

Alaska Association for
Career & Technical Education
<http://www.actealaska.org>

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AACTE Award Nominations due October 29

By Kathy Andrews, Past-President & Awards Chair

Please take the time to recognize one of your colleagues, business partners, or an outstanding CTE program. There is wonderful and exciting work being done in Alaska CTE. AACTE is now seeking nominations in the following categories:

Award categories for individuals are:

- Outstanding CTE Teacher of the Year
- Outstanding New CTE Teacher of the Year
- Industrial/Technology Teacher of the Year
- Business/Info. Technology Teacher of the Year
- Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher of the Year
- Health Services Teacher of the Year
- Hospitality & Tourism Teacher of the Year
- CTE Administrator of the Year

Award categories for individuals or programs are:

- Promising Practices Award
- Community Contribution Award
- Leadership Award

The due date for nominations will be Monday, October 29, 2007. The criteria for awards are posted on the AACTE website at <http://www.actealaska.org/awards.html>.
AACTE Awards – continued on page 3

President's Message

By John Egan, AACTE President

Greetings from your association president!

The school year is in full force and we are off and running. Let's face it, the weather is cooling off and we're ready to start molding those young minds. Well I know I am. I was way too busy looking busy this summer. Many of you know how hard it is to get those major projects and chores done around the house with all those fish to catch. Let's put this into perspective. I traveled at least 5,272 miles. I spent at least \$ 3.00 a gallon on hundreds of gallons of gasoline. The exception to this cost is a tank of aviation fuel to fill up a Beechcraft airplane in Boise, Idaho. That fuel was \$5.35 per gallon, a \$ 135.00 fill up at that pump. Then there is the fly rod, the salmon rod, all those shiny new lures, and of course my share of gas for Jack's (Simpson) boat. Did I mention the new rain gear and gloves that I just had to have? The bottom line is that I enjoy providing these delicious foods, and my family enjoys them although the cost of these delicacies is about \$86.23 a pound (+ your boat if you have one).

What's your association been doing this past summer? The planning and support team for our association's Professional Development Conference (PDC) has been busy all summer preparing for the upcoming Conference. This November you have the unequalled opportunity go get involved with other Career & Technical Educators who are increasing their knowledge and skills. I encourage you to come collaborate with your colleagues, learn about changes to the Carl Perkins legislation, attend educational sessions and attend challenging workshops. I encourage you to attend this conference, and why not bring along a colleague? Remember to take advantage of the early bird discounts by registering early. -Information & registration web site: <http://actealaska.org/profdev.html>

President's Message—Cont'd on Pg. 3

***20TH ANNIVERSARY: ONE VISION, ONE VOICE—
Building on a proud past to provide a bright
future for Alaska, November 14-17, 2007***
By Sally Spieker, President-Elect

Mark your calendars—better yet register now for the Professional Development Conference (PDC) that will be held at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel November 15 and 16. You will learn how to start implementing Perkins IV, get updated on labor market forecasts, find out the new and exciting news about AKCIS, meet with your colleagues who will help you plan programs of study linking secondary and postsecondary education, and more. Check <http://www.actealaska.org/profdev.html> to get updated information about the PDC as it becomes available.

Save \$50 on conference fees and be entered in a drawing to win free membership in AACTE for 2008 if you

register by October 14, 2007. Registration is now available on-line at <http://www.regonline.com/PDC2007>

Full participation in one of the strands, pre-conference, conference, and post-conference, November 14 - 17 may qualify you for transportation cost reimbursement. See <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/cte/docs/cte.pdf>

PDC CTE Strands

By Deanna Schultz, UAA

The Fall 2007 PDC will include training strands in Health, Hospitality/Entrepreneurship, CTE Leadership, and Small Engines. Professional development credit (1 credit at a cost of \$89) will be available through the University of Alaska Anchorage for those who participate in the strands and complete the requirements for credit. Brief strand descriptions follow:

Health Sciences, Andrea Gelvin, Hutchison High School in Fairbanks, Instructor

Andrea will present details of the programs of study in her Health Science Cluster, and how they articulate with the post-secondary UAF/TVC programs including career guidance and how to recruit non-traditional students. All aspects of industry will be discussed and industry standards with hand-outs. Participants will be required to attend the break-out sectionals: an introduction to CTSOs, i.e. HOSA, and the How To and high lights of the advisory committee. Guest presenters from post-secondary and industry will conclude the presentation with time for questions and discussions about assessment. The course will require participants to create their program of study and an action plan to accomplish their short-term and long-term goals.

Hospitality/Entrepreneurship, Frank Blakeney, Alaska Hospitality Alliance, Instructor

According to Neal Fried, the state economist for the state of Alaska, 17.5% of all new jobs created 2004-2014 will be in the Hospitality Industry, second only to Health Care. Many of these jobs are within the Lodging Industry. This year's Hospitality/Entrepreneurship teacher strand will focus on the many opportunities within this career pathway and the resources/classes available to teachers to present to students. Included in this will be a presentation of a Lodging Management Program curriculum and an innovative way to introduce students to the industry.

