



# TECH FLASH

Issue Number 166  
April 2004

## Technology Education News Flash

### CONGRATULATIONS, FLORIDA TSA!



With over 820 people registered for the conference, and hundreds of volunteers from the community, the 2004 Florida TSA State conference was a huge success for everyone involved. Held at the Orlando Airport Marriott, students from seventy-seven different middle and high schools across Florida competed in scores of technical challenges and competitions. Congratulations to everyone involved. Competition results are available online at <<http://www.florida-tsa.net>>.

### PROBASE PILOT SITES NEEDED

Project Probase, a National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education project ongoing at Illinois State University seeks pilot- and field-test sites for the 2004 - 2005 academic year. Probase is developing eight, nine-week curriculum units that are driven by engaging design problems. Schools selected as pilot- or field-test sites will be required to dedicate at least one period per day (one group of students and one instructor) to the pilot- or field-test for a period of at least one semester during 2004-2005.

Selected sites may elect to dedicate more than one period per day to the project. If selected as a pilot/field test site, the instructor will be expected to teach the curriculum as outlined in the Probase Instructor's Guide. Instructors and students at the site will be expected to provide the project with feedback and comments related to the effectiveness of the curriculum. Applicants will also need to secure administrative support for participation in the project (see application for additional details).

If selected for participation in the program, the instructor will receive \$250.00 per quarter (\$1,000.00 per year) to cover incidental expenses, one copy of the Probase Student Guide for each participating student, one copy of the Instructor Guide for each participating instructor, and any specialized materials or equipment necessary to implement the curriculum. Selected test sites must have adequate laboratories and the general equipment/materials necessary to deliver the course content (see application for details at <<http://www.probase.ilstu.edu>>).

During the 2004 - 2005 academic year, the following nine-week units will be tested: Construction Technologies, Medical Technologies, Agriculture & Bio-related Technologies, Manufacturing Technologies, Transportation Technologies, Energy and Power technologies, and Information and Communication Technologies. Selected schools will have input into the specific units tested at their respective sites. To apply for this opportunity, visit <<http://www.probase.ilstu.edu>> and complete a pilot-site application form. To be considered for this opportunity, application materials must be received by April 30, 2004.

### FREE ONLINE READING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Florida Online Reading Professional Development (FOR-PD)** is an online staff development project designed to help teachers improve reading instruction for learners in grades preK-12. The project is funded through the Florida Department of Education. FOR-PD is developed collaboratively with literacy and technology experts, school districts, professional organizations, and teacher educators across the state of Florida. This project is housed at the University of Central Florida and functions as a primary delivery mechanism for improving teaching methods in preK-12 reading instruction to teachers in all content areas across the state.

Information and registration is available online at <<http://www.itrc.ucf.edu/forpd/>>.

**2004 IMPORTANT DATES for TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

- ◆ **May 8, 2004** – Epsilon Pi Tau – Eta Field Chapter 2004 Spring Luncheon, Bahama Breeze, Tampa. For more information, contact Dr. Thomas Loveland at <[tlovelan@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:tlovelan@pasco.k12.fl.us)>.
- ◆ **May 14-15, 2004** – Florida TSA Board of Directors Meeting, Marriott Key Largo Resort, Key Largo.
- ◆ **May 20-21, 2004** – Florida Technology Education Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, Cocoa Beach Hilton Hotel.
- ◆ **June 20-24, 2004** – National TSA Conference and Competitions, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee <<http://www.tsaweb.org>>.
- ◆ **July 21-23, 2004** – Florida Association for Career and Technical Education (FACTE) Annual Conference, Waterside Marriott Hotel, Tampa <<http://www.facte.org>>.
- ◆ **September 1, 2004** – Deadline for applications for FTEA awards <<http://www.ftea.com/awards.htm>>.
- ◆ **October 13-14, 2004** – Florida Technology Student Association Advisor Training Workshop, Holiday Inn International Drive Resort, Orlando.
- ◆ **October 14, 2004** – Florida Technology Education Council for Supervisors (FTECS) meeting, Holiday Inn International Drive Resort, Orlando.
- ◆ **October 14-16, 2004** – Florida Technology Education Association 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Holiday Inn International Drive Resort, Orlando.
- ◆ **December 9-11, 2004** – Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada.



