

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **2013 ACTE Region 3 Conference to be Held in East Peoria, IL**
- **IBEA Sets the Gold Standard at 50th Annual Conference**
- **Chicago CTE Protected from Program Closures**
- **Get Involved in IFACSTA**
- **IHOA Provides Professional Development to Foster Leadership**

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President's Message

A new school year has settled in, fall is in the air and October is half over! Where has the time gone? It has been almost a year and a half since the IACTE office in Springfield closed its doors. Due to the efforts of a very determined Executive Board, IACTE has survived that closure.

At the August IACTE Board of Directors' meeting, the Board approved a recommendation to hire a consultant to assist with the organization and coordination of IACTE activities and responsibilities. A committee was appointed to contract the services of a consultant to fulfill this recommendation. As of October 1, Cindy Stover, CKO Consulting, has assumed these

responsibilities. We look forward to having Cindy assist us!

Thank you to the affiliate organizations for submitting articles that made this issue of the *PROGRESS* possible. It is with everyone's cooperation that IACTE is able to fulfill its mission.

Dawn Sullivan, President-Elect, has recently announced that the 83rd Annual Conference and IACTE Annual Meeting will be held February 21-22, 2013, at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Normal, IL. The Conference theme is *The Magic of CTE - a Forum on Best Practice*. As conference plans are

finalized, information will be posted on the IACTE website. Please plan now to attend!

Election Day is just around the corner and Perkins Legislation expires in 2013. Now, more than ever before, we, as CTE educators, must work together to make our voices heard. If you have not already done so, work at building a relationship with your legislators. Let your legislators know what it takes to weave your program together. Tell them the story of how your program works. Let them know the part that funding plays in that story. CTE must survive for many of our students to be successful!

-Peggy Miller, IACTE President

ACTE Region 3

The Region 3 Policy Committee met on Thursday, June 21, 2012, at the Marriott West, Middleton, WI. Katrina Plese, Larry Shimmin, and Cindy Stover, from Illinois, attended the meeting. The Committee voted to provide financial assistance to the Region 3 Fellow and the Region 3 State Leadership participants again this year. They will, also, provide \$500 grants for states to participate in a Media Blitz to promote the image of CTE.

Illinois Representatives on the Region 3 Committees are: Gary Hutchinson-Awards Chair through 2013, Cindy Stover-Policy Committee through 2013 and Katrina Plese-Region 3 Vice-President Elect.

The 2012 Region 3 Conference was held in Middleton, WI, on June 21-22, 2012, with 43 in attendance. The

theme of the conference was *Moving Forward-A New Vision for CTE*. Sessions were held on Legislative Updates, Funding Opportunities, Business & Industry Partnerships, Moving Together in the Right Direction, Programs of Study and Thinking Globally While Eating Locally. ACTE President, Bryan Albrecht, spoke at the Conference. Congratulations to Peggy Miller and Cathy Carruthers who both received Region 3 Awards of Merit. It was a good conference with excellent Wisconsin food favorites and great networking.

The 2013 Region 3 Conference will be hosted by Illinois. It will be held on June 20-21, 2013, at the Stoney Creek Inn in East Peoria. Mark your calendars now! We need a good group of CTE leaders to attend the conference. The Conference Planning Committee consists of:

Carol Leach – ICTA Executive Director and Peoria Liaison

Nancy Kroll – Past Region 3 Representative and FACS Teacher

Peggy Miller – IACTE President and System Director

David Green – Community College Dean of Agriculture, Business & Technology

Annie Brooks – ISBE Health Science Technology Consultant

Mark Pfeifer – System Director and Career Center Director

Cindy Stover – Region 3 Representative

Katrina Plese – Region 3 Vice-President Elect and Career Center Director

The ACTE CareerTech Vision Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, November 29-December 1, 2012. This is the first year for Career Tech Vision – you won't want to miss it!

-Cindy Stover

“As a career and technical educator, I feel fortunate to assist students in connecting with their futures.”

-Elizabeth Kaufman

“We are lucky to have in Illinois an Education for Employment System that allows us to utilize a systematic approach to networking.”

