Dear Region II ACTE members,

Happy New Year! In our house, we stuffed a piñata for the kids to bust after gorging on take-out fajitas from a nearby restaurant and watched a New Year’s Eve Kids early countdown to 2022, ringing in the new year at 9:00 pm! As the parent of a “tween,” I’m not sure how much longer we can keep this charade up, but for now, I enjoy calling it a night early and waking up for a run on New Year’s Day.

I really enjoy the start of a new year because I see it as a time to reflect and reset, often resolving to do something new or different with both personal and professional resolutions. Personally, I hope to spend less time working while the kids are around and more time doing things with them. Already this year, I’ve painted dinosaurs, built model cars, created a terrarium, and currently our kitchen table looks like a Lego explosion as I learn stop-motion animation with our fifth grader (both health science and A/V production teachers will enjoy that film). As I play with my kids in these different ways, I’m reminded of how essential career and technical education is to engaging students in experiences that expose them to possible career paths. Professionally, I hope to read (or, finish) more books. I’ve got four sitting on the nightstand that I’ve been working through for the past two years – don’t judge, this is how I roll! I often read multiple books at the same time, picking up one and putting down another. So, for 2022, I plan to finish Last Night in Twisted River, The One Year Bible (I’m ¾ of the way through this one, and I’ve been working at it for three years, ha!), The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog, and Me and White Supremacy. Whether it be expanding my vocabulary or enhancing my understanding of how words and actions relate to the lived experiences of others, each of these books provides an opportunity for me to grow as a professional in career and technical education (CTE).
Did you make a New Year’s resolution? Are you reading any good books? We’d love to hear about it. So, go to our Region II Facebook group and let us know what’s happening in your 2022! Telling people about your plans and goals is a great way to cultivate accountability.

If you’re still not sure of what 2022 holds in store for you, perhaps you’ll consider some opportunities from ACTE! Coming up soon, we’ve got CTE Month in February which is followed by the ACTE National Policy Seminar in March. ACTE will also provide a series of webinars. Take a look below for information on these activities and other things that might interest you.

**ACTE VISION 2021 Update**

I hope all who attended VISION 2021 had a wonderful experience. I enjoyed interacting with members during the Region II reception and hope we can make that an annual event. It was an exciting time for Region II, as two of our region award winners were also named national award winners. Congratulations to Kelli Lancaster from South Carolina on being named national winner for the Counseling and Career Development Professional Award and Ashley Rogers from Kentucky on being named national winner for the New Teacher of the Year Award.

Additionally, the following states received the National Quality Association Standards Award. The purpose of the Quality Association Standards is to provide benchmarks for state associations to determine levels of performance and satisfactory service to their members and prospective members. States who meet these standards as evidenced by submission of an annual report receive this recognition. From Region II, these included:

- Georgia
- Kentucky
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Virginia

**Region II Awards Deadline**
Approaching

The Region II 2021 deadline for states to submit their award nominees for the regional competition is fast approaching – March 1!

Marcia Day from Alabama represents Region II on the National Awards Committee and will work with the Region II Awards Committee to organize and execute the interviews and recipient selection process. If you have questions about the process, you can check with your state leadership, download the Region II awards process document on the ACTE Region II website, or contact Marcia Day.

We hope to have more national award winners next year!

Announcing the Board of Directors 2022 Election Results

ACTE is pleased to announce the results of the recent election for spots on its Board of Directors.

- Chaney Mosley, President-elect: Mosley is an Assistant Professor at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- Michael Culwell, Region IV Vice President-elect: Culwell is the Campus Director at Kiamichi Tech-Poteau in Poteau, Oklahoma.
- Sean Crevier, Business Education Division Vice President: Appointed by the board of directors Mr. Crevier is Teacher at Vernon Hills High School in Vernon Hills, Illinois.
Katy Blatnick-Gagne, Family and Consumer Sciences Education Division Vice President: Appointed by the board of directors, Ms. Blatnick-Gagne is an Education Consultant at the Iowa Department of Education in Des Moines, Iowa.

Additionally, the vice president-elects whose election occurred last year will join the Board as vice president in July 2022. Susan Leon will assume the position of New & Related Services Division Vice President, Brandon Russel will assume the position of Region III Vice President, and Beth Parks will assume the position of Region II Vice President.

ACTE congratulates the winners, and thanks all of the candidates for their willingness to serve and their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the association. ACTE also thanks its members who had their voices heard by voting in the election.

Voice Your CTE Priorities at NPS!

