

VIEWPOINT

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year greetings from SDACTE. Wow! Has this year been flying by. In less than two weeks the first semester will be over and we will all be beginning new classes and moving into the second half of school. Here is hoping that you all take some time for you and your family to enjoy the season and learn to appreciate everything you have to be grateful for.

With the new year I hope all of you will use some of your New Year's Resolutions to maybe apply for an award from the many available to teachers in ACTE on the state level, or become a more active member and a leader within your division by running for an office or presenting at conference. Maybe it is just to be a mentor to a young teacher and getting them to join CTE or helping them be more involved.

Anyways I am streaming from my topic of this year's ACTE conference in St. Louis. I would have to say this was a rewarding experience for me as the facilities for hosting the event were awesome and spacious to handle everything effectively. I really enjoyed the expanded career show and the space provided allowed for better viewing and contact with booth representatives. I was able to attend two of the general sessions and as always left rejuvenated about what I do and why. ACTE does an awesome job of bringing in great opening session speakers and Sir Robinson did not let me down. However; I would say my favorite part of this convention is that of meeting old friends from all over the country and sharing stories and highlights with all of them.

This conference offers so much for all members to be able to take something away from with the sessions, career show and workshops along with social events. It is never too early to begin making plans for next year as we head to Atlanta. So as you prepare for the upcoming year maybe you will want to budget some of your Perkins money to accomplish this. It is always good to see South Dakota so well represented at this event.



Terry Rieckman, SDACTE President

President Greetings

Issue 67

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December 2011

Stipends Available!!

The Board Highly Encourages you to Attend the following events!!!

National Policy Seminar, March, Washington DC

Region V, April, Jackson Hole, WY

Visit the [SDACTE Website](http://www.sdaacte.org) for Applications

REGION V Association of Career and Technical Educators Conference

“Capture the Spirit of the West: ACTE Region V in Action 2012”

April 11-14, 2012

Jackson, WY

**\$350 EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION**
DEADLINE – MARCH 1, 2012

\$400
AFTER MARCH 1, 2012

Hotel Information: Snow King Resort: \$99 for hotel
rooms; \$145 for Love Ridge Lodges

1.800.522.KING(5464) **Rooms blocked until
March 11, 2012** (Code: ACTE Region V
Conference)

To present a session at
the Region V
Conference, please
complete a form and
mail or e-mail to:

Dr. Lyn Velle by **February 1, 2012.**
1000 West 8th Street, Gillette, WY 82716
lvelle@ccsd.k12.wy.us

Forms and more information can be found on the website at:
www.acteonline.org



Are you thinking about going to National Policy Seminar or the Region V Conference but wondering if you have the money to cover all the costs?? If so, then apply for an SDACTE Stipend!! For the National Policy Seminar there is one \$300 stipend for a 1st time attendee and for Region V Leadership Conference, there are two \$300 stipends, plus one \$500 stipend offered from Region V for a 1st time attendee. The applications for each SDACTE stipend can be found on the SDACTE website under “Professional Development”. The application for the Region V stipend can be found on the Region V website. The deadline for applying for the National Policy stipend is December 15th and the deadline for Region V is January 15th.

Contact either myself at annika.russell@mitchelltech.edu or Dodie at bemisd@lakeareatech.edu if you need help finding the forms. Someone should take advantage of these opportunities, and it might just as well be you!

The 2012 Region V Leadership Conference “Capture the Spirit of the West” is being held in Jackson, Wyoming April 11-14th and is set to be a wonderful professional development opportunity. They are still looking for presentations from each of the 16 states in the region so if you have something to share, submit a proposal.

If you attended the Region V Conference last April in Rapid City, you know about the great networking that takes place. Please consider going to Wyoming this time.

Annika Russell, SDACTE Past President



Developing Leaders



As a new comer to the ACTE National Conference I was very impressed with all that was available to CTE instructors.

The conference as a whole was very engaging. The one thing I came away with was, no matter what state you're from, you're dealing with the same challenges and obstacles as the other 49 state CTE instructors. The networking possibilities are endless. What a great way to connect with other CTE instructors and generate new ideas for your classroom.

The logistics and organization of the conference was quite well planned and coordinated. The career expo was also quite impressive. A teacher could pick up something to use in their classroom from a wide variety of booths or workshops. The hands-on activities such as; driving the STEM car, automated equipment, and the service learning projects is what I enjoyed the most.

Each day was kicked off with a motivational speaker who brought their ideals to the group. All three speakers were good, but I could relate closest to Eric Chesters' speech. He spoke to the group about today's generation of kids' work ethic and what we as instructors need to do to help them become tomorrow's work force. This is a tough task. Eric's overall theory to succeed in work and life was for everyone involved to bring their A game. He compared sports and work multiple times and how they connect in the real life.

