



## Notes on President Bush's CTE Budget Proposals

Morna Foy, WTC System Office

The President's budget proposal for 2005 budgeted makes significant changes to career and technical education funding. As he did a year ago, the President is proposing eliminating the Perkins program and replacing it with a competitive grant program, funded at 24% less, that could be awarded to K-12 schools, community college and business consortiums. It is essentially the same proposal he made in his last budget. Fortunately, career and technical education is strongly supported in Congress by both parties. Congress rejected this proposal last time and we will be asking for their support again.

The President's 2005 budget also includes his "Jobs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" initiative.

- \$250 million to fund partnerships between community colleges and employers in high demand job sectors,
- \$33 million for expanded Pell Grants for low income students who complete rigorous coursework in high school
- \$220 million to improve reading and math education to prepare high school students for higher education and careers.

This initiative could provide exciting new opportunities for Wisconsin, but there are several negative possibilities as well:

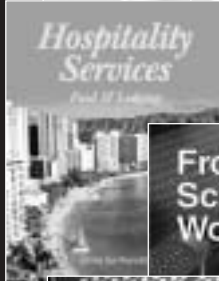
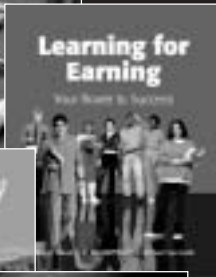
- Targeting Pell dollars based on academics could reduce grant funds based on financial need only criteria and many students would likely not qualify for the targeted funds;
- It's not clear how the \$250 million will be allocated among the states – if it's based on population or other "labor" criteria, Wisconsin is not going to get much of the allocation. There are at least 1,200 community colleges in the country, so \$250 million doesn't go very far;
- It's not clear how the states would "award" the job training money or the role of colleges, high schools and local workforce investment boards in the decision;
- Colleges may have to develop proposals with businesses and then apply for the grant funding, a process that seems contrary to quick response goals.

Regardless of whether these details can be worked out in a positive way, the President's new job-training program is less money and would target a completely different group of Wisconsin students than current federal Perkins funds.

### AT A GLANCE

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Warren Hillmer, WACTE President

The calendar says “spring” and there are more and more hints of it all around us. The WACTE calendar points in that direction, as well. With our excellent Annual Conference now several weeks past and the recent completion of a very successful Annual Legislative Seminar, our calendar indicates spring, too. This is a good time for reflection.

As we look back on a very challenging, yet extremely satisfying WACTE year, one thing becomes crystal clear; WACTE means team! Your Board is made up of many diverse individuals, but its success stems from functioning as a team. Our Committees cannot accomplish their work without a team effort. Our Association office is a strong and extremely effective three-person team. And our Local's strength comes from team involvement.

Yet each and every successful team has a leader or leaders. I want to take this opportunity to thank all those folks who have stepped up to the challenge of being a leader for our team. Some of you are very visible leaders, while others never see the spot light. But all are extremely important and absolutely critical to our organizational success.

In many cases, it means adding to an extremely busy workload, or nipping into personal time. Your dedication to our Association is much appreciated. Team members have the same challenge with time and workload. We thank you for your hard work and support, too. Without ALL of you, WACTE would not be the viable organization it is.

We talk about “Together we are stronger”. You have put visible definition and meaning to that. Thank you to all!

### Making A Difference . . . .

- Would you like to feature information about your Local in this newsletter?
- Would you like to participate in planning for the 2005 Annual Conference or Legislative Seminar?
- Do you want to help make a difference in the lives of your colleagues in career and technical education in Wisconsin?

Then contact the WACTE state office at 608/833-5858 or at [wacteorg@chorus.net](mailto:wacteorg@chorus.net) and offer to join a WACTE state committee!

## Expanded Partnerships between WACTE and Wisconsin's Schools and Colleges

*Presenters at the WACTE Annual Conference were: David Hildebrand, President WITC, Dr. Eric Larson, President BTC, Dr. Karen Knox, President SWTC, and Bryan Albrecht, WACTE*

To begin the session, Dave Hildebrand (WITC) encouraged WACTE members to get their Presidents involved in the association. He said it is important that they understand what our goals, dreams and hopes are for our college(s). He is a strong proponent of improving our TCS image so that more credits can transfer to bachelor degree programs. He said graduates are unhappy when they have to start over, parents of graduates are unhappy and employers are unhappy with the situation since they often pay for many of the credits.

