Welcome back!! The beginning of the 14-15 school year is an exciting time for SDACTE. Career and Technical Education continues to gain popularity with students, parents and communities around the state. You should feel proud to be a member of an organization that promotes CTE: hands-on, real-life, relevant learning for students. The skills and knowledge that your students are gaining in your classes will put them a step ahead of their peers as their careers progress. We must remind ourselves that we are making a difference in students’ lives and preparing them for the future!

The summer conference was a great success and the feedback from members has been very positive. The event is a great time to meet old friends, network with other teachers, visit industry representatives and learn about the exciting things happening in CTE. The Board does appreciate the feedback received from attendees. We will begin discussing next summer’s conference this fall and we strive to make the experience more meaningful and efficient each year. Next year’s conference will be held in Watertown July 26-28, 2015.

We have an excellent Board of Directors assembled this year and we look forward to serving you and the organization. I encourage you to be an “active” member and get involved as much as your busy schedule allows. We will be setting annual goals for SDACTE soon and we encourage input from our members. Please contact your division presidents with any comments, ideas, or concerns.

Each school year is a fresh opportunity to make your CTE programs even stronger. I encourage you to share the great activities and projects taking place in your classrooms and labs. Please send any pictures and stories to your division presidents and we will get them added to the SDACTE Facebook page. Thank you for your on-going support as we have another great year ahead of us.

Stipends Available For 2014 Vision
3—$500 stipends are available to members
Applications are Due September 30th and can be found at:
Awards—By Roberta Stoebner Awards Committee Chair

SDACTE award winners were honored at the annual awards banquet during the 2014 annual conference. The Award of Merit was presented to the 4-H program called Teens as Teachers which is a leadership program for high school students. The Friend of CTE Award was awarded to HealthEdventure which is an online program that provides lessons, quizzes, and games for classroom teachers in kindergarten through twelve. Receiving the Carl Perkins Community Service Award was Kelly O’Donnell, the ag teacher at Arlington, SD. She has involved her students and FFA members in painting a veteran’s home, landscaping at the local park and Nordland Island Museum. The SDAYCTE New Teacher of the Year winner was Megan Jaquet who is the culinary arts and restaurant management instructor with the Sioux Falls School District. Professionally, Mrs. Jaquet has presented roundtable sessions at the annual conference and has served as the newsletter editor for SDATFACS. Mrs. Jaquet has also instituted the curriculum for baking and culinary arts class and served as the ProStart and SkillsUSA adviser for culinary competition. The Teacher of the Year winner was Tracy Kern, the family and consumer sciences teacher at Harrisburg. During her 17 years of teaching she has changed courses so they are relevant to students’ needs, interests, and career goals. She has incorporated technology in the classroom by having her students use Imovie to create a puppet show on human development theorists.

Each award winner was presented with a plaque and a $300 stipend provided by Cenex Harvest States. Teacher of the Year, Tracy Kern, will also receive a complimentary room at the 2015 SDACTE Conference being held in Watertown, SD.

Award Winners- (1st row) Julia Miller on behalf of Health EdVenture, Friend of CTE; Megan Jaquet, New Teacher of the Year; (2nd row) Christine Wood on behalf of Teens as Teachers, Award of Merit; SDACTE President Bev Rieck; Kelly O’Donnell, Carl Perkins Community Service Award; and Tracy Kern, Teacher of the Year. Award Committee Chair Roberta Stoebner presented each award winner with a plaque and a $300 stipend provided by CHS.

T&I Division—Joe Dalton, President

I hope you had an excellent experience at our 2014 summer conference held at Mitchell Technical Institute this past July. Mitchell Tech and its staff showed off their amazing programs and equipment as options for our students in the future. The Board of Directors will be meeting at the end of September to start discussing next year’s conference. Please send me your requests or ideas to share with the Board concerning next year’s conference. We are moving locations to Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown for the 2015 CTE summer conference. Lake Area Tech is excited to host our conference to demonstrate what they have to offer our students. Don’t forget to apply for stipends to attend our national conference. Please consider attending a national conference it is a great experience! Take care.
It was great collaborating with so many business, marketing and IT teachers at the conference this summer. I think what ended up being a highlight, for most of us, is the time we took during our division meeting to share various websites and tools we have used in the classroom. Some of them have been around forever, but as usual, we tend to forget their usefulness. Here are a few you may want to look at and try. Thanks to all of those who shared with us this summer at the SDACTE Conference!

