



College Comment



Preparing Professionals to Teach Technology.

Issue 3 Feb. 2006
Compiled by: Jen Schmidt

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Vice President's Message

By: Jason Jarrett

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank everyone for re-electing me to an officer position this year. Technology Education has been a huge part of my life for as long as I can remember. My father is a Technology Education teacher and he always made sure I was around the profession. Growing up I never would have imagined that I would become one myself. TECA has been a great experience for me and I strongly encourage anyone who wishes to become a technology educator to get involved. Not only join a chapter, but to actually do something in TECA. Run for an International Officer position, run for a chapter officer position, coordinate a fundraiser for your chapter, or just get involved. Anything you do will be a good experience and it will give you a sense of accomplishment and growth as a professional when you have completed your task. I know we all have busy schedules and have little time to pick up extra responsibilities, but this is the time to grow and excel as a professional in training. TECA gives us the perfect opportunity to just that.

Running for an International officer position was one of the best things I have ever done for myself. At first I was timid about committing that much time to something extra, but honestly it doesn't take a lot of time up. It does require some work, but the rewards are much greater than I could have ever expected. As an officer you get to travel all around the country to different places and meet many different people. This alone has been a huge reward, especially if you like to travel. I have been able to go to Eastern Regional conferences, Western Regional conferences, ITEA conferences, TSA National competitions, and many more.

By becoming involved each and every one of you can help TECA grow as an organization. Over the last two years TECA has made some huge leaps forward as a professional development organization. Conference attendance is increasing, competitions are becoming more competitive, and the entire atmosphere surrounding TECA has been ignited and become more intense. It's a great experience to be involved in. As an organization we can only go forward, but it's not the International officer team that makes this progression happen. It is you, the members of each local chapter that make TECA grow and move forward.

So please become involved take a risk, grow as professionals and people. I promise you that the rewards are greater than anything you could have ever expected. Thank you once again for letting me serve as your International Vice- President. Good luck with everything and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Baltimore this spring!

Award Nominations

By: Jen Schmidt

Do you know someone who is an excellent leader? Did they help to increase the membership of your chapter or help start up another chapter? There is no better way to acknowledge their accomplishments than to nominate them for a TECA Award. Check out the nomination form at the end of the newsletter, fill it out, and send it in. Nominating someone for an award shows the rest of the TECA community that there are people that are willing to go above and beyond what they have to do without gaining anything from it. People like this need to be recognized for their accomplishments and the TECA Award is just the way to do it.

If you have any questions or want to see the description of the awards, check out the TECA website at www.iteaconnect.org or contact Dr. Wright at wright_p@cup.edu.

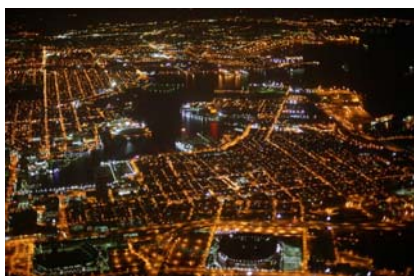
Baltimore, Here we Come!

By: Rachael Lese

In a city with so much history, the International Technology Education Association couldn't have chosen a more appropriate city to hold its 68th Annual Conference. Baltimore has been said to, "...stand at the crossroads of history and innovation- with more incredible first than you can imagine." With a quote like this, I can't help but think how much Baltimore and Technology Education have in common.



With countless museums, boutiques, markets, and of course restaurants, Baltimore has and will always be one of the most prominent cities in America. The crown jewel of Baltimore is the Inner Harbor, a scenic and popular waterfront area with dozens of retail stores, restaurants and attractions. This, combined with Baltimore's easy accessibility, makes the city unique. What most people don't realize is that most sites and neighborhoods are within walking distance of each other, and this makes "Charm City" an ideal place for business as well as pleasure.



Come join us from March 23rd-25th in Baltimore, MD for ITEA's 68th annual conference and TECA's national competition. Experience the life of Baltimore and the excitement of this conference all in one! Visit www.iteaconnect.org for more information about this conference, TECA competitions, and much more!

The TECA Regatta Challenge '06!

By: Dr. Richard Seymour

This spring, teams from TECA chapters will have the opportunity to go sailing in Baltimore. Well, with the help of their entry in the TECA / Kelvin Technologies Transportation Contest that is. College and university teams in be bringing sail boats (and related documentation) to the conference for evaluation. The testing of the boats will be the featured contest during the ITEA Conference.

Details about the event will be released later this month along with registration guidelines. This will allow roughly one month for each school to plan and develop their entries. Each school will apply their creativity and resourcefulness to develop a watercraft that can sail a straight course the fastest. The only propulsion system will be a box fan, with students controlling the direction and force of the wind.

