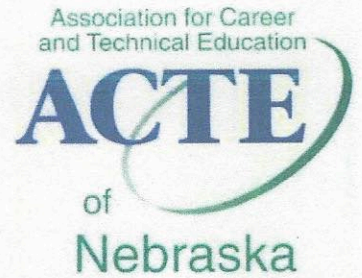


The COMMUNIQUE

Your Professional Voice



Summer/Fall 2014

Message from Your President

What is your promise?

With conferences, professional networking and the rest and relaxation of the summer months behind us, we all head back for another year of learning. It is with anticipation that teachers (just like students) think about what the school year will bring. All we do know is that we want to have a year that provides opportunity for growth and achievement for our students. The motivation and excitement of a new school year always makes this seem possible. However, a few months in and the colder weather brings that change in attitude and optimism. We still want the same opportunity, but our energy is now divided and the restfulness of the summer has been drained. What can we do to keep that beginning of the year positivity? I chose this year to make a promise.

Within the first week of the school year, I took some time to truly think about the year ahead. What did I want to achieve? What opportunities can be provided to others? How can we all be instrumental in the growth of students? With all these questions in mind, I thought back to the statements that kept re-occurring all summer long. "Every Student. Every Day." A simple statement that can be so impactful. So, I wrote on a piece of paper a personal promise of Every Student. Every Day. As we now enter that difficult portion of the school year, this promise (prominently displayed at my desk) serves as a reminder of the focus for everyday activities. If you find yourself feeling a bit overwhelmed and needing a lift I encourage you to think about Every Student. Every Day. Or better yet, take some time to reflect and write your own. What is your promise that will keep you positive and focused?



Kelly Means,
2014-2015 ACTEN President

In This Issue

- Elaine Stuhr Award
- FCCLA
- CEFN Scholarships
- FBLA
- Assembly of Delegates
- ACTEN Awards
- New Members

2014 Elaine Stuhr Leadership and Advocacy Award

The 2014 Elaine Stuhr Leadership and Advocacy Award was presented to Dr. Dennis Headrick, Vice President for Instruction at Southeast Community College (SCC), during the opening session of the Nebraska Career Education Conference on June 4th in Kearney. The award is presented each year to an individual who exemplifies the leadership that Senator Stuhr provided for career and technical education in Nebraska.

Dr. Headrick represents SCC in its partnership with Lincoln Public Schools on the Career Academy being constructed on SCC's Lincoln Campus. The facility, scheduled to open in August 2015, will feature career-related classes that match the specific employment and job needs of the community. It will provide opportunities for students who are planning to go on to college, or who are looking into more immediate careers and employment, helping them plan for their lives after high school. Career fields will include agriculture, food and natural resources; business, marketing/management and entrepreneurship; communication and information technology; health sciences; human sciences and education; skilled and technical sciences; welding; engineering; and construction trades.

Dr. Headrick has also served on numerous technical committees and boards including: The Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force, a statewide group focusing on entrepreneurship education, services and resources; Chief Instructional Officers, Nebraska Community Colleges, serving as chair several times during his 20 years of service; Partnership for Innovation, a statewide group that provides leadership for the utilization of a portion of Carl Perkins funding; and the National Council of Instructional Administrators, representing academic administrators across the country.



Dr. Dennis Headrick

Past recipients of the Elaine Stuhr Leadership and Advocacy Award include: Ann Masters, (2013); Marilyn McGahan, (2012); Fred Meyer (2011); Dr. Rachel Wise (2010); Jean Brown (2009); Dr. LaVern Franzen (2008); Dr. Marge Harouff (2007); and Senator Elaine Stuhr (2006).

2014-15 ACTEN Officers

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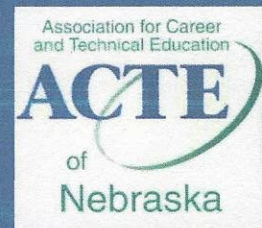
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Nebraska Students Compete in STAR Event Competition at FCCLA National Leadership Conference

More than 7,000 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members, advisers, alumni, and guests from across the country gathered in San Antonio for the 2014 National Leadership Conference. The conference is based on the student-originated theme "SOAR." As a state, Nebraska's delegation was one of the top award recipients for awards in the STAR Event Competitions at the conference.

