

# Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

## Monday Memo 2013-08-05

### *Quote*

"If you don't like change, you're going to like irrelevance even less" by General Eric Shinseki, retired chief of staff of the U.S. Army

### *Great annual conference*

The annual CareerTech Summer Conference is over and it was a success! More than 3,500 people attended this major professional development event. The exhibit hall contained some of the latest in educational technology including virtual units for painting and welding. Major CareerTech leaders were recognized for their service at the awards events. Divisions completed work, including selecting their new leaders. Congratulations to all staff who helped make this another great event.

### *Prison based programs result in return on investment*

Utah sees a more than 13-to-1 return on investment when inmates complete career and technology secondary education in prison and gain employment afterward, according to a University of Utah study released this week by the state's Department of Corrections. These results are consistent with our results from our Oklahoma Skills Centers programs.

[www.deseretnews.com/article/print/865583439/Educating-Utah-prison-inmates-pays-off-study-says.html](http://www.deseretnews.com/article/print/865583439/Educating-Utah-prison-inmates-pays-off-study-says.html)

### *CareerTech helps local companies with FEMA grants*

When the Federal Emergency Management Agency arrived in Oklahoma City late May to assist in recovery from tornado damage, one regulation it had to follow was a demand in federal law to use local suppliers and services as much as possible. CareerTech's Oklahoma Bid Assistance Network was there to help.

Bid assistance coordinators from technology centers around the affected areas, and others across the state as needed, provided help to FEMA in finding local vendors with the right skills and products. Companies already registered as federal vendors were best prepared to help, but when the registrations were still needed, OBAN coordinators assisted the companies to enable them to sell to the FEMA operations.

The numbers are still preliminary, but current counts show the following results: Approximately 50 to 60 procurement actions at the Joint Field Office, with \$1.8 million awarded and 88 percent went to Small Businesses and 91 percent went to local companies.

What wasn't bought locally included legal services (national agreement with the American Bar Association), mail services (agency contract already in place), specialized communications

equipment, vehicle or heavy equipment lease (procured through General Services Administration contracts). (contributed by Carter Merkle)

### ***CareerTech helps assure new teacher success***

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education conducted professional development workshops for 246 new CareerTech teachers during the last three weeks of July. Each occupational division conducted training on a wide range of topics for new teachers in their respective fields. In addition, subject matter experts from the field delivered four hours of classroom management instruction to all of the new teachers.

As well as participating in their divisional New Teacher Academy, 24 new alternative and provisional certified teachers began their 18 month journey with the CareerTech Teacher Institute. During the course of the program, participants will study four pedagogy areas: Instructional Planning, Instructional Strategies, Classroom Management and Classroom Assessment. Upon completion, participants will earn 15 hours of college credit toward their standard teaching certification.

### ***Foundation golf outing draws crowd, raises funds to support CareerTech***

The CareerTech Foundation golf outing was a tremendous success this year. The weather was good and the crowd was great. Lots of great CareerTech friends came out in support of the Foundation's program. There were 34 teams in this year's event. The following were the final sponsors for the event:

#### Gold Sponsors:

Robert Sommers  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma  
ADPC  
Insurica  
Brown's Bottle Shop  
Francis Tuttle Technology Center  
Metro Technology Center  
Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance  
Edgenuity

#### Silver Sponsors:

First National Bank Vinita Grove Cleora  
OkACTE  
Blue Sky Supply  
Pontotoc Technology Center  
Kyle Lewis Memorial "One Shot at a Time"  
Oklahoma City University Multicultural Student Affairs

Bronze Sponsors:  
Central Technology Center  
Friends of the Skills Centers  
Pelco Structural LLC  
John & Doris Hopper  
Dwight Stoddard  
Blue & Gold Sausage

### ***OSUIT president warns of higher-ed tipping point***

This editorial speaks to the challenges we all face in assuring we provide cost effective educational programs to Oklahomans. We need to be sure we are working with our higher education partners in improving the net performance of the greater educational system.

The signs are all around us that “the revolution is coming quickly” to higher education. Here are three more:

- According to a recent USA Today report, 11 colleges and universities in Oklahoma have students who are more likely to default on their loans than they are to graduate.
- A former United States Secretary of Education has co-authored a new book asking if college is still worth it.
- In a new survey by Inside Higher Ed and Gallup, only 13 percent of campus chief financial officers express strong confidence in the viability of their institution's financial model over the next 10 years.

