



# College Comment



Preparing Professionals to Teach Technology.

Compiled by: Tiffanie Payne

Sept. 2006

# What's in this issue?

Title	Page
President's Message	3
International Advisor's Message	4
Meet the New Officers	5
Tech Ed and High School	6
Coming Soon	6
Leadership Conference	7
Regional Conferences	7
College Spotlight	8
Alumni Page	9
05-06 TECA Affiliation Form	10



## President's Message

By Rachael Lese

Welcome back to another school year! This is a year that is going to start off with a few changes. First, I would like you to take the time to meet my new 2006-2007 National Officer Team. I've had a chance to officially work with them in Dallas, TX and I can tell you that this is going to be TECA's most productive year so far! Second, please take notice to the article "Coming Soon." My officers and I have come up with ways to shake things up a little and I want you all to be aware of what changes we are coming up with.

Be aware that the College Comment is an extremely useful guide and will only get better as the year goes on. It's a great tool for your TECA chapter, classes, portfolio, and even YOU! Having an article published in the College Comment can benefit you in more ways than you can imagine! Sometimes, ITEA members have access to our newsletter and tend to "borrow" articles for their publication.

I have stated in past College Comments that I am concerned about communication between you and me. So to follow up on that, I have created a new e-mail address (**TECAPresident@gmail.com**), and screen



name (**TECAPresident**) for YOU to contact me. Tell me about your experiences at conferences, share ideas about TECA, talk to me about a concern for TECA's future, or even complain to me about your competition. I hear these stories through the grapevine all the time, but now it's time to get comments from YOU! So please, add me to your address book, put me on your AIM Buddy List, and contact me!

Let's make this the best year TECA has ever had, and let's start making a difference!

## Write for the College Comment

Do you want to see your name or your school in this newsletter? We love to include new ideas and new opinions in the College Comment. Every issue we will be highlighting two schools in our College Spotlight Section. These are the original brainstormed ideas to include in a College Spotlight: Number of members, fundraising, community service/involvement, program highlights, interesting facts, TSA involvement, and a 250 word suggestion. Feel free to submit a photo or two. If you would like to get another type of article published just send it in, and we will try to include it. Please email all submissions to [tipa@cc.usu.edu](mailto:tipa@cc.usu.edu).

## International Advisor's Message

### Peter Wright

Welcome to the new school year. I am Dr. Peter Wright, and I have been the International TECA Advisor for a year and a half since the ITEA Conference in Kansas City. I am a Technology Education Professor at California University of Pennsylvania. On the news front, there will be 4 (not 3) TECA Regionals this year as the West Region will split in two.

TECA has had great success in the last few years most notably in the TECA/TSA New Start Program and in the reverberations from our Leadership Conference which has been held in conjunction with the Technology Student Association (TSA) Annual Conference. Another important advance is that TECA officers are now being included as members of critical ITEA Task Forces to support ITEA's new Strategic Plan. As always, the officers are running the TECA organization including the regional conferences and the TECA activities and presentations at the ITEA Annual Conference.



What can you do?

1. Most importantly, affiliate your chapter for 2006 and 2007 TODAY.

We base our e-mail lists on the registration forms and we have lost touch with chapters as the officers and advisors change. If you are the OLD advisor or officer, please make sure the current leadership gets this issue.

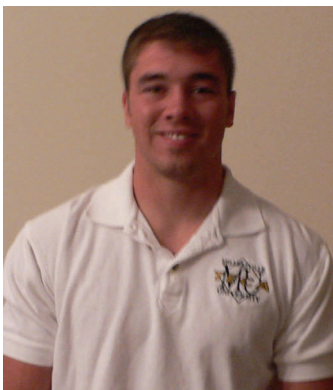
2. Carry on the important work of TECA at your chapter level. You are not alone. Work with your department, local tech ed programs and TSA chapters.

3. Consider who from your chapter would make a good international officer. It is only a few months until we will be requesting nominations.

The TECA Officers will be making more detailed plans at our Fall Planning Meeting under the leadership of President Rachael Lese. We will fill you in on the details after they are finalized.