The TECA transportation contest is sponsored by Kelvin Technologies. Check the TECA list-serve or ITEA website for additional details or contact the national contest coordinator, Dr. Richard Seymour at Ball State University (rseymour@bsu.edu).



2005 TECA Midwest Regional Conference Competitive Events Results Peoria, IL October 21-23, 2005 Congratulations to all who Participated!

McGraw-Hill Higher Education "Live" Communication Contest

- 1) Illinois State University
- 2) Indiana State University
- 3) University of Wisconsin-Stout



Kelvin Technologies / TECA Transportation Contest

- 1) Indiana State University
- 2) Ball State University



DEPCO Teaching Lesson Contest

- 1) Illinois State University
- 2) Ball State University



PITSCO Problem Solving Contest

- 1) Indiana State University
- 2) University of Wisconsin-Stout
- 3) Ball State University



SME / TECA "Live" Manufacturing Contest

- 1) Indiana State University
- 2) Ball State University
- 3) Illinois State University



TECA Technology Challenge Sponsored by Goodheart-Willcox, Publishers

- 1) Illinois State University
- 2) Ball State University
- 3) Indiana State University

2005 TECA West Regional Conference Competitive Events Results Pittsburg, KS November 16-18, 2005 Congratulations to all who Participated!

McGraw-Hill Higher Education "Live" Communication Contest

- 1) Pittsburg State University



DEPCO Teaching Lesson Contest

- 1) Fort Hayes State University
- 2) Southwestern Oklahoma State University #1
- 3) Southwestern Oklahoma State University #2

TECA Technology Challenge Sponsored by Goodheart-Willcox, Publishers

- 1) Pittsburg State University #1
- 2) Southwestern Oklahoma State University #2
- 3) Fort Hayes State University #2

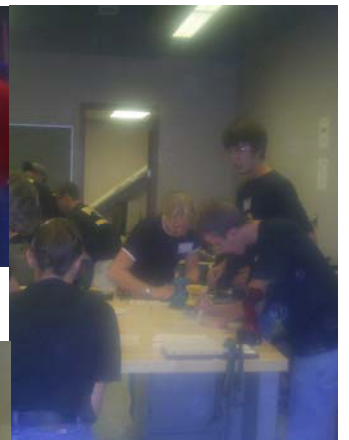


PITSCO Problem Solving Contest

- 1) Central Missouri State University #1
- 2) Pittsburg State University
- 3) Central Missouri State University #2

SME / TECA "Live" Manufacturing Contest

- 1) Pittsburg State University
- 2) Fort Hayes State University
- 3) Southwestern Oklahoma State University



Kelvin Technologies / TECA Transportation Contest

- 1) Fort Hayes State University #1
- 2) Central Missouri State University #1
- 3) Central Missouri State University #2



Eastern Regional Conference Reminder

By: Jason Jarrett

Eastern Regional Conference: Virginia Beach February 16 – 18, 2006

The 2006 conference promises to be packed full of opportunities for the pre-service teacher and the graduate level teacher to experience a broader, more worldly brand of professionalism. By traveling to a professional conference like the TECA Eastern Regional Conference, you will meet new pre-professionals and professionals from different parts of the country who come from different backgrounds and who have different interests than yourself. However, once you have a chance to interact with them, you will also realize how much you have in common. This is one of the ways in which professional communities are built over time. So come to Eastern Regional Conference in Virginia Beach. I promise you it will be an experience you will never forget.



TECA Interest Sessions

By: Shanna Slike

If you're planning on going to the 68th Annual ITEA Conference held in Baltimore, MD, TECA is holding two pertinent sessions geared toward your professional growth. The first session is entitled "How TECA Is Advancing the Standards for Technological Literacy." This session is held by the National TECA advisor and officer team relating to how our organization is keeping up with the standards in our profession. The second session is entitled "Teaching Technology: The First Year Experience." This panel board discussion is based from former TECA members and their first years in the classroom, with suggestions for making a difference. The following is a schedule of events currently being held in the Baltimore Convention Center, please note everything is subject to change:

TECA Welcome Session & Technology Challenge

Wednesday, March 22, 8:00pm-10:00pm

TECA/SME Live Manufacturing Contest

Thursday, March 23, 6:00pm-10:00pm

Kelvin Technologies Transportation Contest Finals

Friday, March 24, 11:00am-1:00pm

TECA Awards Ceremony

Saturday, March 25, 11:00am

TECA Affiliated Chapters 2005-2006

*If your Chapter is not listed here, please fill out the affiliation form at the end of the newsletter and send it to Dr. Wright at one of the addresses listed on the form.

