

College Comment

TECA –
Preparing
Professionals to
Teach Technology

Issue 4
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Compiled by
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HEADLINES of Interest

TECA Award and Competitive Event Winners
2005 TECA Western Regional Information at Pitt State
Introducing the New Officers
Networking with other TECA Members
The Officers reflect on the year

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2005 TECA East Regional Winners

Technology Challenge:

1st Place – The College of New Jersey
2nd Place – California University of PA
3rd Place – Georgia Southern

Communications:

1st Place – University of Georgia
2nd Place – NC State University
3rd Place – Clemson University

Problem Solving:

1st Place – Virginia Tech
2nd Place – Clemson University
3rd Place – Millersville University

Manufacturing:

1st Place – California University of PA
2nd Place – Oswego State University
3rd Place – Millersville University

Transportation:

1st Place – Central Connecticut State
2nd Place – Old Dominion University
3rd Place – Clemson University

Elementary Education:

1st Place – Oswego State University
2nd Place – California University of PA
3rd Place – Millersville University

Instructional Modules:

1st Place -- Millersville University
2nd Place – Central Connecticut State
3rd Place – NC State University

Automated Systems:

1st Place – Millersville University
2nd Place – Virginia Tech
3rd Place – Georgia Southern University

Poster Session:

1st Place – The College of New Jersey
2nd Place – California University of PA
3rd Place – Clemson University

Teaching Lesson:

1st Place – Clemson University
2nd Place – California University of PA
3rd Place – Oswego State University

2005 Annual ITEA and TECA Awards

ITEA College Student Leadership Award
Craig E. Harvey
Indiana State University

TECA Award of Distinction
Sarah Wells
California University of PA

TECA Outstanding Chapter Service Award
Theodore H. Harrison
Millersville University

TECA Distinguished Advisor Award
Dr. William J. Haynie
North Carolina State University

ITEA/TECA Membership Award
Colorado State University

TECA Outstanding Chapter Award
California University of PA



Congratulations to
all winners!



2005 TECA Competitive Events Winners

Goodheart-Willcox TECA Tech Challenge
4th Wayne State College
3rd California University of PA
2nd Colorado State University
1st College of New Jersey

DEPCO Teaching Lesson
4th Illinois State University
3rd University of Wisconsin-Stout
2nd California University of PA
1st Colorado State University

PITSCO Problem Solving
4th Illinois State University
3rd California University of PA
2nd University of Wisconsin-Stout
1st College of New Jersey

SME Manufacturing
3rd Indiana State University
2nd Ft. Hays State
1st California University of PA

Kelvin Technologies Transportation
4th California University of PA
3rd College of New Jersey
2nd SUNY Oswego
1st Indiana State

Glencoe/McGraw-Hill "Live" Communication
4th College of New Jersey
3rd California University of PA
2nd Colorado State
1st Illinois State



Thanks to all teams that
participated...Competition
was FIERCE!

A President's Farewell

Sarah Wells

By the time you read this article my term as president of TECA will be over. I leave the position with a feeling of accomplishment, and the knowledge that the organization is in excellent hands. I believe the other officers and I have come a long way to produce a stronger bond between TECA and the other Technology Education Organizations. We have strived to become the bridge over the gap between TSA and ITEA.

From our first leadership conference in conjunction with the TSA national conference to the Race Across the Plaza Problem Solving competition in Kansas City, the officers of this organization have taken great strides to make TECA a larger part of the International Technology Education Community.

I would just like to say thank you to all of the wonderful people who have helped me along the way. Dr. Busby, thank you for all of the time and effort you put in to try to make this organization better. Shanna, Craig, Stephanie, and Jason, I couldn't have asked for a better, more able group of people to work with. Dana, Adam, and AJ (even though they probably aren't reading this, I want it in print) were an inspiration for my leadership role. Dr. Wright and Dr. Nowak, your guidance has been invaluable, and you were both there whenever help was needed. Dr. DeMiranda, you were our voice to ITEA, and without you many of our accomplishments would have gone unacknowledged. Last but not least, I would like to thank every TECA Advisor and member for their support. Without you there would be voice for students in technology education. Your accomplishments will be the cornerstone for advancements in our field.

In closing, please remember that we are the future of technology education. What we decide to make of our chosen profession should be in the vision of advancement. It is up to us to decide what that vision will be.

TECA WESTERN REGIONAL and FOUR-STATE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE Kansas Technology Center, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS November 17-18, 2005

The Western Regional will be held in Pittsburg, KS this coming November with several changes to the Four-State Conference which will dramatically enhance the professional opportunities for future technology education teachers. This will be the largest conference in several years with over fifty presentations directed at technology education and industrial technology teachers, seven equipment demonstrations, local industry tours, three free meals, chainsaw carving demonstration as well as hosting the TECA Western Regional. The key note speaker for the luncheon will be Steve Phillips, Vice-President of Harley-Davidson.

