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It's Kick-off Time

Jim Murray, WACTE President



The new WACTE year began in earnest July 1. Your Board of Directors met in July to develop a game plan for the new year. The Board identified three areas to focus on this year: membership, professional development, and annual conference. The underlying question as the Board made this decision was, "What can WACTE do for its members?"

Your House of Delegates passed a Resolution: 1,000 Members Strong. The Membership Committee has addressed this challenge and is rolling out the "Just Ask 5" campaign. If members identify and ask five nonmembers to join, WACTE would easily achieve this 1,000 member goal. Surveys continually state that if people are asked they are more likely to join an organization. We need each member's assistance in reaching and surpassing this 1,000 member goal.

Professional development is a key component of the WACTE mission. The Professional Development Committee will be surveying members for input on sessions to be offered. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey. WACTE is a member-driven association, so your input is extremely important. With your help, we will make WACTE the premiere professional development organization for Wisconsin Career and Technical Education.

The annual conference is the third major focus. A new and revamped format will be implemented this year—eliminating one day of the conference. Why is it important that you and a colleague attend the conference? Not only will the conference focus on professional development sessions, but will also include sessions with business and industry. In addition, the conference provides an opportunity to discuss current trends and best practices with fellow CTE professionals.

(continued on the next page)



It's Kick-off Time
(continued from page 1)

The above is just part of what the Board will be working on this year. The Awards Committee is soliciting nominees and selecting winners. The Legislative Committee is working on the Legislative Seminar in April. The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee will be asking for changes to the Bylaws as well as CTE resolutions. The Continuous Improvement Committee is working with the Membership Committee to help re-establish inactive local chapters. Finally, you can see just a part of the Communication Committee's work in this newsletter.

It is an exciting time of the year—the game has just begun! Why not get involved and become a member of one of the WACTE Committees? Committees primarily meet through Wisline calls. We look forward to your participation. This is your Association!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!
WACTE's 71st Annual Conference

**“PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE -
SET THE BEAT WITH WACTE”**

Where should you go?

Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton, WI

When are you invited?

February 28, March 1 and 2, 2007

Why should you go?

Technical Training Seminars, Professional Networking, Technology Updates, Legislative Updates, Best Practices, all under one roof!!!

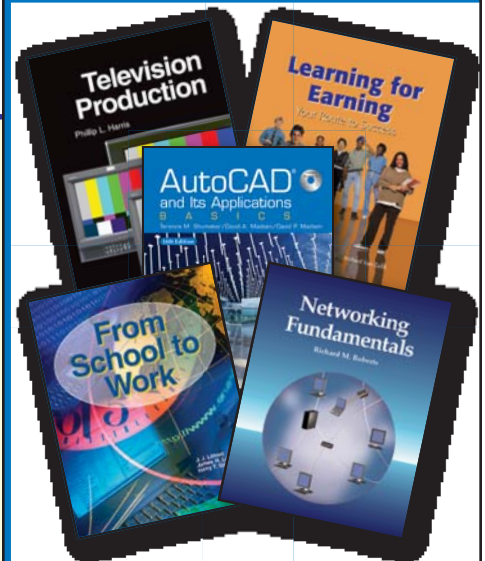
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Highlights of Perkins IV

by Rose Ellinger

Congratulations to everyone who supported the passage of the new Perkins IV Legislation. Margaret Ellibee has posted a slide presentation of the many facets of the law. Go to <http://dpi.wi.gov/cte/LVECwkshp.html> to view the entire presentation.

The Spirit of the new law will be to lead career and technical education into the 21st Century by addressing global competition, program improvement and ensuring modern durable and rigorous CTE programs.

The **purposes** of the act will be to:

- Develop challenging academic and technical standards and related challenging, integrated instruction.
- Increase opportunities for individuals to keep America competitive.
- Focus on high skill, high wage, high demand occupations.
- Provide increased flexibility.
- Conduct and disseminate research and information on best practices.
- Promote partnerships (education, workforce boards, business, industry, etc.)
- Provide technical assistance and professional development.