FCCLA offers 33 STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events. These events, which include Early Childhood Education, Job Interview, and Sports Nutrition, among others, represent college and career readiness skills taught in Family and Consumer Sciences classroom. Members compete at the District, State and National level. This year, Nebraska's 143 competitors were among over 4200 STAR Event participants who competed in San Antonio. This was the largest number of competitors at any National STAR Events competition. Nebraska came home with 82 Gold medals, 57 Silver medals, and 4 Bronze medals. This is a truly outstanding achievement for our State Association and its members.

In addition to the opportunities through STAR Events, the National Leadership Conference provided opportunities for students and advisers to come together for fun and to listen to inspiring speakers, as well as to expand their leadership skills, sharpen their talents and explore possible career pathways. The theme of this year's conference was "SOAR" and attendees were challenged to go beyond what was expected of them to make lasting, positive impressions in their families, schools and communities.

During this time, Creighton Community Senior, Sarah Smith was elected as one of the 10 National Executive Council members who will be serving the organization this year. Sarah was elected as the National First Vice-President, and will be assisting with the operations and development of the organization this year.

"We were delighted to gather great speakers, leadership development initiatives and the energy of the thousands of students who came to San Antonio for this conference, but realize the best part is that these students will use the event as a platform to make a difference in their own cities and states when they return home," said Sandy Spavone, executive director of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

As part of that platform, FCCLA students who attended the meetings in San Antonio gathered and donated 2,840 baby supplies for the on-site community service project, Operation Homefront. The students had the opportunity to present all of the baby supplies they collected to Operation Homefront, a

(Continued on page 5)

2014 CEFN Scholarship Awards

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska (CEFN) awarded four scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients were recognized at the NCE Conference awards luncheon on June 4th.



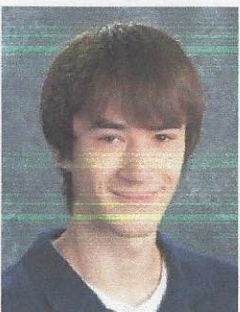
Megan Goesch, West Boyd Public Schools, received an Outstanding Secondary Career and Technical Education Student Award. Throughout high school, Megan participated in the business and computer career preparation program. She used her computer skills to design a system to keep track of inventory for her father's seed business. The program was adopted by the Syngenta district sales manager and is used by other seed dealers in the area. This experience led Megan to compete and win the Database Design competition at State FBLA and she went on to place second at National FBLA. Megan played an important role in forming the West Boyd FBLA Chapter and served two years as president. CEFN provided a \$1,000 scholarship for Megan to enter the Computer Engineering program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.



Paige Dexter, Chambers Public High School, received an Outstanding Secondary Career and Technical Education Student Award. Agriculture education courses and FFA has had a significant impact on Paige's future plans. Chambers FFA Chapter was formed two years ago and Paige served as president this past year. Paige credits the National FFA Convention as her most impactful and important experience because it helped her to understand the unity and goals to which FFA members adhere, realize her true potential, discover how she can make a difference in her community, and it opened her mind to the numerous opportunities agriculture and FFA provide. She is determined to achieve high goals for herself within the organization and encourage others to take advantage of these opportunities. Paige plans to become an agriculture education teacher and FFA adviser. CEFN provided a \$1,000 scholarship for Paige to pursue her degree at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.



Precious Campbell, Hemingford High School, received the Outstanding Secondary Special Populations Career and Technical Education Student Award. She participated in business education courses, including computer management, professional development, Money Wise and RSVP and she was a member of FCCLA. Precious shows pride in her Native American Culture and shares knowledge of her culture within the community. She decided in kindergarten that she loved school and that she wanted to be a teacher. CEFN will provide a \$1,000 scholarship for Precious to attend a Nebraska postsecondary institution to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education.



Christian Andersen, Lincoln East High School, received the Teacher of the Year Scholarship (in recognition of Lori Anderson, 2013 ACTEN Teacher of the Year). Christian's career and technical coursework included digital media 1 & 2 and web page programming. He produced a public service announcement for an out of school club. Through his involvement in technical theater at Lincoln East, he learned how to run the lighting and sound systems and that transitioned to a paid position. Christian served as business editor for the school newspaper, as well as the online editor in charge of online presence and posted stories. CEFN provided a \$500 scholarship for Christian to continue his education at Southeast Community College in Lincoln.

