

# VIEWPOINT

ACTE

FEBRUARY 2015, ISSUE 75

## SDACTE members- Happy CTE



This is a great time to celebrate all of the CTE successes that we are witnessing across the state. From new buildings to new programs to revised curriculum YOU are making a difference in students' lives and their futures. Congratulations!

As many of you are aware, the Build Dakota scholarship program is a new opportunity for graduates that wish to pursue post-secondary education and training at a SD technical institute. The program was created through a \$50 million dollar investment funded by a \$25 million donation from T. Denny Sanford and a \$25 million contribution from the South Dakota Future Fund.

Scholarships will be awarded to skilled scholars entering high-need workforce programs. The eligible programs for the Build Dakota scholarship program were announced last week. The high-need areas include Automotive, Building Trades\Construction, Energy Technicians, Engineering Technicians, Licensed Practical Nursing, Medical Lab Technicians, Precision Manufacturing,

You can learn more about the select programs at the respective technical institutes at:

<http://www.builddakotascholarships.com/files/builddakota-programs.pdf>

To learn more about the program, student eligibility requirements and the required student commitment, please visit the Build Dakota website at <http://www.builddakotascholarships.com>. Students can apply on line for the program through a link on the webpage. This is a great opportunity for young people as the program provides a means for interested students to attend school in SD at no cost. The selected programs will also address workforce shortage areas in the near future making the program a win-win for all.

In closing, take time to celebrate your CTE successes and pat yourself on the back. YOU are making a significant impact on students' lives and futures. Be proud of being a career & technical education teacher in South Dakota. Great things are happening because of the great teachers we have. Thank you for all you do each day!

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## ACTE Region V Leadership Conference

April 15-18, 2015 ~ Overland Park, Kansas  
Complete details located at: [www.k-acte.org/Region-V-2015](http://www.k-acte.org/Region-V-2015)

## Upgren to Keynote Summer Conference

Using the high praise and recommendation of those who attended the Region V Leadership Conference in Bismarck last April, the SDACTE Board of Directors has hired Bob Upgren to deliver the keynote address at this summer's conference. Upgren is the co-founder and president of Cross Training Inc., one of the largest faith-based Sports and Leadership programs in the country. Each year, Cross Training Inc. mentors thousands of young people while at the same time teaching and consulting with many of the leading businesses in the world. Past clients include Sharp Electronics, The Make a Wish Foundation, the National Basketball Association, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Verizon Wireless.



Upgren devotes his time to writing, consulting, speaking and spearheading the Cross Training movement. He is married and has two beautiful daughters.

### 2015 Summer SDACTE Conference Sneak Peek

Great ideas, great networking, great changes are being implemented into the planning of the 2015 summer conference. This will be a professional development opportunity you won't want to miss!

**When: July 26-28, 2015 – Division schedules available soon on the SDACTE website**

**Where: Lake Area Technical Institute – Best Western Ramkota Inn, Watertown**

**Who: CTE educators, counselors, administrators, school board members, business/industry**

You won't want to miss the opening session on Monday, July 27 at 9:00 AM with Bob Upgren. The round table discussions will follow with 30+ topics providing ideas you can use at your school. Monday afternoon will give you a variety of choices, in-depth sessions that last long enough to dive into a topic of your choice or division-specific tours of Watertown area businesses with LATI connections. The Awards Banquet will be held at the Watertown Event Center with a fun Casino Night to follow. We'll head back to the LATI campus Tuesday morning to hear a diverse business panel and visit the Trade Show. This will be followed with specific division time and break-out sessions on a variety of topics. Fund-raising for our professional development fund will also have some changes! The silent auction will continue but the 50/50 will have a different look. You'll also have an opportunity to purchase tickets on a variety of basket prizes, including some casino packages and a signed Terry Redlin print. Mark your calendars now for the summer conference dates. See you in Watertown!