-Jeff Jerdee

ILAVESNP Illinois Association of Vocational Education Special Needs Personnel

As the school year begins, I would like to welcome back students, teachers, and support staff. One of the greatest challenges I face with the beginning of the school year is getting to know my students. The transition period can be especially difficult for at-risk students. The Carl D. Perkins legislation defines at-risk students as individuals who are academically disadvantaged, single parent, English Language Learner, economically disadvantaged, non-traditional and/or disabled. I would like to reflect on how to assist these students in maximizing their school year. Maurice Elias, Professor at Rutgers University, provides the following strategies to assist at-risk students, but can be used with every student: build a caring,

sustained relationship in which at-risk students can build a sense of trust and have the time to communicate the complexity, frustrations and positive aspects of their lives in and out of school; reachable goals-the most motivating goals are those that are within reach if some effort is exercised; realistic, hopeful pathways-we must recognize the difficulty of trying a new path and, both, prepare students for obstacles and support them when they run into problems; engaging school and community settings-the feeling of being engaged in a setting or group happens when students have opportunities to receive positive recognition and to make positive contributions, can spend time in environments in which

teamwork is encouraged, and get help learning new skills that they find valuable and helpful in their lives.

As a career and technical educator, I feel fortunate to assist students in connecting with their futures. The Illinois Association of Vocational Education Special Needs Personnel is committed to helping students transition to a career through continued education and/or employment. We are planning to offer an array of professional development topics at this year's conference to assist with meeting the needs of at-risk students and are happy to assist you throughout the year.

-Elizabeth Kaufman, President

ICTA Illinois Career and Technical Administrators

As the summer months become a distant gleam in the rear view mirror, and with the reality of the start of the school year looking at us square in the face, hopefully, many of you had a smooth start (no disrespect to Chicago). As we settle in for another school year, look around and what do you see? Many of you are working with fellow staff members that have the magic TRS numbers of 35 years of experience and 55 years old. What does that mean to your district? It means a number of highly experienced people will not be here next year. The big question is what are you doing to replace that “brain drain”? As a new generation of administrators are handed the preverbal cutting torch, what have you done to mentor the “youth” that will be responsible for the direction of career and technical education in Illinois? Whether it is a CTE teacher crossing over to the dark side (administration) or CTE Chairperson moving up the ranks, what have you done to showcase your experiences that have made CTE

what it is today in your district?

One of the saving graces I have found over the years has been the networking that is made possible because I belong to both IACTE and my affiliate, ICTA. This collection of professionals who give freely of their expertise and knowledge over the years, have saved me on numerous occasions from learning the hard way. I was always told those who don't learn from history are damned to live it again (you can't tell me those Career Pathway templates don't look amazingly close to the Tech Prep templates used over 20 years ago). Today, more than ever, has networking been more necessary. We are lucky to have in Illinois an Education for Employment System that allows us to utilize a systematic approach to networking. Through the voice of 58 System Directors, you have a network to deliver your voice and experiences to administrators throughout the state, and in turn, learn from them and their associates. Your System Director has the insights of ISBE

and other district's best practices throughout the state. Like any research project, you always check to see if anybody else is doing something, so that you are not reinventing the wheel. With over 900 school districts in Illinois, networking with your System Director gives you access to the many cutting edge initiatives throughout the state, costing you nothing more than an email.

So get out there and start “breaking in” that new generation of administrators, you can start by showing them how to access your local System Director to network statewide. You also might want to show them how to sign up for the IACTE Conference February 21 and 22, at the Normal Marriott; it is a great place to start!

-Jeff Jerdee, President

ICTA^{Illinois}
Career and Technical Administrators

IBEA Illinois Business Education Association

I hope your school year has started off in a positive manner and you are as excited to be back in the classroom as I am!

