



College Comment

TECHNOLOGY
EDUCATION
COLLEGIATE
ASSOCIATION

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Craig Harvey

President-elect's Message

By: Sarah Wells

Hello to all TECA members out there! Hope the summer and now the first semester have treated you kindly. As you may already know we are trying to create more involvement from the different Technology Education education programs throughout the country. I would like to encourage all of these schools to take advantage of all TECA and ITEA have to offer you. For instance TECA is a great opportunity for students to interact with others from around the nation as well as show off the qualities of their schools program. ITEA benefits by bringing together the new and the old. Giving the students the chance to meet with their elders who are already in the workforce, having years of experience under their belts. I hope that our member organizations could also see the interest in encouraging greater activity in our group. With higher response from the association we can have better overall representation in ITEA, helping those participants later in life. I hope that this may convince some that there are other possibilities in store for you when you decide to join as a TECA affiliate.

Special points of interest:

- ✓ President-elect's Message
- ✓ Student Officer Nominations
- ✓ ITEA membership – Why ITEA is important to our new professionals

Winter Holiday Greetings From Your TECA Officers!

By: Adam Wilburn

With the semester coming to a conclusion, I can't help but think of all the wonderful meals that come with the holidays. Enjoy the breaks from school, the company of your family, and the everlasting memories you will surely create along the way. TECA would like to wish all students a very safe and happy Thanksgiving and Winter Break. We'll see you Albuquerque.



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Why Be a International Officer?

By: A J Applegarth

Why do you want to be an International TECA Officer? There are many benefits to being an International Officer. First off, being an International TECA Officer allows you to meet new people. Over the past two years, I have met many new people from schools all across the country. These are people just like you, who share the same ideas on education and have similar interests about the field of Technology Education. Making friendships that can last a lifetime is a very valuable asset to have. Secondly, being an International Officer gives you the opportunity to travel to new places. Over my two-year tenure as an International Officer, I have had the opportunity to travel to Columbus, Ohio and Nashville, Tennessee for the past two ITEA conferences, and I have participated in the annual Summer Leadership Conference held in Fort Collins, Colorado in 2002, and Orlando, Florida in 2003. Traveling can become very costly, but being an International Officer allows you the benefit of earning reimbursements for your travel expenses. Each year a budget is drawn up during the Summer Leadership Conference and the officers are in control of where they want the money to go. The last major benefit of being an International TECA Officer is gaining valuable networking skills. Having the opportunity to travel to numerous conferences, and meet new people allows you to gain new contacts. These contacts will provide you with an advantage over other competitors. Making important contacts is very helpful for getting the job you want in the location you want. Being an International TECA Officer is a lot of fun and worth every minute. You will have to put in some work, but the benefits you get out of being an officer far exceed the amount of work you put into being an officer. I strongly encourage TECA members to run for an International office to help bring recognition to their TECA chapter.

Fall Regionals

The following regionals take place this fall:

Midwest Regional	Peoria, IL.	November 7-8, 2003
West Regional	Pittsburg, KS.	November 20-21, 2003

After the holiday season, the East Regional Conference will take place at Virginia Beach, Virginia on February 19-21, 2004.

We would like to thank all our sponsors
for their commitment to TECA.

Competitive Event Sponsors

GOODHEART-WILLCOX- Technology Bowl
 KELVIN ELECTRONICS- Transportation Contest
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 DEPCO- Technical Presentation
 SME- Live Manufacturing Contest
 PITSCO- Problem Solving

In-Kind Sponsors

Indiana State University School of Technology
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Call for 2004-2005 Student Officer Candidates

Use the form that is available on the TECA website (<http://www.iteawww.org/TECAofficernominationform2004.pdf>) to apply for, or nominate students for, next year's international officer positions. A brief review of the available offices and their responsibilities are as follows...

President-elect

It shall be the duty of the President-elect to become acquainted with the duties of the President. The President-elect becomes the TECA International President the following year (prior to graduation). The President-elect is responsible for assisting the administrative advisor with fundraising activities and advertising accounts.

Vice President

The Vice President shall be responsible for the annual conference planning and shall serve in the absence or disability of the President. The Vice President shall prepare a report on the conference planning and submit it to the President prior to the fall term. All correspondence and activity reports shall be presented to the incoming Vice President.

Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for the recording and distribution of meeting minutes by mail to the TECA Management Board and other parties. The Secretary shall also provide the Management Board and Committee Chairperson copies of any programs and correspondence that pertain to their duties. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping a record of all written correspondence and activity reports pertaining to TECA's yearly activities and shall compile TECA's year end report.

Reporter

The Reporter shall be responsible for reporting all activities and events of TECA to the Management Board and all TECA-affiliated chapters. The Reporter shall assist the TECA International Advisor with the publication of the *College Comment*.



Nomination Form Available from your TECA Advisor

Fundraising

By: Sarah Wells

I have found through talking to members of other chapters that it can be very hard for them to pay for many of the general costs assumed by an affiliate when going to a TECA competition. I know I am one of the lucky ones, our club is well funded and is able to help out the student whenever necessary, however, getting that funding can be difficult at times. Here you will find some ideas that my, as well as other clubs, have found to raise capital.