South Dakota is lacking in people to step up and take on leadership roles. I am glad I took on the extra responsibility to learn more extensive leadership skills. I hope that I can bring back informative ideas and techniques to help my local colleagues after this two year process is completed. I would encourage all CTE instructors to take on any leadership roles big or small because South Dakota could use your expertise and talent.

Joe Dalton—Lake Area Multi-District

Joe Dalton and Annika Russell are pictured above. Annika is participating in the program as a current SDACTE leader and Joe is participating as an emerging leader for SDACTE.

Spotlight - CTE Academy

At the CTE Academy in Sioux Falls, students enrolled in Project Lead The Way Engineering courses have new, exciting and cutting-edge opportunities both inside and outside the classroom with the addition of VEX® Robotics. VEX® Robotics equipment is a high quality platform with broad functionality that allows students to create more innovative solutions to problems. Not only will students use the equipment during the school day when everyone can participate, they will also have the ability to take part in the VEX® Robotics Competition, the largest and fastest growing middle and high school robotics competition in the world. These competitions allow students to apply their robotics knowledge from the classroom in a unique, problem-solving environment.

Introduction to Engineering Design students have incorporated the use of VEX® Robotics as they learn to use 3D modeling software to build virtual models of the robots as they are assembling them in the lab. Robot designs include: a tumbler robot that can flip over at a wall and then drive upside down, a tank robot and a robot with an arm that can pick up a ball and score it in a goal. Robots can be controlled with a joystick or can be preprogrammed to drive in autonomous mode to navigate a predetermined course.

Jim Kayl—Admin Division, SDACTE—Principal CTE Academy



AFNR

NAAE Summary - What a fantastic NAAE Conference in St. Louis! Again there were applicable and relevant workshops that directly benefit the AFNR teacher. The Host State Social to Anheuser Busch Brewery was very informative and enjoyable as well. Members had the opportunity to have their voices and concerns heard during our Region meetings and Committee meetings. We had a total of seven AFNR teachers make the trip to St. Louis. Terry Rieckman was elected to serve a 3-year term on the NAAE Board of Directors. This is an important job as he will represent SD, ND, WI, MN, IA, and NE with our concerns and communicate with NAAE and each state. Congrats to Terry! If you've never been to an NAAE Conference, it is time you go. Next year will be in Atlanta. Look for more information about this in the future.

Promoting Summer Conference – Before you know it, the school year will be ending and summer will be here. Summer means the annual SDACTE/SDAAE Conference. This will be the last conference in Pierre until 2015. The SDAAE Officers have been busy planning some new breakout sessions and have a lead on a very exciting tour that will definitely lift your “spirits”. As a member of SDAAE, you need to attend this conference to remain active and informed of the happenings in the organization, get updates from OCCTE and the SD FFA Association. Attend to build camaraderie with your colleagues and catch up with longtime friends. We'll see you in Pierre.

Ross Hudson—Division President

Making Opportunities Count *by: Bailey Schilder*

I've always been one for taking opportunities. But when my FCCLA adviser asked me to come to the first chapter meeting as an 8th grader, how was I to know at the young and impressionable age of 13 that there was no turning back? It was tempting to say no; but there was going to be free nachos. What I thought was going to be *one* meeting, has turned into a lifetime of opportunities. Sound cheesy? That's because it is. I have this goal. This goal is to make a career out of the things I love most. Those things include technology, being a leader, learning, networking, building healthy relationships, and real-life applicable skills. Career and technical education has shown me that I can be a part of all of these things in the role of an educator.

I'm following in the footsteps of two aunts and three cousins who have gone through the Family and Consumer Sciences Education program at South Dakota State University. (Not to place a date on any one of those relatives, but for some it was called Home Economics.) Contrary to belief, FCS doesn't run in my genes, at least not according to my latest blood test. But career and technical education does run a part of my daily routine by way of opportunities. This past summer I was given the opportunity to intern in the Office of Curriculum, Career, and Technical Education and I was just recently awarded this year's NATFACS scholarship. Career and technical student organizations gave me resources that I can't help but share with others. It's my turn to give back to career and technical education—best part is, work doesn't feel like work at all when it includes all of the things you love.

FACS

Putting SDMyLife to Good Use— *By Brenden Streit, Division President*

Matt Gappa is a seventh year *Introduction to Information Technology* teacher in Flandreau. This past summer at the South Dakota Association of Career and Technical Education (SDACTE) conference, Gappa attended a breakout session on SD My Life. He integrated new ideas into his curriculum using SD My Life with his freshman students.

In Gappa's database unit, students research the price of houses, the price of cars, interest rates, and various careers. They then create a database to store information relating to these areas. In the past, the information on careers came from various web sites. This year, he had the students use SD My Life to research careers suggested to them from their matchmaker questions.

