



POSTSECONDARY, ADULT AND CAREER EDUCATION DIVISION



Education. Advocate. Lead.

ACTE Postsecondary Adult and Career Education Division Members,

I consider this newsletter to be my first genuine opportunity to introduce myself to the PACE Division members. It goes without saying that with our current state of global concerns, we've all had limited opportunities to interact in a typical world setting. However, I have been given invitations to speak within virtual settings to a few PACE groups within our division. I've enjoyed these opportunities and would welcome any invites from the PACE members to continue contributing to these virtual meetings.

I do believe that it is more important now than ever that we look to ACTE and to our division as a mechanism to help culminate our efforts to sustain and advance career and technical education (CTE) even during our current climate. I've personally seen samplings of the work happening in your educational institutions: hybrid coursework delivery systems, in-person classroom procedures, innovative virtual learning designs, and solutions to completions of certifications and state licensure.

For the past two months, I have had the honor of working with our PACE policy committee and our PACE Postsecondary Advisory Committee under the guidance of our former VP, Dick Lowe. The individual members of these groups have an amazing wealth of expertise as well as the authentic desire to collaborate for solutions and offerings for the members of PACE that we look forward to sharing with you soon.

Current data suggest that students are choosing to take a "gap year" this upcoming school year. The unfortunate reality of that decision also lends itself to the data that reveals that students who take a year off, typically don't complete their program of study. Although I do realize that this choice is primarily due to our current global crisis, I do feel that it is imperative that we look to history in order to guide our future.

A *Forbes* article from June 2016 regarding those who choose to leave college prior to graduation states: “More than 30 percent returned to school at least once — a handful of dogged souls came back three times — but in the end, fewer than one in five dropouts actually made it to graduation. The rest struggled a while longer, earning a few credits before giving up.”

The Coalition for Workforce Development Through CTE consultant Sandy Mittelsteadt also recently shared an article that is the first of the *Center for Workforce and Economic Opportunity's Leading Workforce Resurgence* series. It is by Jane Oates, president of Working Nation and former assistant secretary of the US Employment and Training Administration from 2009-2013, and Carl Van Horn, director of the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development and CWEO visiting scholar.

I do believe the article is worth reviewing: "[Can Lessons from the Great Recession Guide Policy Responses to the Pandemic-Driven Economic Crisis?](#)"

Our friend Michael Connet at ACTE, who is working very closely with ACTE executive director LeAnn Wilson to implement systems and services to support our PACE Division members, has also provided me with the results of a [recent survey of postsecondary students](#) about their impressions of the online instruction delivered during the initial period of the pandemic recent survey of postsecondary students. I'm certain that after reviewing this report, we would all agree to the necessity for continued support for educators' efforts as online instruction, particularly in CTE programs, will be continuing.

Our PACE committees met recently to discuss the upcoming Virtual VISION conference, happening **Nov 30–Dec. 4**, as well as ideas for a professional development series for our members. From those two committees, we have organized a PACE Professional Development Webinar Series Committee that will be led by John Noel, Andrea Pogue and Mark Wilson. This committee will be meeting again soon to begin the work of bringing their ideas into action, and we will keep our members updated with webinar details.

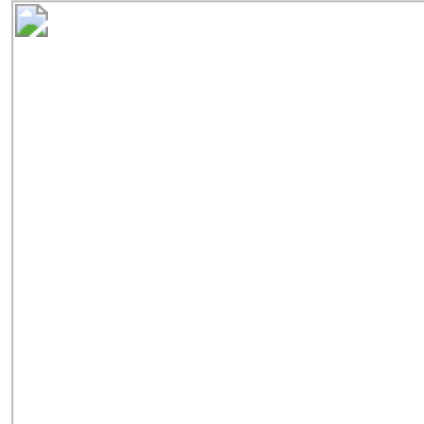
Please also know that PACE will have its ongoing presence at Virtual VISION as we bring you content and presentations that have been selected specifically for our members. The tradition of high-quality and an abundance of professional development choices will continue as it has in years past.

These are different times, different times that can either create barriers or provide opportunities, given your perspective. The comforting thing to know is that we are all in this together, and we have the platform to share our solutions and our victories in order to make this a successful school year.

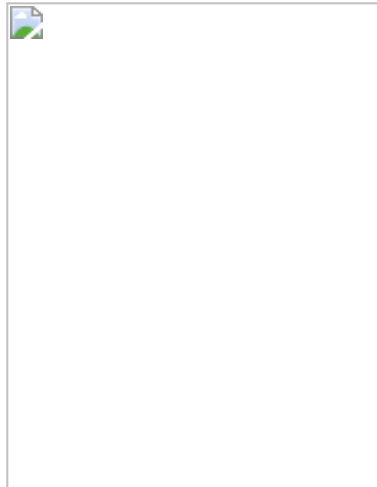
Have a joyous remainder of your summer solstice, I look forward to “seeing” you soon.

VISION Now Virtual — The Show Must Go On!