# Meet the New Officers

Hello, my name is Matt Brinkman and I am currently TECA president-elect. I am a junior at California University of Pa and I am an active member in TEAC as well. I was a member of the 2005 national championship team for the ITEA conference and I am currently the Vice President of TEAP. Here at California I am a 3.0-3.5 student and am involved in various clubs and organizations. I am also currently president of the California University Bowling Club. I am also the Vice President of our school technology education association group, "TEAC" I am serving as a peer mentor to the incoming freshman. TECA means a lot to me and has given me a lot through my past two years of involvement. Some of the connections that u make with future employers are amazing.



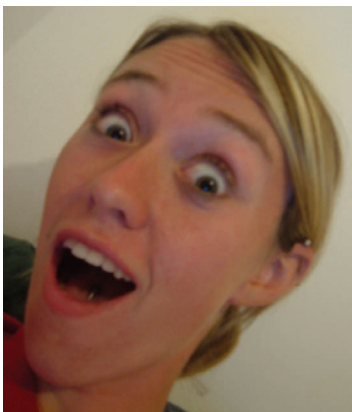
I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for electing me to my first International office. My name is Scott Stahl, and I am currently the Vice President of International TECA. I have been involved with Millersville's chapter of TECA since I became a student there in 2004. I am the Vice President there too, and will become the president in the spring semester.

I just wanted to invite everyone to get involved with their local chapters of TECA. It's a great way to get involved with your future career, and it also gives you a chance to meet many other students across the United States that could one day be your colleagues. I am looking forward to serving TECA and I hope you are too.

Welcome back to another school year! I am Erica Frazier, a senior at Ball State University, and I am very exciting to be your TECA International Secretary for the 2006-2007 school year. I am currently in my fourth year at Ball State, and will be beginning my student teaching in January. That means I am busy with all of the "general education" methods courses.

Outside of school I enjoy all sorts of things. It seems this year has been filled with student organization activities, spending time with friends, and sports, sports, sports. I love all sorts of sports, and even work at a sports bar in Indianapolis now.

On the educational note, this year's officer team looks to be a blast to work with. I am very anxious to get this year's competitions under way. I would also like to welcome Purdue University, who will be joining us at our regional contest in Peoria, IL this year for the first time in a long time.



Being a new officer is a blast! My name is Tiffanie Payne from Utah State University, and I am so glad to have this opportunity to serve! Getting involved with school and TECA is easier than it looks. I'm living proof that you can do something if you put your mind to it. I was nominated for TECA Reporter before I even knew what the job was. Now I've found out that I get to compile and publish this little baby you are reading right now. So if you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the college comment just email me at [tipa@cc.usu.edu](mailto:tipa@cc.usu.edu). I promise I won't bite! I'm also the president of our local chapter which is really small, but by working hard we are able to accomplish our goals.

# Tech Ed and High School

Phillip Capasso

My exposure to technology education in high school was key to my drive in the field. My experiences in high school were limited to my teacher's creativity and the TSA. The Technology Student Association was great for me during my years in high school because it allowed me to travel across the country and compete and also to put the skill that I learned in the classroom to the test.

I anticipated becoming a Technology teacher and thought that most of my lessons would be TSA related. Since my enrollment into The College of New Jersey and entrance into the Department of Technological Studies, my eyes have been opened to many other programs that will assist any technology teacher.

Children Designing and Engineering, CD&E, are a series of units to integrate technology education to the younger grades. There are four units aimed at grades K - 2 and there are four units aimed at grades 3 - 5. These units start off with a main problem that drives the students to take ownership of all the knowledge that they discover. More units are currently in development.

ED&E, Exploring Design & Engineering, is another program that was developed at TCNJ. ED&E is like the older brother to CD&E. These units are aimed at middle school and high school classrooms. ED&E consists of 6 units that help draw creativity from your students.

Of course one of the best parts of being a technology teacher is the freedom to create and customize lessons. But there might be that time when you are starting a new job and need a bit of help. These activities would be a nice change and a great way to show your students that class is worth going to.