FCCLA National Leadership Conference (continued)

non-profit organization that provides emergency, financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors. Operation Homefront will distribute the supplies through their Star Spangled Babies baby shower program. This program builds morale by providing baby showers to our service members and their growing families.

About FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has 200,000 members and more than 5,500 chapters from 49 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

For more information on FCCLA, please contact the Nebraska FCCLA State Adviser Allison Kreifels by phone at 402-471-4814 or by email at allison.kreifels@nebraska.gov.

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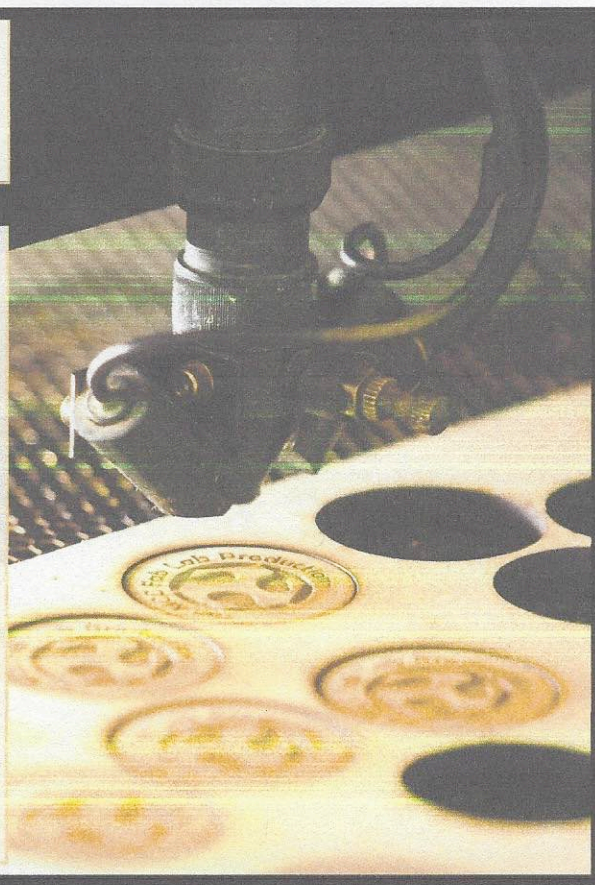
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Nebraska FBLA National Award Winners Named

More than 330 Nebraska students and advisers attended the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in Nashville, TN. Nebraska FBLA members competed June 29-July 2, 2014 in 60 competitive events. More than 10,300 FBLA members from 46 states, as well as U.S. territories and international chapters attended the conference.

Carlie Bauer of Minden High School opened the conference by singing the national anthem at the general session.

Nebraska members brought home 30 Top Ten awards, including 3 first-place awards. Congratulations to all of our winners.

First Place

- ☒ Brenna Backemeyer, Natalie Elwood and Wyatt Story of Elmwood-Murdock High School, American Enterprise Project
- ☒ Elliot Sandfort, Ojus Jain and Alicia Zeng of Lincoln East High School, Global Business
- ☒ Dylan Steinkruger of Minden High School, Cody McCain of Tri County High School, Abi Sheen of Kearney High School and Anna Bauerle of Chase County High School, Parliamentary Procedure Team

Third Place

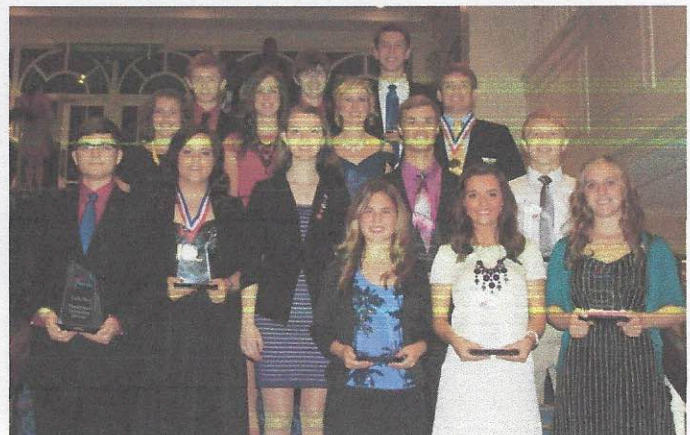
- ☒ Michaela Mapes of Westside High School, Business Financial Plan
- ☒ Paul Weber of Cedar Bluffs High School, Insurance and Risk Management
- ☒ Julie Slama of Auburn High School, Job Interview