### Lodging at Summer Conference

The SDACTE Board of Directors has reserved a block of rooms at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel for the summer conference in Watertown. All the Monday/Tuesday daytime activities will take place on the campus of Lake Area Technical Institute. The Ramkota, which is located on the west side of Watertown on Highway 212, will host some of the Sunday activities, plus the Awards Banquet and Casino Night on Monday. The Ramkota has guaranteed the special rate of \$89 for a standard double or single room. When making a reservation, please ask for the SDACTE room block to receive this special group rate. Simply call 605-886-8011 directly. The special group rate WILL NOT be available through the Best Western Reservation System. All reservations must be received by 6-26-2015. At that time the remaining blocked rooms will be released and sold on a first come first serve basis. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact Dodie Bemis at 605-881-4746 or [bemisd@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:bemisd@lakeareatech.edu).

Also, keep in mind there are several other motels to choose from in Watertown, many of which offer state rates.



**Ramkota Hotel**  
Watertown



## Conference Held in Watertown

By Deb Reynolds, BMIT Division President

The SDACTE Board recently toured the Lake Area Technical Institute campus for the upcoming summer conference. What an amazing campus and programs! I hope you plan on attending this summer. We have a variety of breakout sessions and in-depth sessions to select. Plus, we will have a chance to tour the Lake Area Tech Business, Entrepreneurship and Networking programs as well as the new Maker Space Center. The SDACTE Conference will be held on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Watertown. Hope to see you there!

## SOUTH DAKOTA ACTE ON FACEBOOK

SDACTE has Facebook!!! We have created a Facebook page so as an association we can share what we are doing and promote CTE in South Dakota. The page is administrated by members of the Board of Directors, but we can't do it without all of our members' help. We love to share things you are doing in your classrooms and activities your CTSO's are involved in. Please email Annika Russell ([Annika.russell@mitchelltech.edu](mailto:Annika.russell@mitchelltech.edu)) or Lori Christensen ([lori.christensen@k12.sd.us](mailto:lori.christensen@k12.sd.us)) any pictures, videos or links to articles in local newspapers about what you and your students are doing. Make sure to include a brief description to include with the picture, video or link. Also, please like us on Facebook at "South Dakota ACTE" and invite all your friends to like us too. We want to spread the word about CTE and our association!!

## Greetings T & I Members

Spring is fast approaching and hopefully green grass to come with it! As we start to move towards the end of the school year, don't forget to mark your calendars to attend our annual summer conference. The conference date is July 27-28 in Watertown, South Dakota. The events will take place at the Best Western Ramkota Motel, Watertown Event Center, and LATI campus. We have a generous selection of tours, activities, and in depth sessions for all cluster groups to enjoy. The Board is planning a casino night to go along with our awards banquet. The T & I division is also having a golf outing and social planned for Sunday evening; more specific details to come in a future email. Plan ahead because you won't want to miss this conference!

Cordially yours,

Joe Dalton

T & I/Tech Ed President

## Promote CTE Month – Bev Rieck, Past President

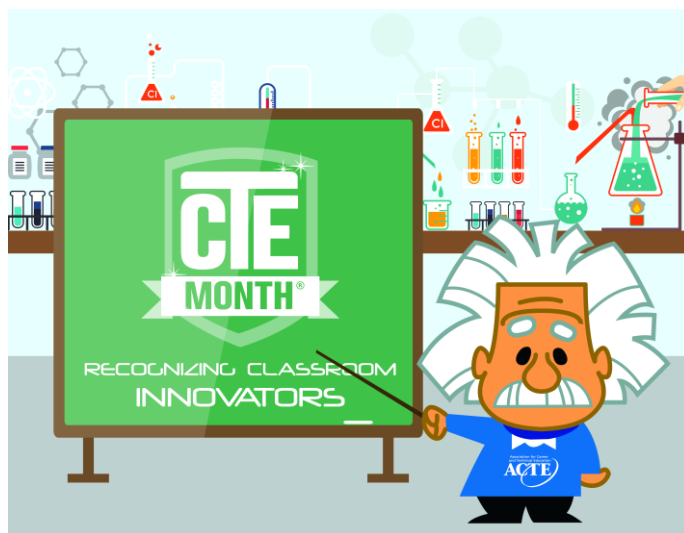
“Recognizing Classroom Innovators!” That is the CTE theme for February 2015. Who is that innovator? It is you! When you receive this issue of the SDACTE newsletter and have had a chance to read this article, I know that a majority of you will have already promoted this or will be in the process of doing this in your classroom, school, and community. If not, there is still an opportunity to take an active role.

