Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year. It’s hard to believe it is almost the end of September and some of you are already near the first midterm of the year. This time of year always brings me joy, as the weather begins to cool down, sometime we get some much needed moisture and we begin to think about the year ahead and what it brings.

As I reflect and think about the next year, in relation to SDACTE, I am excited to fill this role as the SDACTE President. Entering my 20th year in education, like many of you, I have seen a lot of changes in education, with students, families, and teaching. To think I used to get frustrated when the bulb went out in my overhead projector in the middle of class, now we are learning how to share our computers to Promethean TV screens where we can do so much more interactive activities with our students.

With change, it can bring the need to be flexible, understanding, and open minded. These are some of the goals I have as I fulfill this role this year.

Flexibility: This is something that was hard for me when I first began teaching. I was used to having, and thrived on consistency. It was hard for me to sit back and go with the flow. Now, don’t get me wrong, I still struggle with this some, but it is something I have learned we need to do as it is not only beneficial to our students, but also our colleagues, administration, and family. This year is bound to offer flexibility as we will be hosting the Summer SDACTE Conference in a new location and are in the process of onboarding our new SDACTE Executive Director, just as a couple examples.

Understanding: It appears now, more than ever, we have so much more on our plates than we did years ago. Whether it is work, family or community related, we are all very busy and trying to juggle multiple things at once. Along with being flexible, I think we need to be understanding. I am sure we all have those days in our classroom when a student seems “off” and is potentially causing trouble. Or a colleague who you normally don’t have an issue with, snaps at you about something silly you said or did. It is important for us to take a step back and know that we don’t know what that student or colleague has going on and maybe hasn’t or can’t share with us. Experiencing that they are having a hard time, and possibly taking out on you, try to not let that stop you from understanding there might be something bigger they are dealing with. As we navigate through the next year, I hope to be more understanding to those I interact with, as they may be dealing with something bigger.

Open Minded: I often feel that when you are a teacher, you must be open minded. But quite often, we are all so passionate about what we do and what we teach, we don’t care what others think, say or what changes can and need to be made. I hope to take time this year to keep an open mind in how we can continue to move our organization forward with changes that benefit us.

I encourage you to think about these three areas as you continue this educational journey this year and navigate potential changes coming your way. I look forward to serving this organization and would like to extend the opportunity to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or comments you may have.

Here’s to the 2022-2023 School Year!
The 50th annual summer conference was held in Sioux Falls on July 24-26. We kicked off the conference with a social event, Luau-themed, at Great Bear Ski Resort. In my opinion, it was a great way to kick off our conference. Picnic styled food, yard games, and a DJ were all available to get attendees socializing. What a great way to start conference getting to reconnected with our members.

Tuesday morning was filled with the various division meetings and division level breakout sessions. Attendees had an opportunity to visit the trade show and the morning was rounded out with our business meeting and luncheon. During the business meeting we recognized our past division presidents as a way of saying thank you for making 50 years of SDACTE a success. After lunch, were able to meet with our divisions again. We wrapped up the conference with our Celebrate CTE program and Culmination of our Chase the Ace fundraiser. This new, wild, crazy fundraiser netted over $800 toward scholarships.

Many of you filled out the conference evaluation forms, but if you have ideas as to how we can improve conference, possible keynote speakers, breakout sessions, vendors for the trade show or new fundraisers, please let your division presidents or any one of the officers know, as we have already started to plan for our conference next year when it will be held in Madison on July 30-Aug 1, 2023. Book your rooms now!

I want to personally thank you for your membership to SDACTE and encourage you to get the most out of it. It’s an excellent way to stay well-connected and stay up to date on events and information.

Have a wonderful 22-23 school year!
Dakota National Bank as part of their 150th Anniversary. Tracy’s impact on the McCook FFA students and her community, as well as her servant leadership led to her receiving nominations for this giveaway. Thank you to Andy Jensen for his service as President! Don Sutera, Sioux Valley Ag Teacher, is our new president-elect.

Wishing all of you safe travels and a great fall in classes and as contests start to ramp up.

**Kelly Dunkelberger**
**President-Elect**

I am your 2022-2023 President-Elect. I am a 7-12 grade Agricultural Food and Natural Resources educator at Parker High School. I am in my 9th year at Parker, and I consider this my final stop in my teaching career because this is my home district. I spent my first seven years teaching in the Centerville District and took a three-year break to work as a Program Director at SD Corn Growers Association. After realizing I had missed the classroom, I returned to Alcester-Hudson and taught for three years before applying to Parker. Throughout my years of teaching, I have been an active member of the SDACTE and SDAAE. In fact, I served three years on the SDAAE, where I spent my President year serving on the SDACTE Board of Directors.