Fourth Place

- ☒ Kyle Bogatz and John Willey of Elmwood-Murdock High School, Desktop Publishing
- ☒ Allison Braun, Cody Kroeker and Colton Siebert of Heartland High School, Entrepreneurship
- ☒ Lindsay Mills and Callie Zeorian of Elmwood-Murdock High School, Public Service Announcement

Fifth Place

- ☒ Katharine Garrett and Kaitlyn Oppliger of Blair High School, Banking and Financial Systems
- ☒ Makenna Wallin of Chase County High School, Desktop Publishing



Other national awards included:

National Business Achievement Awards – America Level (top award in this four-level program)

- Emily Slama of Auburn High School
- Chase Gronenthal of Lakeview High School
- Rachel Kathman of Lawrence-Nelson High School
- Elizabeth Peterson of Lincoln Southwest High School
- Megan Goesch of West Boyd High School

National Recognition Event Winners

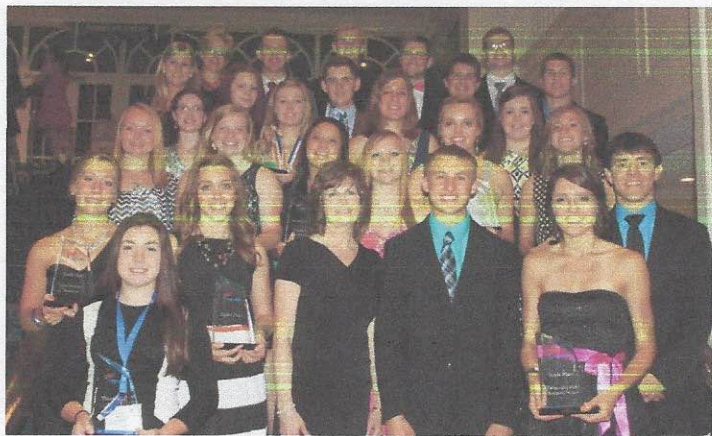
- Trevor Koger of Arlington High School, Who's Who in FBLA
- Susan Wellman of Syracuse High School, Nebraska Outstanding Chapter Adviser
- Trevor Koger of Arlington High School and Whitney Draper of Raymond Central High School, Community Service Award – Leader Level
- Arlington High School, Blair High School, Lakeview High School and Tri County High School, Chapter Challenge
- Nebraska FBLA, 1st in Membership Increase in Mountain Plains Region
- Nebraska FBLA, 6th in Seven Up Award

Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Arlington High School | Litchfield High School |
| Aurora High School | Lyons-Decatur Northeast High School |
| Bellevue West High School | Minden High School |
| Blair High School | Pleasanton High School |
| Chase County High School | Raymond Central High School |
| Dundy County Stratton High School | Sandhills High School |
| Elmwood-Murdock High School | Syracuse High School |
| Fairbury High School | Tri County High School |
| Fillmore Central High School | Twin River High School |
| Johnson-Brock High School | Waverly High School |
| Kearney High School | West Boyd High School |
| Lakeview High School | |

Outstanding Chapter Award

- Blair High School
- Elmwood-Murdock High School
- Fillmore Central High School
- Johnson-Brock High School
- Kearney High School
- Minden High School
- Raymond Central High School



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2014 ACTEN ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES HIGHLIGHTS

The ACTEN Assembly of Delegates was called to order at 7:07 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4th, at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, with sixteen ACTEN board members and twenty-nine delegates present. Minutes from the 2013 Assembly of Delegates and the Treasurer's Report through April 30, 2014 were presented and approved.

ACTEN was pleased that ACTE President Doug Major was able to attend this year's conference and bring greetings from ACTE at the ACTEN Annual Board of Directors' meeting and again at Assembly of Delegates. Doug promoted the economic value of CTE and reminded members of our responsibility to promote CTE. He reported that ACTE has improved their relationship with the US Department of Education liaison for CTE, which demonstrates the awesome work of ACTE throughout the year. Doug challenged all ACTEN members to encourage new members to join the voice for CTE. ACTEN President Brad Andreasen presented Doug with a gift to express our appreciation for his attendance and participation at NCE Conference.



