

## A Message From Your President, Suzanne Kelly



Hello Mississippi ACTE members. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who had a part in making our 2014 Summer Conference a success. We continue to grow each summer, which indicates CTE educators across our state are recognizing the benefits of attending our own professional development conference focused on CTE curriculum and specializing in meeting the needs of Mississippi CTE educators. I would personally like to thank everyone who took part in planning and implementing the 2014 Summer Conference.

I am pleased to share that we have outgrown our current location. Plans are currently underway to move to a larger venue for the 2015 MSACTE Summer Conference. This highly anticipated move allows for most affiliates to have professional development sessions together in one location. We will soon begin planning the sessions for the upcoming conference. If you have any suggestions for next year's conference, please email your ideas to your MSACTE affiliate president and/or your MDE State Supervisor. See our MSACTE website for affiliate president contact information. ([www.mississippiacte.com](http://www.mississippiacte.com))

I would like to challenge each of you to recruit new members this year. Mississippi currently has over 2,500 secondary and postsecondary CTE educators statewide. MSACTE only has 682 members as of our last membership report. As the statistics reveal, we have a long way to go to reach the vision of 100% membership.

I would like to celebrate the new members and current members who have already joined or renewed their membership this year. I am proud to share that Mississippi leads not only Region IV but also the nation with new members for the month of August. Let's continue that trend throughout the year by inviting colleagues as well as instructors who teach similar CTE programs in other districts to join with us. Even if each member only recruited one additional educator, we would double the size of our current membership. The reality is that an increase in membership numbers leads to an increase in advocacy power for ACTE state and national leaders.

Let me encourage you to continue advocating locally for your CTE programs. Share your success stories with school board members, administrators, business and industry contacts, community leaders, parents, fellow teachers and future students. Feel free to forward the electronic Reporter to those who may not be aware of the benefits CTE offers for students and programs.

Finally, one of my personal goals is to attend at least one meeting this year in each of the MSACTE districts around the state. Let me encourage you to attend your local fall and spring meetings as well. The locations, dates and times are posted on the MSACTE website. We also have a unique opportunity to attend the national Career Vision Conference in Nashville this November and the Region IV Conference in Little Rock in April 2015. Both of these locations are within driving distance of Mississippi. Please consider joining us at one or both of these national CTE conferences. I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, suggestions or ideas on how we can work together to make MSACTE an organization that provides relevant and meaningful professional development for all Mississippi CTE educators. I hope you have a great year.

## Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the current ACTE members. Your dedication to our association is very much appreciated! Because of your commitment, Mississippi is leading the nation in the number of new members in the nation. As of August 31 when this announcement was made by the national office, we had 70 new members. Arizona was the closest to us with 40. As of September 30, we have actually had 105 new members join! Another impressive thing is that we have had 33 people who had let their membership lapse to renew. That is wonderful; however, I give kudos to all of you have been active by renewing your membership each year!

The 2015 Summer Conference will move to the Jackson Convention Complex. The dates are July 29-31. Mark your calendars now and be sure to attend.

One of the new things we are working on is to establish a MS ACTE Facebook page. Hopefully it will be up and running within the month.

I want to encourage your centers to qualify for the Achieve 100% Award. In order to receive this prestigious award, all teachers, administrators, and counselors must be an ACTE member by November 30. Your center's name will be posted on the national ACTE web site, your center's name will be listed in the Techniques Magazine, and your center will receive a framed certificate at the 2015 Summer Conference. The link to complete the application online can be found on the mississippiacte.com home page. It must be sent to the national office by January 9.

Thanks also to all of you who submitted articles for this issue of The Reporter. Career/technical education is enhanced when we advertise the success of our students and teachers. As career/technical instructors, you are providing our state with an educated and trained workforce. Keep up the good work!

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of help to you. My email address is EDof MS ACTE@aol.com and my telephone number is 601.857.5763.