Do not be afraid to tell the story of leadership and excellence that your students develop in your classroom and in your CTE organizations. We are preparing them to be ready and successful in their future educational/training programs, their careers, and workforce competitiveness. The data tells us that the South Dakota CTE student graduation rate exceeds the overall state graduation rate. That says volumes for the coursework and rigor that we provide for our students. You are “the innovators” whether you are the classroom instructor and/or CTSO advisor! Continue the great work!

Raise the awareness and importance of your programs by sharing your success stories. How do you do that? Local and social media, articles in your newspaper,

displays in your school and community, a letter to your government officials and telling friends are all ways to spread the good news. You are the best promoter of your programs and your students’ successes!

Have you looked for ways to share your stories with your colleagues? One person, one event, one success.....it all makes a difference. Promote, share and continue to be that innovator in CTE!



### Administrative/ Counseling Services Division

As you all know, conference will be here before we know it. Things are moving fast and the SDACTE board has been working hard to provide you with a meaningful experience while you are in Watertown. One of the things the administrative/counseling services division is doing to provide a little more entertainment for our division is a golf outing. We are piggybacking with the T & I division’s golf outing to hopefully get more participation. The outing will take place around 5:00 Sunday with a shuttle being provided to and from the course from the Ramkota. Everyone is invited to attend with a social from 6:00-10:00ish at the Ramkota during and after the golf outing.

The administrative/counseling division also has a presenter geared for our division(s). Dr. Aimee Wyatt will be coming to speak to us during some of our division time as well as providing us with some break-out sessions. Please read through this portion of her bio. I am looking forward to meeting her and taking part in her sessions.

Mark Otten- Administrative Division President

### Aimee Wyatt

Aimee Wyatt is the Executive Lead Principal for Secondary Schools for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. She has previously served as a middle and high school Spanish and Geography teacher, assistant principal, and executive principal for 22 years in both Tennessee and Louisiana. Dr. Wyatt is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. She is married and has two sons.

Dr. Wyatt completed her B.A. degree in Political Science and Spanish at Loyola University, a M.S degree in Secondary Education at Loyola University, an Ed.S. degree in K-12 Administration at Middle Tennessee State University, and an Ed.D. degree in Leadership Organizations and Strategic Change at Lipscomb University.



## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Fair

STURGIS, S.D. - Sturgis Brown High School will host its 8th Annual Career Fair, featuring 70 businesses, post-secondary institutions and branches of the Armed Services. In addition to SBHS students, both Lead-Deadwood High School and Douglas High School plan to bus students in for the event to be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18, in their West Gym from 8-11 a.m.

"The Career Fair offers students the opportunity to meet individuals in career fields they may or may have not considered before, providing them with potential contacts and resources when seeking further information about a future post secondary path," instructor Jolene Kayser said. "Furthermore, it allows community members to meet prospective employees."

"This is a great opportunity for students to interact with a broad spectrum of potential employers and educators," Director Dan Oedekoven of SDSU West River Ag Center said. "Some students are taking full advantage of it."

SBHS senior Emily Bertolotto said, "The Career Fair is a great opportunity to talk with people of different professions in order to gain insight on what they do and how much schooling it takes."

Representing 102 career fields from Western South Dakota, participants are bringing in demonstrations, displays and information to help learners become aware of future possibilities.

"Thanks to the hard work of our business partners who serve on our advisory board, this year's fair is projected to be the largest yet," CTE instructor and fair organizer Coleen Keffeler said. "We have many first-time business participants who are excited to meet with the students and share opportunities within their fields."

"I think it is a great opportunity for students who are unsure about a career to discover things that interest them and narrow down some possible careers and even colleges," SBHS junior Josh Hertel said.

Advisory board members have been meeting and planning this event since late-October. The eleven-member group includes Alex Nold, Sturgis Center for the Arts; Barb Reimer, First Interstate Bank; Kathy Christiansen, Sturgis Area Chamber of

Kathy Christiansen, Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce; Cheryl Rieniets, Black Hills VA Medical Center; Alenda Derby, Sturgis Regional Hospital; Ken Meirose, Black Hills Power; Darrel Hatzenbuhler, Sturgis Police Department; Shelly Lammers and Dadra Avery, SBHS Student Services Counselors; Assistant Principal Don Lyon and Keffeler.