Required Local Uses of Funds include:

- Similar uses to current law
- New programs of study
- In-service and pre-service
- Supporting activities that prepare special populations, including single parents and displaced homemakers who are enrolled in CTE programs, for high skill, high wage or high demand occupations that will lead to self-sufficiency.

Increased **accountability** includes:

- Separate secondary and postsecondary measures
- New tech prep indicators
- Performance levels at state and local levels
- Sanctions
- Data reported must be disaggregated by population groups as described in NCLB
- Achievement gaps must be identified and quantified

Secondary indicators include:

- Academic achievement – aligned to NCLB academic content & achievement standards....not necessarily AYP (Annual Yearly Progress)
- Graduation rates as determined in NCLB
- Technical skill attainment, aligned to industry-recognized standards if available and appropriate
- Student rates of attainment of a secondary school diploma, GED, proficiency credential, etc.
- Placement in postsecondary education, military or employment

Wisconsin ACTE Region III Winners Going to Atlanta!

by Tamy Moss



Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education continues their record high achievements by members. We are proud to announce all three of our state award nominees submitted to regional competition received top honors during the ACTE Region III Professional Development Conference in La Crosse, Wisconsin in June. Region III has more than 5,000 members from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana.

Congratulations to Chippewa Valley Technical College's:

Sandy Hume,
Outstanding Career and Technical Education New Teacher

Joe Hegge
Outstanding Career and Technical Education Educator

John Frank
Outstanding Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year

All three will represent Region III in national competition which takes place during the ACTE National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia in December 2006.

Also, recognized during the ACTE Region III conference was **Mr. Paul Gabriel**, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Technical College District Boards' Association who received The Award of Excellence. This Award is designed to acknowledge individuals and/or organizations for their meritorious contribution to the improvement, promotion, and progress of career and technical education.

Please join WACTE wishing Sandy, Joe, and John our best as they compete for national honors during the ACTE National conference. We can all be proud to, again, have such great candidates from Wisconsin representing WACTE and Region III. You are our shining stars. Your dedication and contributions truly make our professional association what it is.....**Great!**

Silent Auction Brings In \$500 for Student Scholarships

by **Sandy Hume**

The Chippewa Valley Technical College Local #2 Board contributed antiques, photography, artwork, and other treasures when they sponsored a silent auction during in-service on August 23 and 24, 2006.

The first day of in-service began with a Welcome Back Breakfast and a drawing for a free membership. Not only was this a fun two-day event, but the Association received some well-deserved marketing! A scholarship program is being established by the Local.



Bylaws and Resolutions Changes

by Sandy Hume

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee is currently accepting changes for consideration this year. Resolutions should affect the mission, purpose, and policy position of WACTE, be within the current capacities (including budget capacities) of the association, and affect all Locals of WACTE.

Bylaws and Resolutions and changes to Bylaws may be submitted by any Local and must be received by the Committee by noon on Friday, November 17, 2006. Bylaws and Resolutions and changes to Bylaws that are approved by the Committee will be forwarded to the Assembly of Delegates for consideration at WACTE's annual meeting on March 1, 2007.



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calendar of events.....

2006

October 25	Student Services/Counselors Workshop – CVTC, Eau Claire
November 29	Deadline for Award Packets due at WACTE Office
November 30 – December 2	ACTE Convention – Atlanta, GA

2007

February	Career & Technical Education Month
February 28	Technical Training Seminars, Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton
March 1 - 2	71st Annual WACTE Conference, Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton
March 5 - 7	ACTE National Policy Seminar, Washington D C
April 19	Legislative Seminar, Inn on the Park, Madison
June 19 - 21	Region III Conference, Springfield IL
December 13-16	ACTE Convention - Las Vegas, NV

2008

February 27	Technical Training Seminars
February 28 - 29	72nd Annual WACTE Conference



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MOVED?

