Hello, Region III colleagues!

I’m sure this finds you all engaged in a great start to 2021. There are a lot of unknowns still out there for the coming year, but one thing is for sure – our CTE programming and educators are at the top of the list to help our students and business and industries thrive and move forward.

I wanted to take a moment to recognize our outstanding National ACTE Excellence award winners that come from our Region:

ACTE’s National Teacher Educator: Sally Arnett-Hartwick of Illinois

ACTE’s National Administrator of the Year: Jean Rakun of
All of our Region nominees deserve a thank you and recognition for the excellence they show daily as a part of our CTE community!

I also wanted to congratulate our incoming Region III VP-elect, Brandon Russell, of Missouri. Brandon will start his year as President-elect July 1 and then begin his three-year term as Region III VP beginning July 2022.

While I don’t need to remind anyone what an unusual year this has been, it has also been a challenge for us to work toward new strategic goal setting as a collective organization. This is mainly because we have all shifted our work as needed in response to the pandemic. As a result, ACTE’s executive board has compiled a list of goals for regions and divisions to review. The Region III Policy Committee is meeting this month to select three strategic goals that we will be working on the next two years. I will be sharing more in future newsletters, so stay tuned!

ACTE has designed special Zoom meeting virtual backgrounds for each ACTE division and
ACTE Announces Board of Directors 2021 Election Results

ACTE is pleased to announce the results of the recent election for several spots on its Board of Directors. The election was open to ACTE’s membership of roughly 25,000 educators, administrators and other CTE professionals. The following members were elected:

- Scott Stone, President-elect
- Shani Watkins, Region V Vice President
- Robert Torres, Agricultural Education Division Vice President
- Holly Strand-Rysgaard, Health Science Education Division Vice President
- Beth Parks, Region II Vice President-elect
- Brandon Russell, Region III Vice President-elect
- Susan Leon, New and Related Services Division Vice President-elect

Influence CTE Federal Policy Priorities at NPS!

Voice your CTE needs to help shape education policy priorities under the new administration, learn about strategies for...
influencing federal policy related to CTE advocacy and messaging, and participate in virtual Capitol Hill and school visits. Happening the week of **Feb. 22**, in concert with your CTE Month awareness-building activities, ACTE’s virtual National Policy Seminar 2021 will feature an official welcome from the new administration.

Learn more and register

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**Missed Virtual VISION 2020?**

ACTE’s CareerTech Virtual VISION 2020 featured live keynote presentations and hundreds of sessions, covering CTE innovations, timely topics and specific CTE subject-matter areas. Conference materials and sessions are now available for 24/7 on-demand viewing at your convenience at regular attendee rates. Enjoy premier professional development via full access to all Virtual VISION sessions! [Register now](#)

Mark your calendars for VISION 2021, a hybrid event with programming available online and on-site, **Dec. 1–4** in New Orleans, Louisiana. Call for presentation proposals will open in February.

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**New CTE Learning Webinar Series**

Beginning this month, join us as we showcase some of the best professional learning opportunities for CTE personnel. Each free webinar is 30 minutes and will feature experts covering topics, such as professional learning communities, developing employability skills in CTE and more.
Raise Awareness for CTE

Join us in February to celebrate and spread awareness about the importance of CTE for our students and our nation’s economy with several outreach opportunities:

- Encourage your students to participate in this year’s CTE Month-NASA HUNCH student video challenge, “Advancing Space Exploration Through Manufacturing.” The deadline to submit videos is April 1.
- Share our social media messages all month long or your own success stories on social media via #CTEMonth.
- Gear up with festive CTE Month merchandise at shopacte.com to show your support for CTE.
- Advocate for CTE — use ACTE tools to assist you in your advocacy activities, keep you informed and promote ongoing support for CTE.
- Download the CTE Month logo for use with any of your print and digital outreach.

New Hybrid Work-based Learning
Conference
Learn about best practices in work-based learning from across the country at ACTE’s National & Iowa’s Annual Hybrid Work-based Learning Conference, which will offer on-site and online programming. Interested in presenting? Submit your presentation proposal by Feb. 5 for consideration.

Learn more and register

Apply for ACTE’s Achieve 100 Award
Showcase your institution’s dedication and commitment to CTE! Schools and institutions that achieve 100% ACTE membership across their CTE staff and faculty will receive this distinguished award. Complete the online application by Feb. 1 to participate and recognize your educators!

Learn more

And finally, don’t forget to have our June Region III Conference on your radar! A big thanks to Minnesota who will be our hosts this year. We are still working on logistics and information, so be sure to check for news blasts that will be coming your way soon with specifics!

Hope to see you at Virtual NPS during CTE Month!

Lisa