The first, which my chapter has done very well with, is being an official organization with your school. This puts you in line for funding from, not only the school itself but your Student Association or Student Government. If your chapter has not become an official campus organization, I suggest you do so, it can be an in road for money.

There are also the traditional type fundraisers. Selling raffle tickets of all sorts is one of the most common; however, a few others I have heard of could serve you just as well. The first is a car wash, fairly simple, and if you can find a business that is willing to provide a location with water, very low cost.

One of the main problems many organizations find is a lack of volunteers for the duties of fundraising, selling tickets or what-have-you, and usually it ends up being the same group of people that do most of the work. My club has found that bribery, or whatever you choose to call it, is one of the best ways to get members to participate in fundraising. Our club will help to fund the trips to regionals and nationals for you only if you participate in fundraising, and if you don't it's your loss.

Importance of ITEA/TECA Membership

All students enrolled in Technology Education should be involved in their local and state TECA chapters, as well as be an active ITEA member. Being a member of ITEA offers rising Technology Teachers many benefits. The ITEA website (www.itea.org) offers numerous services to upcoming and current teachers, such as the Idea Garden, where teachers can post ideas or activities for use in the classroom. Being an ITEA member also allows you to apply for scholarships to help you pay for your education. A final benefit of being an ITEA member is that student membership, undergraduate and graduate, is only \$35, an extraordinary deal for all that you get for being a member. Also, your first year as a professional member is only \$35. ITEA is a great organization and anyone who is in the field of Technology Education should be a member.

Being a TECA member in your state and local chapters is also beneficial because it allows you to help out in your community. Helping in your local community allows you to gain experience in working with other people and participating in team-building exercises. These are both very important traits future teachers need to be successful in their careers. Being a TECA member also allows you to apply for more scholarship opportunities. All in all, being involved in ITEA and TECA on a local, state, and national level holds many advantages for future teachers. Not only will it help you in your teaching, but it looks great on a résumé, which can help you get that perfect job. If you are not currently an ITEA or TECA member, sign up as soon as possible and begin to reap all the benefits that both organizations offer.



International Technology Education Association



Thoughts from the international Advisor

By: Dr. Joe R. Busby

Growing Pains —

We are moving from a printed newsletter to an electronic newsletter. This is a change in culture and with cultural change comes challenges. One of our challenges is to correctly identify all of the front line people who need to receive the initial posting. We are targeting the chapter advisors as the front line. We seem to be having great success because of the record keeping of Dr. DeMiranda and the current efforts of your International Reporter, Craig Harvey. Still, a few advisors have moved or retired and we failed with the first newsletter to make a connection. Please help us to make the appropriate contacts. If you know of a university where the advisor changed then please contact me so that I can follow up. Also, we ask that you take on the responsibility and contact that program as well. Your kind interaction may provide the spark or guidance for a continued program.

Two of our regions have suffered because of smaller participation. Another region could stand some growth and participation. Several of the programs that historically participated are now closed. Several of the programs that historically do not participate continue on their course unchallenged. I have wondered why Technology Education programs that are preparing students for the classroom and industry decide not to utilize the student organization to enhance their students' learning. My best guess is that the potential sponsors can not see past the competitive events.

I remember one particular TECA meeting while I was teaching at Fort Hays State University. After the business, we (the students and advisors) went bowling. Oh, the fun that was shared by all. These were the same students that showed up for the community service projects, the projects that make a difference in others' lives. These were the same students who traveled together to conferences and learned. These were the same students who learned to trust each other.

Students and advisors, you have your stories of equal magnitude. Because of these successes, I challenge you to call those schools with Technology Education programs that you do not see participating in TECA conferences. Tell them why you participate. Offer to help them develop holistic TECA programs. If we all do our part then we can develop a strong membership. The students deserve it and so do the students' future students.

Officer Candidates —

The Technology Student Association (TSA) taught me that a student wins if she/he runs for an office. They win because they learn from the process. If the student actually gets elected to the position then the entire organization should win because of the student's representation and service.

How are you getting to Albuquerque? —

A couple of schools have been toying with the idea of chartering a bus and riding to Albuquerque. This could be an exciting way to see a large part of this great country. Your chapter may stop and pick up another chapter or two on the way. This would be an opportunity to make new friends. Of course, you would have to plan for the classes that you would miss at school because of the extra travel time. Some may find it more reasonable to fly. However it works out best, begin your plans to attend now. The Albuquerque conference will be a wonderful spring opportunity.

If you have any questions about how Technology Education is taught in other State, attend the general sessions during the ITEA conference. During these general sessions, the Outstanding Programs and Outstanding Teachers are presented. Photographs from these/their classrooms are highlighted during the presentations. In just a short while, you can take a trip around the country.

See you in Albuquerque!



Registration information, housing options and a preconference guide of information are now available on the ITEA web site: www.itea.org. Click on the annual conference hot button.