

President's Message

by Deb Mock, K-ACTE President



It's a GREAT time to be associated with Career and Technical Education. The opportunities are limitless.

Dominos are being setup with education reform. Are you helping to assemble them or will you be bowled over by the falling dominos? Hard questions are being asked. CTE instructors will

be asked to advocate for their domains. Policy makers are already doing this. Instead of getting upset; asked yourself what you can do to be on the front line.

K-ACTE provides the network, training, and skills to stay abreast. Checkout the website! We're glad you made it to the summer conference, so you can become an advocate for Career and Technical Education.

This has been a busy year for CTE. Kansas had excellent representation at ACTE in

December. Three K-ACTE members attended the National Policy Seminar and seven were at the Region V conference. There are many opportunities at regional level. Kansas' members hold the skills and enthusiasm needed at the state and regional level. Committee work does not require loads of time, just the desire to serve and the wiliness to learn.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Kansas President. It continues to be a ride!

First President-Elect's Message

by Kent Blessing, K-ACTE First President-Elect



They say that time flies when you're having fun. I like to tell my student-trainees that time also moves faster if you're working

hard! I'm sure the last school year was a combination of hard work and fun for most of you. I know that your K-ACTE president Deb

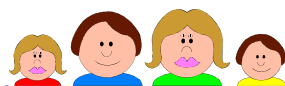
Mock, board members, affiliates, and affiliate officers and boards have once again been working hard to keep K-ACTE on the 'Cutting Edge' of Career & Technical Education.

Speaking of the 'Cutting Edge,' I'm glad that all of you decided to stay on the cutting edge in your classroom by attending this year's Kansas Career and Technical Education Summer

Conference in Topeka. This conference looks especially educational, challenging, and fun!

Remember, as Alexander Woollcott wrote, 'There is no such thing in anyone's life as an unimportant day!'

Make every day count, have a great summer, and we're glad you came to Topeka.



Education costs money, but then so does ignorance.

--Sir Moser Claus

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Affiliate News

Where Are We Going? Where do we go from here?

By Rex Boley, KAAE President

When you read this you will have gotten back from State FFA Convention, tackled summer projects that must be done before school starts in the fall, and are already making plans for the new school year! As I write this, I feel that this will be my retiring address to you as your 2005-2006 KAAE President. Some of you might ask what is the state of KAAE? Others ask where's our profession going? What is our future?

The current state of the Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators is healthy! We are financially stable and have a great relationship with K-ACTE and its affiliates. We have hired a new Executive Secretary that is full of energy and ideas to help organize and streamline some of our executive matters. We have worked hard this past year to partner with people who have a vested interest in agricultural education in our state to form Team Ag Ed. From the grassroots level we have had committees working hard to develop quality in-service workshops, scholarships, public relations, and overall general improvement regarding how we go about promoting agricultural education in our state. A great example of this was the recommendation to hire a State Fair coordinator.

We know our membership wants and demands quality educational in-service workshops that will keep them not only keep up-to-date on agricultural issues, but educational trends, data, and current research. This was more evident with the large turnout of educators at this year's Ag Ed Symposium in Garden City.

As you can see the current state of KAAE and our profession is great, but what about the future? My dad has always told us "kids" that you are either moving ahead or falling behind. There is no standing still! In education today we live this every day. If your program is not up-to-date and educating the whole student, we'll see those programs begin losing teachers and some even close.

Over the last two years as a state officer for KAAE, I have asked many people this question: "Where do we need to go from here?" I have received a wide range of replies. After reflecting on the answers, I tried to come up with an overall theme. I have come up with two. First, we must develop partnerships with others. We must think outside the box to include those that are not directly tied to agricultural education, but have an interest in what we do (Team Ag Ed). Second, we must look hard at our financial history, find more creative ways to raise capital and invest it wisely in the future (Kansas FFA Foundation)!