After thoughtful consideration, ACTE is excited to host, for the first time ever, CareerTech VISION 2020 as a fully online, virtual event, happening **Nov. 30–Dec. 4!** We at ACTE believe this is the safest approach for our attendees and look forward to offering you, from the comfort and convenience of your own home, school or office, an immersive professional development experience that addresses timely topics impacting career and technical education (CTE)!



[Learn more and register](#)



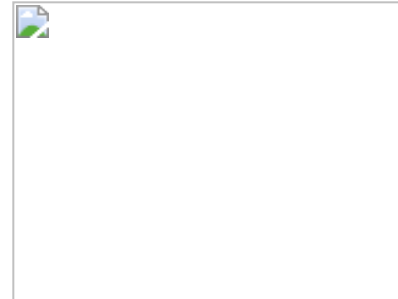
New Guide Covers COVID-19 Implications for CTE Programs

High-quality CTE: Planning for a COVID-19-impacted School Year is a guide for helping CTE stakeholders identify the key considerations, guiding questions and emerging best practices that should shape future planning. The guide is accompanied by a [webinar series](#) (with archived recordings available to members), exploring issues and sharing ideas from the field about CTE planning for the 2020-21 school year.

[Read the report](#)

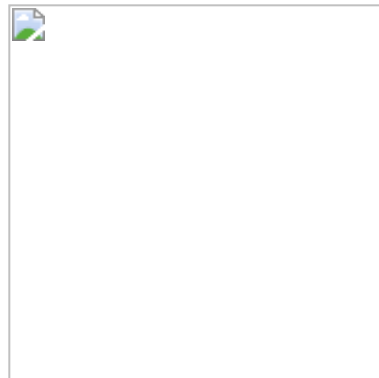
Apply to the New IAED Mentorship Program!

ACTE's new mentorship program, offering professional development opportunities to help cultivate more diverse and inclusive work environments for CTE educators, seeks to support association members interested in inclusion, access, equity and diversity (IAED) — those who want to be leaders in these efforts and those who wish to support existing leadership. Applications are due **Nov. 1**. [Learn more and register](#)



ACTE Seeking IAED Mentors

ACTE's new IAED Mentorship Program is looking for mentors! Applications are due **Sept. 15**. [Learn more](#)



Call for Access & Equity Content

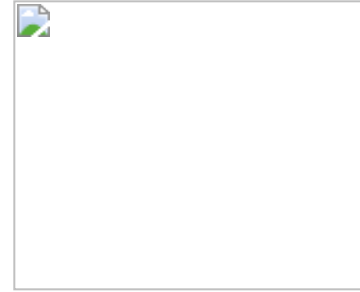
ACTE continues to seek content on IAED in CTE by:

- Recommending ideas for the IAED column that will be included in all future issues of *Techniques*
- Contributing resources to the ACTE IAED website
- Submitting recommended IAED speaker names
- Signing up to be a part of ACTE's IAED Advisory Group

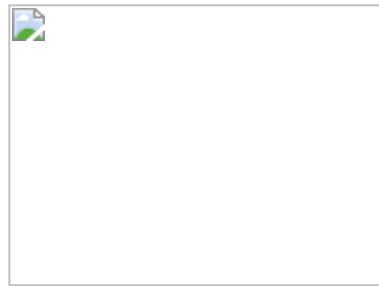
Contribute your ideas

**Signature Event for CTE
Administrators Going Virtual**

The world is asking for change, and it is vital for your CTE programs to be optimized to reach and support a diversified student body. Happening virtually **Oct. 8–9**, the Best Practices and Innovations in CTE Conference will offer content-rich programming and networking to strengthen the field for CTE administrators of both secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and institutions. This year's event is once again hosted by ACTE, the ACTE Administration Division and the National Council of Local Administrators.



[Learn more](#)



Splash into Techniques in 2021

Hold on tight to the final days of summer — but also plan ahead! *Techniques* is now accepting proposal submissions for issues dated January, February and March 2021, on the following themes:

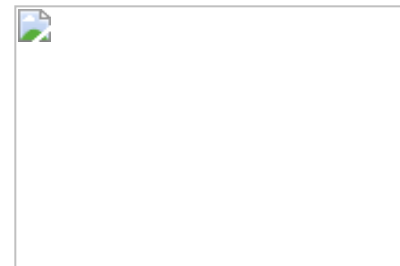
- Techniques Turns 25
- Inspiring Facilities & Innovative Equipment
- It's All Fun & Games

Review the editorial calendar and submit a proposal.

For questions, please contact [Lia Milgram](#).

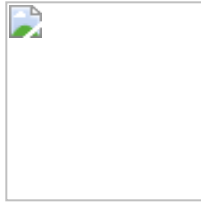
Write for PAGES

The official blog of ACTE's *Techniques* magazine, PAGES seeks to foster a community of collaboration among CTE educators. Let your voice be heard. Share [Member Connected News](#) or get an answer to CTE's most pressing



questions when you ask [Dear Linda](#). Have a better idea?

Contact [Lia Milgram](#).



Yours in Education,
Kristina Ropos
ACTE PACE VP

Association for Career and Technical Education

1410 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

703-683-3111



[Unsubscribe](#)