- Ball State University
- Bowling Green State University
- Brigham Young University
- California University of PA
- Clemson University
- Colorado State University
- Fort Hays State University
- Georgia Southern University
- Illinois State University
- Indiana State University
- Millersville University of PA
- North Carolina A & T
- North Carolina State University
- Old Dominion University
- Oswego State University
- Pittsburgh State University
- Purdue University
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- St. Petersburg College
- The College of New Jersey
- The Ohio State University
- University of Georgia
- University of Northern Iowa
- University of Wisconsin - Stout
- University of Wyoming - Casper
- Utah State University
- Virginia Tech University (Advisor only)
- Wayne State College



What is CTTE?

By: Rachael Lese



When looking at the new ITEA web page, you might come across the letters CTTE among the rest of the acronyms. But what is CTTE? What does it do? Why is it important?

The Council on Technology Teacher Education (CTTE) is the international professional organization focusing on the needs of Technology Teacher Education. The CTTE is closely affiliated with ITEA and TECA. Founded in 1950, the CTTE strives to provide educational leadership opportunities for its members, stimulate research and scholarship related to the technology education profession, and support and further the professional ideals of technology teacher education.

CTTE is active in many activities such as sponsoring conference sessions that provide an opportunity for professionals from throughout technology teacher education to focus on topics related to Council goals, holding an annual meeting at the ITEA Conference, providing members with an opportunity to become actively involved in Council functions, publishing the CTTE Yearbook annually, which is written and edited by professionals in the field. (Ask your campus library if they have the series), and recognizing outstanding leaders in technology teacher education and outstanding members of the Council.

Every year, the CTTE selects candidates to receive one of their four established awards. They include the Teacher Educator of the Year, Silvius-Wolansky Award, Outstanding Technology Teacher Education Programs, and Outstanding Research Award.

To learn more about the CTTE, please visit their webpage at: <http://teched.vt.edu/ctte/CTTEMain.html>

Please Return all ballots for National Officers by 5pm on Monday, March 3rd to Dr. Wright at the address specified on the bottom of the form. The ballot is located at the end of this newsletter.

2006-2007 Officer Candidates (Listed by position)

President-Elect



Matt Brinkman: California University of Pennsylvania

Hello, my name is Matt Brinkman and I am running for TECA president-elect. I am currently a sophomore at California University of Pa and I am an active member in TEAC as well. I was a member of the 2005 national championship team for the ITEA conference and I am currently the Vice President of TEAP. Here at California I am a 3.0-3.5 student and am involved in various clubs and organizations. I am also currently president of the California University Bowling Club. I am running for this position because I have a strong passion for Technology Education and will do anything to keep TECA and all of the affiliated groups going and maintain a high level of professional achievement. I will do my very best to keep this wonderful program running how it has been running in the past and also try to make some improvement in necessary. I have a special skill that allows me to work well with other people and perform my best when it is expect of me and I promise I will do all of this for TECA if I am elected president-elect. Vote for Matt Brinkman to keep TECA strong and making wonderful achievements.

Vice President



Rob Rice: California University of Pennsylvania

My name is Rob Rice and I am running for vice president of TECA. I am currently the recording secretary for TECAP and I am very involved in tech-ed. I like to help out a lot and get things done, especially if it is for a tech-ed program or club that I want to see succeed for years to come. I think these clubs and programs are wonderful ways to meet people, and broaden your horizons in the technology education field. I will do my duty as vice president to the best of my abilities and try my hardest to make it a success!

Vice President (cont'd)



Scott Stahl: Millersville University of Pennsylvania

I am currently a sophomore in the Technology Education program at Millersville University. I am the vice president of TECA for Millersville University, and I would like to get involved with the program at the national level. In high school I participated in the football and wrestling programs where I was a captain in each. I learned a great deal about the importance of team work and self determination through my experiences with these two sports. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as the vice president of National TECA.

Reporter



Tiffanie Payne: Utah State University

I am a sophomore in Engineering and Technology Education at Utah State University. I'm very involved in my chapter, and I am very excited to be nominated for Reporter. I am very organized and always meet deadlines, while also being involved in all types of activities. In my free time I enjoy skydiving, snowboarding, camping, hiking, and other outdoor activities. If I am elected I will be dedicated to my office and help everything run as smoothly as possible. My enthusiasm never ends, and I will work hard for the common good of all TECA chapters.

