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## President's Message

The school year is well underway with IACTE members involved in numerous activities promoting Career and Technical Education throughout the State of Illinois. Thank you to the IACTE Board and Committee Chairs for their dedication to the initiatives outlined in the IACTE Strategic Plan. Nine committees continue to work within the *five focus areas* of the plan.

Within the area of **leadership**, the IACTE Conference Planning Committee continues to plan the final details for the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, *CTE: The Foundation for the Future*, being held at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria on February 17-19, 2016. IACTE Consultant Cindy Stover facilitated leadership training for the board in August based on the book, "Strengths Based Leadership," by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie. Board members had the opportunity to reflect on individual leadership strengths organized in four domains: executing, influencing, relationship building, and strategic thinking. We found that the IACTE board had members with strengths in each of these four domains to contribute to a strong and cohesive team. Leadership training was also conducted as a component of the IAVAT Conference, IFACSTA Conference, ICTA Back to School Retreat in August, The Forum for Excellence Conference, the ITEC Conference and is scheduled during the IBEA Conference in November. The book, "Strengths Finder 2.0" by Tom Rath was utilized for the trainings. IACTE received approval for the Perkins Leadership Grant again this year from the Illinois State Board of Education to continue professional development opportunities for IACTE members focusing on current technologies and effective instructional practices in career and technical education.

A second focus area within the IACTE strategic plan is **legislation**. The Public Information/Legislation committee keeps us informed of items that may have an impact on career and technical education. IACTE supports legislation that promotes graduation requirements that include Career and Technical Education skills and promotes CTE programs which enhance student career opportunities. This committee is also in the process of developing a new CTE Legislative protocol for use with IACTE members, board, and committees when communicating on legislative items. Look for more information to come soon on the National Policy Seminar in February 29-March 2, 2016, as well as CTE Legislative Day being held in Springfield on March 17, 2016.

The Public Relations Committee and Membership Promotions Committee work on activities for the **promotion** of CTE, which is the third focus area within the strategic plan. Thank you to Cindy Stover, IACTE Consultant, who worked diligently with SilkStart representatives to create and launch the new IACTE website [www.iacte.org](http://www.iacte.org). It is a work in progress that has already improved communication to members and promotion of our organization. IACTE officers and members from the Public Relations and Membership Promotions Committees are currently revising the graphic design of the IACTE brochure to distribute to members and to update the website.

The Policy and Procedures Committee, along with the Constitution/Bylaws/Resolutions Committee continue to focus on **unification** as they work with various affiliate representatives to

*Continued on page 8*

Nominate  
an  
outstanding  
career and  
technical  
educator  
for the  
IACTE  
Awards  
Program.

See details  
on page 6.

## Membership Promotions Committee

The Membership Promotions Committee made recommendations to the IACTE Board in August in order to increase IACTE Membership. We proposed a membership drive relying heavily on community college and secondary administrators to assist in increasing their membership. Affiliates are also encouraged to increase membership and affiliates with at least ten new IACTE members between August 15 – November 15, 2015, will receive a 20% dues rebate from IACTE.

The Membership Promotions Committee was also instrumental in the development of IACTE's new website. This website now has the capacity to process membership online. We hope this, coupled with an updated and more informative website, will help bolster the membership in our wonderful organization.

*Nick Chatterton – Membership Promotions Committee Chair*

## TEA of Illinois

The Technology Education Association of Illinois hosted its annual conference on October 16-17, 2015, at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Bloomington/Normal, IL. The keynote speaker was Steve Elza, the 2015 Illinois Teacher of the Year. Steve is an applied technology teacher at William Fremd High School in Palatine, IL.

Attendees were offered a tour of Bridgestone Firestone and over twenty breakout sessions.

### **TSA Competition**

On October 9, 2015, the Illinois Technology Student Association held their 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Day Competition at Illinois State University. There were more than 400 students registered to compete from more than 20 different schools across Illinois. The competitions included design and engineering challenges in Engineering Design, Structural and Transportation Technology and Vex Robotics.

### **TSA Sponsored Vex Robotics Competition**

On October 31, 2015, two IL-TSA schools, Seneca High School and Timothy Christian High School, will host a Vex Robotics competition at Seneca High School. There will be 24 teams of students competing in the 2015 VRC Event, "Nothing But Net." Awards will be given out for Best Robotic Design, Tournament Finalists, Tournament Champions, and Excellence. Winners of the event will automatically qualify for the Illinois State Vex Robotics Championships in March.