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**Conference Wrap-Up—Bev Rieck—SDACTE Past-President**

Our 2014 SDACTE summer conference with more than 300 participants attending was overwhelming! Thanks to the 125 members who responded by rating and commenting on the post-conference evaluation. There were many positive comments about the conference. Having it a second year in the same location gave us an opportunity to identify some areas of improvement from the previous year. Here are a few results of the survey.

*73% strongly agreed and 24% agreed that check-in was simple, fast and efficient.

*44% strongly agreed and 48% agreed that the conference facilities were accessible and easy to navigate.

*67% of those who responded to the survey had accessed the program-at-a-glance document on the SDACTE website before conference.

The specific comments regarding programming, cluster/division time, social media, speakers, trade show exhibits, etc., will be taken into consideration as the Board of Directors begins planning for next summer’s conference.

Hopefully, each of you was able to take home and implement one, two, three or more ideas to use in your classroom or school. The networking and knowledge you gained coincides with one of this year’s conference goals.

My year as president has given me the opportunity to work with you and has given me a better understanding how our SDACTE and ACTE organization works. Participating at the state, regional and national level, I have seen how our state shines! Without your membership and involvement, South Dakota would not be where it is in career and technical education. We are doing some right things! Keep up the good work!

See you in 2015 in Watertown at Lake Area Technical Institute!

**Job Well Done**—On behalf of the organization, past president Dianne Rider thanked Bev Rieck for her leadership and presented Bev with an outgoing president’s plaque. Bev reminded the members of the dates of next year’s conference (July 27-28) with the location moving to Lake Area Technical Institute.
Admin Division—Mark Otten, President

Congratulations on the start of another successful school year filled with exciting opportunities for all of our students. At the top of the list of those opportunities are some of the new exciting things happening in the world of CTE.

In the Burke School District, our students are getting the opportunity to take metal fabrication classes, PLTW biomedical classes, PLTW engineering classes, as well as residential construction classes. We have been fortunate to receive grant money from the Governor’s office which is allowing us to offer more for our students. This brings our school of roughly 65 high school students an exciting seven approved CTE programs. One of our goals as a district was to expand our course offerings in the CTE realm and we have done what we needed to do to make that happen.

I know there are several schools across the state who have worked very hard to expand their CTE programs. I think as an organization we have to decide what we want to be able to offer our students and then go out and make it happen. We have strength in numbers so we need to all do a little recruiting to increase our membership as well as our conference attendance.

FACS Division—Ellen Hohbach, President

Greetings for the 2014-2015 school year! Hopefully you have had a fantastic start to the school year. Here is a piece of motivational inspiration to help get you started with the year, “Teachers plant seeds of knowledge.” We truly are the link that help our students further themselves and to try to instill that desire to learn. SDATFACS goal for this year is to keep you informed about what is happening in SDACTE this year and all things that pertain to the Family and Consumer Sciences area. Here is a review of the NATFACS goals which we will be following: 1. To provide professional development for FACS teachers to assist them with preparing individuals for family life, work life and careers. 2. Provide an organization for group expression and group action dealing with problems of national/state importance to family and consumer sciences. 3. Provide opportunity for an exchange of ideas and materials as well as a sharing of expectations. 4. And lastly to support the purpose of the ACTE/SDACTE. With this, I hope you have a wonderful year cultivating those seeds of knowledge that we want to impart with our students and let them grow!

Prize Winner- DCTE Intern Bailey Hurlbert presents Kati Schilder from Miller one of the five technology prizes given away during the conference. Attendees were given the opportunity to win a variety of technology items for tweeting their conference experiences.
I hope this newsletter finds you relaxed and recharged now that our school year is underway. Now that summer is over things are going to slow down, right? Who am I kidding? As an Ag teacher it never slows down, but I wouldn’t trade it for anything!

