



## NEWS, VIEWS, AND UPDATES...OCTOBER 2009



### JUST A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT...

...the word is overwhelmed! No, although that is an appropriate word, I probably really meant to use the word overcommitted. No, actually, I think the word is thankful. Yes, that is the correct word.

Because we are all overwhelmed and overcommitted, I am extremely thankful for all the assistance and support I have received in this position from Immediate Past-President Jayne Schill, former Vice-President Inger Wegener and the rest of the MACTA Board. Due to their leadership, MACTA is well positioned to continue moving forward in the promotion of CTE in Minnesota.

As we are all well aware, there is a lot going on in the CTE/Perkins world today. It is crucial that we have everyone's involvement to ensure opportunities exist for all students to take high quality, rigorous CTE programs. Please consider becoming more involved in MACTA activities and promotion; whether through committee participation, legislative visits, conference attendance, running for a board seat in April, etc. In addition, the Board welcomes your input in regard to activities, conference agendas, and strategic planning. Together we can accomplish our goals. GET INVOLVED...MAKE A DIFFERENCE...HAVE FUN!  
*Cindy Walters; 2009-2010 MACTA President*

*Excerpted from ACTE website*

### THE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: ACTE

Founded in 1926, the Association for Career and Technical Education is the only national association that is dedicated to, and advocates for, the entire CTE field. It is the largest national education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares students for successful technical careers. Its mission is to provide leadership in developing an educated, prepared, and competitive workforce. Here is how ACTE's services benefit you.

#### ADVOCACY

ACTE is the only national association that advocates for the entire CTE community. ACTE's dedicated public policy department constantly monitors activity on Capitol Hill, reports on that activity, and enlists your help when needed. ACTE works hard to insure Perkins and other educational funding continue to directly benefit CTE, making this one of the most important benefits to you as a CTE Administrator or teacher.

**ACTE CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**



### MDE UPDATE

It has been a very busy fall at MDE. Many changes have occurred in fiscal reporting and control systems that will require special attention of CTE administrators. Perkins funds will now be drawn through the SERVS Financial system rather than distributed under a metered payment system. The SERVS Financial system is operational, but changes are occurring on a daily basis so we hope you will bear with us as we all learn the new procedures. The CTE Levy System did not get all of the updates we anticipated, but we have received fewer calls than in the past so people are apparently gaining comfort. We are, of course, always willing to respond to individual questions as they arise.

With these new financial systems the need to align information submitted through those systems and the Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards (UFARS) becomes all the more critical. Preliminary UFARS data on Perkins spending for 2008-2009 is showing serious mismatches, with several districts reporting more spending in UFARS than their grant allotment and others reporting only a small fraction of the Perkins award. It is essential that we resolve these discrepancies very soon! For those who have not already registered, it would be very important that each Perkins consortium is well represented at the upcoming fiscal training (October 19 at MDE in Roseville).

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### MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 16: 2008-2009 Perkins APR Due  
October 19: Perkins Fiscal Training  
November 3: Pathways, Partnerships & Perkins  
November 4: Perkins Meeting  
November 19-21: ACTE National Convention  
March 8-10: ACTE National Policy Seminar  
April 21-23: MACTA Spring Conference-Duluth

## WEGENER APPOINTED TO ACTE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Inger Wegener recently completed the process of being appointed to the Res Committee of ACTE, serving a two year term from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011. She will be representing Region III.



A short bio on our MACTA representative extraordinaire follows:

Inger Wegener has worked as a special education teacher, a work adjustment training coordinator, and a career accommodation specialist in a variety of school and community based settings including day and residential treatment. Inger currently works a career and technical education specialist and secondary Perkins Coordinator at Lakes Country Service Cooperative in Fergus Falls, Mn.

Inger is a proud graduate of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Go Badgers!), and is now completing her Masters of Science in Adolescent Literacy and Technology at Walden University in Minneapolis, Mn.

She lives on beautiful Opperman Lake in Fergus Falls with her two amazingly gorgeous adolescent children.

MACTA congratulates Inger...she has, and continues to, serve/represent us well.

### PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Making Math Real was a collaborative project between Intermediate Districts 287 and 916 and Carver Scott Cooperative funded by a Perkins grant. The major goal of the project was to integrate math into the CTE curriculum. The academic math standards and MCA math grad test strands were identified and reviewed as related to the programs' curriculum. The CTE teachers worked with math teachers to learn how to integrate the math. All teachers will administer a math grad test written contextually for their program both fall and spring. The desired result is to show that the programs can make a difference for students in the academic areas specifically math. Math curriculum will be shared between the districts with the ultimate goal of building up the math so that the program can be recognized as an intervention for the grad test.

### 2009-2010 MACTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership/Awards Committee: Jean Rakun-Wayzata  
Legislative Committee: Tim Amlie-Hopkins  
Communications Committee: Dean Brueur-Richfield; Carrie Hanson-Runestone Consortia, Alexandria  
Licensure: Carol Clark-Lakeville; Julie Warner-Wright Tech.  
Professional Development: Marlys Bucher-MDE  
Finance Committee: Kathy Haugan-Outsource Projects;  
Al Hauge-MDE

Ewald Consulting  
www.ewald.com

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM EWALD

#### 2010 Minnesota Legislative Session – Preview

The 2010 Legislative Session will bring more challenges for the Legislature and Governor to address. After balancing the budget and addressing a \$6 billion deficit during the 2009 session using a mix of legislative budget cuts, unallotment authority used by the Governor, and federal stimulus dollars for existing programs, it is still expected that state revenues will continue to be lower than needed. The November forecast issued by the State Department of Finance will set the tone for budget discussions in 2010.

#### Other highlights for 2010:

- 2010 is a Bonding Bill year for the legislature, meaning there will be a lot of focus and attention on state and local capital projects where state bonding authority could be used to pay for partial or total costs. This is expected to be a very competitive year for such projects as people look for help from the state.
- K-12 shared services – continued discussion for last years debate on finding ways for schools to save money through collaboration.
- Additional focus on K-12 funding. The Governor unallotted \$175 million to K-12 to reflect an intended payment shift to schools; however, the legislature will need to fill a hole created with this shift.
- Many school districts are going out for referendum this fall, primarily to renew existing levy authority; depending on those results, additional needs for schools may need to be addressed.
- The national health care debate will certainly have implications at the state level.
- Partisan divide will likely still be an issue between the DFL and the GOP Governor.
- 2010 is also a year when all 134 members of the MN House of Representatives and all 67 members of the MN Senate are up for re-election. In addition, the Governor's office will be an open seat, and the other constitutional officers (Attorney General, Secretary of State and State Auditor) are all up for re-election. Many current members of the legislature, including the House Speaker and Senate Tax Chairman, are running for Governor which will certainly have an impact on what happens, or doesn't happen, during the 2010 session.

### 2009-2010 MACTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Cindy Walters-CSEC; cwalters@cseced.org  
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**ACTE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1****AWARENESS**

ACTE makes its members aware of what's happening, what's available and what's on the horizon through its publications, conventions and meetings, and Web site. As a member, you will receive Techniques, the four-color magazine published eight times a year; Career Tech Update, ACTE's biweekly electronic industry newsletter; ACTE News, a monthly update on Association news; and Legislative Alert, which brings you breaking news and guidance for affecting change in federal education legislation, policy and funding. These valuable resources provide you with resources, case studies, trends and practical tips that keep you up-to-date and informed.

ACTE's Convention and National Policy Seminar are high-quality professional development experiences that pull in expert speakers to provide the information and network you need to improve existing programs, create new ones, and learn about what your colleagues are doing that help students succeed.

ACTE's Web site, [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org), is a vast resource for any career and technical educator. In addition to the latest CTE news, this site has a library of lesson plans for teachers, updates on all legislative activity, and podcasts and Webcasts on unique and interesting topics.

**ACCESS**

The saying goes "it's not what you know, it's who you know." For ACTE members, however, the saying is "it's what you know and who you know." ACTE provides its members with access to information and resources, access to each other, and access to industry experts.

ACTE members have access to a vast pool of information and resources. The publications, Website, online courses, and electronic media provide members with what they need to know, when they need to know it.

ACTE members also have access to each other. Valuable networking occurs during the Association's Annual Convention and National Policy Seminar. These face-to-face events are ideal for sharing and gathering ideas and increasing your network of resources. In addition, ACTE has a dynamic online community environment where, at any time, you can interact with teachers from around the country on a variety of topics related to high school and middle school career and technical education.