*-Troy Blunier, TEAI Representative to the IACTE Board*

# IFACSTA Illinois Family and Consumer Science Teacher's Association

Due to the resignation of IFACSTA Co-Presidents Mandy Marks and Jacque Fontillas, I was appointed to President of IFACSTA during the September 19, 2015, IFACSTA Board Meeting.

IFACSTA members enjoyed a great conference that was held at the Hilton Lisle/Naperville on July 14-15, 2015. During this conference many outstanding members in IFACSTA were recognized. Membership recognitions were: 40 Years of Membership- Carla Nielson, Patti Kozlowski and Judy Dameron; 45 years of Membership-Mary George and **55 Years of Membership- Mary Beth Stine**. At the conference we also recognized IFACSTA Teacher of the Year Award-Loretta Johnson, IFACSTA Image Award-Donna Stewart, IFACSTA Community Service Award-Diane Germann, IFACSTA Lifetime Achievement Award-Jeanne Uffmann and Friends of IFACSTA Award-Brian Gordon and Dede Woodard. We had a wonderful conference this summer and plans are being made for next year's conference. **"SAVE THE DATE" - 2016 IFACSTA Annual Conference, July 19-20, 2016, Marriott Hotel and Conference Center and Illinois State University, Normal, IL.**

One of the topics that has been on my mind lately is the future of all career and technical education programs. The public is crying for skilled employees and people are starting to see how important career and technical education is to many of our students. We have fought for our existence in the curriculum for many years and now some are seeing the wisdom of our cries. I always said that career and technical educators were the first to realize No Child Should Be Left Behind. Now that we have people on our side we need to be aware that they are going to have a hard time filling our shoes once we retire.

Look at your alma mater and check if there is an education program in your field of teaching. How many students are signed up to become teachers? An awareness of the upcoming teacher shortage has started, but look around you at the programs being cancelled because there are no teachers to fill the positions.

We need to contact the colleges and universities to share our concern for diminishing programs. We need to tell the legislature that the teacher shortage is real and they need to support us in our work to educate Illinois students. We need to keep our programs up to date and current so that there is an uproar when anyone wants to cancel our programs. We need to be advocates for career and technical education.

I see being a member in IACTE/IFACSTA as a great way to stay current and enable myself to become a better educator. We need a strong membership in IACTE, IFACSTA, and the other affiliates. Ask the teachers around you to join us in this great organization of IACTE. Membership information can be found on the IACTE website at [www.iacte.org](http://www.iacte.org).

*Deb Holmes-IFACSTA President*



Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education

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

**President: Dede Woodard**

**1st Vice President: Chris Kendall**

**2nd Vice President: Tammi Conn**

**Past-President: Elizabeth Kaufman**

**Secretary: Sally Lessen**

**Treasurer: Jodi Ferriell**

**Website: [www.iacte.org](http://www.iacte.org)**

**E-mail: [info@iacte.org](mailto:info@iacte.org)**

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

Save the  
Date!

86<sup>th</sup> Annual  
IACTE  
Conference

CTE-The  
Foundation  
for the  
Future!

February  
18-19, 2016

Par-a-Dice  
Hotel and  
Conference  
Center, East  
Peoria, IL

See page 9  
for more  
details!

## INRS Illinois New and Related Services

### *Chicago Teachers Expanding OSHA Training*

Illinois New and Related Services and The Chicago Teachers Union has embarked on an ambitious organizing drive to OSHA certify every Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher in the Chicago Public Schools to be OSHA Authorized Trainers. Teachers are trained and certified to issue OSHA 10-hour and 30-hour safety cards to their students at a cost of \$5 per student. The training can be integrated into the course curriculum, and there is no need for any outside vendors or pull-out time for students to receive the OSHA safety cards.

At the Illinois Federation of Teachers Westmont Offices, 11 construction teachers went through two weeks of training this past summer. They all received credentials allowing them to conduct 10-hour and 30-hour construction courses in accordance with Federal Construction Safety Standards. The idea is to expand the program so in a few years all CPS CTE students will have an OSHA certification when finishing CTE programs. That also means all CTE teachers will have OSHA Trainer Authorizations.

The Train-the-Trainers OSHA Pilot is only possible with our partners at ICWUC (International Chemical Workers Union Consortium) that include the American Federation of Teachers, Illinois Federation of Teachers, University of Cincinnati, Great Lakes OSHA Education Center and Illinois New and Related Services. Chicago Public Schools has agreed with the goal of the pilot program to one day have all Chicago CTE students graduate with OSHA safety cards.