As this school year approaches some find themselves looking at the calendar and counting down the days until Christmas. As we look through our calendars there are two big events that take place on the aggie calendar, amongst Fall CDEs and our school events. October 28th-November 1st is the National FFA convention in Louisville, Kentucky and November 18th-22nd is the National Association for Agriculture Educators convention in Nashville, Tennessee. While you are marking your calendar, don’t forget National Teach Ag Day, September 25th. For more information visit http://www.naae.org/teachag/teachag_day.cfm.

I hope the school year is off to a great start. Good luck and remember why you are in the profession. “Do what you love and love what you do - Teach Ag!”

DCTE Updates—Erin Larsen
A few updates from the DIVISION of Career & Technical Education as you get into the full swing of the 2014-15 school year.

Regional Outreach Model
Last year the South Dakota Department of Education reorganized the Division of Career & Technical Education and implemented a regional outreach model. Your regional career development specialist can provide a variety of supports to you and your colleagues. Some of these supports include, but are not limited to:

* Locating professional development opportunities based on your interests
* Developing an active advisory committee and encouraging business involvement in your school
* Providing feedback on grant applications and budget request justifications
* Sharing presentations about the benefits of CTE to your local school board or community groups

**If there are other CTE projects you would like assistance with, please do not hesitate to ask!**

Perkins Updates
This past July, senators from Virginia and Ohio introduced The Educating Tomorrow’s Workforce Act which amends the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to better meet the needs of a 21st century workforce and ensure students have access to the highest-quality CTE programs. The Educating Tomorrow’s Workforce Act amends the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act by:

* Defining what constitutes a rigorous CTE curriculum
* Improving links between high school and postsecondary education
* Promoting partnerships between local businesses, regional industries and other community stakeholders

Our office is working to be proactive to prepare for possible changes in legislation by updating South Dakota’s state CTE Plan. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available.

SDMyLife
Two important updates were made to SDMyLife over the summer. The first update allows students to log-in to SDMyLife using their K12 email username and password, simplifying the way students and parents access the program. Secondly, the SDMyLife occupational projections and wage data were updated over the summer to reflect the recently released 2012-2022 SD Labor Market Projections, providing students with the latest information on their careers of interest.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can use SDMyLife in your classroom, please let us know, and we can help connect you with training.
PD Stipend Winners
Each year SDACTE awards two professional development stipends to members desiring to further their education and skills. Applicants may seek the $500 stipend to cover expenses related to a degree program, industry, certification, or graduate classes to further his/her education and skills. Professional Development Chair Coleen Keefeler announced this year's winners: Beresford Ag Instructor Bridget Twedt and Northeast Tech Careers Exploration Instructor Joe Dalton. Twedt used her stipend toward the CASE - Animal Science institute that was held on the SDSU campus in June.

"The best part of attending this course was being able to take back a complete curriculum to use in the classroom, which is hard to find in the Agricultural Education profession." Twedt said. "The credits I received from taking this course will be applied to my masters next fall when the Agricultural Education Masters program begins at SDSU."

Loyal Members- The SDACTE Board of Directors once again recognized members who have belonged to the organization for 5-plus years. This year a total of 52 people received that distinction. Those with 30 years belonging to ACTE/SDACTE included Terry Riickman, Dianne Rider, Linda Petersen, and Lynn Brace. Not pictured: Janet Hallberg.

Scholarship Winners- Scholarship Committee Chair Jim Wilson congratulates Kali Lenhoff from Randolph, NE; Sara Colombe from Little Falls, MN; Jacob Reeves, Avon, SD; Shane Mueller, Garretson, SD; and Lisa M. Smith from Kimball, SD; at the SDACTE Awards banquet in Mitchell. The Scholarship Committee received a total of 31 applications. Normally, only four $500 scholarships are awarded (three on the secondary level and one on the post secondary) each year. However, there was a tie with the top two post secondary candidates, and the committee chose to reward them both.