Please let us know! Contact the
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e-mail us at:
wacteorg@chorus.net



Professional Development Topics for the Future - It's Your Call

by Margaret Ellibee

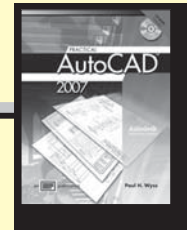
What's on the "docket" for future WACTE professional development seminars and series? Here's a chance for all WACTE members to voice what their professional interests are and what could subsequently be delivered by WACTE.

The WACTE Professional Development Committee has developed a simple on-line survey that will focus on what our members – each of you – would like to see implemented in the near future. Members will receive and have the opportunity to complete the survey via e-mail with the completion time taking less than five minutes! Your participation in the survey is important because it will continue to facilitate the development of relevant and timely workshops, help identify CTE products and services, look at what might be needed to support CTE classroom instruction, and continue to inform WACTE leadership initiatives.

Currently, the member survey is based on need focused, active learning topics/issues related to CTE. Your input will help to focus what topics /themes will be central to upcoming WACTE professional development opportunities. Survey topics that will be posed to members include: data-based decision making; program area technology; new methods of teaching; standards; student assessment techniques; cultural diversity; students with disabilities; accountability strategies; and legislative information and education.

Look for the e-survey coming to you this fall. And, please share with us your wishes and wants for continued quality professional development. Your response is needed and as always, much appreciated! If you have any questions or comments regarding the survey, please contact Margaret Ellibee at Margaret.ellibee@dpi.state.wi.us or 608-267-9251.

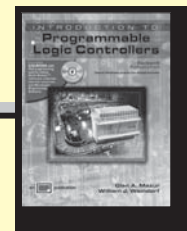
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1,000 Members Strong Resolution

by Terry Simmons

Have you been struggling with recruitment and retention of members? The following article was developed through collaboration from Locals 2, 14, 17, 20, 21 and the WACTE Office to help address the situation. We hope you will find two or three best practices' ideas that will help your local roll out the "Just Ask 5" campaign.

Membership to any organization, association or club is built on relationships. Everyone asks "How am I related to this organization?" The ultimate goal of the local is to develop that relationship with each potential member and sustain that relationship with each active member. Members tell others about the relationship experience and we then have engaging new members.

Why WACTE??

- 1) WACTE is the professional organization that serves all Wisconsin Career & Technical Educators, Administrators and Support Professionals.
- 2) WACTE acts as a legislative voice for career & technical education at the local, state and national levels.
- 3) WACTE provides a forum for secondary, post-secondary, youth apprenticeship, school to work, tech prep and professional development to collectively address career & technical education.
- 4) WACTE is affiliated with the Association for Career & Technical Education.
- 5) WACTE and ACTE provide opportunities for involvement to members through committee participation, leadership development, professional networking and technical training.

Recruitment (Relationships + Recruitment = Retention)

- 1) Membership Campaigns with membership goals
- 2) Build awareness about the local – what have you done lately - create curiosity and speculation
- 3) Identify a cause to champion, i.e., student scholarships
- 4) Get on the agenda at new employee orientations, in-services, faculty and staff meetings

Financial Incentives (Investing in your Future)

- 1) Locals to pay board members/officers membership dues
- 2) Organization/Institution to pay a portion of member's dues
- 3) Payroll deduction (make it easy for members to pay)
- 4) Explain where the dues go/how dollars are spent
- 5) Break the cost down - \$11 per month, 36¢ per day
- 6) Make renewals easy and personal; send reminder letter and make phone calls

Retention (Relationship + Involvement = Retention)

- 1) Hold kick-off events, socials, membership meetings
- 2) Sponsor a luncheon
- 3) Professional development brown bags
- 4) Ice cream socials
- 5) Encourage committee membership; give a member something to do.
- 6) Organize sport and fundraising events
- 7) Always recognize members and their achievements



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No Students in the Classroom -- Improves Learning?

by Tim Tewalt

Teaching online has always had the “pink elephant in the corner problem”— every teacher knows it and online educators often ignore it. What is that elephant? There’s no lecture!!! When we remember great courses we have had, we always remember the instructor and not the reading assignments!