We look forward to seeing you at the competition and conference scheduled for the fall. We guarantee that it will be worth your time to attend. If you have any questions about the conference you can contact Andy Klenke at amklenke@pittstate.edu or 620-235-4372.

**Mark your Calendars for November
17th and 18th, 2005 West Regional
Conference!**

Bridging the Gap Jason Jarrett

Over the past year the TECA officer team has worked hard to improve relations between TSA, TECA, and ITEA. During the fall meeting TECA officially agreed to join with TSA in The New Start program.

This program allows TECA students to contact high schools that do not have TSA chapters and help start one. The schools will receive roughly \$250 worth of materials to help start their chapter. This is a great opportunity for TECA students. It gives the chance to work with students and teachers, a valuable learning experience for any Technology Education teacher in training. TSA is the first step in getting students involved in technology education. Not all of these students will go on to be Technology Education teachers, but at least many more students will be technically literate.

ITEA has realized that TSA and TECA are the future of the profession. Recently at the Kansas City ITEA conference, the Board of Directors acknowledged TECA and thanked us for all we are doing to further the field of technology education. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Technology Education Collegiate Association to thank ITEA for everything they do to support us.

With the collaboration of the organizations the future of Technology Education is looking brighter. We still have a lot of work ahead of us, but with hard work comes great reward. I encourage all of you to get involved, keep up with your committees, strive to do your best, and realize the more you put in, the more get out of everything you do.



Introducing the 2005-2006 TECA Officer Team

(Left to Right)

President Shanna Slike, President-Elect Rachael Lese, Vice President Jason Jarrett, Secretary Adrian Gaskins, Reporter Jen Schmidt



TECA Alumni Association Craig Harvey

A new initiative of TECA this year was introduced at the ITEA conference in Kansas City. This initiative was the TECA Alumni Association. For a small fee of five dollars conference attendees had the opportunity to join this association. Each person who joined received a TECA Alumni button, opportunity to write articles for the College Comment, access to a listserv specifically for alumni, and receive a copy of the College Comment. The five dollars that was collected from those who joined will be used to help defray cost of the TECA Summer Leadership Conference. The TECA officers would like to thank all of those who joined. To join the TECA Alumni Association please see the form on page 9 of this College Comment.

Just between friends!
Andy Klenke, Pittsburg State University Advisor

When does a friendship start? How do you become friends with someone? When do you let down your guard long enough to allow others to know you and like you? Why is this important? TECA serves many purposes but none more important, in my opinion, than developing lifelong friendships. These “friends” can help you with curriculum development and classroom activities/project, just to name a few. Regional and national conferences are excellent venues for meeting people and establishing professional friendships that will benefit you more than you could ever know.

Words without action are seldom effective, so how do we develop someone “we saw” at a conference into “this friend of mine from the conference”? Because of our human nature, we tend to be shy and introverted in unfamiliar places. When we are younger, (for me that is high school and college) we hate feeling stupid so we put up our privacy bubble and keep it safe. Although effective initially, we could possibly need these people in the future so here are some sure-fire ways of meeting new people.

- 1) When approaching a group of students from another university; pick out one person from the group that has a familiar and give them a name of the person they look like. Call the person by that name and act like you know them. After the initial embarrassment of the situation, you should know who they are and where they are from. You should be able to start talking after that. Works every time.
- 2) Before a competition, introduce yourself to other groups and ask if they have everything they need for the competition. If they don't, DO NOT start laughing at them and walk away (the most common response from college students). Rather, ask what they are missing and help if you can. They will tend to remember your name and face and feel comfortable talking to you later.
- 3) When entering a room, crow really loud like a rooster! Wait, wrong article, forget that one. This works especially well to attract attention however! No comment on whether I have done this or not!
- 4) When asked to go to social event at a regional or national event, make every effort to go and talk to the person who invited you. Ask who their friends are, where they are from. Show a genuine interest in that person and remember their name. Be sure to greet them by name when you see them.
- 5) Smile, it shows friendliness. Wouldn't you rather talk to someone with a smile rather than someone who looks like they are having a bad day?
- 6) Don't be afraid to embarrass yourself. These make some of the best memories, and yes, that is experience talking!



We all have so much to offer but often we keep to ourselves and share nothing which is sad. There are college and university programs that are creating innovative projects and teaching methods that you are learning about. It is time we share our ideas so more students will benefit at all ages. Let's make it a goal for next year's regional conferences and the Baltimore conference to meet new people and make new friends. I challenge you to meet that goal.