Mark your calendars now for the **2012 IBEA Conference** which will be held **November 7-9, 2012**, at the **Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel and Convention Center** in Normal. IBEA will be *Setting the Gold Standard* by celebrating the 50th Annual Conference of the Illinois Business Education Association. Conference highlights include:

- Dynamic keynote Speaker **Corinne Hoisington**
- Tour of State Farm Headquarters, David Davis Mansion and Beer Nuts
- Hands-on computer sessions
- Numerous break-out sessions on current business/related topics for YOUR classroom
- A Wednesday evening reception and most meals are included

- CPDU and College Credit
- Commercial exhibitors featuring many educational exhibitors
- Free wireless Internet
- Networking opportunities

Join us at the 50th Annual IBEA Conference and take back fresh ideas for your classes that you can use right away!

IBEA Conference Session Chairs are needed—session chairs for the 2012 IBEA Conference are still needed. Visit the IBEA website at www.ibea.org and follow the link for “**Call for Chairpersons**” in the right column or contact Deanna Hudgens at deanna.hudgens@gmail.com to volunteer as a session chair.

School Travel Budgets—finding school funding to travel to professional development activities is difficult, but there are options such as PCCS travel funds, Perkins travel funds, grants, staff development funds, etc. Start now to look for possible funding sources to attend the 2012 IBEA Confer-

ence and be sure to **contact your System Director** to see if they have funds available to help you.

As you continue in this academic year, think about how you can give back or take a more active role. The first thing we all need to do is talk about the importance of career and technical education. We must stress the importance of CTE to our administrators, board members, and community. In addition, encourage your students to talk to Board members about the skills they are learning in your classroom and how those skills are benefitting them.

Thank you for all of the work you do every day to help shape our future business leaders. I wish you the best in your 2012-13 academic year and plan to see many of you at the 50th Annual IBEA Conference in November!

-Tina Dierkes, President



INRS Illinois New and Related Services

Progressive unionism is not just about the bread and butter issues of the past, but understanding the political, economic, and political landscapes in which educators work. For the past two years, the Chicago Teachers Union Practical Arts and Vocational Education Committee (PAVE), also known as CTE, has worked on rewriting the career education contract language for the third largest school district in the nation. The CTU just suspended a seven day strike called to force the Chicago Board of Education to agree on a fair contract for employees. The CTE issues most pressing to the Union were job protection, training and program funding.

Here are some of the highlights of what we put into the contract. We broadened language to include more categories/subjects taught so that funding streams would continue to be considered CTE rather than being diverted to college prep classes or

programs. Six percent of vocational education funds, including CTEI and Perkins Grants shall be allocated by teachers subject to Board procurement rules and grant guidelines. The Board shall use its best efforts to remove any impediments to timely procurement of materials and equipment. All CTE labs, shops, and classrooms will be given baseline materials and equipment that shall be ready on the first day of teacher attendance. Shops and labs must meet industry standards, including compliance with OSHA regulations.

The Board and Union will work together and co-sponsor a new educational manpower council. The goal is to identify workforce needs based on input from knowledgeable players from the 10 largest employment sectors in the metropolitan area, including representatives from the business community, other educational institutions, labor organizations, and state and local governments.

There is now contract language that protects and helps to reimburse CTE teachers for any extra

training or credentials they may need related to technology and certifications that may change in the future. Additionally, those certification changes and training needs are to be discussed with the Union prior to implementation. Last, and most importantly, there is now contract language specifically identifying the protection of CTE from school actions that may close programs.

There were many more issues that we wanted to include in the contract, but as with all bargaining there is a give and take. In our efforts, we started with a contract that had six contract articles specifically for CTE, which we have now increased to 14 CTE contract articles. Not bad for a couple year's work!

-John Kugler



83rd Annual Conference and IACTE Annual Meeting, February 21-22, 2013, Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

The Magic of CTE - a Forum on Best Practice

Plan Now to Attend!



Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education

IACTE provides unified, visionary leadership to advance career and technical education.

President: Peggy Miller

President-Elect: Dawn Sullivan

Past-President: Gary Hutchinson

Secretary: Connie Campbell

Treasurer: Susan Hanfland

Website: www.iacte.org

Email: info@iacte.org

Please encourage new CTE educators to join IACTE. The *Membership Form* is posted on the IACTE website.