Gappa's students then used the information on their chosen careers to populate their database with information about their careers. The students made calculated queries that determined which careers allow them to afford the houses and cars of their choice. They also examined how a change in interest rates, or a change in the period of time a house/car is financed, affects the affordability of the house/car. The objective is to teach students database basics as well as provide the students with valuable information that can help them better plan for their futures.

BMIT

Spotlight on T & I

Written by Darin Maltzberger—Power Sports at MTI

Submitted by Jim Mahoney—Division President

As career and technical educators, we have the unique opportunity to help young people find their true calling in life as well as develop the necessary skills to be successful at whatever that calling might be. We also are blessed from time to time with unique individuals who have the potential to change our lives and the lives of those around them in powerful ways. These students are sometimes academically gifted, social leaders of the class, who tackle new challenges with passion and determination. Sometimes the students who impact us the most are the ones who enter our classroom with emotional baggage and an “I dare you to teach me something useful” attitude. Brandon Mehlbrech was just such a student in the 2010 graduating class at Mitchell Technical Institute.

Brandon started the program in the fall of 2008 after completing a tour of duty in Iraq with the South Dakota National Guard unit from his hometown of Salem, SD. Like several of his classmates who had served and returned to attend classes at MTI, reintegrating and adapting to college life and school was a challenge. Brandon struggled with the reading assignments and the theory portions of the lesson, but excelled at the practical exercises in the lab. His natural aptitude and ability to think mechanical problems through during practical testing made him one of the top students in the class for those “hands-on” sessions.

After completing graduation in May of 2010, Brandon decided to return to the Middle East along with the 200th Engineering Co. MRBC from South Dakota. During the transition back into active duty, it was noted by Brandon’s superiors that he had completed his training at Mitchell Technical Institute as a small engine/ ATV and motorcycle technician. This information was relevant because the battalion utilized John Deere gator type utility vehicles for their light duty transportation needs. Brandon was asked to take on the challenge of maintaining this unique group of vehicles.

To date, Brandon maintains a fleet of eight gators along with his other equipment service duties. He changes oil every 75 hours and replaces air and fuel filters bi-weekly. Brandon’s training and practical experience at MTI made the development of an effective maintenance program very easy and helps him stay efficient at his duties as a service technician.

Be Pro-Active

Coleen Keffeler, SDACTE Legislative Committee Chair

Governor Dugaard recently gave his budget address for Fiscal Year 2013. He recommends a 2.3% increase in state aid funding formula compared to last year’s allocations. Governor Dugaard’s budget also includes an additional 2.2% in one time funding. This equates to a proposal increased funding of \$9.8 million in ongoing aid, \$4 million in one-time funding, and \$8.4 million in one-time funding for staff/administrator training in areas related to the common core standards, evaluations, and other professional development needs. Additionally, the budget proposal includes a .9% increase for Board of Regents schools. A copy of the Governor Dugaard’s presentation can be found at http://bfm.sd.gov/budget/rcc13/Budget_Speech_2013_Slides.pdf

On the national level, Congress is still working on the Final FY2012 Appropriations Bill and Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier of The Office of Vocational and Adult Education provided attendees with a preview of the Department of Education’s early thoughts about a new Perkins Act. Please read and respond to ACTE staff e-mails and updates. Information is available at <http://www.acteonline.org/legislativeupdates.aspx>

So, what does this mean to you, a SDACTE member? **Be pro-active.** Read and follow through on requests for information, letters, and testimony when asked by the SDACTE Board and/or ACTE staff. Review and analyze your local data. Put that data into an easy-to-read format and share it with your local stakeholders (i.e. advisory board, parents, administrators, and school board members), as well as your area legislators, and congressional delegation. As you have heard before, anecdotal stories are great, but we need the data to back it up.

The SDACTE Legislative Committee will be following education and funding bills closely. **Please,** when that e-mail comes asking for action, take five minutes to make the requested contacts. It is also important to provide information on how specific bills would impact local CTE programs. Educate your business partners and advisory board members; understanding how proposed legislation impacts local programs helps them in their contacts with legislators as well.

The SDACTE Data brochure is in the process of being updated for your use as well. Share the statewide data and include your local data.

These are critical times for career and technical education. Speak up! Share the successes of your local programs! Be Pro-Active!

2011

ACTE
St. Louis

Over 40 people from South Dakota attended the annual ACTE Conference in St. Louis. They had the opportunity to hear some great keynote speakers, attend a variety of breakout sessions, and network with their fellow professionals. Here, ACTE Executive Director Jan Bray posed with a group of South Dakota attendees prior to the Awards Luncheon.



Professional Development Stipends



Past ACTE President Coleen Keffeler congratulates Ross Hudson from Bon Homme and Josh Christiansen from Flandreau as recipients of the SDACTE Professional Development Stipend. Two \$500 stipends are available each year to SDACTE members. Application forms can be found on the SDACTE website and are due the first day of summer conference. Seriously think about applying.

