

The

COMMUNIQUE

Your Professional Voice

Association for Career
and Technical Education

ACTE

of
Nebraska

Spring 2014

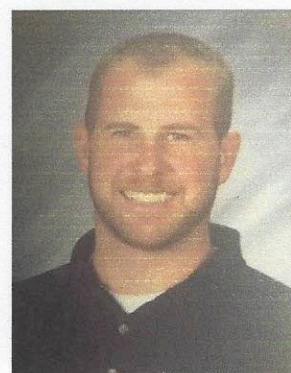
Message from Your President

Membership

People have many different reasons for being in organizations. It could be for the professional development that one receives from that organization. Perhaps the information about policies that are happening around the state and/or nation is the reason to join. Meeting new people and reuniting to share ideas and strategies continue to be a trend in organizations. All of these and many more are the reasons to be part of an organization.

Summer conference is fast approaching and with the transition of many new teachers to our profession we may forget to mention the benefits of belonging to these organizations. Even my short time in the profession of teaching (8 years), I have seen the benefits of membership. It spans from being an active member in policy, contacting your representative, to collaboration with state staff and other teachers across the state. This network of contacts and professional development has anchored me through the first years as a teacher. I would encourage you to invite all career and technical teachers from your school to the

(Continued on page 2)



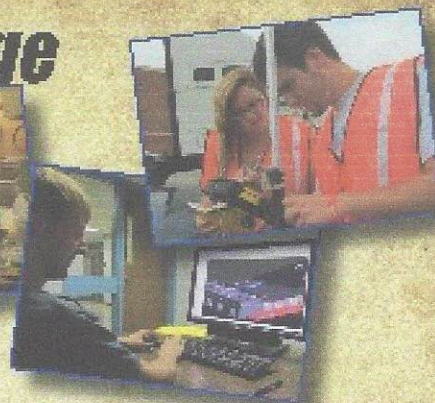
- Brad Andreassen,
2013-2014 ACTEN President

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SE Southeast community college

THE choice for a Quality, Technical Education



New Beginning This Summer!

Agriculture:

- *Crops Focus becomes Agronomy Focus
- *Livestock Focus becomes Livestock Production Focus
- *Added: Precision Agriculture Focus with a Laddered Certificate!

Business Administration:

- *Added: Client Relations Focus with a Laddered Certificate
- Geographic Information Systems Technician:
- *Certificate Program

Major Appliance

Professional Technology:
*Diploma Program moving to a Certificate Program with an Evening Option

Diversified Mfg.

Technology:
*Offering AAS, Diploma, Certificate. Four classes combining face-to-face and online instruction. Laying the groundwork for other programs at SCC.

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Membership, continued from Page 1

conference and to participating in a professional organization. Each has its advantages, for all that are involved.

When speaking about new teachers entering career and technical education, it is important to mention this aspect of our professional lives. Membership in organizations, such as ACTEN, is what many find is the strength within our model of education. It is where we develop as professionals and gain friends with similar interests and similar struggles.

**Remember that you are the greatest tool for recruitment. You are the reason for the success and the future of career and technical education.
You are a member.**

2013-14 ACTEN Officers

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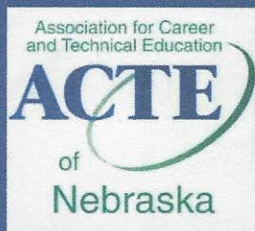
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Kennedy Finalist for ACTE Region V Carl Perkins Community Service Award

Kathleen Kennedy, FCS instructor at Greeley-Wolbach/North Loup-Scotia Schools, was selected as a finalist for the Association for Career and Technical Education Region V Carl Perkins Community Service Award.

This award is given in recognition of a career and technical education professional who has made significant accomplishments and demonstrated leadership in programs and activities that promote community service.

Highlights of Kennedy's nomination include: classroom activities in which more than 150 fleece caps sewn and donated to St. Francis Medical Center Oncology Unit, 25 baby blankets sewn and donated to area homeless and domestic violence shelters and over 75 pies baked and donated to the scholarship fund by students in the Family & Consumer Sciences Good Works Baking Company.