Secretary



Erica Frazier: Ball State University

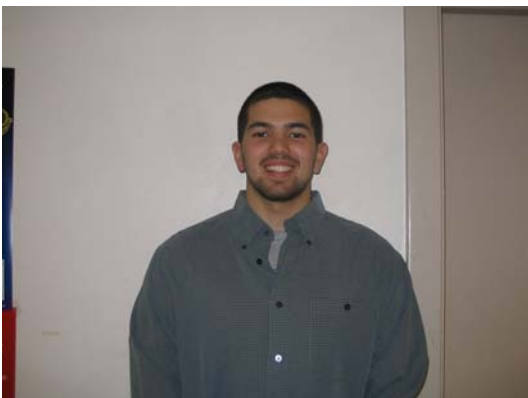
I am very interested in becoming your next TECA Secretary to improve and build upon my current skills and attributes: professionalism, communication skills, and leadership skills. I am also very aware of the opportunities that may arise with holding this position, such as attending conferences, meeting new people, traveling, and having a great time. I feel that I would be a great match for this position due to my past experiences with student organizations.

In high school I held the office of SkillsUSA President for the state of Indiana. I have carried on my involvement with this organization into college by developing, running, and judging a variety of contests at the state level. I also was given the opportunity to be the first post-secondary student member of the State Executive Board for [Indiana SkillsUSA](#); after holding a member position on the board for a year I was elected as the State Executive Board Secretary.

While at Ball State University I have been very involved in TECA on a local scale. During my sophomore year, I held the position as TECA President for my local chapter; I am currently holding the position of TECA Secretary here at Ball State. I attended, as a competitor and speaker, the 2005 ITEA Conference in Kansas City, MO; and will also be attending this year's conference in Baltimore, MD.

Here at Ball State I have been very involved not only in my Technology Education program but also school-wide. For instance, last summer I was referred by the head of my department to be a [Ball State Blogger](#). After multiple interviews I was selected to hold this "position." There is currently a link off of the [Ball State](#) homepage that takes any interested person to a link to a page holding all bloggers. This effort was developed so that prospective students would have a link to students so they could ask "real life" questions and get answers straight from a range of students.

Again, I feel that I would be a great addition to the National TECA Officer Team. I feel that each member of the team can grow and learn from each other, and I cannot wait to take part in this experience. Please consider me for the position of National TECA Secretary. Thanks!



Luke Herron: Millersville University of Pennsylvania

As a sophomore attending Millersville University, I am seeking the position of TECA international Secretary. In high school, I was a three sport athlete and was a Captain for each team. I have worked as a river guide at Pine Creek Outfitters steering rafts down Pine Creek for three years. I also worked construction for four years repairing houses, mainly roofing and vinyl siding. I am excited about being a technology teacher and believe that being elected as secretary would not only be a great honor, but would also broaden my experiences and knowledge about the technology field. I could then one day share these experiences with my students.



Attention all TECA Alumni Members:

***Alumni* TECA is looking for presenters for the
2006 Leadership Conference in**

Dallas, TX. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Peter Wright.

Mail: AE7 Dept. #64

California University of PA
California, PA 15419

Phone: (724) 938-8480

E-mail: wright_p@cup.edu

The articles in the Alumni pages are from a discussion that took place in early October on Idea Garden, a listserv that is sponsored by ITEA. There were several ideas discussed, and the following is a sampling of the discussion of the question, "What are practicing professionals doing to help the future technology education leaders?"

I have been on both sides of the fence; I was a classroom teacher and administrator for 25 years and have been at the university for over six years. I think I have a good feel for both sides. When I was a young teacher back in the dark ages, I was one of those who thought it was the university's and state department's task to supply the teachers and leaders (as if we should be separating the two) of tomorrow. Years and maturity have made some changes in my opinions and attitudes. This is an issue that every teacher, professor, and state supervisor has responsibility for. I do think there is such a thing as a "born" leader. But they are few and far between. And even "born leaders" need mentoring. In my opinion, you cannot wait until they are ready to step into the classroom. By then, it may be too late.

I think a major part of being a leader is "attitude." Attitude is developed over time. Attitude is developed by exposure and practice. When college students have good, quality experiences, they raise the quality of their attitudes. Professionalism is a form of attitude. The more "practice" the college student gets with professional activities, the more apt they are to develop a professional attitude. Now, where will they get that practice? To a very limited amount, they get it from their college professors. Meaning no disrespect to my fellow professors, that does not provide enough of the kind of "real life" experiences they need. What they need is the "get down and dirty" rubbing elbows with teachers. Not necessarily in the classroom experience, but in environments that demonstrate professionalism outside of the classroom. Getting college students involved with local, state, regional, and national professional activities (State association, TECA, ITEA, TSA, ACTE/state ACTE, etc.) that allow students and classroom teachers to interact one-on-one will foster leadership skills by osmosis and example.



