

Up-to-Date with DATE

Important News and Information from OVAE's Division of Academic and Technical Education (DATE)

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Message from the Director

Congratulations to two long-standing state directors for career and technical education: Arlene Parisot of Montana and Mike Rush of Idaho. Arlene has retired from her position at the Montana University System, while Mike will be soon taking a new position as the Executive Director of the Idaho State Board of Education. The entire DATE team will miss our collaborations with Arlene and Mike, and wish them all the best for success in their future endeavors!

Sharon Lee Miller
Director, DATE

State Plan Review Update

DATE staff has reviewed state plans for fifty states, the District of Columbia, and three territories. Some states have received deficiency letters and staff members are now reviewing responses to those letters. The regional accountability specialists are reviewing and negotiating performance levels for all states that have submitted a state plan.

Financial Management Institute Workshop Planned for September

DATE's staff members are planning to present a financial management workshop on September 11-12, 2008, in Washington, DC. The workshop will provide a forum for state financial management personnel to develop a better understanding of the financial processes and requirements in the U.S. Department of Education. Topics on the agenda will include financial reporting, maintenance of effort/matching, GAPS drawdown, time distribution, indirect costs and cost allocation plans.

The workshop will be held from 1:00 pm on September 11 to 2:00 pm on September 12. The session will be conducted at DATE's headquarters in the Potomac Center Plaza (550 12th St., SW, 10th Floor Auditorium). DATE staff is selecting the presenters and finalizing the agenda. Stay tuned for further details!

Meanwhile, to facilitate registration for the lead financial management staff person in your state, please send contact information, including telephone number, mailing address, and e-mail address, for this individual to Nancy Essey at nancy.essey@ed.gov.

America's Career Resource Network Web Site Moved

The ACRN Web site has been moved to a new hosting platform and is now accessible again at www.acrnetwork.org. This Web site is a free, easy-to-use, center for career development. It includes extensive career development tools and resources for students, counselors, parents, teachers, and school administrators. Please spread the word within your state.

If you have any questions concerning ACRN or the Web site, please contact Gisela Harkin at gisela.harkin@ed.gov.

Program of Study Grant Opportunities

DATE will support two projects designed to assist states in implementing quality programs of study (POS). The first is the Local Programs of Study (LPOS) project initiative, still in the planning stage. It will focus on identifying and working through issues involved in implementing POS at the local level. Six states will be selected and asked to identify local education agencies representing urban, suburban, and rural demographics. These six states and the 18 selected local sites will collaborate in the development of LPOS, will document the process, and will share the results within their states and nationally. More information about this grant opportunity will be provided in early June.

The second grant, Promoting Rigorous Programs of Study Through Statewide or Multi-State Articulation Agreements (RPOS) will provide six states (or consortia of states) an opportunity to select a program of study and work through the policy and program issues inhibiting the development of a statewide articulation agreement. As in the first project, these states will collaborate and document results to share with other states.

For more information and the application package, contact Scott Hess at: scott.hess@ed.gov

Perkins Monitoring Team Visits

The following monitoring visits have been scheduled in September with specific dates to be determined:

- Native American CTE Program (NACTEP) grant sites in North Dakota: Candeska Cikana Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, and Sitting Bull Community College
- Tribally Controlled Postsecondary Career and Technical Institute Program (TCPCTIP) grantee, the United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND
- State of California (a full monitoring visit)

The previously scheduled July visit to South Dakota has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date.

For more information on the monitoring visits, contact Ed Smith at: ed.smith@ed.gov

Agricultural Education News

DATE staff members Larry Case, Coordinator of Agricultural & Rural Education and Amanda Cloud, student appointee, recently met with members of the Danish Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture, and staff from Dalum Agricultural College in Copenhagen, Denmark as part of a study tour to plan an international student and faculty exchange between Danish and American community colleges with a focus in agriculture.

DATE staff members have invited two Danish students to participate in the New Century Farmer Program. During an intensive five-day conference in Des Moines, Iowa, the participants will learn from each other and industry experts. Danish participants will attend a series of workshops and sessions that focus on issues, trends and forces, farm succession, agriculture financing, marketing and risk management, vision planning, and global importance of agriculture. The Danish delegation will also receive an invitation to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 22-25 to participate in the convention activities.

For more information on OVAE's cooperative agreement with Denmark and the student exchange, contact Larry Case at: www.larry.case@ed.gov

Agriculture Education Essay Winners Honored

DATE staff members Larry Case, Steve Brown and Amanda Cloud met on May 2nd with Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer at the U.S. Department of Agriculture to acknowledge the ten student winners in the Risk Management Essay contest sponsored by the Risk Management Agency.

The students were recognized for the essays they wrote on the theme of Risk Management Strategies for Your Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program, a planned practical agricultural activity that supports skill and competency development, career success, and application of specific agricultural and academic skills a student has learned through classroom instruction in agricultural education. SAE programs are hands-on applications of concepts and principles learned in the agricultural education classroom. Students are supervised by agricultural education teachers in cooperation with parents, employers, and other adults who assist them in the development and achievement of their educational and career goals.

The essays the students wrote were reviewed by a committee and the top ten essays were selected as the national winners. The essay winners won a trip to Washington DC for themselves and a parent or advisor.

Secretary Schafer was the keynote speaker for the main event which was followed by a question and answer session in which the student winners put questions to Secretary Schafer. DATE's Larry Case was the keynote speaker at the luncheon to recognize the students.

For more information, contact Amanda Cloud at Amanda.cloud@ed.gov

OVAE Hosts Student Organizations Coordinating Council

On May 22nd, OVAE hosted a meeting of the National Coordinating Council for the Career and Technical Student Organizations (NCC-CTSO) for their bi-monthly meeting. DATE members presented an overview of its career clusters and programs of study initiatives and discussed the states' Perkins IV alignment requirements. DATE and the NCC opened a dialogue about the cross-over implications within the programs of study and the CTSOs and the role of guidance counselors in facilitating this paradigm shift.

For further information, contact Larry Case at: larry.case@ed.gov

Next Steps Workgroup Scheduled Conference Calls for FY 2008

Conference calls are typically held on the first Thursday of each month (except in January and July) from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Sub-groups are formed as necessary to address emerging/pending issues. The following calls are scheduled:

Date	Topic
June 5, 2008	Using Crosswalks to Report Data by Career Cluster and Pathway
July 10, 2008	Tech Prep Data Systems and Data Reporting
August 7, 2008	Issues and Changes in Reporting Special Populations and Racial/Ethnic Categories
September 4, 2008	Tentative: New and Improved Placement Surveys
October 2	Tentative: Sharing Social Security Numbers
November 6	To be Determined
December 4	To be Determined

For further information, contact John Haigh at: john.haigh@ed.gov

Mark Your Calendar!

(Note: Events listed below are sponsored or funded by OVAE, or are events at which OVAE will present)

Event Title/Sponsor	Dates/Location	DATE Point of Contact
6 th Annual Career Clusters Institute – <i>NASDCTEc</i>	June 16-18, 2008 Atlanta, GA	scott.hess@ed.gov
Discretionary Grants Project Directors Meeting – <i>OVAE/DATE</i>	June 16-18, 2008, Westin Hotel Alexandria, Virginia	Linda.mayo@ed.gov
Financial Management Workshop – <i>OVAE/DATE</i>	September 11-12, 2008 Potomac Center Plaza 10 th Floor Conference Room Washington, DC	nancy.essey@ed.gov