He indicated not every course or program should have transferability but for those that do the rigor must be there or the student will fail when they move on. He suggests we have gone pell-mell to change many of our programs to AAS degrees but we need to remember that not all of our students want or need that level of training, nor can some handle it. He suggests every AAS program evaluate whether or not it NEEDS to be an AAS. If not, begin changing now, if yes, then be sure the rigor is there so the transferability issue is easier to negotiate.

Eric Larson (BTC) agreed that transferability of credits is important but Dr. Hildebrand's caveats are important to remember. He believes we need to stay technical colleges, not become community colleges. Some of the difficulty in the technical college system and secondary schools he feels is finding and retaining good, quality instructors. He would like colleges to consider dual appointment employees (perhaps partial load at the technical college, partial at the secondary level). The cost of equipment as well as facilities and salaries/benefits could be shared.

He also recommends that the Presidents Association, the Boards Association and secondary schools be encouraged to attend the WACTE conferences, and that they co-sponsor workshops etc.

Karen Knox, (SWTC) said the University system WILL watch to see if OUR transfer students succeed, and if they do not, will reconsider the credit transfer agreements. She said steps have been made to help K-12 meet their needs in tech ed through Youth Options and Youth Apprenticeships and we should be considering more of these types of activities through ITV and Internet. She personally meets with the President of Richland Center, UW Platteville and the head of CESA weekly and thinks it is critical that WTCS become active in a wide variety of community organizations to gain support for programming and funding.

Bryan Albrecht (WACTE) believes WACTE and the WTCS need to be involved in building bridges. We need to help DPI understand how we relate to them. They need to understand that they can use Technical College courses for re-certification. We need to build bridges with businesses because we can provide a more direct focus for the employer than even DPI has done. He feels WACTE should consider itself the "server" for technical education networking. Professional organization memberships are important for communication of our mission.



Several years ago, WWTC and WCTC collaborated on development of a Web site that would allow students better access to job opportunities in their areas of study. Today, the system, called TechConnect, is used and supported by all 16 technical colleges. TechConnect is a student employment tool, allowing employers from throughout Wisconsin to post jobs with any of the Wisconsin technical colleges. Check out the new site by using the link below or by visiting the employer's section of [witechcolleges.org](http://witechcolleges.org).

[Visit TechConnect!](#)

## What a Terrific Idea

Blackhawk Technical College's Administrative Assistant students raised almost \$1,500 for the American Cancer Society (ACS) through a recent daffodil sale. The total amount sent to the ACS for the project was \$1,478, which was raised by selling 125 bunches of flowers, 39 Gift of Hope packages (which included a vase and the sending of the flowers anonymously to a cancer patient), and some outright donations. Over \$200 of the total came from orders taken in the Blackhawk Technical College Commons with another \$100 coming through interoffice mail. The 13 students in the Administrative Assistant class came up with the remainder of the orders. The students developed brochures, table tents, nametags, and other print material and they used with spreadsheets to track the orders. Continuous improvement discussions have taken place and a binder is being assembled with samples and ideas for next year's students. BTC leadership wishes to send special thanks to Pat King and Jacki McDugle and their students for doing such a great job for such a wonderful cause.



Class members who sold the flowers include: front row, left to right, Lori Fitzsimons, Jolene Van Brocklin, Kelli McNett, Mindy Long, and Jennie Henry.  
Standing: Pat King, Lisa Skarlupka, Kathleen Ackley, Angie Conway, Kindra Hanson, and Diana Belfield.

## Visit the new WTCS Office

The Wisconsin Technical College System office sends its greetings from its new location in downtown Madison! Now that the System office and staff have officially relocated, the office is more accessible to the Legislature, to DPI, DWD, the Governor's Office, etc. So the next time you're in downtown Madison, please be sure to stop by and say "hello". The address is now 345 West Washington Avenue, Second Floor, Madison, WI 53703. Please note that phone numbers, email addresses and P.O. Box are all the same.

## DPI Selects New CTE Director

DPI Assistant State Superintendent Jack Kean recently announced that Margaret Ellibee has accepted the position of director of the Career and Technical Education Team. Dr. Ellibee will begin her new duties on May the 24th. Margaret has her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin (1995) in Educational Administration, her M.S. degree from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville (1988) in general agriculture, and her B.S. from Iowa State University-Ames in agricultural education (1983). She currently holds a Master Teacher License from the State of Iowa. She taught vocational agriculture at Stuttgart High School (Arkansas); Educational Foundations at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville; Vocational Administration and Education for Employment at UW-Madison; served as the State Vocational Coordinator for Competency and Program Development for the Iowa Department of Education, Vocational Education Bureau; Outreach Specialist and Senior Outreach Specialist at the Center for Education and Work, UW-Madison; School to Work Specialist (Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment) for the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education; Instructional Coordinator, Madison Area Technical College; Field Services Coordinator for State Technology Centers, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education; and Coordinator for Innovative Programming and Research, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education. She has numerous publications on CTE topics. Please join your colleagues in welcoming Margaret to DPI!



