Get "Jacked-Up" about SD ACTE!

We hope all of you can join us this summer as the SD ACTE conference will be on the campus of South Dakota State University. The conference will be held July 31st and August 1st, with most of the meetings taking place at the SDSU Student Union. You don’t have to be an SDSU grad to enjoy the conference. Hands-on activities, workshops and tours will showcase the best that Brookings has to offer. A few highlights of the summer conference include the following:

#1. Craig Culver. The Culver’s story will enlighten and motivate you to be a more intentional and thoughtful leader – and you’re sure to leave with a smile on your face!

#2. Tours on and off campus. No matter what your division, many tours are being organized to meet the growing industry and business needs. A few of the tours include: Schade Vineyard in Volga, Children’s Museum, Larson Manufacturing, Old Market Eatery, SDSU Dairy Barn, Daktronics, United Living Community Center, etc.

#3. Dana Dykhouse Stadium will be the site of the SD ACTE Banquet on the Monday night of summer conference. Dana Dykhouse Stadium banquet room is a great venue to showcase all the great works of our friends and colleagues in South Dakota CTE.

#4. Finally, come get your picture taken with the SDSU Jack Rabbit. He will make an appearance that hopefully will make you “Jacked-Up” about South Dakota CTE! Hope to see you this summer at SDSU.

Tracy Kern, SD ACTE President
Conference Fundraisers

I realize that summer conference is still over three months away, but it is never too early to plan for a successful fundraiser. Why do you need to be part of this fundraiser? The funds brought in during conference are used to provide four student scholarships at $500 each, as well as two $500 stipends available for members to attend professional development. We do a great job of informing our students of career opportunities, but are we promoting our own careers? Here is a chance to do some promotion as well as encourage students to apply for scholarships to help defray some of the cost of their education. Another reason to help with the fundraiser is that you could actually benefit from the items that you bring to conference if you apply for a stipend. How will those funds be raised? We plan to conduct a silent auction, a live auction and the division basket bonanza.

We are asking members to donate items which can be student-made, teacher-made, or store-bought. We suggest the items have a value of $15 or more. You may even attach a story, a picture, or the name of the donor of the item. This could be a great way to showcase your program or talent. Items could include but are not limited to: wood projects; homemade jellies or jams; metal projects; artistic items; craft items or theme baskets. The board members will select some of the larger items to use in the live auction.

Each division will be asked to provide a basket for the basket bonanza and tickets will be sold during the conference with the drawing held at the Celebrating CTE gathering on Tuesday. Each basket should have a value of $75 or more.

I had the opportunity to attend the Region V conference in Rapid City and Dr. David Jones was the keynote speaker. His message was about the wolf pack and much like a pack of wolves, Career Technical Educator professionals are a highly social group. We travel in packs and are much like an extended family. With our collaboration and intelligence, we can accomplish great things. Let’s make this a great fundraiser!

If you are willing to donate to this year's SDACTE silent or live auctions or the basket bonanza, please contact Annika Russell at Annika.Russell@mitchelltech.edu or just bring your items along to conference.

Tom Wolff, SDACTE President-elect

Seeking CTE Mentors!

Seeking CTE Mentors!
There are several new teachers in the CTE area that will be participating in the statewide mentoring program during the 2017-2018 school year who are in need of a CTE mentor.

If you have five or more years of teaching experience and are interested in providing guidance to a new CTE teacher, consider applying to be a mentor. Mentors receive a stipend of $1,200 per new teacher per year as well as a detailed training. Upon completion of the program, certified teachers also will have met the requirements to renew their certificate.

If you are interested, more details and the application to apply are located at http://doe.sd.gov/mentoring/.

Lodging at summer conference

The SDACTE Board of Directors has reserved a block of rooms at three different hotels in Brookings because none has the space we need. They include the Fairfield Inn & Suites, the Hampton Inn, and the Holiday Inn Express. All three are in easy walking distance of one another so you can easily ride share if necessary. The three have guaranteed special rates. When making a reservation, please ask for the SDACTE room block to receive this special group rate. Simply call 605-692-3600 for the Fairfield Inn & Suites where the rate will be $92. Call 605-697-5232 for the Hampton Inn where the rate will be $115; and 605-692-9060 for the Holiday Inn Express where the rate will be $105. All reservations must be received by 6-30-2017. At that time the remaining blocked rooms will be released and sold on a first come first serve basis. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact Dodie Bemis at 605-881-4746 or bemisd@lakeareatech.edu.
5 Reasons Why You Should Attend SDACTE Summer Conference

By Lorie Mulhair, BMIT Division President

In our busy social media crazy world, we forget the importance of live face-to-face interaction. There is power in being connected to other people who are in your line of work, but it can be easy to talk yourself out of committing to that annual conference year after year. Many people think that joining the organization is enough, but to capitalize on the return on your investment, you need to be engaged and participate! Look at the benefits of attending listed below...

