Greetings New and Related Services Members,

Your New & Related Services (NRS) Policy Committee has been busy these last few months working on new and innovative ways to engage and serve our members! Tune in below to hear from your section leads and to get the most out of your membership.

Sincerely,

Rachael Mann
NRS VP

Special Populations Section: Add Lunch with Emily and Marta to Your Calendar for June 4!

At the CareerTech VISION 2020 Special Populations networking event, some of our colleagues suggested we offer a time to just talk to each other and find out and share what is going on in the Special Populations world. As a result of this conversation, we (Emily Sherwood and Marta Osuna, co-chairs of the Special Populations section of NRS) would like to offer informal times to talk and share concerns and successes as well as answer questions during these unusual times. Our second lunch gathering will be on June 4 at 11:30 a.m. MDT. Some possible topics we thought we could talk about are:

- professional development ideas
- best ways to use social media
- what successes have there been this year
- how to develop a checklist for Special Populations
- any ideas/concerns you may have.
Here is the link to RSVP for this event RSVP to Lunch with Emily and Marta. Once you RSVP, you will receive the Zoom link information. We hope you can join us! (If you would like to suggest a better time for these informal gatherings, please let us know Emily Sherwood or Marta Osuna.)

JROTC Leadership Pathways
JROTC has several activities to share in the link below, including:

- New Archery Training
- Cadets Conquering Ober Gatlinburg Ski Slopes
- The Annual Cadet Staff Ride
- Alabama Cadet Selected as State Officer!

Click here to learn more about each of these exciting initiatives!

The Value of Joining and Being Active in a Professional Association!
Why join the ACTE Career Academies section
by Kevin English

As a young ACTE member, I wondered why I should spend the money, the time and the effort to join a professional association. Already having family, students and life, joining would add another item to the already many spinning plates in my life. Many years later, I realized that my career would not have made a difference in my student's lives without being an active member. The professional mentorship, friendships and the discussions that shaped my lessons, projects and helped solve problems are immeasurable. So here are the reasons that have come from my lessons learned:

Others are also facing the challenges that I faced daily, and in fact, many had solved them and moved on. In discussions during meetings and after, subjects like our classes, schools and family came up, and solutions were generated. Sometimes I faced the challenge first or vice versa, but these solutions made a significant difference in my teaching every day. There were teachers out
there like me who had the answers, and by joining and actively participating, my life and career became much richer and rewarding.

How do you know you are a great teacher? A question once posed by a new member in a discussion around some cold iced tea. We had a great discussion as this teacher was trying to figure out if what she was doing made a difference or if she should go back to the corporate world. She stayed and now has a career that spans over 20 years with many successes. We need each other, that is why we join!

The work we do as members and leaders changes the scope and future of others! The decisions made on boards and committees create opportunities for others. Many years ago, I served on committees that have had a significant impact on many teachers. They do not know that my work and the work of others helped shape their future. This work makes a difference and helps others. That is why we join and participate!

To share and rejoice in the work. To share our accomplishments with others, to have the challenging discussions that impact our teaching with folks we trust, to find the nuggets of gold in the conversations. To be better at what we do! That is why we join! Please consider joining, sharing and being the next member to change and improve what we all do every day: Positively impact the lives of our students.

ACTE and Ford NGL Relaunch Career Academy Section

In partnership with ACTE, Ford Next Generation Learning has relaunched the Career Academy Section and is hosting monthly chats on urgent and relevant topics. Next week on April 28 at 2:30 p.m. EST, they will be discussing The Structure & Roles Essential to the Career Academy Model.

Ford Next Generation Learning's resident expert coach, Paula Chaon, will lead registrants in an hour-
long conversation about school-based structures, roles and the 3Cs (communication, collaboration, and coordination) related to these essentials. Participants will learn how these elements work together to create a system that ensures success for the student, teacher and employer partner.

Sign up to attend

Applications Are Open!
Now in its fifth year, the 2021 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence will award $1 million in prizes to public high school skilled trades teachers and programs in the U.S. Apply by May 21, or share this opportunity with a deserving teacher.