Kennedy was selected as Nebraska's (ACTEN) Community Service Award winner in June 2013 and her nomination was forwarded to Region V. Region V consists of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah and Washington.

Kennedy attended the ACTE Region V Conference April 23-26 in Bismarck, North Dakota to receive her award.

Casino Night at NCE Conference . . .

your opportunity to unwind, have some fun and socialize with other conference attendees. Proceeds from this fundraiser are used to support the Career Education Foundation of Nebraska (CEFN) scholarship program. We hope to see you at Casino Night on **Wednesday June 4th!**

ACTEN Membership Pins

ACTEN's new membership pins were distributed to members at the 2013 NCE Conference. To encourage members to wear their ACTEN pins, we will have a drawing for a "Pin Prize" at this year's NCE Conference. Stop by the ACTEN table in the lobby at Younes Conference Center to show your pin and your name will be included in the drawing.

Members who did not receive a pin last year are encouraged to stop at the ACTEN table to pick up their pin and enter their name in the drawing.

2014 Nebraska Career Education Conference

June 3-5, 2014

Kearney, NE

Featured Speakers:

Dave Burgess
Nan Henderson
Corinne Hoisington

Keynote Speakers:

Kim Bearden
Kevin Wanzer

Are you registered?

<http://www.nceconference.com/registration>

Pre-conference Workshops

Rotational Sessions

Exhibits

Professional Networking

NCE Social:

Casino Night

Update on Perkins Reauthorization

DeLayne Havlovic, ACTEN Treasurer

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) was most recently authorized in 2006. Current funding has been established in the interim until reauthorization through a continuing resolution. States and institutions receiving funding are following the same guidelines set forth in 2006. Reauthorization was due in 2013. The reauthorization process officially began on Capitol Hill in September of 2013 with hearings taking place multiple times before the end of the calendar year.

The Act provides federal funding for Career and Technical Education programs to ensure current students are receiving training that is in line with business and industry needs and relates to workforce and economic development needs in our communities.

ACTE's role in Perkins reauthorization has been important and relevant. ACTE provided six recommendations and shared them with Members of Congress and relevant congressional committees. Those six areas are:

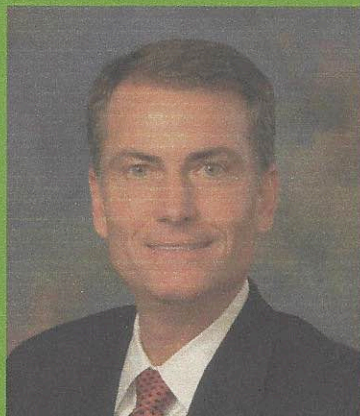
1. **Redefine the Federal Role of CTE:** The goal area is to provide users with clear and consistent direction from the federal level. Historically, there has been much change to Career and Technical Education over the past 40+ years and the language and direction needs to be cleaned up.
2. **Target Expenditures:** Focus on ensuring programs meet high quality standards and areas needing improvement are well addressed so that student success can be most evident. ACTE also advocates for state and local level control over the grant so that the most immediate needs of communities are addressed. ACTE language maintains that state-to-local formula measures should continue to be used.
3. **Define Program Quality Elements:** The overall goal is to ensure CTE is a vehicle to support school improvement and success. A few examples of quality improvement elements could include CTE-Academic integration, work-based learning experiences, and alignment with labor market needs and community analysis.
4. **Ensure Relevant and Consistent Data:** ACTE suggests that the Perkins accountability system be overhauled to ensure fewer and more meaningful measures are used that are consistent across the state and nation.
5. **Offer Incentives for Innovation:** ACTE is suggesting a new Perkins Innovation Fund that would be a driver of change across the nation. These would be funds over and above the basic grant formula used for state allocations and the goal would be for creation of programs that can not be done with current and basic funding levels.
6. **Provide the Infrastructure to Support the System:** The next Perkins Act should continue to focus on research, evaluation, and dissemination focused on improving practice. Strong state data linkages will be continued or expanded upon.

Perkins Reauthorization (continued)

It is recommended that school districts, institutions, and state agencies that benefit from or administer Perkins grants stay current with activity happening on Capitol Hill. ACTE will keep tabs on progress and will notify members through updates and blogs. If necessary call-to-action events occur, Career and Technical Educators should be ready to respond and connect with their Senate and House Representatives. It is never too soon to begin building those relationships.

