Developing Leadership in CTE

By Bonnie J. Malcolm—ACTEN President

In the book, Leadership: Theory and Practice by Peter G. Northouse, he states there are four components to leadership. They are:

- Leadership is a process
- Leadership involves influence
- Leadership occurs within a group context
- Leadership involves goal attainment

Thus Peter G. Northouse’s definition is “Leadership is a process whereby an individual influences a group of individuals to achieve a common goal.” Good leaders are developed through education, training, and experience. Today’s CTE teachers have been educated and trained to be successful leaders in their classrooms. Every year they gain experience leading their students, leading their fellow teachers and leading their school systems to excellence.

As Janet Bray states in her Leading Edge article in the January 2008 issue, “These are interesting times for education and most of all, career and technical education….. During these times, it is important for the CTE profession and ACTE to have leaders who provide guidance, comfort and support.”

I now feel all of us need to become leaders in our classrooms, our school systems, and our state and national education legislature. This means that all of us need to be involved in every level of the educational process in our city, our state and our country. Who would be more qualified to lead the way in this time of education reform than CTE Educators? I challenge all of you to get more involved in your local education process, your discipline professional organization, state and national legislation and ACTE. Together we can provide the guidance and support to make CTE a viable part of the educational system in this state and country.
Nebraska Career Education Conference—2008

Join hundreds of career educators from across Nebraska and plan to attend the 2008 Nebraska Career Education Conference to be held Monday, June 9th through Wednesday, June 11th at the Holiday Inn, Kearney, Nebraska. Monday, June 9, is a Preconference Workshop Day packed with special interest sessions and Tuesday & Wednesday contain keynoted general sessions and rotations customized to fit the following Professional Development Strands:

- Best Practices
- Collaboration and Partnerships
- Planning and Management
- Teaching Strategies
- Technology and Tools

We’re proud to have keynote speakers Dr. Rick Rigsby and Dr. Doug Christensen as special guests at this year’s conference. This year offers a new Registration Package: $155 - Registration includes registration and career Field materials, June 10 - 11, plus Two Meals! You can register for all three days - June 9 - 10 - 11 for $185. If you prefer to attend the Preconference all-day workshops on Monday only, you may do so for a reduced registration fee of $80 which includes a box lunch.

Chadron State and Wayne State Colleges will be offering the NCE Conference for three (3) hours of graduate credit. For more information on receiving credit please contact Dr. Patricia Arneson at Wayne State, paarnes1wsc.edu or Ronald Burke at Chadron State, rburke@esc.edu.

Attendance at last year’s conference exceeded 500 attendees; therefore, it is important to register early and make advance room reservations. Some of the Preconference sessions have limited space due to limitations of equipment required for the training. For more information about the NCE Conference, visit www.nceconference.com

On-line registration for the NCE Conference will open April 1, 2008!

ACTEN’s Mission Statement

The mission of ACTEN is to provide leadership for the development, delivery and promotion of quality career education in Nebraska

Purposes

1. Establish and maintain active leadership in all types of career & technical education and guidance services.
2. Promote career & technical education in local communities.
3. Unify all career & technical education interests through representative membership.
4. Encourage further development and improvement of all programs of education related to career & technical education and guidance services.
5. Provide proactive leadership in state and national legislation affecting career & technical education.
6. Create opportunities for educators to exchange ideas and experiences through professional and social contacts.
Honorary Membership Program
Kathy Gifford, CEFN President

Last year the Vocational Foundation of Nebraska changed its name to the Career Education Foundation of Nebraska (CEFN). The Board of Directors was restructured to include one director from each of six career field areas, as defined by the Nebraska Department of Education. The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska continues to operate as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

The primary focus of the Career Education Foundation of Nebraska continues to be our scholarship and grant program. Over the last eight years, the Foundation has awarded almost $20,000 in scholarships to twenty-seven career education students across the state of Nebraska to assist them in continuing their education at a Nebraska postsecondary institution. The Foundation has also awarded $500 grants each year to Nebraska career education teachers to assist them in upgrading their teaching skills.

