



The Maryland Center for Career and Technology Education Studies A Unique Partnership Delivers Needed Professional Development Services To Career And Technology Educators

By **Bob Gray**, Director of MCCTES and Executive Director of Nu Chapter

The Maryland Center for Career and Technology Education Studies (MCCTES) provides leadership and support to local education agencies, educators and community organizations in the development of competent and appropriately educated and certified Career and Technology Education teachers and administrators. Operated by the Baltimore Museum of Industry with guidance and funding support from local school systems and the Maryland State Department of Education, the Center facilitates cooperation among and between local education agencies, the Maryland State Department of Education, the University of Maryland System, community organizations, and businesses.

School systems participating in the MCCTES Consortium include: Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Carroll County, Dorchester County, Harford County, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, St. Mary's County, Queen Anne's County, and Worcester County. Teachers from across the State earn college credit or state workshop credit through the MCCTES. Undergraduate and graduate courses are delivered from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's (UMES) Department of Technology. The Center

has been offering graduate courses since the fall of 1999 when the new Master of Education (M.Ed.) program in Career and Technology Education was implemented by UMES. This professional degree program is designed to prepare teachers and administrators to meet the Advanced Professional Certification (APC) standards in Maryland.

Accomplishments: The Maryland Center for Career and Technology Education Studies has been in operation for six years. During this time, the Center and its staff have provided:

- ◆ Counseling and guidance to over 1,000 Maryland teachers regarding professional development and certification.
- ◆ Undergraduate and graduate coursework to over 500 teachers.
- ◆ State-approved professional development workshops to over 300 teachers.
- ◆ Assisted in the delivery of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Department of Technology courses to teachers across the State.
- ◆ Technical assistance to all 24 Maryland school systems in the area of Career and Technology Education.
- ◆ A venue for over 60 professional meetings and conferences.
- ◆ An Emergency Certification program for Technology Education. This has been a MSDE grant project.
- ◆ An Emergency Certification program for Family and Consumer Sciences. This also has been a MSDE grant project.
- ◆ Administrative support for the Maryland Engineering Challenges, a problem-solving competition for K-12 students. These challenges have been going on since 1990, and more than 1000 students have participated.
- ◆ Management of a Science, Mathematics, and Technology teacher enhancement grant project from Baltimore County. About 50 teachers have participated in this interdisciplinary professional development activity.

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