If I had been asked before my time on the SDAAE leadership if I would ever help run either organization, I would have replied with a no! Serving on the SDAAE board enabled me to see what I was able to give back to my organization. I truly believe that between the SDAAE and SDACTE boards, there is such a tremendous backing of educators and professionals that even as a board member, you are never alone and have the support to reach your true potential. Through my involvement in these activities, I have shown my students that if you are an active member of a CTSO or any sports team, you can have an army of support right behind you.

While not at school, I am spending time with my husband, Dean, and our three children, Geoff (19), Vanessa (16), and Elizabeth (10). We enjoy spending summers riding horses and working with our show cattle and goats. Most of the year, our kids’ interests keep us heavily involved with keeping up with them.

I look forward to working with you and serving this organization over the next three years. I hope to see many of you at NAAE Vision in Las Vegas in November. Have a great year!

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**Ryan Kroger**
**BMIT Division**

It was great to see so many of our members this year at the SDACTE conference in Sioux Falls. This conference is always a terrific way to get motivated and inspired for the upcoming school year. I hope to see many more BMIT division members next year in Madison. I feel truly honored to serve as the BMIT division president. Our new officer team is Kristi Danscisin as your President-Elect; Amy Pearson is Vice President; Sherrie Kafka continues as Treasurer; and Kristi Olson is continuing as Secretary.

I am hoping we can grow our division this year and share in the value that joining a wonderful professional organization like ACTE, brings to each teacher’s toolkit. Please consider nominating your peers for some of our business division awards. Keep an eye out for some helpful resources to use in your business classroom. Remember it takes everyone to make our division great. Look for opportunities this fall to recruit new members to join ACTE!

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**Elizabeth Wookey**
**Health Science Division**

Greeting from SDACTE Health Science Division. I hope that you are having a great start to the new year. It is my hope that we have some opportunities to network this year and get to know one another. The Health Science Division would like to offer some professional development for teachers this year. We would also like to start a monthly chat via Zoom where we can collaborate on how to make this division stronger. If you have ideas for this group, we would love to hear them. Please email me at Elizabeth.wookey@k12.sd.us

I would like to take this time to communicate the importance of taking time for yourself each day. Breathing exercises and aroma therapy are great ways that you can relax. When you are making you lesson plans for the week try scheduling something that you enjoy doing after work. We are better teachers/employees when we feel relaxed and energized. I hope that this year is amazing and that you enjoy your students.
Hillary Terpestra  
SDATFCS Division

Sending warm wishes from the Family and Consumer Science division! I hope that you all have hit the ground running and are having great school years! We kicked off our year with an outstanding and amazing SDACTE conference to get us rocking and rolling into a new year! It was great to catch up with old friends and network with individuals that are new to our great profession!

I would also like to take a moment to recognize our current SDATFCS board members:
- President: Hillary Terpstra – Alcester-Hudson
- President Elect: Jennifer Poulos – West Central
- Past President: Stephanie Gelderman – Dakota Wesleyan University
- Secretary: Frankie Nelson – Bridgewater-Emery
- Treasurer: Carrie Kafka – Parkston
- VP of Communications: Morgan Heuer – Webster

For FACS division members, I would like to highlight our SDATFCS website: https://sites.google.com/view/sdatfacs/home, this website houses resources, workshop presentation materials from summer conference, and award information. Also, be sure to keep a close eye on your email as snapshots and updates are sent out periodically to members to keep you informed and updated!

I challenge you to keep connecting and networking with our talented SDACTE teachers and members. Try something new, step out of your comfort zone, and promote the great work you do every day! Best wishes on your continued school year ahead!

Jessica Weber  
Postsecondary Liaison

ACTE has a program for the postsecondary level. It is called NEXTLEVEL POSTSECONDARY CTE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. You can build your leadership abilities through this nationally recognized program that is engaging, individualized, and memorable. Work alongside peer professionals and an experienced mentor in a year-long professional development experience.

Elevate your interpersonal skills and capacity to communicate, collaborate, network, problem solve and use time and resources effectively. Identify a professional objective to address in your institution and, as a capstone project, carry it out to realize a lasting impact.

This program is intended to develop the organizational leadership and management skills of postsecondary CTE professionals, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of underserved populations.

The vision for the NextLevel Fellowship is to provide professional and career growth opportunities to the next generation of leaders in postsecondary CTE programs through a nationally recognized program that is engaging, individualized, and memorable.