The CEFN Board of Directors has created an honorary membership program to help fund the scholarship and grant programs. Honorary membership dues will be used to fund these two programs and increase the ways that the Foundation can promote career education across Nebraska. The honorary membership program is open to people from Business, Industry, and Instructional/Education areas. We hope that you will consider joining CEFN as an honorary member to make sure that funding will be available for scholarships, grants and other activities that support career education.

CEFN Golf Outing

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska will be sponsoring a Golf Scramble at Country Shadows Golf Course in Columbus on June 28th. A 10:00 a.m. shotgun start is planned. There is room for 18 teams so start planning on your organization entering a team for next Summer. The Nebraska Industrial Technology Education Association is challenging each organization to sponsor one hole at the cost of $75.00. NITEA and the Kulwicki family have already committed their pledges. A team registration sheet can be found on the last page of the newsletter. Include your organization, business, or group in this fun activity to help CTE. Funds will be used to help support CEFN Scholarship programs.

Honorary Membership Application

I want to invest in Career Education by joining the Career Education Foundation of Nebraska as an honorary member!

I would like to join in the following category/level:
( ) Business Bronze   $50.00
( ) Business Silver   $75.00
( ) Business Gold   $100.00
( ) Industry Bronze   $50.00
( ) Industry Silver   $75.00
( ) Industry Gold   $100.00
( ) Institutional/Educational- B   $50.00
( ) Institutional/Educational- S   $75.00
( ) Institutional/Educational- G   $100.00

Enclosed is my individual/corporate gift of $______

Name:______________________________________
Address:____________________________________
City:_________________________Zip Code_______
Telephone Number:___________________________
E-Mail Address:______________________________

I suggest that CEFN contact this person or business about joining with CEFN to promote Career Education in Nebraska:

Name:______________________________________
Business:____________________________________
Address:____________________________________
City:_________________________Zip Code_______
Telephone Number:___________________________
E-Mail Address:______________________________

Please send this form and your check to:
Career Education Foundation of Nebraska
P.O. Box 22607
Lincoln, Nebraska 68542-2607

** For more information call 402-423-6786**
Andrew J. Berthold, ACTEN Board Member for Trade and Industrial Education recently had an article that he sent to ACTE published by the Committee for Education Funding to support Perkins’s funding. The article was about a former OPS and Career Center student named Kevin Reynolds who is currently in Kuwait with the Air Force. This article crossed the desk of every member of Congress in hopes of retaining or improving funding for Career Education programs throughout the nation.

Mr. Berthold stated “Career and technical education is vital to helping students stay involved and interested in school”. A former student enrolled at the Omaha Public Career Center in Omaha, NE used to skip classes in his home school, but always made it on the bus to attend his Automotive Technology class. With support from the Perkins Basic State Grants the Automotive Technology program played a key roll in dropout recovery. It helped to ensure that this former student graduated from high school and was able to enroll in the Air Force to study Criminal Justice. Today, the student is serving as an M.P. in Kuwait and is hoping to become a teacher when his tour of duty is finished.

Andrew Berthold
Automotive Technology
OPS Career Center
Dick Campbell Recognized for National CWEEA Award

Dick Campbell has been a key supporter of Cooperative Education within the state of Nebraska and throughout the nation. Cooperative Work Experience Education Association (CWEEA) has been dedicated to the growth and development of all professionals in the Cooperative Education field. Dick was one of the people that initiated the CWEEA as a national association. He presented and promoted Cooperative Education and CWEEA every place he has gone. He has an award given each year in his name to recognize his efforts in this field. Dick is known throughout the country as one of the most knowledgeable people about Cooperative Education. It was his dedication, support and endless work that contributed to him receiving this national CWEEA award. Congratulations Dick on an honor will deserved.

Doris Lux presenting Dick Campbell with His National Recognition Award from CWEEA at the November ACTEN Executive Committee meeting in York.
2008 ACTEN Awards Program

The Association for Career and Technical Education of Nebraska awards program seeks to promote excellence in career and technical education by recognizing individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field, programs that exemplify the highest standards and organizations that have conducted activities to promote and expand career and technical education programs. There are 7 categories of ACTEN awards:

- Outstanding Service Award
- Outstanding Member
- Outstanding Teacher/Divisional
- Teacher of the Year (from Divisional Winners)
- Outstanding Career and Technical Educator
- Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher
- Outstanding Teacher in Community Service

All awards are administered by the ACTEN Awards Committee. The committee, chaired by the ACTEN Past President, is responsible for recommending awards to the ACTEN Board of Directors, setting criteria for awards, reviewing applications and recommending award recipients to the ACTEN Board. All nominations must be received by March 1, 2008. No late nominations will be accepted. Awards will be judged and awarded from the nominations received prior to that date. All awards will be presented at the June 2008 NCE Conference in Kearney.

