Hello to all my Region III CTE colleagues!

Along with the beautiful colors that mother nature paints in the fall, it's no-see-um (ouch!) and spider season for the insect world. (I know, spiders are not officially insects, but they are creepy-crawly!) I recently read that many spiders try to move inside during harvest. While my home in the suburbs isn't very close to the fields that surround us, we do have our share of them in our woods behind the house. In France, seeing a spider in the morning is a sign of grief, at noon it means joy and, in the evening, it means hope. My wish for you today is that you find joy and hope in your work, programing, students and coworkers on a daily basis this fall. My hope is that you are able to join us at VISION, whether it be in person or virtual. My joy is celebrating our wonderful CTE Champion and award nominees and all of the great things happening across our region! Be sure to check out the information on our Teach CTE PSA contest!

One final note: We will be holding our Annual Region III Business meeting virtually during VISION on **Wednesday, Dec. 1 from 3:30–5:00 p.m. CT**. More details on how to join us will be coming soon!

Don’t forget about our Region III Teach CTE Campaign contest. It is designed to bring awareness to the
teacher shortage AND to recruit teachers to the valuable career and technical education (CTE) areas! The Teach CTE contest is open to groups of students who want a hands-on learning opportunity and the chance to make a difference in their school and community!

Our Teach CTE Campaign will provide students the opportunity to:

- Develop and produce a 60-second audio or video public service announcement
- Work on a hands-on media campaign using best practices
- Build teamwork and leadership skills
- Learn more about Career and Technical Education opportunities
- Partner with local media outlets
- Compete for cash prizes

Campaign contest closes Nov. 24.

Learn more and register

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Innovation and Inspiration at CareerTech VISION 2021

Join career and technical educators for our largest event of the year at ACTE’s CareerTech VISION, happening Dec. 1–4 in-person in New Orleans, Louisiana, or virtually for dynamic, specially curated content. Featuring inspiring keynote speakers Kevin Brown and Anne Grady, VISION will provide unparalleled networking, concurrent program sessions covering best practices in multiple learning environments, an Expo featuring the latest career and technical education (CTE) products, and more!
COVID-19 Protocols in New Orleans

ACTE has been working very closely with our partners in New Orleans as we monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting safety protocols and want to share an update. Please note, these protocols are not ACTE’s but are the requirements of the city of New Orleans.

INDOOR MASK MANDATE IN EFFECT IN NEW ORLEANS
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask indoors when with people who are not in their immediate household. This means, all attendees must wear a mask while indoors at all venues, restaurants, etc. at all times. While eating, your mask can be off but must be put back on immediately after eating.

VACCINATION OR NEGATIVE COVID TEST REQUIRED in order to gain access to the following areas in New Orleans:

- Restaurants
- Bars
- Breweries, microbreweries, distilleries and micro-distilleries
- Event spaces such as hotel ballrooms, event venues and reception halls
- Casinos, racetracks and video poker establishments

Anyone 12 years of age and older must provide the following, if attending any of the above listed events in New Orleans:

Proof of at least one dose of an approved COVID vaccine -- original, digital photograph, or photocopy of CDC Vaccination Card
Negative PCR test within 72 hours -- physical or electronic test results from a PCR COVID-19 test indicating negative results within the past 72 hours. Antigen tests will not be accepted. For more information on testing sites, please click the New Orleans Testing Sites.

For the latest and addition COVID-19 information and guidelines in New Orleans to ensure your safety as a VISION attendee, please visit the New Orleans Ready site.

Learn more

ACTE Region and Division Meeting Schedule is Now Live!

All Region and Division Business Meetings are open meetings (with no registration fee) but require an RSVP to verify ACTE membership for members to vote on necessary items during the meeting. RSVPs are required by Friday, Nov. 5. The Zoom meeting link will be sent to each RSVP no later than Friday, Nov. 12. Questions? Contact memberservices@acteonline.org.

View the meeting agenda

Patrick Biggerstaff Named Champion for CTE Winner

ACTE is pleased to announce the ACTE Champion for CTE: Patrick Biggerstaff, Indiana CTE Director at Area 31 Career Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. This past year, Biggerstaff represented Indiana CTE Directors on the Indiana Governor’s
Workforce Cabinet CTE “Back on Track” working group to help develop the guidance for reopening facilities and returning to in-person instruction after COVID-19 and actively contributed to the ACTE *High-quality CTE Planning for a COVID-19 Impacted School Year* publication. The ACTE Champion for CTE award recognizes education leaders who support and champion CTE programs as a vital part of developing a prepared, adaptable, and competitive workforce. Meet Patrick Biggerstaff

### ACTE Awards Gala

The ACTE Awards winners will be presented at the ACTE Awards Gala on **Nov. 30 at 4:00 p.m. CT** in conjunction with ACTE’s CareerTech VISION, happening this **Dec. 1–4** virtually and in person in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Awards Gala is free to everyone to attend and generously sponsored by CareerSafe, Express Employment Professionals, Goodheart-Willcox and Stratasys Ltd.

### Verify Your Membership by Nov. 3 to Vote!

The 2022 ACTE board of directors’ election will be held this year **Dec. 3–Jan. 3**! Please mark your calendars to reflect the election schedule below:
• You must be an ACTE member by **Nov. 3** to vote
• Voting will open during VISION on **Dec. 3** and run through **Jan. 3**
• Winners will be announced in January 2022

Learn more

**Upcoming Webinars**

Mark your calendar for these upcoming free webinars, covering innovative best practices and inclusion, access, equity and diversity in CTE.

• Taking Business to School Series: West-MEC’s Partnership with Palo Verde Generating Station on **Oct. 25 at noon ET**
• How Space Exploration Can Solve Climate Change on **Oct. 27 at noon ET**
• How Virtual Patients are Reshaping Health Education on **Oct. 27 at 5:30 p.m. ET**
• IGNITE Worldwide: Closing the Gender Gap in STEM on **Dec. 8 at 2:00 p.m. ET**
• Transforming the Middle School Experience: A Community Approach to College and Career Readiness for Students in Grades 6-8 on **Dec. 13 at 1:00 p.m. ET**
• Reclaiming Humanity: Services to Individuals who are Justice-involved or Incarcerated on **Jan. 13, 2022 at noon ET**
Apply to Be a Mentee in ACTE’s IAED Mentorship Program

ACTE’s Inclusion, Access, Equity and Diversity (IAED) Mentorship Program, offering professional development opportunities to help cultivate more diverse and inclusive work environments for career and technical educators, is open to all ACTE members. Those who are interested in becoming a mentee in ACTE’s IAED Mentorship Program should apply by Oct. 31.

Learn more

Newly Updated Sector Sheet Series

ACTE has recently updated its Sector Sheet series on CTE’s role in developing the workforce for several industries, including law, military and veterans, energy, health care, transportation and many others. Each sector sheet includes up-to-date labor market information, descriptions of how CTE prepares the workforce for this sector, and examples of exemplary programs, and is generously supported by Pearson.

Read more

New Student Video Contest
ACTE, host of CTE Month, and NASA HUNCH are excited to announce the 2021–22 student video challenge, showcasing CTE and project-based learning programs in high-demand career fields on Earth and in space. This year’s theme is “How Can Space Exploration Solve Climate Change?” Students are asked to showcase CTE courses and careers to help us understand and provide solutions to global warming and climate change. The deadline to submit a two-minute video is April 1.

Learn more

Here’s to the spiders in your lives! May you find the best ways to deal with the morning ones and thrive in the joy and hope of the others!

Lisa Stange
VP, ACTE Region III

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