Join CTE professionals at ACTE’s National Policy Seminar (NPS) to engage on key education policy topics, hear best practices for influencing federal policy related to CTE advocacy and messaging, and participate in Capitol Hill visits. This year’s NPS will be offered as a hybrid event and happens both virtually and in person at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia, March 21–23. We will follow a similar schedule to past years but may have to make some COVID-19-related tweaks.
Present at CareerTech VISION 2022!

Share your expertise at ACTE’s CareerTech VISION, happening Nov. 30–Dec. 3 in Las Vegas, Nevada, by being an esteemed presenter. Won’t you consider submitting a proposal to lead an educational program session? We’re looking for innovations and insights on the most pressing issues in the field today. Accepted session topics may also address current and emerging trends to help career and technical educators thrive in their careers. VISION offers unparalleled networking, hundreds of concurrent program sessions covering high-quality CTE and stories of successful education and business collaborations. Call for presentations will open in late January and close March 31.

Celebrate CTE Month®!

Generously sponsored by NAHB

Join us as we celebrate CTE Month, generously sponsored in 2022 by the National Association of Home Builders. Share with the world how much you love CTE! Raise awareness about the importance of CTE for our students and our nation’s economy and have fun doing it!

- Share ACTE’s 28 days of CTE social media messages by following us @actecareertech on Twitter or Facebook. You can also share your
Learn more stories on social media by using #CTEMonth. Be sure to tag us!

- Encourage your students to participate in this year’s CTE Month-NASA HUNCH student video challenge to showcase the importance of CTE and/or project-based learning. This year’s theme: How Can Space Exploration Solve Climate Change? Submit videos, two minutes or less in length, by April 1.
- Gear up with mood pens, pencils and other festive CTE Month merchandise.
- Engage members of your community or the media to learn about your school's strong CTE programs firsthand.
- Reach out to business and industry leaders in your area to create valuable partnerships.
- Download the CTE Month logo for use with any of your print and digital outreach.

New Publication Features Grand Forks Public Schools and Northrup Grumman Partnership

Xello is pleased to support ACTE and CTE practitioners through the production of a series of publication briefs to delve deeper on topics within ACTE's Quality CTE Program of Study Framework: Business and Community Partnerships. The third publication in the Taking Business to School Series focuses on the Grand Forks Public Schools and Northrop Grumman partnership that resulted in a new
robotics engineering program that also helps fuel the local region's growing unmanned aerial systems industry.

New Resource on Expanding Access to Short-term Postsecondary CTE Programs

Recently, ACTE released a fact sheet: Pell Grants and Short-term Programs: Unlocking Careers and Educational Opportunities. These high-quality, short-term postsecondary programs can help individuals earn credentials at an affordable cost and enter the workforce in high-wage, high-demand CTE industries.

Help Us Define Inclusion and Access

What does inclusion mean to you? What about access? ACTE seeks to define these terms in the context of CTE, and we need your help. As educators, you advance the ideals of
inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED) through the development of high-quality CTE programs of study that serve all students. Read *Techniques* this spring for additional opportunities to contribute on the meaning of IAED in CTE.

Read more about IAED in CTE in *Techniques*

### Check Out New, Free Resources on CTE Learn

The CTE Research Network Training Modules, designed for CTE practitioners and state agency staff, will strengthen your capacity to access, understand, and use CTE data and research as well as conduct your own research — particularly causal research. This new series seeks to expand the evidence base on the impact of CTE and to bring CTE practitioners and researchers together in collaboration.

- Understanding CTE Data and Why It Matters
- Using Data and Research to Improve CTE Programs
- CTE Program Evaluation: Why It Matters to Practitioners
- Using State Data to Partner with Researchers
- Using Research to Design Your CTE Program for Equity
- How to Communicate About Your CTE Program Using Research
Upcoming Webinars

Mark your calendar for these upcoming free webinars, covering innovative best practices in CTE.

- Why is Academic Integration a Necessity in CTE Programs: A Discussion with Educators (Part 2) on Feb. 16 at 4:00 p.m. ET
- Why is Academic Integration a Necessity in CTE Programs: A Discussion with Students (Part 3) on April 12 at 4:00 p.m. ET

Learn more and sign up to attend

Region II on Social Media

Join our Region Facebook group to share ideas and resources or to communicate about opportunities. If you’d like to join the private Facebook group, you’ll need to request membership by clicking here.

You can also follow us on Twitter @ACTERegionII and be sure to tag us with exciting things from your program or state so we can retweet and spread the word.

Stay warm as we move through winter and into spring. The next newsletter will include updates about our Region II Conference which will be hosted by Virginia ACTE.

Sincerely,

Chaney Mosley, PhD
ACTE Region II Vice President