Thankfully, there are some leaders in Oklahoma’s higher education system who understand the times. University of Central Oklahoma president Don Betz, for example, recently told The Oklahoman that higher education has entered a new era, and that there’s no telling what colleges will look like in the decades ahead. Bill R. Path, president of the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology, believes that “with unemployment rates among college graduates rising, the well-regarded reputation of higher education in the United States teeters precariously between relevance and irrelevance.” Dr. Path writes:

In Malcolm Gladwell’s book, *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*, he describes how small incidents can become "moments of critical mass" that trigger widespread changes in public opinion. Perceptions like "relative worth" and "value in the marketplace" balance on a razor thin edge and the "tipping point" for public opinion of higher education is now upon us.

Last year more than 1.5 million new bachelor's degree holders reported being either unemployed or underemployed — a national tragedy by any measure. These young people enrolled in college with the expectation that a degree would improve their lives. They certainly deserved better.

The general public watches helplessly as the cost of college tuition goes up every year. They have observed that more and more students are burdened with overwhelming school loan debt after college. They have seen unemployment lines growing longer across the country, and have noticed a rise in the number of recent college graduates waiting in these lines. Out of loyalty and respect to its many revered institutions, the public has been very slow to hold higher education accountable in such affairs. But make no mistake — if substantive changes do not take place, the tipping point of public opinion will shift to be against higher education. Even now, many college graduates are recognizing they have been ill-prepared for today's workforce, and they are beginning to ask, "Was my college education worth it?"

In Dr. Path's view, "traditionalist attitudes" in higher education are largely to blame. He doesn't appear ready to give up on the humanities altogether — and I'm certainly not, especially given this terrific new hire at the University of Oklahoma — but he does make a good case that "there must be a curricular balance struck. ... Universities must find ways to adopt more applied instructional methodologies at all levels and offer more program options in fields of advanced and emerging technology."

Whether or not one agrees with his specific remedies, Dr. Path deserves great credit for his diagnosis.

### ***Assessment services adds clients***

The CareerTech Testing Center signed a new agreement with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to offer four assessments statewide: Remediation Consultant, Underground Storage Tank Installer, Underground Storage Tank Remover, and Above Ground Storage Tank Licensee. (contributed by Kimberly Sadler)

### ***Assessment training completed – great results accrued***

Health Certification Project Test Site Coordinator Training wrapped up on June 20th. Seven sessions were conducted across the state, with 130 attendees; all tech centers were represented.

Of the 130 who attended, 92 completed an online evaluation of the training, which was offered in a "flipped" method - homework first with lots of hands-on training in the sessions. Survey responses to this approach were very positive with 98 percent ranking sessions as good/excellent.

### ***CareerTech success stories worthy of note***

Each year, thousands of Oklahomans reap the benefits provided by Oklahoma's Career and Technology Education. Read highlights about individuals who applied what they learned and became successful employees, entrepreneurs and leaders in business organizations at <http://www.okcareertech.org/news/careertech-champions/issue-25>

## ***FY2013 a solid year for curriculum and assessment teams***

- CIMC revenue \$1,810,980.69 - up 12.8% from FY12
- MAVCC revenue \$527,330.26 - up 2.1% from FY12
- Test administrations 96,343 - down 1.8% from FY12
- Test revenue \$425,328 - up 7.2% from FY12
- Printing Plant jobs 1,670 - up 12.3% from FY12
- Printing Plant revenue \$1,749,929.92 - up 31.0% from FY12
- Creative Services jobs 221 - down 11.9% from FY12
- Creative Services revenue \$17,232.05 - up 28.6% from FY12

## ***Finding alternatives to college***

Check out this article from USA TODAY: <http://usat.ly/17MvGN6>

## ***Schedule for the week***

This schedule is subject to change without notice:

### **Monday**

Meeting with Organizational assessment team

Meeting with Representative Denney

General office work

Meeting with Matt Litterell

Meeting with Matt and Greg Dewald on Aerospace planning

Meeting on Department advisory committee development

### **Tuesday**

General office work

Presentation to Tulsa Tech All Staff meeting

Meeting with Spirit Bank leaders

Meeting with Governor's office

### **Wednesday**

Meeting on Commission of Educational Quality and Accountability

Meeting with Chuck Mills on Governor's Workforce Board

Meeting with Barton Banfield, Stidham Schools superintendent

Meeting with Chuck Prucha, Oklahoma Manufacturer's Alliance

Senior Leader Meeting

### **Thursday**

General office work

Meeting with Susan McCalmont, Creativity Board

Meeting with Renee Launey-Rodolf, Oklahoma Commission on Teacher Prep

Meeting with Steven Crawford, CCOSA

Meeting with Jeff Mills, OSSBA

**Friday**

Senior leader meeting

General office work

See you around!