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska will recognize the Teacher of the year and the New Career and Technical Teacher by providing a $500 scholarship in the teacher’s name to a student from their school who plans to continue their education in a career and technical education field. A $500 grant will be given to the New Career and Technical Teacher’s school for the recognized teacher to upgrade their program.

Application Materials can be downloaded for specific awards from the Nebraska State Association page at: www.acteonline.org/about/states/NE.cfm - and then click on Nebraska State Awards. Detailed information about the awards and application procedures are contained in this material. For more information you may call awards Chairman, Ila Arrants at 402-276-0140, ila.arrants@cps-ne.org or the ACTEN office at 402-423-6786, acte.nebraska@juno.com for more information.

ACTEN—New Members
Nancy Johnson—ADM
Austin Poppert—Student Member
Cathy Nutt—BUS
Jordan Brabec—AGR
Michelle Ryun—AGR
Verne Buhl—AGR

The following positions will appear on the 2008 ACTEN ballot:
- President Elect
- Secretary
- Agriculture Rep.
- New & Related Services Rep.
- Special Needs Rep.
- Family & Consumer Science

If you would like to serve in one of these positions, or know of a qualified candidate, please call the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Ila Arrants at 402-276-0140 - ila.arrants@cps-ne.org or call the ACTEN office at 402-423-6786 - acte.nebraska@juno.com
Today’s Students, Tomorrows Leaders

In Career and Technical Student Organizations, students are not just acquiring technical skills; they are developing leadership skills as well. Career and Technical Education embraces the concept of student growth through student leadership organizations. Opportunities abound for students and schools to pursue the implementation of student leadership groups that help develop the total student.

- For students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related fields, BPA, Business Professionals of America is available.
- The mission of DECA Inc. is to enhance the co-curricular education of students with interest in marketing, management and entrepreneurship.
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, FCCLA, strives to promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner and community leader, members develop skills for life through: character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.
- The National FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.
- FBLA, Future Business Leaders of America’s mission is to bring business and education together in a positive relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.
- Health occupations Students of America, HOSA, provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation and recognition exclusively for the more than 100,000 secondary, postsecondary, adult and collegiate students enrolled in health science technology education programs.
- SkillsUSA is an applied method of instruction for preparing America’s high performance workers in public career and technical programs. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.
- The Technology Student Association, TSA, fosters personal growth, leadership, and opportunities in technology, innovation, design and engineering. Members apply and integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts through co-curricular activities, competitive events and related programs.

In future issues of the Communiqué we will explore these Career and Technical Students Organizations (CTSOs) and find out if they are right for your school and your students. It is said that a good leader inspires others with confidence in him, but a great leader inspires them with confidence in themselves. That is what CTSO advisers are doing every day for their students. Through our own examples, we are inspiring confidence and helping to create the leaders of tomorrow in our students today. Complete article found in January Techniques.

Nebraska Career Education Students Recognized

Gov. Dave Heineman and Nebraska Department of Education Administrator Donlynn Rice recognized the Nebraska career education students who received first, second, or third place awards during national leadership and skills competition held by their respective student organizations. The students were recognized during a Nov. 26 ceremony at the state Capital. Log on to the Nebraska Department of Education Web Page, www.nde.state.ne.us/ to review the News Release.
Career and Technical Education Month—February 2008
Discovering Skills for a Competitive Workforce!!

For the entire month of February 2008, ACTE encourages CTE educators to celebrate CTE and the Opportunities a quality education provides for students.

CTE Month will kick off with Annual National Job Shadow Day, Friday, February 1st. Job shadowing is an academically motivating activity designed to give students the unique opportunity of an up-close look at the world of work and provide the answer to the commonly asked question, “Why do I have to learn this?” CTE Month will conclude with National Entrepreneurship Week, which will be celebrated February 23rd—March 1st. All who wish to participate are encouraged to begin planning with the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education. The focus of this celebration includes the importance of entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurs.