The timeline for Perkins reauthorization is not clear. Some legislative experts feel that more hearings and potential action could take place in early to mid-2014. Many also feel that there will be no funding changes for 2014 or 2015, based on the timing of President Obama's budget release, the work of Congress on responding to that budget, and other priorities that have been considered more pressing in our legislative community such as health care and energy initiatives.

Source: Association for Career and Technical Education, Carl D. Perkins Reauthorization Background and Perkins Reauthorization Guiding Principals, Information shared at ACTE's National Policy Seminar, March 3-5, Washington, D.C.

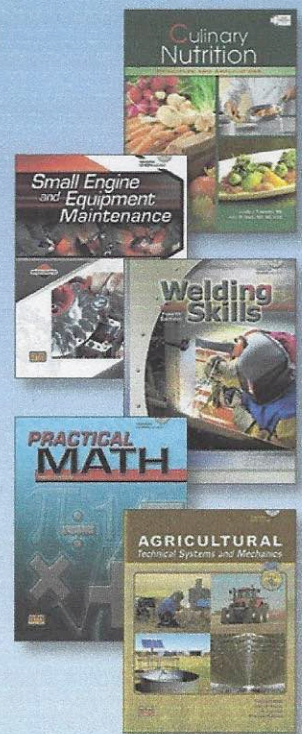


ACTE President Doug Major Coming to NCE Conference

ACTEN is pleased to announce that ACTE President Doug Major will be coming to the Nebraska Career Education Conference in Kearney. He will speak at the ACTEN Annual Board of Directors' meeting and bring greetings from ACTE at Assembly of

Delegates. He will also be at the luncheon on Wednesday, June 4th, to bring greetings from ACTE and to assist in recognizing ACTEN award recipients. He has also been invited to the NSBEA banquet and will likely be at Casino Night on Wednesday night. Please help ACTEN welcome Doug to Nebraska by introducing yourself, if the opportunity arises.

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CTE: Energizing America's Workforce

Kathleen Kennedy, FCS instructor at Greeley-Wolbach/North Loup-Scotia Schools

CTE: Energizing America's Workforce was the theme for the ACTE Region V Conference April 23-26, 2014 in Bismarck, North Dakota.

A highlight of the conference was partaking in one of four group tour packages:

Garrison Dam and Power Plant at Riverdale, ND

At 2 ½ miles wide and 210 feet tall, the Garrison Dam is the fifth largest earthen dam in the world. Hydropower turbines at Garrison Dam have an electric power generating capacity of 583.3 megawatts. Average production of 240 megawatts serves several hundred thousand customers.

Coal Creek Station and Blue Flint Ethanol, Underwood, ND

Coal Creek is North Dakota's largest power plant – features two units with a total generation capacity of more than 1,100 megawatts. Blue Flint Ethanol is unique in that it utilizes waste heat generated by Coal Creek Station creating a highly energy efficient operation.

Bismarck Career & Tech Ed Center and Career Academy and the Heritage Center

Bismarck CTE Center is located on the campus of Bismarck State College and shares space with BCS in the Career Academy and Technical Center Building. Bismarck CTE Center has an enrollment of nearly 800 students from nine (9) public and private high schools yearly.

Heritage Center: The main gallery in the Heritage Center traces millions of years of North Dakota History. The Gallery is divided into seven areas: Corridor of Time, First People, Era of Change, Settlement Era, Bright Dreams and Hard Times, Birds of North Dakota and Dakota Kids.

Schumacher Diamonds and the Spa

Since its inception in 1972, Schumacher Diamond Cutters has always been a pioneer in the use and development of advancing technologies in the diamond manufacturing industry.

The Spa – participants were treated to a Microdermabrasion – a traditional crystal or a new diamond time (non-crystal) technique which removed the most superficial damaged layer of skin helping your skin care regiment penetrate more efficiently.

A social stroll of historic downtown Bismarck restaurants and shops was sponsored by the North Dakota CTE Administrators on Wednesday evening prior to the start of the conference.

Breakout session strands included leadership, advocacy, STEM, job safety and curriculum enhancement.