Why Attend the SDACTE 2017 Summer Conference?

1. Educational opportunities – no matter how experienced you are, everyone can learn. The educational aspect of the conference can expose you to new ways of conducting your classroom and be more productive. – Keynote Speaker: Craig Culver - Owner of Culvers, Industry Tours, SDSU Campus, breakout sessions, and division time.

2. Networking with peers – conferences provide a great opportunity to network. Collaboration is key to our classrooms so why not practice what you teach. You may uncover a new idea and get a spark of inspiration! – Hallway/dinner conversations and CTE Quick Pitch for Cash

3. Encounter new vendors – develop friendships and allies while you visit with various sponsors at the conference. These vendors are experts in their fields and can have insight into new innovative products and services. – Vendor Time

4. Position yourself as an expert – being active in your profession, you can develop a reputation as an expert to your peers in your teaching area. – CTE Quick Pitch for Cash (lesson plan showcase)

5. Have fun – all work and no play can get old fast! Being in education should be rewarding and fun...many social events are planned for the summer conference. – Golf social and banquets.

I hope to see many of you this summer! Please consider attending the SDACTE Summer Conference in Brookings on July 30 –

“Community" just may be the answer to the question you may not have asked yet.

Belonging to a community is a vital component of being a professional educator. The question isn’t "How can I make the time to be part of a community of educators?", but "How can I afford NOT to take the time to become a true professional?" I draw your attention to a few quotes, which might help spark your thoughts—and maybe your actions—about how your involvement with others may positively affect your professional life and your ability to positively touch the lives of your students.

What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other? -George Eliot

Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much. -Helen Keller

Great things are brought about and burdens are lightened through the efforts for many hands anxiously engaged in a good cause. -Elder M. Russell Ballard

If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. -African Proverb

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National Policy Seminar

I was fortunate enough to attend this year’s National Policy Seminar which was held March 13-15 in Washington DC. Since this was my first time attending, I really wasn’t sure what to expect, but soon realized that the folks in charge were very well organized which made this an amazing event to attend.

Monday started off at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia where I attended a First Timer’s Orientation. I was provided with a wealth of information on how to navigate around Washington D.C., Capitol Hill and how to interact with our policymakers. After orientation, I attended the general session where we heard the opinions from several of Washington insiders about the current climate in D.C. concerning the new administration and what that could mean for Career & Technical Education. During the general session, the audience also received a special greeting from Kim Ford who is the Acting Assistant Secretary; Office of Career, Technical & Adult Education; U. S. Department of Education. The rest of the day was spent participating in a panel discussion, attending breakout sessions on advocacy strategies, and general sessions regarding federal funding and Perkins reauthorization.

On Tuesday I realized that there is something that both Republicans and Democrats can agree on, snow means no. Yes, a whopping 2” of snow is enough to shut down D.C. including government buildings until noon. In the afternoon I met with Rep. Kristi Noem & Sen. John Thune’s staff to stress the importance of CTE and to share what we do in South Dakota classrooms and the value of our programs.

I met staff members in both offices that were former PFA members from across the country so I felt a little bit like I was preaching to the choir yet they were excited to hear about the positive statistics of CTE students that were provided from Perkins data. We also discussed the importance of Perkins funding. They were especially interested in hearing specific examples of how this funding was used in my program at Canton.

This was an incredible experience and I would strongly recommend anyone who teaches Career & Technical Education to attend this event. You learn so much in a short period of time and collaborate with colleagues from across the nation.

Russ Swanson
2017 Region V Leadership Conference – Leaders in the Pack Overwhelming Success

The ACTE Region V Leadership Conference – Leaders in the Pack was a huge success! Over 150 paid registrants were able to participate in six industry tours, 28 breakout sessions, division sharing, and excellent keynote speakers. Dr. David WW Jones, professor at North Carolina State University, served as our opening keynote speaker. His timely message encouraged us to try something new, look at things from a different perspective, find the golden nugget, and have fun awhile providing today’s students have an EPIC education – Experiential, Participatory, Images, and Connectedness.