Reflections from the TECA Officers

Advisor Dr. Joe R. Busby

TECA was begun with the purpose of creating an organization for students planning to teach Technology Education. This organization was to provide opportunities for the members to grow professionally through leadership, networking, workshops and competitive opportunities.

As I reflect upon the past two years I believe that TECA is achieving these ideals. I base this on my work with the International Officers, interactions with chapter advisors, and efforts of student members. Certainly my opinion is biased. Still, it is based on information that only a few get to experience.

During my stint as Advisor I have had two excellent officer teams. These officers have worked hard to serve you, the people of TECA. Also, I have had countless interactions with chapter advisors who want their students to grow and achieve. Most important to me, I have interacted with students from approximately 40 universities and have witnessed the desired growth and achievement.

Mr. George Wilcox, the ITEA Past President, gave his farewell address during the most recent ITEA Awards Luncheon. In his address he pointed out that it was the interactions with people that make the journey worthwhile. I have to agree.

During that awards luncheon I took the initiative to interact with a teacher who received an Outstanding Teacher award. I knew this teacher from many past experiences. My desire was to congratulate him for a job well done. He said a cordial thank you and followed up by saying that he owed me a greater thanks for interactions that I had with his son. These interactions had great meaning to his son and had made a difference in his son's life. The man told me that his son had died this past December and said, "I just want you to know the difference that you made."

Because of this recent experience, I find the importance in clearly communicating my feelings to the TECA membership. I have enjoyed shaking hands with so many of you and inquiring of your name. The stories that each of you tell have been inspiring. It has excited me to see you grow as you experience and learn. My belief in the future has been and continues to be based upon you and your future as a Technology Education teacher. You have made a difference in my life. Thank you!

President Sarah Wells

It is my belief that the TECA Organization can only grow stronger in the future due to the precedence set into place by this executive team. With our ties to TSA we were able to help produce the first TECA leadership conference. Also the TECA/TSA New Start initiative has gotten more TECA chapters involved with their local TSA affiliates, building greater bonds with TECA and TSA.

Furthermore the officers worked to strengthen the numbers of the organization as a whole. With growth like this we are likely to see an upsurge with TECA events, leadership functions and competitions.

With these greater numbers comes greater responsibility. It is the responsibility of all TECA members to someday be a professional and conferences are the perfect place to start that training, by attending the general sessions and interest sessions, not just to be there for competitions. These sessions are designed to teach and motivate professional endeavors, more reason why future professionals should attend.

In closing I would like to say I could not be prouder of our association at this conference. We have made a lasting impression on not only the members of the ITEA Board, but also on the rest of the membership body. The voice of the Technology Education student is now being heard.



Farewell to the TECA officers (left to right)
Reporter-Stephanie Berger, Secretary-Jason Jarrett, President-Sarah Wells, Vice President-Craig Harvey, & President-Elect-Shanna Slike

President-Elect Shanna Slike

When I was asked to look back on the past year, it was hard to believe that another year of my college career just flew by so quickly. I was fortunate to have met and worked with so many intelligent and ambitious people. In life you have so many opportunities out there for you to grasp a hold of. I am extremely glad to have been given the opportunity to be associated with such a tremendous group of people. I remember going to the ITEA Conference in Albuquerque and wonder “oh my gosh, what am I doing”. The information, knowledge, and contacts I obtained over the past year it was well worth it. From the summer Leadership Conference, to the fall planning session, and then the ITEA Conference in Kansas City I am just continually amazed and impressed by our profession.

I am extremely honored to have worked with such an outstanding group of officers. I wish all of you the best of luck in your future careers where ever they take you. Who knows, our paths may cross again.

I look forward to the up coming year and working with a new executive office. We already have a long list of initiatives, and goals to accomplish in the next year. I have all the confidence in the world that this group will continue the legacy and serve TECA well in the up coming year. Please join my fellow officers and I this summer at the TECA Leadership Conference. I assure you it is an opportunity you will not want to miss!

Vice President Craig Eugene Harvey

As another school year comes to an end so does my term of TECA Vice President. I have had the privilege to serve TECA for two years, this year as the vice president and last year as the reporter. In these two years I have been able to grow as teacher, a professional, and a person. I have had the opportunity to travel and participate in many conferences. This past summer myself and the rest of the officers had the privilege to take part in the first TECA leadership conference held in conjunction with the National TSA conference. We also have started a TECA alumni association, for those past TECA members who still have a desire to be a part of TECA. TECA will be lasting experience throughout my teaching career .

Reporter Stephanie Berger

As I look back on this year in TECA, I’m not going to bore you all with all the officer team has done...we’ve been there already. Instead, I am choosing to thank all the people I have met. As an obvious extrovert, I view these as my personal accomplishments as an officer. So to everyone I have known in my past 3 years in TECA, thanks for the memories. I’m going to miss you all, but isn’t that what changing is all “About”. (that was for all the boys at Indiana State...)

