, Child and Human Development, Early Childhood Careers, and Education, Teaching, and Training, and Internship program. The student projects and career portfolios will be evaluated and graded with top criteria at IB locations throughout the world. It is a high quality CTE program.