We MUST utilize our Kansas FFA Foundation! KAAE and all agricultural educators need to support and help our foundation gain more funding for agricultural education activities! We, as a profession, have not yet realized the opportunity that the foundation presents us! Historically when we needed money for a project we, KAAE, raised it. We need to work with the foundation to make sure that we are raising money for agricultural education in Kansas. Yes you heard me, I did not say FFA, I said agricultural education!

People and/or organizations can donate money to the foundation and specify what it will be spent on.

I am sure your personal budget is just like mine. At the end of the month, I keep looking for ways to pay the increasing cost of my bills with the fixed income of my salary. It is not easy. In fact we have had to start cutting items from our personal budget. Items like a summer vacation, trips to see family, and running fans instead of the air conditioner. You cannot grow an organization by cutting its budget!

To grow our professional organization and help be a major player in agricultural education in Kansas we are going to have to help the Kansas FFA Foundation raise money to support agricultural education endeavors. We have many great agricultural education teachers across this state. Historically all the work in this organization has come from within its membership. Good stewards giving their time, energy, and talent to the KAAE, so it could accomplish its activities. For us to grow and take on the challenges in the future, we will need to look at obtaining help from non-teaching people to start, follow, and accomplish our mission. To do this we will need the financial support of the Kansas FFA Foundation!

If we are going to keep up with education and provide cutting edge in-services and programs that promote the benefit of agricultural education and FFA to all people across our state, we will need to partner with others and have a

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Affiliate News

KCCTEA News

By Joanelle Lucas,
KCCTEA President

It is hard to believe that we are at the beginning of yet another school year. As I observed our students on a daily basis last year, it is so clear how drastically things have changed since I roamed the halls of a 1A school in western Kansas in 1965. Today's fashions would surely have gotten us expelled. That was then and this is now, of course – but what a contrast! Those were also the days when vocational education was comprised of Industrial Arts and Home Economics. Preparing us for a career? Hardly. The boys learned a little woodworking and learned to tinker with cars. In Home Economics, we were taught the skills that would make us good homemakers.

Today's CT/vocational educators provide a sophisticated level of skill-based education giving students many post high school options that include but are not limited to college. Because we are driven by industry standards and funding mandates, "change" is a word we know well. Those winds continue to blow, and many educators are beginning to utilize non-traditional strategies as

effective ways to deliver information – more effective ways to assure student success. K-ACTE, Region V, and ACTE can play a large role in helping educators develop these strategies.

ACTE can be our resource and our guidance in changing times. ACTE is our vehicle for moving vocational concepts forward, and our opportunity to be part of a united effort to give CTE the accolades it deserves. It is an avenue to promote a positive image of CTE to all key stakeholders. ACTE is a powerful voice in Washington D.C. ACTE is taking a large leadership role in logical school reform. (Please visit www.acteonline.org to read ACTE's position paper on school reform.) As members' needs change, ACTE must evolve accordingly. An organizational re-structure plan has been designed that will continue to meet the needs of current members through affiliates, divisions, and regions, but hopefully it is a plan that will also attract and meet the needs of young educators and our business partners.

K-ACTE has the power to perform at the state level in the same manner as ACTE does at the national level. Through K-ACTE activities, students, and teachers have the opportunity to showcase programs, influence lawmakers and community

entities, and network with peers. Baby Boomers are retiring, creating a generational shift not only in the classroom, but also in our professional organization. I hope we are each doing what we can to bring new educators into the organization. The summer conference is a great way to introduce new members, so we are so glad you could join us.

Many, many issues and challenges face students, educators, and communities. A strong organization will allow us to be proactive rather than re-active.

KNRS News

Kansas New and Related Services once again has a specific track at the K-ACTE Summer conference. The diversity of the membership makes it difficult to find programming for the group.

As we are participating in this year's conference, we are already thinking about 2007. We would like to ask for a "Request for Presentations" for the 2007 summer conference. If you have any ideas, please let us know. Hopefully this will allow you time to generate a list of topics that could be addressed at the 2007 conference.

KAAE News

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financial cash flow to invest in high quality effective promotions.