*More information on the programs above can be found at [www.tsaweb.org](http://www.tsaweb.org) and [www.designedworldlearning.com](http://www.designedworldlearning.com)*

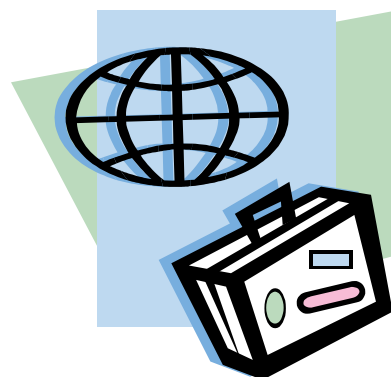
# Coming Soon

Rachael Lese and Ryan Jerico

Do you know a college worthy of a TECA chapter? Does your school have problems getting funding from your school or local community? These are some of the many questions we get from chapters at each conference and we are ready to help solve them! With the help of the 2006-2007 National Officer Team, Affiliated chapters, and Professional Organizations, we are putting together a "TECA Chapter Start-Up Kit" and a "College Spotlight" section in the College Comment.

The TECA Chapter Start-Up Kit will have all the material a promising college or university would need to start a successful chapter! Some of the documents included in the kit are: Proposed Constitution, Sample Bylaws, Projected TECA Calendar, Dialogue with College/University, Question and Answer Help Guide, and anything else you think should be added!

That's right, we're asking all affiliated TECA Chapters to share your thoughts and ideas about your chapter! We know how hard it is to start up a chapter and to maintain and/or grow your club. So now it's time to share your ideas with others and put a spotlight on your TECA Chapter. Our Reporter, Tiffanie Payne, will be contacting your chapter's officers to write these articles. We anticipate publishing two colleges/universities articles per College Comment. So watch out for these Extreme Articles that will get your mind rolling and your TECA Chapter growing!



## Leadership Conference

### Tiffanie Payne



This summer the TECA leadership conference was located in Dallas, Texas. It was held in conjunction with the TSA National Conference at the Adams Mark Hotel. It was a good experience for all. We were able to listen to speakers on how to improve certain leadership skills like parliamentary procedure and how to keep our chapters running smoothly.

Helping with the TSA nationals was very educating as a teacher in training. We were able to see all the work that goes into a national conference and the rewards of experience and knowledge all the participating students received. The crazy thing is the teachers that run it are people just like you and me. We are the future teachers of Technology Education, and it's amazing to know that we can also be great, admirable teachers.

Hopefully next summer you will be able to join in on the fun and experience.



## Regionals

### Tiffanie Payne

Regional conferences are coming soon, and we hope that you all will attend your conference. It's important to attend your regional conference because you can learn so much. As teachers we need to open up our eyes to different situations, opinions, and people in order to understand all of our students equally. Also, regionals provide a great learning experience in our professional development. Regional conferences will be held in the following locations:

Western	Co. Springs	November 10,11
S. Western	Pitt State, Kansas	November 17,18
Midwest	Peoria, Illinois	October 27,28
East	Virginia Beach	February 15-17

There will be a national officer at each regional, so we can see everyone in action. If you have any questions about your own regional conference and you don't know where to go to get the answers email me and I'll help you as much as I can at [tipa@cc.usu.edu](mailto:tipa@cc.usu.edu).



## College Spotlight



### Utah State University

TEEC

Russell Olsen, VP

The Technology Engineering Education Club (TEEC) at Utah State University is a small, yet tight-knit group of students. Our membership has been between 10 and 15 students for the last few years. Although we are small in size, we have a very noticeable presence on campus. This presence is mainly due to our support of sporting events with our air cannon that we shoot prizes out of to the crowd. Our club designed and built our air cannon which we mainly shoot the cannon at basketball and football games. TEEC is also part Homecoming activities, A-Day, service projects on campus and at local schools, and are involved in many others.

One of the benefits (among many) that club members receive is the camaraderie and advice from fellow students in the same major. It is common for this to happen during casual time spent relaxing, eating lunch, or doing homework in our club room that is conveniently located in the Industrial Science building, very close to many of our classes for our major.

Our club has attended the national conference for the International Technology Education Association several times in the last few years including the one in Baltimore Maryland in 2006 and Albuquerque New Mexico in 2004. While attending the conference in Baltimore we also took advantage of being so close to our nation's capital, and spent a day in Washington D.C. This trip was the highlight of the year for many of our club members and we are all looking forward to attending the conference in San Antonio Texas in 2007.