During February, ACTE hopes you will celebrate the great news, programs and results that CTE is giving the students in your community.

Industrial, Manufacturing, and Engineering Systems

PLTW—Project Lead The Way meets all state requirements for certified pre-engineering program.

From David Gee — Northwest High School

Grand Island Northwest High School is in it’s fourth year of Project Lead The Way

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a national non-profit organization established to help schools give students the knowledge they need to excel in high-tech fields. Studies of PLTW’s curriculum have proven that PLTW students become the kind of prepared, competent, high-tech employees U.S. industry needs to stay competitive in the global market. The high drop-out rate of college engineering students raises eyebrows, and it should. The root cause is a systemic problem, inadequate preparation in secondary school, that a rigorous pre-engineering problem can solve.

A growing number of schools across the country are finding that PLTW’s pre-engineering curriculum for middle and high school is a simple solution. With its strong partnership concept, PLTW leverages the collective knowledge and efforts of secondary schools, colleges and universities, and industry to give students rigorous, relevant, reality-based knowledge to better prepare them for college. In addition, PLTW’s teacher training program helps educators make great things happen in the classroom.

Research shows, and continues to confirm, that students introduced to engineering principles, concepts, and real-world problems in high school are better prepared for college engineering programs and more likely to be successful.

PLTW’s high school program centers on developing better problem-solving skills by immersing students in real-world engineering problems. Each of the eight challenging courses uses project-based, hands-on experiences to teach students the key elements and skills of engineering and technology-based careers. (continued on page 9)
PLTW—Project Lead The Way
meets all state requirements for
certified pre-engineering program.

(continued from page 8))

PLTW High School Course Descriptions

1. Principles of Engineering (POE)
   Students explore technology systems and manufacturing processes to
   find out how math, science, and technology help people.

2. Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)
   Using computer modeling software, students learn the process of product
design. They solve design problems as they develop, create, and analyze
product models.

3. Digital Electronics (DE)
   Students use computer simulations to learn about the logic of electronics
as they design, test, and actually construct circuits and devices.

4. Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)
   Students learn concepts of robotics and automated manufacturing by
creating three-dimensional designs with modeling software, and
producing models of their designs.

5. Civil Engineering and Architecture
   Teams of students collaborate on the development of community-based
building projects and conceptual design to project presentations.

6. Engineering Design and Development (EDD)
   Teams of students, guided by community mentors, work together to
research, design, and construct a solution to an engineering problem.

7. Aerospace Engineering
   Students apply scientific principles and concepts to design materials and
processes that directly measure, repair, and improve systems in different
environments.

8. Biotechnical Engineering
   Students apply biological and engineering concepts related to
biomechanics, genetic engineering, and forensics.

For more information on
Project Lead The Way visit
their website at:

www.pltw.org
CAREER EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF NEBRASKA
GOLF TOURNAMENT AND LUNCHEON

Saturday, June 28, 2008
9 Hole - 4 Person Scramble

COUNTRY SHADOWS GOLF COURSE & RESTAURANT

6767 Shadow Ridge Place
Columbus, Nebraska

Registration at 9:00 a.m.  ~ Shotgun Start at 10:00 a.m.
$50 per person  ~  $200 per team
Includes Green Fees, 2 Mulligans, Lunch and Flag Prizes
Lunch will be served at 12 Noon
Non-golfers lunch $10
Silent Auction following lunch

The Career Education Foundation of Nebraska is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All proceeds from the Golf Tournament will be used to fund the CEFN scholarship program.

Please submit your registration by calling Elda Reinhardt @ 402-563-4040 or send an email to shadows@megavision.com, or complete this form and mail it with your check (payable to Career Education Foundation of Nebraska), to Country Shadows Golf Course, 6767 Shadow Ridge Place, Columbus, NE 68601.

4-Person Scramble Team Members' Names:

______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Limited carts available upon request at $10 per cart.
Number of carts needed ______________________

We will be limited to 18 teams, so please

Register Early!!!

Team Contact person’s name & phone #______________________________

Note: All beverages must be purchased from Country Shadows. No beverages can be brought onto the premises.