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## Rex Buckhaults MS ACTE 2014 Member Of The Year

*Submitted by: Louise Backstrom*

Mr. Rex Buckhaults was selected as the Mississippi Association of Career and Technical Education 2014 member of the year. This award was presented to Mr. Buckhaults at the joint Summer Conference for Mississippi Career and Technical Education and the Mississippi Department of Education in Pearl, MS on July 28, 2014.

Mr. Buckhaults is the Vocational Director at Perry County Vocational Technical Center in New Augusta, MS. The Vocational Center



serves both Perry Central High School students as well as Richton High School Students.

We the faculty and staff at Perry County Vo-Tech know that this is a great accomplishment. This award is given to one person per year for the entire state of Mississippi. We are very proud to have Rex Buckhaults as our Vocational Director.

Thank you Mr. Buckhaults for doing such a great job and representing Perry County so well!



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## Mississippi's Outstanding Career Technical Education Student

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*

Lamar Technical Center student, Mandy Bolin, received a \$500 scholarship for being selected Mississippi's Outstanding Career Technical Education Student for 13-14. This award and scholarship were provided by MS-ACTE (Mississippi Association of Career Technical Educators). Mandy completed the Teacher Academy program at Lamar Technical Center in May 2014 under the instruction of Mrs. Suzanne Kelly. Mandy is currently enrolled at Pearl River Community College pursuing a degree in Education with an emphasis in Special Education.

## National Guard Recruiter Visits Lamar Technical Center

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*

October 6, 2014 – Sgt. Jeff Yelverton, recruiter with the Mississippi National Guard, spoke to students at Lamar Technical Center about the benefits of joining. He answered questions about basic training, physical requirements and jobs in the National Guard. He also informed students about special money available for college training once they enlist and complete basic training.



## Construction Technology Students Guest Speaker

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*

September 8, 2014 – Construction Technology students at Lamar Technical Center were excited to have Mr. C.D. Miller as a guest speaker. Mr. Miller brought his wood lathe to the technical center to show Mr. Donnie Saucier's Construction Technology students its operation and the projects he made. Students were able to try their hands at using the wood lathe and also to discuss different career options that could come from having skills in this field.



## Farm Bureau Safety Specialist Presentation

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*



October 3, 2014 – Metal Fabrication, Automotive Service and Construction students attended a presentation at Lamar Technical Center by Chris Shivers, Safety Specialist with Farm Bureau. Mr. Shivers covered a variety of safety topics including farm/shop safety and ATV safety. Students watched a slide presentation and participated in a question/answer session regarding different techniques they could use to be safe working with power tools, electricity, farm equipment, etc.

## Health Science Students Participate In Clinicals

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*

September 16, 2014 – Lamar Technical Center's Health Science II students, taught by Laura Fails and Deanna Dunaway, were dressed in their scrubs and ready to go to the health department to have TB skin tests completed before going to their clinical rotations. Health Science students participate in clinicals as part of their course requirements. These clinical rotations allow students to shadow professionals in various healthcare settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and veterinary clinics.





## PRCC Day

*Submitted by: Melissa Graham*



Wednesday, September 3 was PRCC Day at Lamar Technical Center. This event is scheduled annually by Melissa Graham, counselor. This gives technical center students an opportunity to gather information about Pearl River Community College and have their questions answered by recruiters, counselors and instructors. Students learned about the enrollment process, campus life, financial aid and many other topics.



## New Director of Career and Technical Education Programs For Simpson County School District

*Submitted by: Carol Ann Drane*

Replacing Dr. Kay Berry as director of career and technical education programs for the Simpson County School District is, former Magee High School principal, Dr. Bo Huffman.

## FCAHS Bringing Home a Medal

*Submitted by: Judy Grice*

Forrest County Agricultural High School HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) members Morgan Thornhill and Deborah Mordica competed in the HOSA National Convention in Orlando, Florida, at Walt Disney World. Over eight thousand students competed in various health related events of which these two bright young ladies competed in the CPR and First Aid team event and placed 3rd in the nation. They are pictured above with their advisor Mrs. Judy Grice.