Leadership, Trish Zugg, Colony High School, Instructor

The Leadership Strand will expose participants to leadership skills via individual and group activities in partnership with recognized leadership facilitators in the community. Topics covered will include leadership styles and differences, continuous quality improvement models, accountability, empowerment & delegation, promoting CTE, and Perkins update. Model programs of study will be discussed, as well as information on CTSOs, career guidance, industry standards and involvement, non-traditional occupations, secondary/post-secondary links, distance delivery and advisory committees.

Small Mobile Generator Repair, Tom Lord, Colony High School, Instructor

The emphasis of this strand will be placed on the similarities between portable generators and the common characteristics among different brands. The scope of the course will include fundamentals, electrical measurements, servicing generator systems, and basic troubleshooting. Outdoor Power Equipment Training program development will also be discussed.

AKCIS Announces Exciting Changes

By Lora Jorgensen, ACPE Outreach Administrator

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) is excited to announce our new partnership with the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Jointly we are able to continue access to the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) and have the opportunity to enhance its content more specifically to Alaska.

The great comprehensive software package you have known and loved has not changed; just a few new resources have been added. There is no longer an annual subscription fee. ACPE is providing grants to waive the AKCIS fee for each site. Please complete the 2007-2008 Activation Agreement by September 30 to ensure no loss of connectivity.

Interested in becoming a site? AKCIS is a comprehensive, user-friendly career information software that is designed to help teens through adults explore career and educational opportunities in Alaska and throughout the U.S. Do your students ever need help with these questions?

- Aren't sure what your career goals are? AKCIS contains detailed descriptions of nearly 500 occupations.
- What's the best career fit for your skills and interests? AKCIS lets the user find his/her perfect match.
- Aren't sure what school is the right one for your major field of study? AKCIS provides information on more than 4,000 accredited two- and four-year colleges, universities, and technical schools.

Then, AKCIS is just what you are looking for. AKCIS also provides teachers an online curriculum with more than 90 lesson plans and classroom activities designed for a wide range of courses, from language arts, social studies, math and science, to home economics, business and foreign language. Each lesson is packaged and ready to go. In addition, as a local AKCIS site administrator you can review student/client portfolios; check login counts; and create reports on such things as occupations, programs of study, schools, assessments and other information saved in student/client portfolios. We look forward to working together and making a lasting impact on the career landscape for all Alaskans. For more information visit <http://www.akcis.org/> or feel free to contact us (877) 577-3367 or (269-7980 in Anchorage).

AACTE Awards—Cont'd from Pg. 1

The review committee needs members. We would like to have as many geographic areas, subject areas, and work responsibilities (secondary, post-secondary, counselors, teachers, administrators, and business and industry) included. It makes the awards that much more valuable.

Please contact Kathy Andrews at kathlynn.andrews@matsuk12.us or 907-746-9281 if you are interested in serving on the review committee, want to suggest someone else or have questions about the awards process.

President's Message—Cont'd from Pg. 1

As you may have heard, the House Education and Labor Committee recently released a discussion draft bill that would reauthorize No Child Left Behind legislation. This bill is only a draft, and the Committee has asked for comments on the bill by September 5, 2007.

Our national organization ACTE, is currently examining the 400 page NCLB document, to identify how the draft bill addresses CTE needs and the recommendations made by ACTE. Please forward any comments to Steve DeWitt sdewitt@acteonline.org. View the bill at <http://edworkforce.house.gov/bills/MillerMcKeonNCLBDiscussionDraft.pdf>

Thank you for your help on this issue. I'm looking forward to seeing you at this fall's PDC!

New Mat-Su Career & Technical H.S. Opens

By Trish Zugg, Mat-Su CTE Instructor

On August 20th the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District opened the doors to the new Mat-Su Career & Technical High School (CTHS). After many years of dedication, vision, and hard work by educators, industry partners, and community members, this long anticipated career and technical education facility became a reality. Students and teachers showed up for school filled with a sense of pride and excitement for the opportunity to belong to this new educational culture and state-of-the-art facility. Teachers are exchanging innovative ideas and their teaching reflects current research and methods of instruction in career and technical education with integration of academics and career & technical education. Studies are arranged around student-selected career pathways demanding rigor, relevance, and alignment with the highest of standards. The school itself is unique in its building design offering conferencing areas for each of five career pathways, a separate library for each pathway, flexible instruction space in each pathway, an assessment center, a career guidance center with a cooperative education office and industry validated teaching materials, equipment and facilities. The five pathways offered at CTHS are building and construction trades which includes pre-engineering and computer aided drafting; business and information technology; nursing and allied health, sports training and fitness; and culinary

arts and tourism. There are also several offerings that take place at satellite sites away from the building, those are welding technologies, agriculture and natural resources, automotive, and OPET (Outdoor Power Equipment).

Students at CTHS are motivated by having actively participated in their choice of studies. This choice was made after an interview in which each of the students sat down and discussed the school's philosophy and culture, programs of study, and expectations. Students that attend CTHS are offered curriculum that prepares them for professional level third party certifications, curriculum that gives advanced placement for students articulating into college for studies in such areas as engineering, pre-med, information technology/computer science, and sports medicine/physical therapy. It further prepares those wanting to attend trade schools and for entry into apprenticeship programs.