In Connecticut, the State AFT affiliate has been so successful with this training that the majority of construction teachers in the high schools are now OSHA Trainers. If you are interested in getting involved in order to expand this program in Illinois, contact [johnkugler@ctulocal1.com](mailto:johnkugler@ctulocal1.com). There is no cost to AFT or IFT affiliated staff.

*John Kugler, PhD – INRS Treasurer*

## IBEA Illinois Business Education Association

*IBEA—Power of the Past, Force of the Future—Switch It On!* will be the theme for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Business Education Association Conference, which will be held November 11 – 13, 2015, at the Springfield Hilton Hotel. This year's conference features:

Keynote Speaker, Rick Ceh, Co-Founder of Find iT, LLC; Tours of business and education; Microsoft Office Specialist Certification sessions; Numerous break-out sessions; CPDU's and College Credit

At the close of the conference, officers representing IBEA will be as follows:

Dr. Jason Tanner, Immediate Past President  
Heidi Eaton, President  
Diane Mahinda, First Vice-President  
Christie Hovey, Second Vice-President  
Mary Alice Schmidt, Treasurer  
Betsy Mehlberg, Secretary

Please join business educators from around the state for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Business Education Association Conference. Mark your calendars now to attend the **2016 IBEA Fall Conference November 9 – 11, 2015**, in Springfield, IL. Program Chair, Diane Mahinda, is in charge of program planning. To learn more about the Illinois Business Education Association, visit the website at [www.ibea.org](http://www.ibea.org).

*Jason Tanner, Ph.D. - IBEA President*

## IHOA Illinois Health Occupations Association

IHOA has been actively working on membership recruitment and planning for the upcoming IACTE conference in February 2016.

HOSA is having their annual “Fall Leadership Conference” on October 16, 2015. Student leaders will be attending. HOSA advisors will have a professional development presentation that day. IHOA is on the agenda to present information on IHOA, an affiliate of IACTE. We are going to cover the benefits of being a member of both organizations. A brochure is in development to outline and highlight these areas. Our plan is to be ready for HOSA advisors to be able to sign up that day for both organizations.

Our conference plan includes the following breakout sessions:

On Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., there will be a tour of the Jump Trading Facility at the OSF Children’s Hospital. The Jump Trading facility is impressive to see. The tour will offer a glimpse of the future opportunities available in health sciences technology.

Breakout sessions include:

1. Better Brains for Babies – a speaker from Atlanta will give in depth information on all aspects of baby brain development. The purpose is to help understand the consequences when development does not go as planned.
2. Starting a CNA Program-Joyce Steber, Steber Consulting Services
3. Portfolio Development (tentative)– Brian Gordon with TREES and Mary Waters from Watersedge Consulting will present a session on portfolio development for both the instructor and the student.
4. Starting a Pharmacy Tech Program (Tentative)– UIC Pharmacy
5. AHEC (Tentative) – AHEC to present on improving networking and communications.

We will be holding our Annual IHOA Meeting during the conference. Our meeting will include plans for 2016 – 2017 along with the election of new officers for IHOA.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the conference!

*Nance Budde-IHOA President*

## ICTA Illinois Career and Technical Administrators

The Illinois Career and Technical Administrators (ICTA) hosted a Back to School Retreat on August 6-7, 2015, at the I-Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign, IL. Over 40 members attended this event that featured a keynote address from Beth Purvis, Illinois Secretary of Education. There were also breakout sessions with Dora Welker and Howard Hammel from ISBE and Pam Weber, the ICTA Legislative Consultant. IACTE hosted a board meeting prior to the event and both the Education for Employment System Directors and Area Career Center Directors hosted meetings at the retreat. We look forward to continuing to grow this event.

ICTA hosted an Administrators’ Academy on Thursday, October 8, 2015, at the Capital Area Career Center in Springfield. This was an opportunity for CTE administrators to learn more about student growth measurement and evaluation in non-core areas, specifically CTE. We are also making plans to host a Legislative Administrators’ Academy during the spring. More information about this event will be available soon.

If you have any questions about ICTA activities or membership, please contact Carol Leach (Executive Director) or Nick Elder (President) at [carol.leach@gmail.com](mailto:carol.leach@gmail.com) or [nelder@efe.k12.il.us](mailto:nelder@efe.k12.il.us).

