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One Five

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Council on Technology Teacher Education

From The President

Happy 2009 . . . and welcome to a new year of educational, social, and professional activities associated with CTTE. My countdown calendar tells me that there are 69 days to the annual meeting in Louisville, KY. My desktop read-out also tells me the wind chill factor is -30 F degrees outside (it's -7 F, actual temperature). Plus the forecast is for it to get colder tomorrow morning! But to be honest, the weather is beautiful in Muncie, IN today as it's sunny and we received several inches of fresh powdery snow yesterday.

This CTTE publication includes some important details about the Council's yearbook series, notes about websites, as well as some routine notes. Many CTTE tasks are moving to the "front burner" so to speak as committee chairs and entire committees prepare for the ITEA conference.

On the heels of a brand new year (a la 2009), this is a good time in the academic calendar to remind ourselves about the main focus of our professional efforts . . . the candidates who are preparing to be future technology educators. The fields of engineering, technology, etc. are dynamic in nature. That means ITEA, CTTE, TECA, and ITEA-CS should also be dynamic. As the good and the less-than-good scenarios arise, it's important to be flexible and continually ask "what is best?", then act in a positive manner for the majors in our programs. In good, or poor times, keep those young professionals in focus.

Finally, please review the Council's agenda as you send in your pre-registration materials for the 2009 annual ITEA conference. One note, the ITEA-CS / CTTE Yearbook Dinner is now a lunch on Friday, March 27th in Louisville. That move from an evening to a noon-time event was to get the price of the meal "down" a bit. You will note on the conference registration form that the yearbook dinner is $17.00 less than in Salt Lake City! So, plan to join us to honor colleagues, schools, and fellow professionals.

As always, best wishes (and Happy New Year)!

Richard D. Seymour
2007-10 CTTE President

In This Issue:

President's Message 1
Yearbook Series 2
Websites 3
CTTE Notes 4-5

Changes In The CTTE Yearbook Series

If a single term or phrase could be used to identify the Council for Technology Teacher Education, that word might be "yearbook". For the past 57 years, the Council's yearbook has been printed by the McKnight Publishing Company (or a predecessor title) and most recently by the Glencoe / McGraw Hill Company. Each CTTE member, regular or life, receives a printed publication each spring.

In mid-December, our leadership team learned that the relationship with Glencoe / McGraw-Hill "might" be changing. Nothing concrete happened over the Holidays, and it's still not totally clear. As of mid-January 2009, I can report that . . .

* Glencoe will serve as the CTTE Yearbook Publisher and continue to do the editorial and production work in cooperation with the CTTE Yearbook Planning Committee and our Yearbook Editors. This will be business as usual. Glencoe will continue to assign an editor to each of our CTTE Yearbooks as they have in the past.
* Glencoe will continue to support the annual meeting dinner at the ITEA conference.
* Glencoe will also publish the Yearbook on-line in their CTE Professional Development site (new for 2009). We will enter negotiations on the access and download cost and return to CTTE.
* Glencoe has agreed to send complete editorial and production files to CTTE each year for the purpose of allowing CTTE to print hard copies of the CTTE Yearbook either at a university press or independent publisher. CTTE will receive publication-ready files for printing each year from Glencoe.

Note: The four bulleted items above are from the most recent e-mail between the two parties.

Bottom line, the yearbook is going electronic (with Glencoe's help!) yet will discontinue to provide our membership with printed copies. The electronic version of the book will allow for a much wider distribution of our materials. That said, the CTTE executive officer team is committed to having a print copy of the 2009 CTTE Yearbook available for each member each spring. In fact, we are aiming to have the books at Louisville, so we can distribute them personally to CTTE members during the 71st annual ITEA convention. Hopefully, attendees can read their book on the way home from Kentucky!

As you might guess from all this, the yearbook committee meeting at Louisville will include more than reviewing proposals for future publications. The officer team will be working with the committee to determine the best course of action. In a world of dynamic change, we will work through all the details and keep the best interests of our members in mind.

Stay tuned for more news following our face-to-face discussions in Louisville.

"Good" Websites For Technology Education Programs

Richard Seymour, CTTE President

This past fall, I presented a session about "The Status Of Technology Teacher Education Programs" at the annual Mississippi Valley Technology Teacher Education Conference in St. Louis, MO. In preparation for the MVTTEC presentation, my graduate assistant and student worker checked-out nearly 100 URLs of technology teacher preparation programs around North America. The challenge for my two student-workers was to (a) determine if the schools still had an active TTE program, and to (b) examine details about the existing programs.

Most TTE websites outlined program requirements, listed faculty and staff, and included accreditation materials. Some described activities of their local TECA chapter, included photographs of facilities, and provided additional details about the program (an 8-semester sequence, links to scholarships, etc).

The list below is totally un-scientific! I simply asked my two student-workers to give me a list of 3-4 websites that stood-out, one's that might be used as samples or benchmarks for our profession. Again, this was not an organized competition, and there aren't any awards for the two categories below.

Samples of TTE program with an attractive homepage (in no particular order):

Central Connecticut State University (CT)
http://www.technology.ccsu.edu/Programs/Information/te.html

Illinois State University (IL) http://www.tec.ilstu.edu/technology-education/

Appalachian State (NC) http://www.tec.appstate.edu/

Millersville University (PA) http://www.millersville.edu/itec/index.php

Sites that seem to be well organized (again, in no order):

Brigham Young University (UT) http://www.et.byu.edu/tte/

California University of Pennsylvania (PA) http://www.cup.edu/eberly/teched/index.jsp

The University of Texas at Tyler (TX) http://www.uttyler.edu/hrdt/index.htm

Fairmont State University (WV)
http://www.fairmontstate.edu/academics/techeducationprogram/default.asp

When you get a chance, check-out these eight URLs! And congratulations to the schools and programs that got the attention of my two BSU student-workers.

NCATE Terminology

When developing your professional syllabi for TTE classes, it's important to use terminology consistent with other academic areas. Here are two examples . . .

* When referring to the students who are collegiate majors in a teacher preparation program, the preferred term is "candidates". That is, they are currently "candidates" for licensure within the on-campus program of study.
* Conversely, when referring to the secondary-aged learners who are in grades 6-12, they should simply be called "students".

As accreditation materials are prepared in your program, please articulate the nature of the "learners" that you are describing. This is especially true when you prepare program objectives . . . . as in "our program's candidates will be able to organize and implement effective lesson plans with their students". Notice how that statement clearly differentiates the two populations.

2009 ITEA Conference

Check these two links regularly for details about the ITEA conference in Louisville:

http://www.iteaconnect.org/Conference/conferenceguide.htm
http://www.ctteonline.org

Humor For The Month

From The *Wall Street Journal*
January 2008