## **Creative CTE Financing through Foundations and Grants**

By John Cooney, WCTC

Traditional financing of career and technical education is becoming more and more difficult. As the storm clouds of tight budgets move in, everyone is looking for any ray of sunshine and a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Many technical colleges and other schools are able to augment funds for programs by taking advantage of grants from a variety of sources. John Cooney of Waukesha County Technical College presented many resources that identify several of these resources.

Cooney divided the types of grants available into three different categories: Federal, State of Wisconsin, and private foundations. The Internet has become an invaluable source for this information, and to be effective it's important that one takes the time to explore and research both what is being offered and what has been approved in the past to give an idea of what is available.

One of the first steps for Federal information is The Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance <http://12.46.245.173/cfda/cfda.html>. This site also offers a link to Grants.gov. Some of the other Federal sites included: U.S. Department of Education <http://www.ed.gov/index.jhtml>, <http://www.firstgov.gov/>, and Office of Management and Budget <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/>.

Both the State of Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin are resources for funding education projects. A couple of sites to explore include the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/index.asp> and the UW Madison Grants Information Center <http://grants.library.wisc.edu/organizations/wisconsinmenu.html>. Within the UW's site there are several private funding organizations listed.

Another source of grant information is available through Marquette University's Funding Center (<http://www.marquette.edu/library/fic/>).

There are several sources for funding of educational programs and initiatives; it's just a matter of having a concept and taking the time to explore. There very well may be a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.



### **MOVED?**

Please let us know! Contact the  
WACTE Office  
at 608-833-5858

## WTC System's eTech College Unveils Website Redesign

eTech College recently unveiled its newly improved Web site. Designed as an access point for online courses of all sixteen technical colleges, it gives students more online course options than they would at any single college. The redesign incorporated user studies to make the most frequently accessed information more readily available. The site has been lauded by students and instructors alike. One student commented about eTech, "This program made it possible for me to take classes. Traditional classes would have been a challenge to fit into my schedule. I have been very satisfied with my online learning so far."

Among the enhancements of the site is a database-driven search tool, which allows the user to explore course options alphabetically, by keyword, by semester term and by college. The search allows the user to obtain comprehensive course information with up to 100 results per page. The site also features an online learning self-assessment and testimonials from eTech students. Visit [etechcollege.org](http://etechcollege.org) to see the many course options, as well as what people are saying.



### News from ACTE

#### Legislative Efforts

In preparation for Perkins reauthorization, which will likely get underway soon in the House of Representatives, ACTE's Public Policy staff has been making the rounds on Capitol Hill. As action will start in the Education Reform Subcommittee of the House Education and Workforce Committee, ACTE staff has visited education staff of nearly all of the Subcommittee's members, including: Osborne (R-NE), Ehlers (R-MI), DeMint (R-SC), Biggert (R-IL), Musgrave (R-CO), Woolsey (D-CA), S. Davis (D-CA), D. Davis (D-IL), Case (D-HI), Grijalva (D-AZ), Kind (D-WI), Kucinich (D-OH), Van Hollen (D-MD), and Majette (D-GA). ACTE has also had ongoing discussions with key Committee staff (both majority (Boehner-OH) and minority (Miller-CA) who will be working directly on the legislation.

The response to visits and to career and technical education has been overwhelmingly positive, especially in offices where the staff had a sense of Perkins, and had been hearing from constituents about reauthorization and funding issues. Support comes from both Republicans and Democrats, and according to ACTE it appears that there is not an appetite on the Hill for sweeping program changes (such as the Administration's proposal), but for tweaking the program in accordance with its successes so far. As the process moves forward, ACTE staff visits will expand to the remaining members of the full Committee on Education and the Workforce in the House.

#### 2004 Conference (Dec 9-11, Las Vegas)

As previously announced, the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) will be bringing their annual convention back into the ACTE Annual Convention in Las Vegas in 2004. This should bring about 400 new attendees to the ACTE convention, and shows the cohesion of the entire CTE profession.

In addition, Project Lead The Way will be holding several meetings in conjunction with the ACTE Convention. This is the pre-engineering program that has picked up speed and is mentioned many times by OVAE as integration of academic and technical education. Having these meetings at the Convention demonstrate the value of career and technical education's efforts to integrate with academics.