*Nick Elder-ICTA President*

# IACTE Awards

Through meetings and conferences calls, the Awards Committee has been busy working to enhance and streamline our awards process. One thing is for certain-we would like to see more recognition of the talented CTE educators in Illinois! The committee would like the membership to realize that members can nominate each other for the IACTE individual awards. This would be the perfect way to highlight the amazing programs in our state.

## **IACTE Awards Process**

The Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education awards seek to promote excellence in career and technical education by recognizing individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field, programs that exemplify the highest standards, and organizations that have conducted activities to promote and expand career and technical education programs.

The IACTE Member Awards recognize excellence and dedication within the field of career and technical education among our association members. We seek to commemorate exceptional individuals who have contributed to the success of CTE through the quality of their work and their involvement in the CTE community. The IACTE Member Award nominees are evaluated on accomplishments and innovations that exhibit the quality of the candidate for the award, as well as contributions to the CTE community.

The IACTE Image Awards recognize groups and individuals from the education, business and industry communities that enhance career and technical education by contributing to the improvement, promotion, development and progress of CTE. Individuals or entities (from within or outside IACTE) that have contributed to the success and promotion of CTE, thereby positively impacting the image of CTE, are eligible recipients of these awards. While there is no membership eligibility restriction for applicants, all nominations must be made by an IACTE member. The IACTE Image Award nominees are evaluated on significant accomplishments related to CTE that have contributed to the improvement, promotion, development and progress of CTE, as well as actions that have enhanced the growth and quality of CTE.

Award Applications should be submitted electronically on the ACTE Awards Portal, <https://acte.nonprofitcms.org/awards> by **December 15, 2015**. State winners will be selected by the IACTE Awards Committee. State winners will be honored at the Awards Banquet during the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual IACTE Conference, February 18, 2016.

With the simplification of the award application and the online application process, it is easier than ever to recognize excellence among our members. If you have questions, please contact Dawn Sullivan or Elizabeth Kaufman, IACTE Awards Committee Co-Chairs at [sullivad@newtrier.k12.il.us](mailto:sullivad@newtrier.k12.il.us) or [ekaufman@wilco.k12.il.us](mailto:ekaufman@wilco.k12.il.us).

*Dawn Sullivan and Elizabeth Kaufman, IACTE Awards Committee Co-Chairs*

# ACTE Region III Conference

The ACTE Region III Conference was held June 24-26, 2015, on the Kirkwood Community College Campus in Cedar Rapids, IA. Illinois had thirty members and non-members in attendance, the most of any one state, including the host State! The conference was the perfect mix of sessions, tours and networking! The hotel was wonderful and the food delicious!

Seventeen of the thirty Illinois attendees were from a community college. As a result of this conference, a conference call was scheduled to see how IACTE can better serve the community college sector.

All of the IACTE Award winners were recognized during the Awards Banquet:

Administrator of the Year – Anne Cothran  
 Postsecondary Teacher of the Year – Jason Tanner  
 New Teacher of the Year – Jacqueline Fontillas  
 Lifetime Achievement – Cindy Stover  
 Teacher of the Year – Troy Blunier

The Region III Award of Merit winners for Illinois were Jim Craft and Karen Callagaris.

The 2016 Region III Conference will be held in Jefferson City, MO, on June 15-18, 2016. Mark your calendars now!

Illinois has two members serving on ACTE Committees: Brian Gordon on the ACTE CTE Support Fund Committee and Chris Kendall on the ACTE Bylaws Committee.

#### **Region III Policy Committee Meeting**

The next Region III Policy Committee Meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on November 19, 2015, during the ACTE CareerTech Vision Conference.

#### **Region III Membership Committee**

The Region III Annual Business Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on November 21, 2015, during the ACTE CareerTech Vision Conference. All IACTE/ACTE members are encouraged to attend.

#### **Region III Policy Member**

On July 1, 2015, Dawn Sullivan became the Region III Policy Committee member for Illinois.