The NextLevel Postsecondary CTE Leadership Program is made possible through the generous support of the ECMC Foundation. If you have questions about the program, reach out to Lauren Fillebrown, Senior Manager of Leadership Development at ACTE.

Bryce Holter  
T&I Division

The 50th Annual SDACTE Conference has come and gone, everything went well. I would like to give a shout out to Dodie Bemis for all her years of service for the SDACTE, wish her the best of luck in the future. Southeast also was a great host for the conference and thanks for a great conference.

There was a couple hiccups from the past conference and things will change in the future conference. I had two hiccups, one was, I had lined up a speaker for the conference and he end up have Covid-19 and couldn’t make the conference. So next year, there will be a Remind sent out to the members on cancellations and changes of events at the conference. This may be a work in progress.

The other hiccup was our Chasing the Ace. Trust me, we all had cards for people to pick and somehow, during the last draw the cards ended up in someone’s bag. Hope everyone liked the mini-Chase the Ace. Might be something we will do for the next conference in Madison in 2023. Congratulations to Tracy Kern on winning the pot.

The conference is a great way for getting my batteries charged up for the up-and-coming school year and looking forward to next year’s summer conference. One last thing to promote, The South Dakota Technology Education conference is held every year in Pierre and this year it is on January 26-28, 2023, at the Ramkota. Cost to attend the conference is only $100. College credit is available. For more information log on to www.sdtea.k12.sd.us. Best of luck in your coming school year.
Annika Russell-Manke
Postsecondary Liaison

ACTE’s CareerTech VISION 2022 is in Las Vegas, Nevada from Nov. 30–Dec. 3. This year there is an in-person along with a virtual option. No matter which option you choose Vision allows you to connect, collaborate and exchange ideas with career and technical educators from across the nation. This year’s event will offer premier programming and professional development that address timely topics in career and technical education (CTE) to help our school district thrive. Insightful conversations and programming will offer:

- Renowned keynote speakers exploring new directions in CTE
- Hundreds of concurrent sessions covering timely topics in high-quality secondary and postsecondary CTE
- Inclusion, access, equity and diversity in CTE, and culturally responsive CTE environments and classrooms
- Strategies for thriving in virtual, hybrid and in-person learning environments
- Live product demonstrations, exhibitor workshops and the most comprehensive collection of CTE products and services in the CareerTech Expo

Region V ACTE is in Fargo and will not disappoint! The Star Tribune in September 2021 named Fargo as one of the top three Midwestern cities to consider for a getaway. “Lively, jammed-with-attractions Fargo is a role model for small cities everywhere and makes for an ideal getaway,” stated Rick Nelson, the Star Tribune columnist.

Networking Opportunities
- Best Practices – you can learn and take back innovative lessons and programs to your school
- Break-out sessions – small workshops covering the strands of creating a world of opportunities
- Networking – several opportunities available to get to know one another and learn from your peers
- Trade Show – Companies from upper Midwest will be available to help you.

Call for Presentations opening soon! Get ready to share your knowledge and program highlights with attendees! Strands to include Leadership and Advocacy, Equity in the Classroom, Assessment, Career Ready Practice Integration Strategies, Instructional Strategies, and Business/Community partnerships.

Registration – opens November 2022. Budget now to attend!
Rates before March 1, 2022, $475.
Rates March 1 and later $550.
For more information go to: www.NDACTE.com

Tracy Kern
Region V
Policy Committee

Discover a World of Opportunities as you attended ACTE Region V Meeting in Fargo, North Dakota from April 12-15, 2023. Whether you are a first-timer or a seasoned veteran, you will find something new at this conference. A few highlights of the conference include a presentation from motivational speaker, Alex Kajitani and an evening tour and meal at the Fargo Air Museum. Thursday’s afternoon (April 13, 2023) events will include various business and industry tours that are in and around the Fargo, ND area.

Please visit the ACTE Region V website (https://www.acteonline.org/state_region/region-v/) if you would like additional information about the conference. If you would like to present at the conference, the call for presenter form will be posted on the above website around the time of ACTE Vision meeting.

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First, I want to express what an honor it is to be part of such a worthwhile organization. I have learned so much at the ACTE and SDACTE conferences. It has also help me with networking and meeting so many amazing people. Second, best wishes to Dodie Bemis. She has been a pillar of SDACTE for so many years and made such a positive impact on CTE. Thank you, Dodie!