Finally, a workshop is planned for Wednesday, December 11 with Michael Bruestein on compliance issues with Perkins and No Child Left Behind. Details on this workshop and on the conference as a whole are available at [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org).



*Paul Cutting, WACTE  
Teacher of the Year,  
Local 21, Southwest*



*Becky Fernetto,  
WACTE New Teacher  
of the Year,  
Local 21, Southwest*



*Jeanne Peterson,  
WACTE Specialty  
Services Member of  
the Year,  
Local 2,  
Chippewa Valley*



*Linda Bahr, WACTE  
Associate Member  
of the Year,  
Local 27,  
MATC-Madison*



*Dr. Carol Mishler,  
WACTE Administrator  
of the Year,  
Local 14, Fox Valley*



*Angie Kablar, WACTE  
Part-time Teacher of  
the Year,  
Local 1, Blackhawk*

## Awards Banquet

It wasn't the Oscars or the Emmys, but the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Awards Program at the Wisconsin Association of Careers and Technical Education (WACTE) Conference in Madison's West Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, was quite the show. The flowers, plaques, pictures and music provided the atmosphere to honor the work of those in Career and Technical Education.

The awards banquet allowed us a chance to view many of the varied and wonderful things that are being done across the state in the Technical College System. It was impressive! Awards were given to recognize the efforts of individuals, teams, divisions and departments. Also businesses and industries that have provided outstanding contributions to the improvement, promotion and development of Career and Technical education in Wisconsin were honored. A total of seventy-five awards were given.

Individuals who are not employed in Career and Technical Education but have made major contributions through collaborations and partnerships were also recognized. This is a great way to build relationships with our community leaders and their businesses throughout the state and to let them know how much their work is appreciated.

Retired members were also given recognition as they continue to support the mission and vision of WACTE. Retired in their "official roles" at the college, they are still leading.

A quarter of a century of service is impressive anyway you look at it and members of WACTE who have been serving communities for that long were also recognized. Additional awards were given recognizing new and part-time faculty. Excellence isn't just delivered by the old and full-timers but by everyone.

It was apparent how honored and proud each of these recipients were. They believe in what they do and desire to be the best!

## **New Column!** **“Notes From a Past President”**

*Dear Bryan Albrecht:*

*Thank you for your most welcome letter to me on August 12, 2003. At the age of over 85 years my thoughts take me back to September, 1946 when I was given a teaching position at the Milwaukee Vocational School in their Business Division.*

*In my first week at the school I was approached by a member of the Wisconsin Association of Vocational and Adult Education to join WAVAE. I joined WAVAE and became more and more involved with WAVAE on committees, then as a Board Member followed by very happy years in 1965-1968 as president of this great association.*

*During those years all administrators and faculty members with exception of two joined WAVAE. I believe it is good for the colleges in Wisconsin to have all the presidents join the Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education and then more administrators and faculty will join.*

*I truly believe my activity in WAVAE helped me in several promotions at MATC, allowing me to retire as Assistant to the District Director (President) in September, 1981 after 35 years of happiness at MATC.*

*On May 3, 1968 at our WAVAE convention, Clare Rejahl, Executive Secretary of WAVAE presented a card to me as an Honorary Life Member of WAVAE. On April 21, 2001 the Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education honored me at a luncheon in Madison, Wisconsin with the “C.L. Grieber Award of Merit”. The award means much to me since I always had a friendly respect for him.*

*I wish Bette Lou and all officers, board members committees and all members of WACTE continued great success in the very important work you are doing in the field of education in Wisconsin.*

*Sincerely*

*Clem Wisch  
Brookfield, Wisconsin*

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**“If It Was Easy, Anybody Could Do It”**

During the conference, attendees were fortunate enough to have a portion of the UW Marching Band play for them. What excitement, fun, and hard work the musicians displayed!

But a real highlight was Michael Leckrone (UW Professor & Director of Bands) who was the keynote speaker at the Friday closing session of the conference. The enthusiasm generated by Mr. Leckrone, the famously enjoyable UW Band Director, spread throughout the room as he addressed the audience. Leckrone, known for his energy, ability to motivate, and witticism, left the attendees with many thought-provoking ideas, including:

- § There are only “moments of happiness.” Drink them in and let them sustain you through times when you aren’t happy.
- § Coaches understand that failing isn’t the worst thing that can happen to an individual. Not learning from the failure is worse.
- § “This is hard!” If it was easy, then anybody could do it.
- § Be willing to pay the price of excellence.
- § The will to succeed is nothing without the will to prepare.
- § “Pain is temporary. Pride is forever.”
- § What young people today call stress is what old people call work.
- § God has a sense of humor, just get in a crowded room and look around.