*Cindy Stover, Past Region III Policy Member*

## Save the Date!

ACTE's CareerTech

**VISION**  
2015

Morial Convention Center

**New Orleans, LA**

**November 19-22, 2015**

*Join ACTE for four days of compelling keynote speakers, 300+ educational sessions and workshops, a packed Expo and Career Pavilion, numerous networking opportunities and more!*

*The CareerTech Vision schedule and sessions can be found at: [http://sl.goeshow.com/acte/vision/2015/Session\\_program.cfm](http://sl.goeshow.com/acte/vision/2015/Session_program.cfm)*

# IAVAT Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers

In June 2015, IAVAT hosted their state conference in Bloomington, IL. This year the conference theme was *Proud Tradition. Growing Ambitions*. There were many workshops offered to our membership that covered a wide variety of topics. At this conference we recognized accomplishments of our membership and conducted business. Our organization is focusing on utilizing the committees that meet throughout the year including at our yearly conference. Our website has also been updated so that it is more user friendly and is more useful to our membership.

The week after the state conference IAVAT hosted the region conference in Moline, IL. The states in our region were able to visit places such as John Deere and Whitey's Ice Cream. Business sessions were held, and we also judged region award applications. IAVAT received four region awards. Jessica Collins was awarded the "Teachers Turn the Key," James Craft was awarded the "Lifetime Achievement Award," John Kabat was awarded the Outstanding Service Citation and the "Outstanding Cooperation Award" was given to Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education.

Approaching quickly is our National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) conference in November. This year the conference will be held in New Orleans, LA in conjunction with ACTE CareerTech Vision Conference. The IAVAT Board members, IAVAT members receiving recognition, and those acting as National Agriscience Teacher Ambassadors are planning to attend. Those attending are looking forward to attending the professional development, committee meetings, and business sessions. IAVAT member Charlie Sappington is currently the NAAE president.

*-Corinne Wengelewski, IAVAT Representative to the IACTE Board*

## President's Message (continued from page 1)

increase membership and to improve the affiliate structure. IACTE is providing a rebate incentive for affiliates that increase their membership by ten or more members from August 15, 2015-November 15, 2015. The final focus area within the strategic plan involves **vision**, with activities to improve communication and to enhance the vision of the organization. IACTE leaders have just recently attended an Illinois Vision 20/20 meeting and are pleased that IACTE has been invited to be involved in four established committees within the partnership. Illinois Vision 20/20 was established to unite the education community and to develop a long-range blueprint for improving public education in Illinois. IACTE has taken an active role in this initiative.

I am extremely proud to be a part of this organization and thank all of you for your dedication and hard work. The activities highlighted in this Progress edition serve as evidence that the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education has demonstrated growth toward the achievement of our goal of providing unified visionary leadership to advance and promote all aspects of career and technical education.

*-Dede Woodard, IACTE President*

## Quality Presentations!



Breakout sessions will cover multiple topics related to assessment, technology and CTE curriculum and instruction, with a focus on assessment related to measuring student growth, authentic CTE assessments, and using formative assessments to enhance instruction. Technology topics include computer coding, programming, web tools, online resources, Google classroom, and the CTE teacher's role in the 'pre-stages' of your district moving to a 1:1 environment. Check the website for a current list of breakout sessions.

## Conference Keynote Speakers!

**Chris Czarnik**, is a national career search expert with 12 years of job search counseling and motivational speaking experience. His innovative approach to job search has helped thousands of people land rewarding careers. Chris' process, *The Human Search Engine*, was introduced to the 113th United States Congress as a national job search and workforce development model. You can find out more about Chris and his work at [www.myhumansearchengine.com](http://www.myhumansearchengine.com).



**Carl Hobbs**, A Golden Apple winning educator and founder of *Lead Early Lead Now*, will close out the conference. Carl is currently an Assistant Principal at Belvidere High School, where he began his educational career as a Marketing/Business teacher and DECA Advisor. Carl is a recipient of the Illinois DECA Marketing Educator of the Year Award.

## FUN!

The conference site is sure to be festive and full of surprises, with a comfortable environment for learning. Affiliates will be hosting meetings and social events for their members. The Reception with Exhibitors and the Awards Dinner will provide opportunities for attendees to network with colleagues throughout the state. Additionally, the conference will include two pre-session tour options on Wednesday afternoon to a Caterpillar facility to visit an assembly building with hands-on activities for participants and to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center for a tour/showcase of the Jump Trading program. We hope that you are available to join us on February 17-19, 2016, in East Peoria to focus on *CTE: The Foundation of the Future* to learn how to build opportunities for students.



Conference attendees are encouraged to bring a team of professionals to the conference to strengthen their organization's CTE professional learning communities. The conference registration form will be available in November for interested attendees to take advantage of the discounted registration rates prior to January 15, 2016.