IFACSTA Illinois Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher's Association

As Family and Consumer Sciences, FCS, professionals, we work collaboratively across the state of Illinois to help offer teachers a variety of opportunities to grow and sustain healthy FCS programs. We currently have IFACSTA members all over the state helping by volunteering for our organization. What an empowering feeling. We are lucky to have everyone!

IFACSTA has a structure that encompasses six regions with representatives holding meetings to help educate and build partnerships with professionals from middle school, high school, post-secondary, business, industry and entrepreneurship.

IFACSTA opportunities include the Curriculum Revitalization Project and FCS Update Sessions that cover topics in transition, such as new Common Core Standards, exploring new resources, learning new technology, maximizing funds, and discussion of how to sustain a healthy FCS program.

Every year the Association for Career and Technical Education, ACTE, holds two national conferences. This year ACTE will host their first International Summit on Excellence in Education for Career and Technical Education. This summit will be November 29-December 1, in Atlanta, Georgia. I hope to see you there!

There are always opportunities for collaborating, contextualizing, creating, credentialing, customizing, embedding, empowering, establishing, evolving, expanding, experiences, fostering, and so much more.

We hope that we can help you to grow and sustain a healthy FCS program.

If you would like to get involved or have questions, please feel free to email President Robin Gordon at fcsteachers@yahoo.com.

-Robin Gordon, President

IHOA Illinois Health Occupations Association

This incredible organization, Illinois Health Occupations Association, is currently searching for those educators that constitute the many Health Science Technology programs across the State. We know your students think you are AWESOME! We know your peers view you as INSPIRING! And, we in IHOA want you to bring your leadership to our association.

Why IHOA?

The IHOA Mission provides unified, visionary leadership to advance career and technical education in the health science technology programs in Illinois. Our purposes extend this mission further by promoting the development, upgrading and dissemination of quality career and technical education programs at all levels. We must invest in the future of HST education through collaboration and formulation of pathways that allow our students to become the leaders in a turbulent healthcare environment.

IHOA must provide professional development and growth activities involving current trends, issues, and emerging technologies for all career and technical educators so as to promote quality instruction in order for Illinois HST educators to deliver high-quality curriculum to their students. By establishing leadership skill training and mentor programs, IHOA can promote fu-

ture professionals capable of directing the course of HST education in Illinois.

Our Association must foster leadership development that will encourage and recognize bold thinking, creativity and innovation among its members to assure the continuation of a strong Association. The frontline instructors in our Health Science Technology programs face many challenges. The need for a consistent, intensive and supportive Association is critical to the future of healthcare in our state.

Why Now!

The current volatility within the educational and health industry has generated a high priority for all HST educators to collaborate and research new and innovative strategies to meet the future demands of our students and soon to be consumers. Terms such as "Health Literacy" and "Health Leadership" have been integrated into all aspects of society especially with the advent of healthcare reform. Merging the two environments of education and healthcare remain, during this time of influx, not easy. That is why now is the time to collaborate and pioneer curriculum and leaders that can meet the demands of this transition.

We know you are "awesome" and IHOA wants to

invite you to join our first professional development endeavor for this year, HOSA Advisor/Health Science Educator Workshop. *Build a Better You: Working Smarter Not Harder* will be presented by Patty Hendrickson on Monday, October 22, 2012, at the Decatur Conference and Hotel Center in Decatur, Illinois. Time for the Conference is 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Contact April Sonnefeldt at asonnefeldt@sd129.org or call (630) 301.6756 for registration. CPDUs will be offered.

Currently, IHOA is constructing informative and engaging educational sessions for the IACTE Conference in February. In order to promote the "Magic" within the HSTE programs across the state, we need you to be an integral part of this Association. Several initiatives are coming to your attention today including the constant introduction of new data and research that make implementing them a challenge. Together, through IHOA membership, we can achieve successful outcomes that are evidence-based, and formulate a HST Educator pathway that recognizes and endorses the authentic leader you are.

-Karen Calligaris