## FCAHS HOSA at the 2014 National Convention

*Submitted by: Judy Grice*



Forrest County Agricultural High School's HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) attended the 2014 National Convention in Orlando, Florida, at Walt Disney World. Over eight thousand students competed in various health related events. The FCAHS HOSA chapter had six students and one advisor represented for the event. Morgan Thornhill and Deborah Mordica placed 3rd in the Nation in the CPR and First Aid event, Christopher French finished in the 6th round of the Medical Spelling event, Bailey Humphrey, Katie Breland, and David Hogan served as courtesy corp members for the Life Support event.



## Learning With Discipline

*Submitted by: Rob Smith (from the Meridian Star, Sunday, August 10, 2014)*

Not every student can say they have completed a college program while still in high school. Meridian High School Senior Perry Winford is among the few who can.

Winford earned an associate's certificate degree in automotive technology last year while a junior in high school. He completed dual enrollment courses at MHS' Ross Collins Career and Technical Center and Meridian Community College, which allowed him to complete the college-level course work.

Winford said he has always liked to work on and be around cars.

"I wanted to have a good mechanical background before I continued my education in mechanical engineering," he said. "I love cars, especially old ones. When I retire, I want to get a job in a shop, designing car engines."

Once he completes high school, Winford plans to join the U.S. Army and take advantage of the educational benefits it offers.

"I plan on getting as many degrees as I can while I am in the military," he said. "I plan on working in the military until I retire. My dad is in the military as well, so I am familiar with the lifestyle. My goal is to be an Army ranger."

Winford says getting a proper education is important to him because of

the many doors it can open.

"Getting a good education secures your future. It makes sure you can establish a better living environment for you and your family," he said.

Winford is very active on campus, participating in the MHS JROTC program, as well as being part of the school's power lifting team, which recently placed second in the state.

"Meridian High School has just provided me so many different educational opportunities," Winford said. "Some schools don't have the opportunities we have here. The teachers and instructors here take the time to really teach you things."

Winford said he wants to be an example for others. He wants to be remembered for his persistence, hard work and discipline. His discipline is the very thing Meridian High School Principal Victor Hubbard says make him special.

"I have known Perry since he was in the ninth grade," Hubbard said. "He has never had any discipline infractions. I don't even believe Perry has ever been late for a class while attending MHS. Discipline has everything to do with the success of academics; it is obvious Perry is disciplined. He is involved in JROTC and the powerlifting team, both require a large amount of discipline and self-drive."



*Perry Winford, right, who received an associate's certificate degree in automotive technology from Meridian Community College last year, works on a car while instructor Matt Johnson observes.*

Ross Collins Career and Technical Director Rob Smith said seeing students succeed in academics is the overall goal of the facility.

"Nothing pleases me more to see the results of Perry's hard work," Smith said. "Just to see a student have this opportunity before they even graduate high school. He is a smart kid."

According to Smith, the partnership between the school and MCC is vital in powering the dual-enrollment programs.

"Without the help of Meridian Community College, these opportunities would not be possible," he said. "The goal we share is to get students to continue their education after high school."

Ross Collins currently has five programs included in the dual-enrollment curriculum: drafting, welding, automotive, health and marketing. The program serves any student within the Lauderdale County boundaries.

## Martha Hill Featured In Lawn & Landscape Magazine

Martha Hill, landscape chair on the Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College, was recently chosen as a member of the Class of 2014 Lawn and Landscape Leadership Awards in the Lawn & Landscape Magazine. She'll be featured in the October issue of the magazine for the annual recognition of contractors and others allied to the profession who have gone above and beyond and who stand out for their dedication to the industry. She'll also be honored in an October ceremony.