SD Supreme Court Justice Janine Kern shared how her experiences serving in the SD Court System have reinforced her belief that the education of our youth is necessary to break the cycle of poverty and drug abuse. Thank you to the SD Planning Committee, our very own Dodie Bernis, Region V Vice-President, and all who helped make the conference a success! Make plans to attend next year’s ACTE Region V Conference to be held April 11 – 14, 2018 in Colorado Springs, CO.
Coleen Keefeler

Innovative Program Recognized

The SDACTE Board of Directors selected Laureen Mehlert and her CTE Academy Digital Music Program at Sioux Falls School District/CTE Academy as the Region V Innovative Program from South Dakota. Mehlert was recognized earlier this month at the Region V Leadership Conference in Rapid City.

The CTE Academy Digital Music Program helps students develop their technical skills to operate the necessary industry-standard programs and equipment to take their music from concept to completion. Students develop knowledge of the music business, music copyright and ethics, and the use of electronic music in Music Productions, the Entertainment Business, Computer Gaming, and Internet Technology

Students who enter this program really have a passion for music creation and editing so we encourage all forms of music creation from classical to hip hop to rock to rap.

Over the past couple of years, the inclusion of music theory training has really helped the students take their music compositions to the next level. In addition, we are working on giving the students the most up-to-date experiences in music production as possible so we have a community partner that works with the students in an actual music studio experience. The CTE Academy Digital Music Program is currently part of the PTA Reflections program. This year we had all the students participate and had two of our students’ compositions chosen as first and second place not only in the City competition, but they also took first and second in the State competition. The students have also created compositions that were utilized in several CTE Media Arts projects, to include the Sioux Falls Community Blood Bank promotion video and March of Dimes Gala Event Video.

I have learned so much at the Region V Conference and was very honored to be nominated for the Innovative Program award.
Laureen Mehlert

SDACTE President-elect Tom Wolff kicks off the Region V Leadership Conference in Rapid City by singing the national anthem. Tom had this to say about the conference: “I really enjoyed Region V conference. As the one administrator from California said that our schedules seem so busy that we feel we can not possibly attend a conference, but when we do, we come away with so many good things that it is all worth it.”
SDAAE Update

WOW!!! How is it already the last nine weeks of school? The school year has flown by and hopefully everyone has had many UPS and few downs with their program/chapter and everything else we juggle! Many of you are planning your end of year banquet and how you will reward the students on a job well done throughout the school year. Remember that behind each student is an advisor/teacher who cares enough to push them and always remember there is a huge THANK YOU as your award for a job well done. After you are done wrapping up your spring CDE’s banquet, end of school year duties take a minute to make sure that you have your hotel reserved for SDACTE summer conference. If you have never attend SDACTE summer conference this is the year to attend and check out the awesome professional development that is offered. Also remember to take advantage of your Perkins money and use it towards the PD of conference along with taking the plunge and attending NAAE Region III conference in June or any of the teacher academies that will be offered. Take the summer to reenergize yourself and your curriculum so that you can help the students down the path of success for their future.

Loving the Spring Weather
Kelly Dunkelberger

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FACS Division is Heading to the Market

The FACS Division is working hard to put together a fun and educational schedule of events for this year’s summer conference. Our theme centers around the DIY movement as we will explore entrepreneurship opportunities within FACS related fields, have a lesson plan swap meet, and complete DIY classroom projects.

We kick off with pre-conference sessions on Sunday afternoon. FACS 101: New Teacher Session is for those in their first to third year of teaching. Join us to discovery new resources and to learn where to get help with classroom ideas or managing CTSO’s. The lesson plan swap session and DIY project session on Sunday evening provide social interaction with a lot of creative opportunities. Be checking our new Facebook page and your e-mail for more information about these sessions.

During our Maker’s Market you will hear from local entrepreneurs who have started their own businesses. They will talk about how they got started, provide information about their products, and discuss various aspects of running a business. The business owners will begin in a Q&A session and then break out so you can speak with them one on one.

We have a lot of great things waiting for you at conference! Register early for the SDACTE Summer Conference and be sure to plan to come on Sunday to get in on all the great activities.

Megan Jaquet, FACS Division President

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T&I Division

Greetings again to everyone in our T & I division. I know everyone is excited for the school year to finish in May with others in June. I hope everyone will go on line to sign up for 2017 SDACTE state conference that will be held in Brookings July 30-31 and August 1, 2017. If some of you have not paid your ACTE dues for this year, you can still do this by sending a check to Dodie Bemis in Watertown. Remember that you can use Perkins funding for this conference event but not for dues. Please consider becoming a member to ACTE.

On Sunday July 30, I would encourage you to start the conference with golf outing in Volga and then T & I dinner at Cubbies downtown Brookings from 6:00 to 7:30PM. Should be a great way to start our 2017 convention.

Once again to all of you, thank you for educating our future workforce.

Terry L. Jastram
T & I President

South Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education

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