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One Five

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Council on Technology Teacher Education

From The President

I imagine that I could separate current CTTE members into one of two groups, and close to 100% of the Council's membership would fit in one of two categories. My two proposed groups are (a) those who have been in Washington, PA and (b) those who have never heard of the place. So, the question . . . are you an "A"? Or a "B"?

Washington, Pennsylvania is an interesting place. Today it is a shell of what it used to be (that is, compared to the booming days of steel production in the mid-20th Century). Many factory doors have closed, businesses packed-up and left town, and I'm sure the local population has decreased during each census period over the past few decades. Nice scenery around yet tons of empty buildings.

Why do I bring up Washington, PA? Mainly because, in mid-May, the CTTE Executive Committee met there for about 10 hours to review the Louisville conference and plan out the coming year(s) for the Council. Two officers drove in 5 and 9 hours from the west, one 5 hours from the south, another drove 7 hours from the southeast, and a final team member flew into nearby Pittsburgh Airport. It was a important and much needed session, very productive!

If anything, Washington has one key thing going for it these days, it is in a prime location. It is located on a major north / south highway in western Pennsylvania (Interstate-79) as well as on an east / west highway (Interstate-70). As per tourism, Pittsburg is a half-hour north of downtown, Oglebay Park is a half-hour west, and Fallingwater (architect Frank Lloyd Wright's famous homestead) is southeast by 45-some minutes. Washington and Jefferson College is in town, and other outstanding institutions (such as Carnegie Melon and 'Pitt) aren't far away. Winter or summer, the 7 Springs Resort is a popular recreational destination (just east on Rt. 70, in the Laurel Highlands).

As outlined in this newsletter, and through CTTE efforts this coming year, the officer team is hoping to "position" the organization to provide professional benefits to all members. And just as places like Washington, PA have taken some lumps over the past decades, CTTE faces many challenges today . . . yet is poised for another year of vital services, worthwhile programs, and professional benefits.

Richard D. Seymour
2007-10 CTTE President

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CTTE Executive Team Meeting Notes

The following "notes" are in no particular order. They represent topics, actions, or issues that were discussed at Washington, PA in mid-May and in many cases outline activities that will take place in the coming academic year. Note: CTTE Secretary Phil Reed kept detailed minutes of the session, which amounted to 4 pages, single-spaced. This is a summary of that document.

1) The CTTE officers were very pleased with the Louisville conference . . . . location, hotel, meals, convention center, etc. A special thanks goes to the Kentucky organizing committee and to the staff at ITEA!

2) The Council Of Supervisors has opted-out of the shared ITEA-CS / CTTE Yearbook Luncheon function for Charlotte and beyond. After much interaction between the two groups, we wish the Supervisor's well and will move on. Instead of teaming with that Council, CTTE's executive team has asked to move a few of our key announcements to the agenda of the International Luncheon (held on Thursday of the annual ITEA convention). The PATT attendees who make up the critical mass of that meal event are mostly teacher educators themselves so it appears to be an ideal match.

3) The 2009 CTTE Yearbook will be delivered to my office any day now, after some "interesting" efforts trying to get an ISBN number through Washington, DC authorities. The book will be mailed out from Ball State University and arrive in your mailbox around the July 4th Holiday.

4) An electronic version of the 2009 CTTE Yearbook, *Essential Topics For Technology Educators*, will be available through Glencoe / McGraw-Hill. This is a "new" venture, and un-charted waters for CTTE. Details to follow later in the summer.

5) Two yearbook themes are in the development stage, with one related to research headed to the editor later this summer. A second publication, on design and creativity, is also in the works (for 2011).

6) Several "high profile" topics were discussed, as the yearbook committee looks for future themes and the necessary editors and writing team members. Possible ideas: Pedagogy-to-practice, the nature of activities in action-based instruction, competitive events in engineering and technology education programs, and facilities.

7) One of the BIGGEST challenges facing CTTE in the near-term is the roughly $20,000 annual fee (charge) for our affiliation with NCATE. In recent years, ITEA has covered 75% of the fee with CTTE the remaining 25%. For the later half of 2009, those percentages will reverse. That buys our two groups a few more months to determine what will happen in 2010. Note: While neither ITEA or CTTE has included the next year's fees in their annual budget, support of the ITEA / CTTE / NCATE process is seen as critical for our profession. MORE TO COME IN THE JULY NEWSLETTER!

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CTTE Executive Team Notes (Continued)

8) CTTE elections will be held from December 1-18, 2009. Per the by-laws change approved at Louisville, this will be an electronic ballot. This cycle, president and secretary candidates will be on the ballot (with their responsibilities starting after the 2010 Charlotte conference).

Obviously the Nominations Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in either of these two offices. Contact Past Pres. Michael De Miranda at: mdemira@CAHS.Colostate.edu

9) The budget approved for the 2009 / 2010 academic year is very tight (but then, most households, companies, and organizations are all facing tighter financial times!). The major concern this year is that we will spend more than we take in for the year . . . versus the traditionally over-budgeting that has become common. Between the yearbook and NCATE, we are going to write some very large checks.

The expenses #s for 2009 / 2010 look like this . . .

Officer Operations	$1,600.00
Conference	2,500.00
Committees *	12,125.00
Special Projects **	9,388.00
Misc.	700.00
Total	$26,313.00

*Covers the printing of a yearbook for each member
**Includes a 75% share of the NCATE fees for the second half of 2009

Income from a "typical" year, like 2008 / 2009, is listed almost in the $20,000-range. We hope the sale of surplus (printed) yearbooks and the electronic distribution of books through Glencoe will help narrow the deficit. Still, it is not a sustainable budget for the Council.

CTTE Elections

Past President Michael De Miranda heads the Nominating Committee, as they are responsible for identifying candidates for the offices of CTTE President and Secretary. These terms will run 2010-2013. If you are interested in serving in one of these two posts, please contact any member of the CTTE executive committee. Your name will be passed along to the CTTE Nominations Committee.

ITEA Charlotte
North Carolina • March 18-20, 2010

ITEA Conference Heads For Charlotte

Mark you calendars for March 18-20 2010, as the international convention heads to scenic North Carolina.