Students come to CTHS for fulltime studies in grades 9-12 to fulfill all graduation requirements; in addition a smaller population of part-time students attends at various times of the day to take part in intensive career and technical classes. Distance delivery of some courses is planned to service various out-lying areas and there is shared space for the local community and business partners to use.

A formal building dedication for this facility is planned for the first week in October with expected attendance by many people who have dedicated years of hard work, passion, and research towards its creation. There is great excitement that surrounds CTHS as we continue to *develop citizens for a global society by inspiring students to think, learn, achieve, and care.*

Changes to Statewide Tech Prep

By Cynde Jacobsen, SE Tech Prep Specialist

There have been a number of changes in the Statewide Tech Prep Consortium staff over the summer. First, we would like to welcome Kim Anderson to the staff as the Interior Tech Prep Specialist in Fairbanks. Kim has a BA in Math with a Secondary Education Emphasis from UAF and an MA in Higher Education from Appalachian State University. She has worked in business and most recently has been employed by UAF in the Procurement & Contract Services Office. Kim has also coached in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. With her varied experience, we are excited to have Kim join our team. She can be reached by phone at (907) 455-2039 or e-mail, ankaa3@uaa.alaska.edu.

The second staff change came when Deanna Schultz accepted a position as Term Assistant Professor of Career and Technical Education in the Community & Technical College at UAA. She will be teaching and working on provide more professional development opportunities for CTE teachers throughout the State. Deanna's leadership of Tech Prep in the State will be missed. A search has begun to recruit someone for Deanna's position.

The final staff change took place in mid-July when Marnie Kaler moved to a position in UAA Enrollment Services where she will be an Outreach Specialist. We will miss Marnie's enthusiasm and her expertise in handling fiscal and travel items for the consortium, but this is a great move for her and we wish her well.

The Tech Prep Consortium is busy planning for its Spring Work Session, which will be held at the BP Energy Center February 28 and 29, 2008. The focus of the work session will be The Development of Plans of Study through Secondary/Postsecondary Partnerships, so mark your calendars, and watch for work session details in the upcoming months.

Work Ready/College Ready Program Close to Implementation – Regulations out for Public Comment

By Marcia Olson, Work Ready/College Ready Program Director

The Alaska Departments of Education & Early Development and Labor & Workforce Development are nearly ready to roll out the Work Ready/College Ready program that you have heard about over the last few months. The program is based on ACT's workplace assessment system called WorkKeys®. Students will soon have access to web-based, individualized instructional software to prepare for the WorkKeys® assessments. The state has just contracted with Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) of Kingston, Tennessee, to provide the instructional software, which will be available to public schools at no charge within the next two months. School superintendents will soon be invited to send two staff members to a train-the-trainer session on how to use WIN. These staff will then train other staff back at their district.

The WIN software includes instruction for all levels and all areas assessed by WorkKeys®; pre-and post-tests for each area and level; a comprehensive teacher management system that allows teachers and administrators to keep track of their students' use of the software; and a searchable database of occupational profile information.

The state will be working with ACT over the next few months to set up WorkKeys® testing sites in each district. Students (or adults) who score at certain levels on WorkKeys® assessments in Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information will earn a bronze, silver, or gold Alaska "Career Readiness Certificate," which will be affiliated with ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate. This credential documents essential foundational skills that are applicable to and necessary for virtually every job and every post-secondary program, and is recognized across the country.

We will be working with Alaska business partners to foster statewide use of the certificate in making decisions on hiring or promoting employees and inviting students for internships or other work-based learning experiences.

The State Board of Education & Early Development has proposed a regulation regarding the Work Ready/College Ready program. The proposed regulation would combine the required WorkKeys® assessments with the voluntary use of the online WIN curriculum. Students and adults could access the curriculum at home or from any computer with Internet access. The regulation would require students in grades 6 and 8 to take the benchmark assessments included in the WIN instructional software. School districts would be required to give the WorkKeys® assessments in Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information to students in grade 11. The regulation would take effect in the 2008-2009 school year.

The State Board of Education & Early Development has opened a period of public comment—up to 4 p.m. November 9, 2007—on the proposal, which will be considered at the board's meeting on December 7, 2007.

Up-to-date information on the program is available at the Work Ready/College Ready website:

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/CTE/workready.html>

Note: AACTE proposed bylaw changes will be forwarded to members in a separate email in the next few weeks.

Upcoming Conferences

Nov. 14 – 17	PDC – Anchorage Hilton http://actealaska.org/profdev.html
Dec. 13 – 15	ACTE Conference, Las Vegas http://www.acteonline.org/convention/index.cfm
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	EED Perkins CTE Coord. Conf. http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/cte
Feb. 7-9	ASD CTE Conference http://www.asdk12.org/Depts/career_technology/
Feb. 28-29	Tech Prep Statewide Meeting http://www.alaska.edu/techprep/