Alumni

I get my students involved with helping in the above mentioned activities. They attend, work at, or help organize these activities. I require them to visit with teachers and get e-mail addresses, and business cards for future contacts. We visit schools, true, but I try to get my college students to feel that they are part of the profession even before they step into the classroom. I try to get our teachers to see my students as colleagues even before they step into the classroom. The challenge does not come from my students. They, in general, are eager to participate. The challenge is to get our classroom teachers involved. If the teachers do not see it as part of their professional responsibility, if they do not see the need to help foster this attitude in up and coming teachers, there is not much we at the university can do.

Contributed by: Ben Yates, Central Missouri State University

This is not an easy question to answer. It is a topic that is well worth investigating and discussing. I am not certain if we can ensure that leaders can take our place. I do believe that we can INVEST in developing and mentoring teachers into becoming both better teachers and leaders. What may be needed is an action plan to get something stated. We may also need to critically look at the resources that we have today and seriously consider if we can align those resources to best help grow new leaders. A central question that I have is that we might already have some of the mechanisms in place to do this? With TSA, TECCA, ITEA, and the ITEA state affiliates already are out there, could they be used more efficiently and more effectively for best developing our most talented.

Another option... could a national TE leadership academy be started? I do not know. What I do know is that we have many great leaders in this field today and we also have many great leaders who have great potential. I do believe that it is important to invest in people to develop the leaders of tomorrow. If a formal leadership academy or some sort of collaborative hybrid were to be started, what must be threaded throughout the process is that it becomes continuous and sustained. This should not be a 5 year project.... I think of it as a 50 year project.

It should also train the new and emerging leaders in not only what they will need to know, but also what they should already know. I bring this up as I have noticed in several instances where a great amount of institutional knowledge is lost when a retirement occurs. Finally, I truly believe that it would be good if a leadership initiative were to have a director who could focus their energy on this target.

Contributed By: Mike Fitzgerald, Technology Education Specialist, Indiana Department of Education

FAX ////////////// or E-mail ////////////// FAX

2005-2006 TECA Affiliation Form

College/University: _____ Date: _____

Department/Program Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Advisor: _____ Co-Advisor(s): _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Contact Phone Number(s): _____

Name of Club/Chapter/Organization: _____

President: _____ Vice-President: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Secretary: _____ Treasurer: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Reporter: _____ Other: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

SEND TO: Dr. Peter Wright
AET Department #64
California University of PA
California, PA 15419
E-mail: wright_p@cup.edu
Phone: (724) 938-4031
Fax: (724) 938-4572

Note: We will establish and use a listserv for the Officers. This is to help in the dissemination of information (e.g. newsletter, conference information, awards information) and to facilitate communications between the officers of the different chapters. Please provide accurate student contact information in a legible format.

FAX ////////////// or E-mail ////////////// FAX



2006 – 07 International TECA Officer Ballot

School Name: _____

Representative submitting the ballot: _____

Directions: Place an X on the line beside the candidate that your chapter chooses to support for the given office. FAX this ballot or E-mail responses by 5:00 PM on March 3, 2006.

FAX Number: (724) 938-4572 E-mail: wright_p@cup.edu

Candidates for President-Elect

_____ Matt Brinkman -- California University of Pennsylvania

Candidates for Vice President

_____ Rob Rice -- California University of Pennsylvania

_____ Scott Stahl -- Millersville University of Pennsylvania

Candidates for Reporter

_____ Tiffanie Payne -- Utah State University

Candidates for Secretary

_____ Erica Frazier -- Ball State University

_____ Luke Herron -- Millersville University of Pennsylvania



**Annual TECA Awards 2006
Nomination Form**



For the Award of Distinction (International Leadership)

Student's Name: _____

Address/e-mail: _____

For the Outstanding Chapter Service Award (Local Chapter Leadership)

Student's Name: _____

Address/e-mail: _____

For the Distinguished Advisor Award (Faculty Award)

Advisor's Name: _____ School: _____

Address/e-mail: _____

For the ITEA/TECA Membership Award

Student Name or Chapter: _____

Address/e-mail: _____

For the Outstanding Chapter Award (Any Active Chapter)

Chapter Name: _____

Address/e-mail: _____

*****PLEASE INCLUDE A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF
EACH NOMINEE WITH NOMINATION***
Please Mail, FAX or E-mail by March 3, 2006**

Mail: Dr. Peter H. Wright, TECA International Advisor
AET Department, #64
California University of PA
California, PA 15419

Phone: 724-938-4031

Fax: (715) 232-4572

E-mail: wright_p@cup.edu

(Please make TECA AWARDS the subject)