Access to industry experts in another way ACTE helps its members. ACTE taps into the experts' knowledge and shares that information with its members. If you are going to learn, you might as well learn from the best.

**ATTENTION POST-SECONDARY COLLEAGUES! MACTA NEEDS YOU.**

We are an association of professional career and technical administrators. We are looking for more post-secondary partners.

**Why should you join?**

In order to be good partners with our secondary colleagues we need to understand their needs just as they need to understand ours. We need to share our common goals, and our unique challenges. As we partner in the development of Programs of Study in Minnesota it is more important than ever to communicate.

**Through your membership you will gain:**

- 1) Updates and impact from state and federal government related to CTE
- 2) Information, direction, and implementation strategies on Perkins legislation
  - a. Secondary and post-secondary focused
- 3) Networking opportunities with secondary and post-secondary colleagues
- 4) Examples and best practice in many areas of CTE
- 5) A new level of understanding and appreciation for your secondary partner(s)
  - a. Gaining insight
  - b. Growing in collaboration

Come and try MACTA for one year – see if the benefits are worth your effort.

Sandy Fabian, Director Academic and Innovative Partnerships  
St. Cloud Technical College  
MACTA Vice President

**MDE UPDATE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Programmatically, we continue to move full speed ahead on the pilot efforts for technical skill attainment in plant systems, health therapeutics, accounting, law enforcement, and information technology, and plan to release guidelines at the November 4 Perkins meeting on developing technical skill assessments at the local level in all CTE areas. By the release of this newsletter we also will have completed accountability training for Perkins coordinators and will be well into local performance negotiations for the secondary and postsecondary accountability measures.

MDE will, of course, be providing an update at the fall MACTA meeting in Rochester at which time further information will be provided on the above items as well as updates on licensure issues and various program efforts.

- Dan Smith



**WATCH FOR IT...COMING SOON...  
NEW MACTA WEBSITE**



THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS SENT ON BEHALF OF MNACTE AND MACTA TO THE PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION MINNESOTA IN RESPONSE TO A RECENT TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENT. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TEACHERS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO ENSURE CTE IS NOT MISSED IN SUBSEQUENT ADVERTISEMENTS...



**Minnesota Association for Career & Technical Educators**  
An Affiliate of the Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE)

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September 17, 2009

Mr. Tom Dooher, President  
Education Minnesota  
41 Sherburne Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55103

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL ADVERTISEMENT

Tom, the efforts that you have made toward communicating the positive aspects of education in Minnesota through the use of video presentations on television are commendable. The thank-you video at the end of the 2008 school year emphasized the welcome efforts of the public toward supporting education.

The September 2009 video (<http://www.educationminnesota.org/news/VideoListing.aspx>) presents numerous areas of study—math, reading, sports, language, physical education, drama, music, science, and history. Perhaps in the interest of time allotted for the video, one important aspect of the educational curriculum is omitted—Career and Technical Education (CTE). CTE areas include agriculture, business and marketing, family and consumer science, health occupations, and technology education.

Technology education is not new; it has evolved from and co-exists within Industrial Arts Education, an evolution that is more than cosmetic and much more than a change of names. With the emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), the Technology Education area is often overlooked in the educational arena.

Students need access more than ever to Career and Technical Education courses, experiences, and programs, such as the finance education through CTE offerings in business education and family and consumer science education. Through coherent CTE programs of study authorized by the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, CTE at the middle- and secondary-school levels is tied to post-secondary experiences that lead to certificates, associate degrees, and bachelor's degrees. Not all STEM professions require four-year or more advanced degrees, almost all require some post-secondary education and training. The middle-skill jobs that require more than high school diplomas but less than a university degree relate directly to STEM. CTE programs allow students to explore a pathway for immediate job opportunities as well as lifelong career advancement in STEM areas.

Future Education Minnesota communication efforts for public consumption need to include the CTE programs as well as the subjects listed in the September 2009 video effort.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeanette A. Karjala".

JEANETTE A. KARJALA, PRESIDENT 2008-2010  
Minnesota Association for Career and Technical Education  
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Winona, MN 55987-5838

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cindy Walters".

CINDY WALTERS, PRESIDENT 2009-2010  
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