

New Teacher of the Year Award

Zachary Johnson

Zachary is a marketing educator and DECA advisor for Lee's Summit North High School. He worked in the corporate world for eight years doing market research before owning his own insurance agency and then managing million dollar clients while doing corporate insurance. All of this left Zachary feeling like he needed to do more, to be more, and to make more of a difference. He had always enjoyed working with younger people and training them, so he decided to transition to education. Zachary then pursued his Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of Central Missouri while working full-time and raising a one-year-old. After student teaching, Zachary landed a job at Pleasant Hill where he breathed new life into the marketing program, started a profitable coffee shop, and got involved as the MCEA legislative committee representative. He then spent a year at St. Joseph Central where he coached a student to placing third at international competition. After joining the staff at Lee's Summit North High School, Zachary has built up the marketing program and given students the best opportunities possible. In his first year there, he took five students to international competition, started a coffee shop with the special education department and substantially increased the school store profit. He also created the Bronco Consulting Group which allows students to analyze and solve real-world marketing problems with area businesses. Zachary has made an effort to get involved at the state and national levels of MoACTE & DECA. Zachary's mentor and colleague stated, "Even as a new teacher, Zachary was creative, motivated, and quickly caught on to the culture and expectations of Missouri DECA. Generally new teachers that I mentor are hesitant about DECA competition, running a school-based enterprise, and traveling with students, but Zachary faced all of these challenges head on. He required students to complete written for DECA competition, improved the current model of the school store and took students to various educational and competitive conferences. Since that first year, I have continued to watch Zachary grow and develop as an educator. His students have continued to succeed, and he is a strong asset to Missouri DECA and MoACTE."



Carl Perkins Community Service Award

Lorin Curtis

Lorin Curtis is a construction technology instructor At Franklin Technical Center and a member of Missouri Trade and Industrial Education. This is Lorin's tenth year in this role. Prior to embarking on his professional teaching career, Lorin served for almost 30 years in the United States Army as Sergeant First Class, where he trained soldiers in construction-related occupations. At Franklin Technical Center, he teaches not only carpentry skills, but also embeds life skills into his curriculum. Lorin's love for humanity and assisting the less fortunate extend beyond the walls of his classroom. Although he has always had a servant's heart, he was touched to reach beyond his comfort zone three years ago. While driving to work one morning, he heard an ad for Christmas of Hope, sponsored by the area Fostering Hope organization. This nonprofit organization raises money to purchase every child in foster care in the area gifts for Christmas. The thought of little children having to do without gifts at Christmas broke his heart, so Lorin decided to do something about it. His idea was to raise \$1500 to donate to the cause. In order to do this, he challenged students and staff at Franklin Technology Center to help. The first year, his efforts raised over \$1500! The second year, he decided to include the entire high school at Joplin. This effort led to an additional \$2500 being raised and donated. This past year (2019), the entire school district participated, and nearly \$5000 was raised. This was enough to sponsor 90 foster children, and to purchase their Christmas gifts. In addition to being the kick-off fundraiser spokesman for Christmas of Hope (for the past three years), Lorin also volunteers hundreds of hours performing community service work. When he was hired at Franklin Technical Center ten years ago, Lorin and his classes were challenged to build homes for residents whose homes were decimated in the 2011 Joplin tornado. This act of selflessness led to countless other building opportunities throughout the community. Lorin, along with his students, created and installed wheelchair ramps for community members who were unable to access their homes. His handiwork can be seen all over the community. Recently, his students have built stages, backdrops, picnic tables, shelving and storage, and playhouses for teachers and staff. His students recycled old pallets to build outdoor lawn ornaments. Those were donated to staff members or sold to fund other service projects. Lorin challenges his students to think beyond themselves and he



uses his servant heart to inspire them to perform community service work. Whether it is donating clothing in a coat drive, collecting or donating food or money for different community service events, or building various items, Mr. Curtis is always ready and willing to help.

Administrator of the Year Award

Brian Noeller

Brian is the director of career and technical education for Northland Career Center and is a member of MCCTA. Brian Noeller has been involved in Career and Technical education since the early 2000's, when he started as a marketing teacher at Clinton Technical School. His career led him to Fort Osage Career and Technology Center. In 2004 he was promoted to Assistant Director and served in that role until 2011. Since 2011, he has been the Director at Northland Career Center in Platte City, MO, serving students from all over the northland of Kansas City. Brian has led his staff to transform NCC from a well-known vocational technical school to a two-time nationally recognized career and technical center. This wasn't an overnight change either. As a leader, he developed his staff, his advisory board, and built relationships with organizations like Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), DESE, secondary partner schools, post-secondary institutions, over 60 different business partners, local chamber of commerces, and area economic development councils. Leaders don't just do all the hard work, they enable and empower staff to make things happen. Brian has done just that. He, with the support of district administration, has developed a staff that lives our vision, mission, values, and principles of learning. This isn't just about students, it is about all of the aforementioned partners. Brian Noeller has truly led his team to create a career and technical school that is successfully moving students toward employment, enrollment, and/or enlistment.