Lastly, the ACTE Vision Conference is coming up in Las Vegas November 30 -December 3, 2022. With that said, SDACTE has a stipend to help offset the costs of attending. There's still time to apply for the ACTE VISION stipend. Attending this conference is a great way to gain professional development and network with other teachers from across the United States. There are more than 300 breakout sessions on everything from secondary and postsecondary programming to career clusters to grants and funding. If you are looking for some resources and information on what is up-and-coming in CTE, then VISION 2022 is for you.

We offer three $500 stipends to members who are attending VISION. If you are chosen to receive the stipend there are just three things, you do in return:

1. Winners must submit an article to SDACTE’s newsletter summarizing their experiences at ACTE.
2. Winners must attend the Region V Business Meeting at ACTE.
3. Winners must remain at ACTE through the last day of the conference to attend the State Leadership Breakfast.

Division presidents have copies of the application and you can also apply at https://www.acteonline.org/sdacte/. The deadline has been extended to October 15th!
2022 SDACTE Excellence Award Winners

Beverly Reike
Awards Committee Chair

New Teacher of the Year—Mercedes Lemke from Gettysburg School District

Ms. Lemke has just started her fifth year of teaching Ag education and advising FFA in the Gettysburg School District. Since beginning to teach in this district numerous technology additions including 3D printing, a plasma cutter and new welding booths have been added to her department. An internship program through a collaborative effort between the FACS and Ag Education Department was created. Many community partnerships like C&B Operations and CHS River Plains are used in the curriculum of the courses Mercedes teaches. Using the Agriscience Fair in FFA with the freshman and sophomore classes this past year, 15 projects were implemented. In addition, this past fall an 8th Grade Ag Class was added to Gettysburg’s Ag program.

Teacher of the Year—Carrie Kafka from Parkston School District

Mrs. Kafka has been teaching Family and Consumer Science for the past 13 years of which 10 years were spent teaching in a rural middle/high school and then the last 3 years she has taught in Parkston, where she grew up. Since starting, she has built a strong foundation for the Teach and Train course where students learn about the world of teaching. Carrie also advises FCCLA where her membership has grown, and 17 STAR Event competitors have qualified for national competition. A service project that started with a small idea from one of her members has grown into a huge project. “The Trojan Den” is a student closet at PHS which has provided help to over 200 students and collected over $6,200 in monetary donations. They also work with local churches to provide holiday meals, meal kits, and Christmas gifts for families and students.

Carl Perkins Community Service Award—Charlotte Mohling from Wessington Springs School District

Mrs. Mohling teaches Family and Consumer Sciences and technology in the Wessington Springs School District as well as serves as the Curriculum Director. In addition, she serves as the advisor to two FCCLA chapters: one at the junior high level and one at the senior high level. This is possible as it is an integral, intra-curricular part of the CTE foundation and FCS courses that she teaches. Helping her students realize the impact and importance of service to others is so evident in her school and community. Charlotte demonstrates leadership by working side-by-side with her students as they complete community service projects. Here is just a list of a few of the projects she has done: Angel Tree, Veterans Day activities, delivering items to the Ronald McDonald House, working with elementary students, developing a microbusiness, raising money for Pheasant Forever habitats, and renovating dugouts at the baseball field; just to mention a few. Her belief is that skills learned in CTE, FCS courses, and FCCLA apply to a variety of situations and future career choices.

The above Excellence award winners will now advance to Region V competition and winners will be announced during the Region V ACTE meeting to be held in Fargo, ND in April 2023.

2022 Non-member Award Winner (for their support of CTE)
South Dakota Friend of Career and Technical Education—Jean Clarke from Emery

Mrs. Clarke is a retired CTE teacher who taught family and consumer sciences in Emery and Emery-Bridgewater for 38 years. In her teaching career she was actively involved in many curriculum projects and initiatives including High Schools That Work program, Adviser to Advisee, and Senior Project. Committee work reports and curriculum development topics have been shared and presented to colleagues many times over the years. While advising FCCLA she had several peer educators, district and state officers, one national officer, and multiple state STAR Event winners who qualified for national competition. She served as a cooperating teacher and served as a mentor to 12 student teachers and of those 12, 6 are currently teaching in South Dakota. For the past 17 years Jean has taught Human Development classes on DDN and now on DIAL Virtual High School. She has also served in several leadership roles and has been recognized in several award areas of SDATFACS and SDACTE.
Achieve 100

The Achieve 100 Award recognizes schools and institutions that have 100 percent ACTE membership participation from every member of their career and technical staff. In 2021, the following schools and institutions received an Achieve 100 Award. ACTE would like to thank these schools for their support of the Association and for their commitment to CTE.