### North Carolina State University

Wolfpack TECA

Matt Walton, President

The North Carolina State University TECA Chapter plays an active role not only in the lives of the technology education majors, but also the students in the College of Education and the entire campus of NC State. Our chapter membership is available to all students that take a technology education class and graphic communications class; however, we have approximately 30-35 active members on role. Our chapter meets at least twice a month with the officers meeting when needed or when the president calls a meeting.

Luckily, our chapter has come up with a very creative way for fundraising, other than going to our college council and student government. We have a "Soup and Sandwich" at least once a month. This is where our members and gracious faculty make soups at their homes and bring them to school where TECA sells the soup and sells grilled cheese sandwiches along with drinks and chips. We sell this for around a three hour period in Poe Hall, which houses technology education and the College of Education, and set a reasonable price for an all you can eat or one time experience. With this fundraiser we can sustain our chapter for most activities. We do use the appropriations process that is set forth by our Student Government for supplemental funding.

We are currently growing and undergoing a reorganization period within our chapter this year. We look forward to having a chapter that does more and encompasses additional members. We have the amazing support of our faculty and we would like to thank our advisor Dr. William Haynie for his efforts and love for our chapter and members.

*Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I may not remember. Involve me and I'll understand.*

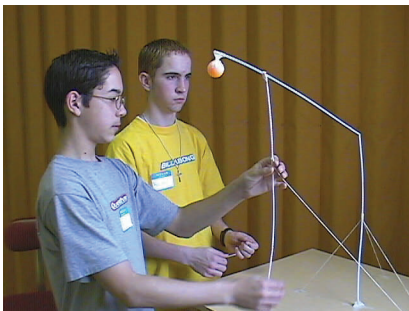
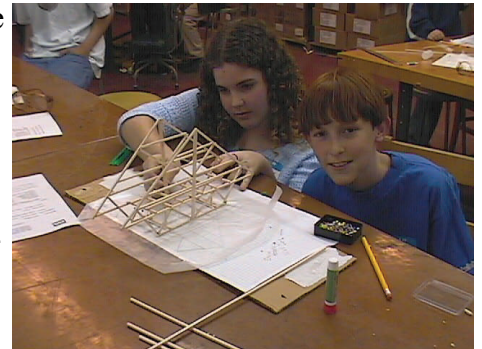
*-A Native American Saying*

## Alumni Page

### Attending a Technology Student Association Conference

Hal Harrison M. Ed. Clemson University

If you think that the TECA competitions are fun and exciting, let me be the first to invite you to attend a Technology Student Association (TSA) conference in your state – it might just be the kind of student organization your future students would find interesting. TSA is the only student organization for middle and high school students enrolled in technology education classes. TSA's mission is to inspire its student members to prepare for careers in a technology-driven economy and culture. The demand for technological expertise is escalating in American industry. In fact, it can be said that TSA is the big brother of TECA and was designed in TSA's image.



Like TECA, TSA members attend conferences to network with peers with the same interests, serve as leaders at the chapter, state, and national level, and compete in a variety of technology-related events. While TECA competitions primarily pertain to the seven technologies of the designed world, TSA has over 60 different competitive events ranging from public speaking to chapter team, and video game design to extemporaneous presentation. TSA serves

more than 200,000 K-12 students in 2,000 schools in 47 states nationwide. Although the membership is open to K-12 students, most members are of high school age. Members often participate in chapter fund-raising activities and community service projects and host social activities.

If you are interested in attending a state TSA conference this coming year, go to the national TSA website, [www.tsaweb.org](http://www.tsaweb.org) for information on a conference in your state or region.



# FAX ////////// Or E-mail ////////// FAX

## 2006 - 2007 TECA Affiliation Form

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Advisor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club/Chapter/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Vice-President: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**FAX TO:** Dr. Peter Wright  
AET Department #64  
California University of PA  
California, PA 15419  
E-mail: [wright\\_p@cup.edu](mailto:wright_p@cup.edu)  
Phone: (724) 938-4031  
FAX: (724) 938-4572

Note: We use a listserv for the Officers. This is to help in the dissemination of information (e.g. newsletter, conference information, awards information) and to facilitate communications between the officers of the different chapters. Please provide accurate student contact information in a legible format.

# FAX ////////// Or E-mail ////////// FAX