Returning for this year's fair, Area Soil Scientist Kent Cooley said what he liked best about last year's event was "interacting with the students who were truly interested in careers in our fields." An SBHS alumnus, Cooley works for the United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service.

After attending a previous career fair, SBHS junior Andy Jordan said, "It was nice to see the different career fields and colleges that I was interested in. It helped me narrow my choices down."

Assistant Professor Kurt Katzenstein said he liked the "wide range of presenters [and] enthusiastic students." Katzenstein, instructor in the Geology and Geological Engineering Department at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, plans to bring his erosion table back this year.

SBHS Principal Jeff Simmons said, "I am very proud of our school and Coleen Keffeler for putting together one of the best career fairs in the state. Once again, Coleen has outdone herself."

West River participants for the 8th Annual Career Fair include US Forest Service; SDSU Extension Service - West River Ag Center; Farm Service Agency; Fish & Wildlife Service; Natural Resource Conservation Service; Bear Butte Gardens; SD Game, Fish and Parks; Cenex of the Black Hills; T&M Studios; Tattoo Artist Aaron Remington; Sturgis Center for the Arts; Dahl Fine Arts Center; Artist Erica Merchant; Western Nebraska Community College; Western Nebraska Community College - Aviation Mechanics Program; Black Hills Beauty College; South Dakota State University West River School of Nursing; South Dakota State University Admissions; Mitchell Technical Institute Admissions; MTI Energy Truck, Accounting & Business, Power Lineman, Electrical Construction,

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and Wind Turbine programs; Western Dakota Tech Admissions, Transportation Technology, Practical Nursing, Electrical Trades, HVAC, Accounting, and Computer Science programs; South Dakota School of Mines and Technology - Admissions and Geological Engineering; University of Sioux Falls; Black Hills State University - Admissions, Industrial Technology, and Rodeo Team/Althetic Department; Desarae & Company; CCS; Black Hills Power - Electrical Engineer and Construction Engineer; Knology; Montana-Dakota Utilities - Civil Engineer; Akala Spa - Director, Massage Therapist and Cosmetology Experts; Wells Fargo Bank; First Interstate Bank; Meade 46-1 Curriculum Office; Sturgis Public Library; City of Sturgis - Human Resources, Finance Office; BH VAMC - Counselor, Addiction Therapy, Medical Coding (HIMS), Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, Sterile Processing, Nutrition, Director of Nursing and Simulation Education Departments,

and Chaplain's Office; Sturgis Regional Hospital - Speech Language Pathologist, SRH - OB/GYN; Radiology Tech; Massa Berry - Physician's Assistant; Sturgis Regional Hospital - Nursing and Laboratory Departments; Loftus Dental; Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce; US Army; US Marines; US Navy; US Air Force; SD National Guard; Curves of Sturgis; Sturgis Police Department; Sturgis Fire Department; Sturgis Ambulance; Pennington County Juvenile Center; Meade County Sheriff's Office; Trail King; Scott Peterson Motors; Gen-Pro; KLG Engineering; Butler Cat; Northern Hills Vet Clinic; Sturgis/Meade County Animal Shelter; Sanford Underground Lab; Hersruds of Sturgis; FAA; Town & Country Plumbing; Rocking Tree Landscaping; Rocking Tree Garden Center; Attorney Bruce Hubbard; WestJet Air Center, Inc.; Southeast Tech; Black Hills Pioneer; KOTA; Adams ISC; University of South Dakota; and Scull Construction.



Elizabeth Scott and Krystal Weiger learn from Assistant Professor Kurt Katzenstein about erosion at the South Dakota School of Mines demonstration.  
Photo by Dalton Mullen



Ricki Hamling, a youth intern with the Sturgis Meade County Animal Shelter, works with Sally, an Australian Shepherd dog, to lay down on command. Sally, a retired service dog, was a huge hit with students and participants.  
Photo by Katie Roselles



Aboard the MTI Energy Truck, Sarah Milek and Gabe Harms visit with Energy Instructor Jimmie Nicolaus.  
Photo by Katie Roselles

## Ag Division

Wake up early, pick up breakfast for CDE practice, CDE practice over lunch, CDE practice after school, grade papers, write lessons, and make sub plans. It seems to be what consumes an Ag teacher's days from February to April. That's right; it's CDE preparation for State FFA Convention. State FFA Convention is just around the corner, April 12-14 and it will be here before we know it. SDAAE members are spending countless hours preparing teams for their final competition of the year.