**For the complete WACTE Calendar of Events, visit [www.wacteonline.org](http://www.wacteonline.org)**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

June 23-25, 2004	ACTE Region III Leadership Conference – Kansas City, Missouri
July 20 & 21, 2004	Support Staff Conference – WI Rapids
July 21 & 22, 2004	WACTE Board Meeting – WI Rapids
September 8, 2004	Local Leadership Workshop Wisline (3:00 – 4:00pm)
October 19-21, 2004	Wisconsin GED/HSED and Adult Literacy Conferences, Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton
October 27, 2004	Student Services/Counselors Workshop – GTC, Racine
November 11-12, 2004	Workbased Learning Conference, Sheraton, Madison
December 9-11, 2004	ACTE Convention – Las Vegas, NV
February 13-19, 2005	Career and Technical Education Week
February 16, 2005	WACTE Board Conference Meeting – Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton
February 16-18, 2005	69 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton

## **WACTE Legislative Seminar a Success!**

By Mark Johnson and Karen Showers, WTCS

At the WACTE Legislative Seminar in Madison on April 1, state legislative and educational leaders discussed issues of importance to career and technical education.

State Superintendent of Schools Elizabeth Burmaster stressed that education is at the foundation of the state's economic development. She reflected that the groups represented by attendees are united in advocacy, and especially in our advocacy at the grassroots level in the career and technical education community.

Roberta Gassman, Executive Secretary of the Department of Workforce Development, told attendees about the trade mission to China in which she and other state and local leaders participated. She reported that students in China are in school for long hours each day, six days a week, and that they have a lot of homework. However, employers in China like American students' creativity, innovativeness, problem solving ability, and ability to work on teams.

Dr. Richard Carpenter, WTCS President, provided an update on credit transfer between the WTCS and UW systems. Last year 57% of WTCS to UW transfer students were not from liberal studies programs; they had been enrolled in WTCS occupational programs. Efforts continue on a statewide basis to increase transfer options. He also shared that the WTCS typically enrolls three out of four adults in higher education in this state.

Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton shared statistics with the audience, including that the Technical College System is ninth in the country for awarding Associate Degrees, and that the University of Wisconsin System is thirtieth for awarding baccalaureate degrees. She echoed Dr. Carpenter's statement that the state needs additional transfer opportunities for students. She went on to describe the Wisconsin Women = Prosperity! initiative that she is leading.

All members of WACTE should congratulate Legislative Seminar Committee members and especially Committee Chair Steve Huth for a successful Seminar!



Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction



Warren Hillmer, WACTE President and Dr. Richard Carpenter, President, Wisconsin Technical College System



The panel included Luther Olsen, State Representative; Judith Robson, State Senator; Dr. Karen Knox, SWTC President; and Dr. Ron Jandura, Superintendent of the Burlington Area School District. The panel was moderated by Bryan Albrecht, Associate Vice-President at GTC.

## 'Setting a New Course'

Plan now to attend the 2005 state conference and professional recognition program. This year's theme '*Setting a New Course*' symbolizes the dynamic changes in career and technical education. You are invited to attend and help set a new course for leadership by participating in the annual W.A.C.T.E. conference.

**February 16-18-2005**  
**Radisson Paper Valley Hotel**  
**Appleton, WI**  
**For more information go on line at:**  
**[www.wacteonline.org](http://www.wacteonline.org)**

### Conference Topics:

- \*\*\*\*\*
- \* e-business
  - \* nanotechnology
  - \* bioscience
  - \* manufacturing solutions
  - \* skill assessment
  - \* curriculum design
  - \* wireless technology
  - \* digital media
  - \* technology transfer
  - \* intellectual property
  - \*and many more



## Asparagus & Mushrooms with Pasta

8 ounces of fresh sliced mushrooms  
1 tablespoon of olive oil  
1 clove garlic, minced  
12 ounces of fresh asparagus, trimmed and cut in 1/2 inch diagonals  
Salt and fresh ground pepper  
2 tablespoons of lemon juice  
8 ounces of rotelle or other pasta  
2 tablespoons of minced red bell pepper  
Parmesan cheese

Put oil in medium skillet, sauté garlic and mushrooms, 5-7 minutes. Add the asparagus; cook, covered, 3 minutes. Uncover and cook over medium high heat stirring until most of the liquid is evaporated, about 3 minutes. Add salt, pepper, and lemon juice. Meanwhile, cook the pasta until al dente; drain. Toss the pasta with the mushroom mixture and red pepper. Use a vegetable parer to shave off paper thin curls of Parmesan cheese.