This is the logo for the newly-designed ACTE National Conference. The Conference is being renamed in 2012 to the CareerTech Summit.

November 29-December 1, 2012 in Atlanta, GA



An International Summit On
EXCELLENCE In CareerTech Education

Chief Happiness Officer Corner: Stop Energy Drains!

By Erika Oliver, *Recovering Pessimist and Chief Happiness Officer*



It's time to insulate your home and stop as many drains as possible to conserve energy. The same is true for you. Personal energy drains must be plugged to maintain the warmth of happiness in the colder seasons and through the whole year.

At the South Dakota ACTE conference in August we talked about personal energy balance and the importance of having a positive energy reserve. So, give me an "E"! Balance your energy to the positive by stopping some common energy drains. Remember, with a positive energy surplus you have access to your full brain. That means you can take advantage of opportunities as they arise, effectively handle circumstances that are not what you expected, and fully enjoy each moment as it is happening. Here are the three top tips to keep your vital energy:

Cut your list in half. Make your to-do list and then cross off 50% (or use scissors and literally cut it in half). Rushing, no processing time, and no time for serendipity (magical unplanned happenings) drains your energy. Planning to do less actually makes you more productive!

Keep promises made by you to you. Each time you break a promise to yourself – no matter how seemingly small – energy runs out of you like an open dam. "I'm going to go to bed early to-night!" or "I am going to the gym this week" or "I am not going to schedule any more late nights" are examples of some personal promises. You might be breaking your personal promises with the idea that you will have more time for others. Not true. Keeping promises to yourself give you more energy to spend on others!

Be clueless. Why did (or didn't) that happen? Who is responsible? What will happen next? You ask yourself (and others) a lot of questions you will never know the answer to. Each time you allow yourself to be okay with not knowing you plug an energy leak. If you allow yourself to be clueless even just once a day, you will conserve more than enough energy to follow your dreams, teach the world to sing, and just enjoy the where you are right now. Most of the time you already know everything you need to know!

Chief Happiness Officers add positive energy by taking care of their health, hanging out with positive people and expressing their talents through meaningful work. But, just as importantly – maybe even more so – CHO's stop energy drains. It's socially conscious to conserve energy – both outside and inside yourself!

If your organization, association or team wants to become CHOs, contact Erika Oliver for a customized Happy Camp! **Erika Oliver**, MPA, is the author of the award-winning **Three Good Things: Happiness Every Day, No Matter What!**, **Three Good Things: A Coloring Book for Everyone!** and **Happy Crap: The Power of Positive Assumptions**. As a *recovering pessimist*, Erika is now a Positive Approach Coach who helps people, teams, and organizations find their "happy." She uses the principles of detailed in her books to help people and organizations choose a positive approach. Learn more at www.erikaoliver.com.

Eat your P.E.A.S.!!!

Position – choose a positive mental position,

Energy – maintain a positive energy balance

Assumptions – make outrageously positive assumptions when you don't have all the information

Start with 3 Good Things – identify the positive – what works – before solving problems or identifying defects.



Dianne Rider—SDACTE President –Elect

2012 is the 40th Anniversary of SDVA / SDACTE. Our organization has formed a task force to plan for a celebration at the summer conference. Members of the task force are Myron Sonne, Pat Bortnem, Larry Nelson, May Kay Drees, Susie Ries and myself. We have made plans for recognition of past presidents, slide show of historical events, logo contest, and CSTO directors and officer involvement. We are excited about making summer conference a time of celebration to appreciate our history and a look forward to our future. Please consider submitting a logo design and encourage your students to design a 40th Anniversary logo for SDACTE. Please see the Logo Contest Guidelines in this newsletter. If you have additional suggestions or are interested in being a part of the task force please contact me at dianne.rider@k12.sd.us

CAREER
AND
TECHNICAL
EDUCATION
MONTH
FEBRUARY
2012



CTE

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Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

SD ACTE
40th Anniversary Logo Contest
Entries due – January 31, 2012

The SDACTE 40th Anniversary Task Force is sponsoring a logo design contest. A \$25 cash prize will be awarded to the person submitting the chosen design. Entries must be received by January 31, 2012. Past and present members of SDACTE and CTE students are encouraged to submit designs.

Logo design guidelines:

Logo must contain 'SDACTE'

Logo must contain '40th Anniversary 1972-2012'

Ruby color must be used

Digital format – high quality

Name and contact information of person submitting design

The logo will be used for banners, program cover, nametags, souvenirs and other print materials. All contest submissions will become property of SD ACTE.

Please submit your design to:

dianne.rider@k12.sd.us

Dianne Rider, President Elect SDACTE

Lake Area Multi-District

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Watertown, SD 57201