The heart of any organization is its membership. I want to thank each of you who have, in some way, made a contribution to our professional organization. Bob Whearty, on behalf of all the KVATA and KAAE Past Presidents, I want to thank you for your hard

work over the years. You are a true professional! Kelly and the in-service committee, thank you for the hard work and quality job that you do! To all the committee chairs and hard working members, I want to say thank you. DZ, Mary, & Steve thanks for your advice and guidance!

To all the membership, I say thank you for allowing me to serve you. In return I ask that each of you focus on one thing that you would like to donate time to for the positive development of your professional

organization. I challenge every one of you to make a monthly donation to the Kansas FFA Foundation and earmark it toward agricultural education. Lastly, I ask that you look over the next three years and make part of your goals to run for district vice president, KAAE committee chair, or even a state office in the KAAE. Without the time, energy, and talent of agriculture teachers, our profession would not be strong.

Award Winners Chosen



This year's state and affiliate winners will be recognized at the Awards Banquet during the K-ACTE Summer Conference on August 7 at 6 p.m. Winners include:

STATE WINNERS

Timothy Lednicky, Johnson County Community College
Teacher of the Year

Ryan Edgecomb, Fort Scott Community College
Young Teacher of the Year

Kate Hoffman, Wamego High School
Young Teacher of the Year

Ralph Beachem, Education Service Center at Greenbush
Outstanding Career and Technical Educator

Merritta Combs, Pomona High School
Outstanding Teacher in Community Service

Kelly Hoelting, Mission Valley High School
Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher

Neeley Carlson
Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association Education Foundation
Award of Merit

Dwayne Umbarger, Kansas Senator
Policymaker of the Year

AFFILIATE WINNERS

Pamela DH Babb, Garden City High School
Teacher of the Year

Fred Gillig, South Barber High School
Teacher of the Year

Kathryn Tevebaugh, USD 259 Wichita Public Schools
Outstanding Career and Technical Educator

Jerry Schmidt, Minneapolis Jr./Sr. High School
Outstanding Teacher in Community Service

Kacey Preston, Frontenac High School
Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher

You won't want to miss these activities at this year's summer conferece.

August 6

K-ACTE board meeting-4 p.m.

August 7

Registration Open-7 a.m.

Exhibits Open-8 a.m.

Awards Banquet-6 p.m.

August 8

K-ACTE board meeting, 06-07 members-6 p.m.

August 9

Sign-out-12 p.m.

**Congratulations to all our winners
from K-ACTE!**



1200 S W 10th Ave
Topeka KS 66604

2006 K-ACTE Officers and Affiliate Presidents

K-ACTE President
Deb Mock
Abilene High School
P.O. Box 15
Enterprise, KS 67441
(785) 263-1260
dmock@usd435.k12.ks.us

K-ACTE 1st President-Elect
Kent Blessing
Hutchinson High School
1401 N. Severance
Hutchinson, KS 67501
(620) 665-4530
blessing@usd308.com

K-ACTE 2nd President-Elect
Douglas Zillinger
Northern Valley High School
512 West Bryant
Almena, KS 67622
(785) 689-2445
voagnv@ruraltel.net

K-ACTE Past President
Dr. Shari Hand
Derby High School
920 N. Rock Road
Derby, KS 67037
(316) 788-8515
shand@usd260.com

KAAE President
Rex Boley
Ellsworth High School

KATFACS President
Jenny Prichard
Kaw Area Technical School

KBOA President
Sue Lednicky
Lansing High School

KIEA President
Michael Gross
Junction City High School

KCCTEA President
Joannelle Lucas
Newton High School

KNRS President
Boyd Koehn
West Elk High School

The Forum is published quarterly by:
The Kansas Association for Career and Technical Education
1200 S.W. 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66604
Phone: (785) 233-3690
Fax: (785) 234-2433

Visit our web site!
www.k-acte.org

K-ACTE Staff

Steve Kearney
Executive Director

Leisa Shepherd
Executive Assistant

Kellie Kearney
Director of Finance

Michael White
Vice President, Assn. Operations

Kari Presley
Association Operations Specialist