Amongst CDE practice there is National Policy Seminar. This year Bobbie Jo Donovan will be representing SDAAE and SDACTE, as our voice for agriculture and career and technical education in Washington DC. Policy Seminar allows members to get the message out about the importance of CTE programs.

Summer conference planning is well under way as plans are being made for the SDAAE annual picnic, professional development opportunities, banquet, and business that needs to be conducted for the year. Mark your calendars for July 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> in Watertown at the Ramkota. Get your room reserved soon! I hope to see you there!

Kelly O'Donnell- Ag Division President

## SDACTE offers Scholarships

### *Secondary Scholarship Requirements*

Is graduating from a South Dakota high school with the class of 2015.

Is applying to or accepted by a program at any South Dakota technical institute, **OR** applying to or accepted into one of the following fields at any South Dakota university: Health, Business, Trade and Industry, Marketing, Agricultural Education, and Family Consumer Science Education.

### *Post-Secondary Scholarship Requirements*

Is enrolled as a full-time **post-secondary** student during the 2015-2016 school years in a program at any South Dakota technical institute **OR** in one of the following fields at any South Dakota university: Health, Business, Trade and Industry, Marketing, Agricultural Education, and Family Consumer Science Education.

Has taken a minimum of two Career and Technical Education courses.

Is active in career and technical student organizations.

Is a graduate from high school in the year of 2015 or before that year.

Has achieved at least a 3.0 GPA.

## SDATFACS Division

How many of you have told others about the benefits of taking your classes? With February being CTE month, many of our classes are a very well-kept secret. Our programs are like foods that we have not tried yet. The biggest difference is that the foods contain labels that tell what is inside and how they may help you. Our programs do not come with such labels so it is our responsibility to tell everyone we know and those we do not know what our programs have to offer. Think about how you can reach out and tell others about how those taking CTE classes also go on to post-secondary schooling. Our students that are involved in CTSO's also use those same skills that they have cultivated in the organization throughout their adult lives. Take this opportunity to let your school board, parents and communities know what is going on in your program and see what happens! Let's plant those seeds to help the FACS program areas grow!

By: Ellen Hohbach, SDATFACS President



It's official- SDACTE Board of Directors pose with the proclamation from Governor Dugaard declaring February as CTE Month. Board members include Ellen Hohbach, FACS president; Deb Reynolds, Business/Mktg/IT president; Mark Otten, Administration president; Jim Kayl, SDACTE president; Bev Rieck, SDACTE past president; Joe Dalton, T & I/Tech Ed president; and Kelly O'Donnell, Ag president. This year's theme is "Recognizing Classroom Innovators!" In looking at the CTE data provided by the Division of Career and Technical Education, it supports the anecdotal stories that CTE graduates, through rigorous, relevant coursework, have a higher graduation rate than the overall state rate (97.25% to 82.68%



## Celebrate CTE Month!

During the month of February, the Division of Career & Technical Education is celebrating CTE month each week by highlighting innovative teachers, students, and business professionals. These CTE innovators have accomplished great things including hosting workforce development summits, tailoring internships to business needs, and launching Maker

Spaces. To see the full list of highlighted innovators, visit <https://doe.sd.gov/octe/ctemonth.aspx>. Several of the highlighted teachers will also be presenting sessions at the CTE Conference this summer.

Additionally, as part of CTE month, a number of students traveled to Pierre on February 10-11 to participate in the annual CTSO Legislative Shadow Day. During this event, students had the chance to see South Dakota's legislative process up close and to share the benefits of CTE and student organizations with the legislator they shadowed throughout the day.



Finally, our office has produced a video message for students from the Governor to encourage them to enroll in a CTE course. You find the video at <http://bit.ly/1Gv42bk>. Please feel free to use the video throughout the spring as students register for courses.

### SDACTE

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