Ever since education has existed, I’m quite sure the distance education student existed— simply because matching time and place is tough in the adult world. Now, technology, yes, useable technology is no longer a factor needing time and space.

Using a synchronous (this means the students / instructor are live at the same time in the virtual classroom – but in different locations geographically) teaching tool, students can be at any web browser in the world (same goes for the instructor), and listen, talk, chat, whiteboard, work in groups, see exactly what’s on the instructor’s screen or other students’ screens (application sharing), video and record everything for later playback.

How does this work? Different vendors have created software tools that create this rich media virtual classroom. The students browse to their course and select *Attend Class*. They have little virtual hands to raise if they have questions and can answer “yes” and “no” — all with a click of a mouse.

Centra is the maker of this synchronous tool I used to teach students an Industrial Electronics course. Seven students were located 180 miles away from my campus, two students were 30 miles away and 3 others were in town. For the distance group, I drove the 180 miles the first week and did an orientation on the software and where to plug in the microphone (pink jack) and headphone (green jack).

All students purchased inexpensive headsets with microphones. One student was just un-boxing his ‘first’ computer! The next week the students met online and I was amazed how well it went until all of the sudden every student raised their hand! Had the system failed? They all said the audio wasn’t working. Hmm, there wasn’t a problem – I wasn’t talking! I learned their expectations of the media required you to avoid dead-air or let them know you weren’t going to talk. The software worked great. My PowerPoint slides were imported; I used application sharing to teach them the software they’d use in the course. Whatever I did on my screen, they saw and I could even give them control to practice. As the weeks progressed, the students raised hands more and asked questions via voice – which worked very well even via modem connections. Using my Tablet PC made white boarding the same as in a real classroom. It was very much like being “live”, only better.

Better because they could review. In general, when a student misses a lecture we say “no big deal,” a couple more misses and they lose a grade, a few more misses and we say “take the course over or consider another major!” With recorded lectures, research shows students are watching them and getting more and more out of their classes.

Yes, I teach from home, the Motorhome/RV, the classroom and the office. If you haven’t tried synchronous learning you’ll be impressed what technology can do for you.



About the author.

Tim Tewalt teaches Robotics / Electronics and researches Teaching and Learning tools at Chippewa Valley Technical College. For more information check out his site at www.SimpleOnlineLearning.com or contact him at ttewalt@cvtc.edu



Pump It Up with WACTE

by Ann Marie Krause



Once again WACTE will be holding a raffle at the 71st WACTE Conference in Appleton. The theme of the raffle is “Pump It Up with WACTE”. Tickets will be \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.

What can your local do to help with this raffle? We need your help to secure prizes. We already have some hotel packages, an electric scooter or moped, and cash. We need more. Here are some suggested donations:

- Gas cards (any amount)
- Get-Aways (hotel accommodations, dinners, etc.)
- Alternative forms of transportation (bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, scooters, etc.)
- Athletic items (exercise balls, workout videos, etc.)
- Cash

Please send your donations to Ann Krause at Blackhawk Technical College (608-757-7750 or akrause@blackhawk.edu) by October 27, 2006. Prizes valued at \$500 or more need to be listed on the tickets, so it is important that we know the value. As soon as we have a prize list, tickets will be printed and distributed. We want to have tickets ready to go the first week in November. Each member only needs to sell 3 tickets for WACTE to meet its goal of \$10,000. Thank you for your help and your contributions! (Please see the donation sheet below)

2006-07 WACTE Raffle Donation Information Sheet

If you, your local or area company would like to donate items to our annual raffle, please complete the following information and mail it to the address below. Your help is appreciated in making this annual event a success!

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Prize Title: _____

Brief Description of Prize: _____

Name of Company, Business or Individual making donation: _____

Their Address: _____

Value of the Prize: _____

Please check one of the following:

- I will bring the prize to the annual conference
- I will mail the prize to the WACTE Office
- I will give you the prize before the March 1, 2007 annual conference

If you are mailing the prize, please send it to:

Bette Lou Esser, WACTE, 518 Potomac Lane, Madison, WI 53719