ACTE Releases Report on CTE During and After COVID-19
While COVID-19 has led to many challenges for career and technical education (CTE), the pandemic has also created opportunities for innovation in CTE program delivery. ACTE’s latest publication, *High-quality CTE During COVID-19: Challenges and Innovations*, generously sponsored by MajorClarity, describes these challenges, shares examples of innovative practices, and provides recommendations for how CTE leaders can better prepare the post-COVID-19 workforce and embrace lessons learned during the pandemic.
New Brief: Connecting SEL Learning to Career Success

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is gaining traction within schools, particularly as research demonstrates an increase in overall well-being and lifelong benefits. Fortunately, social-emotional skills can be learned, taught, interwoven and prioritized in CTE programs. This Xello-sponsored brief, the latest in its Student Career Development series, written by Dr. Angela Smith, School of Education, North Carolina State University, is now available.

Early Bird Registration for Hybrid VISION is Open

The most important event for career and technical educators, ACTE’s CareerTech Hybrid VISION happens Dec. 1–4 online and on-site in New Orleans, Louisiana. Featuring keynote speakers Kevin Brown, author of The Hero Effect: Being Your Best When It Matters the Most, and Anne Grady, entrepreneur and author of Mind Over Moment: Harness the Power of Resilience, VISION will provide unparalleled networking and concurrent program sessions covering best practices in remote, hybrid and in-person programming.
Board of Directors Election —
Accepting Applications

Interested in serving the association as a member of the board of directors? Applications for open positions are due **June 15**. For more information, please see the guidelines for the board of directors nominations.

Upcoming Webinars

Plan to attend these free webinars, covering innovative best practices in CTE.

- Confronting Isms in the Classroom, **April 28 at 2:00 p.m. EST**
- Innovative Connections: STEM + CTE at Home or School, **May 4 at 4:00 p.m. ET**
- Equity for Remote Learning, **June 3 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Ensuring your classroom is providing equity for all CTE Students, **Aug. 5 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Pivoting to Practice: Making Your Work-based Learning Experiences Meaningful, **June 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
- Empowering Girls and Women in CTE, **July (date TBD)**
New CTE Learn Advocacy and Perkins Courses

ACTE is pleased to announce two new courses available via CTE Learn:

- *Spending and Managing Carl D. Perkins Grant Funds* introduces participants to the federal rules that govern the spending and management of Perkins funds. LEARN MORE
- *CTE Advocacy: Policymakers and the Press* provides education professionals with the background, skills and know-how to successfully advocate and promote their CTE programs to both the press and policymakers at the local, state and federal levels. LEARN MORE

ACTE Impact Awards — Call for Nominations

The ACTE Impact Awards recognize groups and individuals from the education, business and industry communities who contribute to the improvement, promotion and development of CTE. Individuals or entities making a positive impact on the image of CTE are eligible recipients of these awards. The deadline to apply for these two awards, the Business-Education
Partnership Award and the Champion for CTE Award, is May 1.

ACTE Student Trophy Design Contest Returns
ACTE is excited to announce our sixth annual student contest to redesign the 3D-printed trophies for the ACTE Excellence Awards. The winning trophy design will be 3D-printed by Stratasys and presented to the 10 national award winners at the 2021 ACTE Virtual Awards Gala on Nov. 30. We highly encourage you, your peers and students to participate in this year’s contest — the deadline for design submissions is May 1.

WBL Conference is Now Fully Virtual
All sessions at ACTE’s and Iowa’s Work-based Learning (WBL) Conference this April 29–30 will now be live-streamed. Next week’s event will include more than 40 WBL topics presented live over Zoom to virtual participants. The ACTE WBL policy meeting, committee meetings and regional WBL receptions will also be hosted virtually. Check out the schedule-at-a-glance, and join us to learn about best practices in WBL from across the country.
Signature Event for CTE Administrators

Save the date for The Best Practices and Innovations in Career and Technical Education Conference, hosted by the ACTE Administration Division and NCLA and happening Sept. 29–Oct. 1 in Austin, Texas. This annual conference is specifically focused on the professional development for administrators of both secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and institutions.

Learn more

Contribute to a New National Career Clusters Framework

ACTE is pleased to share that Advance CTE is launching a crowdsourcing portal to modernize The Career Clusters Framework! Through May 7, Advance CTE invites you to complete a set of idea challenges to ensure The National Career Clusters Framework bridges education and work, empowering each learner to explore, decide and prepare for dynamic and evolving careers.

Learn more

CTE Innovation Summit Set for June 1

Are you ready to prepare your learners for the rapidly changing workplace with cutting-edge tools and
Learn more and register

Rachael Mann
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