Nominating and Awards committee chair, Ronita Jacobsen announced the results of this year's election of officers and discipline representatives. Kelly Means will begin her term as President on October 1st and Stephanie Miller (Agriculture Education) will serve as president-elect. Kristin Vest was re-elected to serve as ACTEN Secretary. Janelle Stansberry was re-elected to represent Business Education members. Cathy Kloch was also re-elected to represent Family and Consumer Sciences Education members. NAEA members elected Jill Petersen as one of their two representatives on the ACTEN Board.

ACTEN president Kelly Means and president elect Stephanie Miller will both represent ACTEN at ACTE Assembly of Delegates that will take place during CareerTech Vision 2014 in Nashville, TN. Ronita Jacobsen opened the floor for nominations for the third delegate position and one alternate delegate. Nominees included Anne Schmall, Kristin Vest and Jill Petersen. Ballots were cast and counted and it was announced that Kristin Vest will serve as ACTEN's delegate and Anne Schmall will be alternate delegate.

Due to limited time available, Rich Katt provided a written report for the delegate folders. Committee reports were brief and written reports were provided in the delegate folders. Katherine Ballobin reported that the 2013-14 financial records were audited and approved by two outside accountants. Budget committee chairperson, DeLayne Havlovic, gave an overview of minor changes in the proposed budget and the budget was approved. Membership chair Janelle Stansberry gave a brief review of the written report in the folder showing a decrease of 18 members over the past year. DeLayne Havlovic will represent ACTEN at the Teacher Educator meeting at NDE to encourage the attendees to promote the membership benefits to pre-service teachers.

Program of Work committee chair, Kelly Means reported that in the coming year she will promote professional development for new members by encouraging them to serve in leadership roles through leadership development. She will also encourage CTE visibility with NDE for the recruitment of new teachers for all CTE areas.

As the meeting grew to a close, ACTEN president Brad Andreasen passed the gavel to president elect Kelly Means. Kelly begins her term as president on October 1st. Nathan Behlke, outgoing Agriculture Education division representative, and past president Ronita Jacobsen were recognized for their work on the ACTEN Board.

Delegate Mike Roeber encouraged ACTEN members to attend the Region V Conference in Kansas City, Kansas, April 15-18, 2015.

New president Kelly Means ended the meeting by encouraging members to work for "Every Student. Every Day." as their reason for growing professionally with ACTEN. She adjourned the meeting at 7:40 a.m.



2014 ACTEN Award Recipients

The Crystal Ballroom at Younes Conference Center in Kearney was the place to be on June 4th when six outstanding members were recognized by the Association of Career and Technical Education of Nebraska (ACTEN) at the Nebraska Career Education Conference awards luncheon. ACTEN President Brad Andreasen presented plaques to each recipient. On hand to assist with the presentations and offer his congratulations was Doug Major, President of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), our national organization. This year's recipients include:



Kelly Means, Omaha Central High School,
ACTEN's Outstanding Career and Technical
Teacher of the Year
ACTEN's Outstanding Business Education Teacher of
the Year

Jan Smaus, Beatrice Public Schools,
ACTEN's Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences
Education Teacher of the Year



Mike Roeber, Northeast Community College,
ACTEN's Outstanding Postsecondary Career and
Technical Teacher of the Year

Brittany McPhillips, Central City High School,
ACTEN's Outstanding New Career and Technical
Education Teacher of the Year

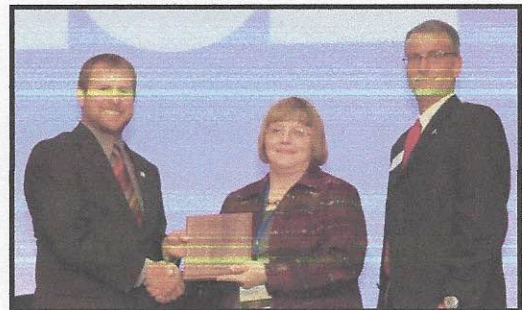


Thank You for Supporting the CEFN Scholarship Program

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska Board of Directors would like to thank ACTEN members for nominating students for a scholarship this year. Information about scholarship recipients is included in this issue of The Communique.

Thank you for supporting the CEFN Scholarship Program at the Casino Night fundraiser on June 4th in Kearney. We hope that you had a great time. **Thank you!**

Cindy Talley, Fillmore Central High School,
Carl Perkins Community Service Award



Richard Katt, State Director for Nebraska Career
Education, Nebraska Department of Education,
ACTEN's Outstanding Member for 2014