**WHAT CAN A TEAM OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INVENT WITH \$10,000?**

The Lemelson-MIT Program for Invention and Innovation, through the generosity of The Lemelson Foundation, launched InvenTeams in 2002 to foster inventiveness in high school students. InvenTeams is currently seeking applicants for the 2005 program. The Lemelson-MIT Program started the InvenTeams initiative to generate excitement about the rewarding process of identifying a need, brainstorming on a solution, and working through the inventive process. The program provides grant support to high school-age invention teams nationwide for projects developed during the academic year. InvenTeams are comprised of high school students, their teachers, and industry mentors for the purpose of inventing something useful that addresses a problem or need identified by the students. Grants are awarded to teams under the supervision of science, mathematics, or technology teachers, who are expected to work collaboratively with their teams in the spirit of self-directed learning.

At a time when school budgets are being cut, InvenTeams grants give teachers and students the resources to explore practical applications of science, math, and entrepreneurship, and the opportunity to have a unique, hands-on invention experience. Moreover, the invention is exclusively the property of the inventors – the students! Teams may be formed in class or as extracurricular activities at public, private, or charter high schools or career and technical education programs. Grants of up to \$10,000 each are awarded annually in early fall and teams have until late the following spring to complete their projects. Among other invention projects, this year's InvenTeams are developing inspection-friendly luggage, assistive devices for the disabled and elderly, and solar-powered environmental sensors. Brochures with complete information about the 2005 Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams and application materials are available at <<http://www.inventeams.org>>. The initial application packet is due May 7, 2004 and must be submitted by a high school science, mathematics, or technology education teacher. For further information, please contact the Lemelson-MIT Program at (617) 253-3352.

### ITEA-CATTS JOB OPENING

The International Technology Education Association (ITEA) is searching for a Director of its Center to Advance the Teaching of Technology and Science (CATTS). The CATTS Director will focus attention toward four goals: development of standards-based curricula; teacher enhancement; research concerning teaching and learning; and curriculum-based implementation and diffusion. ITEA is seeking someone who possesses the following experience and characteristics:

- ◆ Excellent organizational and interpersonal skills
- ◆ Technology education curriculum and professional development
- ◆ Elementary or secondary teaching background
- ◆ Curriculum writing and coordination competencies
- ◆ Listserv/online facilitation
- ◆ Excellent communication skills
- ◆ Team-oriented
- ◆ Demonstrated knowledge of *Standards for Technological Literacy*.
- ◆ A willingness to grow professionally.

Salary and benefits are highly competitive. Screening will begin immediately with a start date of September 1, 2004. Candidates should mail, email, or fax 1) a letter detailing interest in the position and indicators of a possible match, and 2) a resume to:

Dr. Kendall Starkweather, DTE  
ITEA Executive Director  
1914 Association Drive, Suite 201  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
(703) 860-0353 (fax)  
iteakns@iris.org

### TEACHERS TO LISTEN, LEARN, SHARE PRACTICES TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

*From Triangle Coalition Electronic Bulletin, April 29, 2004 Volume 10, Number 17*

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige has announced a new initiative to engage some of the nation's best teachers and education experts in sharing techniques for raising student achievement with other teachers from across the country. The Teacher-to-Teacher Initiative will also keep teachers informed of the latest strategies and research on educational practices that work in the classroom. The four-pronged Teacher-to-Teacher initiative features:

- **Teacher Roundtables:** This spring and summer, the U.S. Department of Education will host discussions with teachers around the country on effective teaching, professional development, teacher leadership and ways to advance the teaching profession. The emphasis will be on listening and engaging teachers about what support they need to meet the academic needs of students.
- **Summer Workshops:** Teachers and education experts who have improved student achievement and closed the achievement gap will share experiences with fellow teachers on how to emulate these programs. Teachers will also receive additional resources, such as online assistance, to support them as they incorporate new strategies in the classroom.
- **Research-to-Practice Summit:** To be held this summer in Washington, DC, the summit comprises a day of listening and learning from experts in the field of scientifically based research and teachers with success in improving their students' achievement levels.
- **Teacher E-mail Updates:** Electronic updates will keep teachers apprised of the latest policy, research and developments in the profession.