But now, the other officers: Dr. Busby, thanks for leading us. And tell Abear and Budreau “hey” for us. Sarah, thanks for keeping me on my toes. Phone calls for the College Comment are the most reoccurring memories. Jason, I’ll never forget the Jetson’s...and proving that this Wisconsin girl CAN in fact carry you on piggy back! Craig, I’m sorry the romance is over, it’s been fun. And thanks for keeping me humble. Shanna, wow, I never thought I would be almost in tears finishing my last newsletter. Thanks for being my sanity and my “vent”. I have truly found a great friend in you, and I’m really going to miss you! Thank you all for letting me serve you as an officer. And more importantly, thanks for the memories! So until we meet again...

Secretary Jason Jarrett

Over the past year, I have been honored to serve you as the International TECA Secretary. The officer team has worked many hours throughout this year trying to move TECA forward. We envisioned TECA as a bridge between TSA and ITEA. TECA not only gives us a chance to compete, but to build professional and leadership skills and network across the country.

Over the past year I fully realized the potential opportunities that TECA can offer any student and I encourage all of you to become more involved. We have tried so hard to increase membership this year. I traveled to regionals in Fort Collins and Virginia Beach. From what I have seen, we are slowly completing that goal. However, we still need your help. I feel that TECA is the future of technology education. We are the teachers that will be graduating, joining ITEA, and furthering the education of students in the technology field.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that I have worked with over this past year; it has been a great pleasure. I am really looking forward to this upcoming year and being able to serve TECA, and all of you, in my new role as International Vice President.

TECA Alumni Championing Leadership

Mike Fitzgerald

Alumni

I learned most of my leadership skills through TECA! True leadership is an activity that can only be measured by the reach of your effort and experience. Since there is not an "owners manual" on how to become a good leader, you will need to invest in yourself to gain these skills through active involvement. You might be able to gain some leadership experience and opportunities through course work, community work, church involvement, coaching, etc. I would like to remind you that there is also the opportunity for you to gain professional leadership skills. TECA wants to help develop your abilities. TECA is YOUR student organization and it can help you gain valuable leadership experience! You have already invested in yourself to become a good teacher. How would you like to become a great teacher? As you may already know, the professionals that make a real difference are always called leaders! So, how do you gain the opportunity to become a leader? Simple, start now!

- 1) Join TECA and begin to make friends. This is also known as networking! All great leaders have a network of professionals that they rely on. All great leaders rely on these friends for professional knowledge and support. It is often stated that it is lonely at the top! It is not so lonely if you have professional friends!
- 2) Actively participate in TECA locally. It is one thing to gain benefits from an organization; it is quite another thing to give back. Great leaders are always recognized as people who give back more than they take!
- 3) Actively participate in TECA nationally through ITEA. Great leaders are almost always recognized for their reach. TECA will provide you with the opportunity to reach out and make an impact through positive contributions for the profession and thereby students nationwide. Making positive contributions and helping students become successful is the entire reason why you are becoming a teacher today and a leader tomorrow!
- 4) Promote to everyone how TECA has helped you become a leader. Mentor new friends (soon to be teaching colleagues) into TECA. Leaders almost always surround themselves with the best and the brightest. It is up to you to become a leader. It is also up to you invest in creating more leaders! Investing in making people great is yet another reason why you are becoming a teacher!

To conclude, I often hear people state "what do I get out of it?" That point should never be underestimated. It is a real concern. This is especially true with all of the commitments that you have today as a student and tomorrow as a teacher. The active involvement that you invest in TECA will teach you the leadership skills that will make you unique both personally and professionally. In addition, your active involvement will help you making new friends, contacts, and gain professional support. Finally, TECA is your entry point to gain opportunities. TECA is fun. You get to work with like-minded people, you gain in depth knowledge and you learn that the most influential leaders in your profession learned how to become leaders through TECA. I owe much to the friends and alumni that I have met in TECA. You can count on the alumni of TECA too not only be professional leaders, but also personable friends and professional allies! Become a leader!!! Actively participate in TECA today!

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Get Involved
Erica Frazier

Hello all! I am Erica Frazier, and I have accepted the responsibility of compiling the Alumni page for the TECA College Comment. The current national officer team and myself are requesting your help with this page. We want for the members of the TECA Alumni to be involved with this page. The Alumni page will be included in each issue of the College Comment.

If you are interested in writing a 2-3 paragraph article to be published in the College Comment please contact me at elfrazier@bsu.edu. I look forward to hearing from you and publishing your articles for the Alumni page!