Lifetime Achievement Award

Christine Hollingsworth

Christine Hollingsworth is the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America Competitive Events Senior Manager. Christine Hollingsworth has served as the Senior Competitive Events Manager at Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. since 2011. Prior to this, she worked at the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for 19 years in the Office of College and Career Readiness, as a Supervisor of Family and Consumer Sciences Education and the Missouri State FCCLA adviser. She served as the Education and Training Career Cluster Co Chair for Missouri DESE, developing the “Careers for the Teaching Pathways” course competencies, curricula, and trainings. She has extensive experience in the administration of educational programs and projects, as well as with program development and approval, curriculum and articulation agreements, and grant management and assessment. During her time at DESE, Christine worked with colleagues to develop high-quality professional development opportunities for FCS teachers, especially in the area of curriculum and CTSO implementation. She developed opportunities for FCCLA members and advisers to expand their advocacy skills by designing the Missouri FCCLA Legislative Shadowing Project, which became a model for other FCCLA state associations. She sought to create partnerships and opportunities for both students and adults through state and national FCCLA programs and projects. She brought the National Consumers League LifeSmarts quiz-bowl competition to Missouri through Missouri FCCLA sponsorship. Working with other CTSO state advisers, she was instrumental in the development of quality standards for CTSO implementation and evaluation, and collaborative projects such as the Race Into Reading program, which stressed literacy efforts through CTSO involvement in early childhood education. With the support of the FCS leadership team at DESE, Christine was able to create professional development opportunities, and training not only at Missouri FCCLA events but also at DESE sponsored FCS inservice training and MoEFACS conferences. As the national FCCLA Senior Competitive Events manager, her most recent efforts include the development of new online, technology-based competitions such as Instructional Video Design as well as career development competitions such as Sports Nutrition and Event Management. Currently, she is leading the efforts to create event scaffolding of skills for students to exhibit as they compete in FCCLA’s STAR Events competitions. Working with her colleagues at FCCLA, she continues to search for ways to provide leadership, service, and career-building opportunities for FCCLA members. Former DESE FCS



Supervisor, Cynthia Arendt states, “Christine has always been a leader. Christine developed the Missouri FCCLA Legislative Shadowing Program. FCCLA students are given the opportunity to shadow a legislator, the Governor, or a Supreme Court Justice for a day. The goal is to help promote student interest in government and public service. Christine was an early adaptor of technology and social media. Missouri FCCLA became the first state association to use social media tools. She created new state level competitive events using technology that soon became national events. Always an innovator, she also developed online competitive events. Again, a method now used at the national level. To help ensure student success as leaders, she has mentored nearly 300 FCCLA youth, including state officers, national officer candidates, national officers, and regional presidents helping them to learn how to work with other students and individuals to achieve program goals. She guided them as they planned new programs and created state leadership opportunities for fellow students. Christine collaborated and partnered with state and national organizations such as the Missouri Departments of Health and Senior Services, Mental Health, Transportation, Youth/Adult Alliance, and Action for Healthy Kids. She worked with the National Consumers League to bring to Missouri the national LifeSmarts competition for FCCLA and FBLA students. She partnered with companies such as American Century Investments to gain financial support for the program. Christine constantly sought to bring in new funding and partnerships to strengthen programs. Her involvement on many national committees and success with creating and developing new programs brought her to the attention of the national FCCLA organization. I know of no one whose work in Career and Technical Education has contributed more to the field.”