The initiative also includes a new website <<http://www.teacherquality.us>> with information about effective practices and initiatives at the state and local levels and upcoming teacher-oriented events. Educators may apply for one of the summer workshops or register for the e-mail updates online.

### OUTSTANDING SECONDARY STUDENT

Congratulations to Florida's national winner for the *Stars of Education, Outstanding Secondary Student Award*. Jenniferanne Broido, from Broward County, was recognized April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Washington DC for her achievements. Jenniferanne cites her training in Computer Technology and her involvement in the Technology Student Association as factors that contributed to her successful experiences. She served both as a state officer for Florida TSA as well as treasurer for National TSA. She graduated as McFatter Technical High Schools' 2002 valedictorian and earned a full scholarship to Florida State University. Her goal is to become a Data Modeler within the computer industry. Way to go, Jenniferanne!

### ACTE ANNOUNCES DETAILS FOR THE 2005 NATIONAL CTE WEEK LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is currently accepting submissions for its 2005 National Career and Technical Education (CTE) Week Logo Design Contest. The theme, ***Career Tech: Training Tomorrow's Workforce***, will showcase national CTE Week (February 13-19, 2005) and ACTE is seeking a logo that captures the importance of career and technical education for the future of today's students. The contest is open to all career and technical education students. Logos should be designed following these criteria:

1. Logo must incorporate the CTE Week theme, Career Tech: Training Tomorrow's Workforce
2. Logo must be easily reproduced both in color and black and white
3. Logo must be submitted in the requested format

ACTE prefers a two-color logo design submitted in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat), with a printed proof of the logo submission included. Since the logo will appear on items as small as pens and key chains, avoid the use of fine detail which may be lost in the design. The following information must be included (typed or printed) with each submission:

1. Student's Name and Home Phone Number
2. Instructor's Name
3. School Name
4. School Address and Phone Number

The winner of the Career and Technical Education Week Logo Design Contest can choose from one of the following:

1. \$100 certificate toward any product(s) in the CTE Week Product Guide
2. \$100 certificate toward any product(s) in the ACTE Resources Catalog

Entries may be submitted on disk to: Strategic Marketing Department, ACTE, 1410 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or by e-mail to <[mfitzgerald@acteonline.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@acteonline.org)>. Submissions are due on or before **June 30, 2004**. The winner of the ACTE 2005 Career and Technical Education Week Logo Design Contest will be contacted in July. For more information, contact Megan Fitzgerald at (703) 683-9312 or by e-mail at <[mfitzgerald@acteonline.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@acteonline.org)>. All entries become the property of ACTE and the designer relinquishes any and all rights to compensation for use of the design.

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ADOPTION

April 1, 2004 marks the release of the new catalog of state adopted instructional materials. These materials have been through a rigorous review process and have been determined to meet or exceed the specifications for quality Technology Education materials. The latest materials available for Technology Education can be found online in the Instructional Materials Catalogs for both 6-8 and 9-12 at <<http://www.firm.edu/doe/instmat/catalog.htm>>. The next state adoption for Technology Education will occur in 2007.

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)**

**SBC Corporate Citizenship Education Grants** support initiatives to improve student achievement, teacher preparedness, minority student success, and increased use of new technologies. In particular, the foundation supports K-12 and higher education programs that: 1) develop a highly skilled technology workforce; 2) effectively integrate technology into instruction and administration; 3) work through higher education institutions to develop a diverse technology workforce; and 4) develop and deliver technology curriculum, particularly to underserved communities. Information is available online at <http://www.sbc.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=2660>.

**Jordan Fundamentals Grants** are awarded to teachers or paraprofessionals who work with students in grades one through twelve in a U.S. public school who also demonstrate instructional creativity in exemplifying high learning expectations for economically disadvantaged students. Application deadline is June 15, 2004. Information is available online at <http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=26&item=jordan>.

**Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (MEAF)** is dedicated to helping young Americans with disabilities maximize their potential and full participation in society. MEAF supports organizations and projects within its mission that address important needs, have broad scope and impact, and demonstrate potential replication at other sites. A major program emphasis is inclusion: enabling young people with disabilities to have full access to education, career and technical, and recreational opportunities and to participate alongside their non-disabled peers. Deadline for full proposals is June 1. More information is available online at <http://www.meaf.org/apply/priorities>.

**Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation (GAERF)** provides full grants and mini grants to support the graphic arts. Full grants are distributed in three focus areas: standard, teacher conferences, and continuing grants. A standard grant covers a specific time period, normally one year, but may be continued or renewed. Teacher conference grants are funded for specific one- to two-week periods and are normally held during summer months. A continuing grant is for a specific time period and level of support with a statement of intent to provide additional support of the project, provided funds are available and the results achieved warrant further support. Deadline for full grants is May 30, 2004. Mini grants are accepted anytime. For more information, visit <http://www.gaerf.org/grants/grant.html>.

**PeopleSoft Caring through Computers Program** supports efforts that provide underserved populations with computer technology training and education, support creative and beneficial uses of the internet in communities, use computer technology to improve the quality of life for underserved populations, educate the community about the benefits of technology in our lives, and promote mathematics and science education. Information and application guidelines are online at [http://www.peoplesoft.com/corp/en/about/community/charitable\\_contrib.jsp](http://www.peoplesoft.com/corp/en/about/community/charitable_contrib.jsp).

**CDW.G and Discovery Channel** have partnered to give away a wireless computer lab. The lab is complete with 20 IBM Think Pad notebook computers, accessories, on-site set up and the flexibility to take the technology anywhere in the school. First, second, third, and fourth place awards will also be given. Deadline for entering is May 15, 2004. One grant prize winner will receive a mobile wireless notebook lab; ten first place winners will receive projectors from Hewlett Packard; ten second place winners will receive networking products from D-link; ten third place winners will receive inkjet printers from Hewlett Packard, and ten fourth place winners will receive a selection of curriculum materials from the Discover Channel School library. Employees of public, private, or parochial K-12 schools are eligible to enter. Visit <http://www.school.discovery.com/cdwg>.

**Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement** – The National Science Foundation Course seeks to improve the quality of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education for all students, based on educational research and empirical data concerning needs and opportunities in undergraduate education and effective ways to address them. It targets activities affecting learning environments, course content, curricula, and educational practices, with the aim of improving learning contributing to the relevant knowledge base that will support future efforts to enhance STEM education. For more information visit <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04565/nsf04565.htm>.

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)**

**Teacher Professional Continuum (TPC)** – The National Science Foundation is seeking applications for the Teacher Professional Continuum (TPC) Program which addresses critical issues and needs regarding the recruitment, preparation, induction, retention, and life-long development of K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teachers. The program's goals are to improve the quality and coherence of teacher learning experiences across the continuum through research that informs teaching practice and the development of innovative resources for the professional development of K-12 STEM teachers. The program supports research studies, resources for professional development, and conferences and symposia. Preliminary proposals are due May 25, 2004. The full proposal deadline is September 10, 2004. Additional information is available at <<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04568/nsf04568.htm>>

**COMPREHENSIVE COURSE TABLE UPDATES**

The Technology Education requirements for student eligibility for the Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship under the Bright Futures Scholarship Program have recently been updated. For all related high school Technology Education courses and programs, students participating in one or more courses in one program area and finishing the other required course(s) in another related program, those courses will now count comprehensively to fulfill the Gold Seal requirement of 3 career and technical courses in one program area.

For specific course correlations, the comprehensive course table is online at <<http://nwrdc.fsu.edu/fnbpcm02>>. Scroll down to "Select a Vocational Program" and type 86 in the first box to view a listing of Technology Education programs. You may view related programs by selecting any of the programs listed.

This was done to enhance student opportunity for eligibility for the scholarship.

**NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY**

State Supervisors for Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education met recently in Washington D.C. to gain a comprehensive understanding of what technological literacy is, how it can support student achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, as well as ideas for implementation. The one-day symposium hosted 150 people from forty states and provided a unique opportunity to begin the dialogue about the need for integrating technological literacy into the core curriculum. Counselor to the Secretary of Education and Assistant Secretary for the Office of Vocational and Adult Education Susan Sclafani, addressed the group with inspirational support for the efforts. There were several outstanding speakers and the group was encouraged to continue working together to support the educational imperative of technological literacy for all students. The symposium was funded by the U.S. Department of Education and hosted by the National Academy of Engineering.

**Issue Number 166**

**April 2004**

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