Grand Prize- Brad Heesch from LATI won the final tech prize of the conference: a 32 GB iPad Mini. His name was drawn from those who had completed the conference evaluation, using survey monkey.

Region V Winner- ACTE President Sarah Heath congratulates Annika Russell, MTI Business Management instructor, on recently being named as the ACTE Region V Postsecondary Teacher of the Year. Region winners were announced at an awards ceremony during the ACTE Region V conference in Bismarck. Region winners were selected from among state award winners in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The Region V winners now progress as national finalists in their categories. The national winners will be announced at the ACTE Awards Banquet, recognizing the best CTE educators in the country, which will take place on Wednesday, November 19, during ACTE’s CareerTech VISION 2014 in Nashville, TN.

Paying Forward- LATI Vice President Diane Stiles presents Jonathan Holme, a Business Instructor at Andes Central High School, with a $1,000 scholarship certificate. Holme had put his name in for a drawing at the LATI booth during the Tuesday Trade Show. He now has the opportunity to award either 1- $1000 scholarship or 2- $500 scholarships to one or two of his students this year for the 2015-2016 school year. MTI also awarded a $500 scholarship at their booth.
Meet Our President-Elect: John Rist

My teaching experience includes: 6 years at Bowdle, 2 years at Luverne, MN and am currently in my 16th year at Viborg. I spent eight years in the liquid fertilizer business building plants and managing successful facilities in both Hurley and Ipswich, before accepting the calling to return to teaching to be able to spend more time with my kids. I currently teach 7th & 8th grade Exploratory Ag classes at Hurley and Horticulture, Natural Resources, Ag Mechanics, Animal Science, and Ag Business Management at the high school in Viborg.

As a way to adapt to increased graduation requirements of my students and to better utilize changing technology, all 8th through 12th grade students utilize Blackboard Learn for digital delivery and submission of assignments to allow for them to take ag courses whenever their schedule allows. This has allowed enrollment in Ag Ed at Viborg-Hurley to stabilize and even increase in recent years.

As I'm starting to enter my final years / stage of teaching, I decided it was time give back to SDACTE. Serving on the board several years ago as the president of the Ag division gave me a new found respect for the organization and those that have served in the past. Our state’s unified dues have allowed for a very successful, long-term relationship between all the divisions and ACTE. The leadership from the divisions has allowed better participation and communication across the board and I hope to continue this process while serving on the board with your help.

All Aboard- Monday afternoon conference participants had an option of attending either an in depth session on the MTI campus or one of 8 tours of local businesses. These instructors prepare to board a bus that will take them to a tour of Trail King and Klock Werks Custom Cycles.

What About Generation NeXt

Using the high praise and recommendations from the staff of MTI, the SDACTE Board of Directors chose Dr. Mark Taylor to deliver the keynote address at this summer’s conference. His keynote helped the attendees to better understand their students from Generation NeXt to more effectively recruit, retain, develop and teach them. Specific suggestions and methods were offered to improve services and instruction.

Creativity Abounds- Tuesday’s Trade Show had over 30 exhibitors providing attendees with a wide variety of goods and services. Several of the vendors had hands on displays that showed off their wares that gave the instructors a better idea of the product’s functionality. Many exhibitors offered treats to entice “would-be” buyers, such as these recruiters from Lake Area Tech.

That’s Entertainment- Clyde Bauman (better known as Mylo Hatzenbuhler, the Strasburg, ND farmboy) entertained the group following the awards presentation at the Monday night banquet. Mixing homespun humor with his hit songs (“We Couldn’t Start the Tractor,” “Return to Slender”), Mylo provided a unique and memorable evening for all.
2014-2015 SD ACTE Board of Directors- (Row 1) John Rist, President Elect; Jim Kayl, President; Bev Rieck, Past President. (Row 2) Dodie Bemis, Executive Director; Annika Russell, Post-Secondary Liaison; Deb Reynolds, Business/Marketing/IT President; Joe Dalton, T & I Tech Ed President; Mark Otten, Administration President; Erin Larsen, DCTE liaison; Kelly O’Donnell, AFNR President; and Ellen Hohbach, FACS President.