Postsecondary Teacher of the Year Award

Krystle Gremaud

Krystle is the Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences and CTE Teacher Education Program Coordinator. Since Krystle started teaching secondary education, she has been revising curriculum to address and integrate state and national standards into the curriculum. She quickly realized that while UCM offered teacher certification in all CTE programming areas, the



areas were very isolated from each other. With support from her department chair, she has brought all of the CTE areas together making UCM's Career and Technical Teacher Education programs truly comprehensive. Bringing all areas of CTE together for common professional education courses helps unify and strengthen CTE as a whole. From their first course, UCM students learn about all CTE content areas, as well as CTE history, and the current trends impacting CTE today. Krystle has redeveloped UCM's teacher education curriculum to align courses with students' field experiences. Recognizing that students need the opportunity to practice what they learn, she revised our programs to create blocks of classes where students complete professional education courses paired with field experiences, thus allowing them to learn and do simultaneously. Krystle also works closely with faculty who teach content courses, ensuring the faculty understand the needs of our CTE pre-service teachers and the content students need to be successful. Under Krystle's leadership, the UCM program has seen continual growth since 2010 and the FCS program in particular is the third largest secondary education teacher education program at our institution. UCM FCS graduates have 100% employment within six months of graduation, and many of her graduates are hired before they complete their student teaching experience. Krystle proudly shares that many alumni have been recognized in their schools as outstanding leaders and educators. These examples provide evidence of Krystle's contribution to maintaining a high quality CTE program at UCM. Krystle's former student writes, "Mrs. Gremaud's enthusiasm and constant attention to my specific education program only helped drive me to want to complete my degree. My success in the program was always at the forefront of her mind. Mrs. Gremaud was always checking to be sure I was on track and had all of the tools I needed to successfully graduate with my degree."

Career Guidance Award

Laurie Woolfolk

Laurie is a career guidance counselor at Scott Regional Technical Center. Laurie Woolfolk is a 30-year teaching and counseling veteran at Scott Regional Technology Center in Monett, MO. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Counseling Psychology, both from the University of Missouri



in Columbia. She has taught in Nevada, North Callaway in Kingdom City, Saratoga, WY, and currently is the Career Counselor at SRTC in Monett. Laurie recently served as the 2017-18 President of the Missouri Association of Career Services. Elizabeth Anderson from Scott Regional Technology Center said, "Laurie is hardworking and goes above and beyond the call of duty for our students. Laurie makes sure that our students have the support they need to prepare them for their future endeavors. Laurie has been integral in facilitating students' access to the Missouri Connections curriculum, enabling them to develop a plan for their future career. Through Missouri Connections, students are able to find their career interest which is utilized for our sophomore tour activities. Laurie has redeveloped our sophomore tours so that our prospective students are able to learn about and participate in activities in each of our 14 programs. Laurie has been a tremendous asset to our school and for our students."

Teacher of the Year Award

Samantha Cospers

Samantha is the family and consumer sciences educator at Cassville High School. Samantha has mentored multiple regional and state officers, including one national officer candidate. Her FCCLA chapter has traveled to nationals nearly every year with STAR Event competitors. Samantha believes that the success of her students can be attributed to the integration of FCCLA into the classroom curriculum. Samantha has worked hard to update curriculum and course offerings in her district. She has established a well-known "grown your own" teacher preparation program with the Career Pathways to the Teaching Profession program. This program allowed Samantha to work collaboratively with other family and consumer sciences teachers across the state to develop a rigorous curriculum that allows students to earn college credit through Missouri Southern State University. Sam has presented at multiple conferences hosting workshops on how to implement the Career Pathways to the Teaching Profession program successfully. The most recent presentation was at the Missouri School Board Association Conference, giving her the opportunity to promote the program as well as the family and consumer sciences teaching profession and show its relevance in today's academic climate. In Samantha's local district, she is currently



working on an initiative to offer the Career Pathways to the Teaching Profession virtually to neighboring districts that do not currently have a family and consumer sciences program. In addition to her work with the Career Pathways program, she has also presented several workshops on integrating technology and FCCLA into the classroom. The most recent presentations included a Pre-Conference session at MOEFACS Summer Conference on utilizing Google Classroom. Samantha is the go-to tech lady, developing video tutorials to help FCCLA advisers and members with running for office and beginning a STAR Events project. Samantha has taken the opportunity to serve on the MOEFACS and MOACTE board of directors and accredits those opportunities to helping her stay knowledgeable and updated on changes in the profession. Samantha's Superintendent states, "Mrs. Cospers FACS courses and leadership programs are exceptional. She builds student confidence and focuses key efforts in career pathway readiness. Mrs. Cospers incorporates high levels of technology into her lessons, while also ensuring that individual student needs are the priority. She is assisting in the development of virtual instruction programs, career pathway events, and an exceptional grow-your-own teacher preparatory opportunity. Mrs. Cospers is an outstanding educator; she has many accomplishments, and I believe all of those are student focused and student driven efforts. I am proud of the work she does each day for our students and school district. She is an outstanding colleague and teacher for Cassville R-IV School District, but what makes her incredible is her passion for student success."

