

# October 2014

## BMIT Fall Workshops

### Business, Marketing and Information Technology Standards

[www.education.ne.gov/nce/ConferencesWorkshops.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/nce/ConferencesWorkshops.html)

The 2014 BMIT workshops will focus on the implementation of course standards within the NCE programs of study as well as literacy training. Teachers will learn instructional strategies designed to help BMIT teachers support the Nebraska English Language Arts Standards.

During the afternoon, you will participate in **Bizz Buzz: Idea Sharing**. You will hear from several BMIT teachers during rotational sessions designed to share their curricula, lesson plans, program offerings and/or best practice strategies. Jessica Feimer will overview EverFi's newest products and register teachers. The new Teaching by Tablet: Digital Delivery of Entrepreneurship Curricula will be introduced, so bring your tablet or laptop.

**Please bring one copy of your business, marketing and information technology course offerings (course title, description and standards), which will be collected for review.**

All secondary and postsecondary business, marketing and information technology teachers as well as preservice business education college students and student teachers are encouraged to register for a date and location that works best for you.

In order to plan for enough resources and meals, please register online at [www.education.ne.gov/nce/ConferencesWorkshops.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/nce/ConferencesWorkshops.html) two weeks in advance of the workshop. Each person attending must register by identifying the workshop location he/she plans to attend. See the BMIT web site - Workshops for complete details.

The six October 2014 workshops offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. will be facilitated by Bonnie Sibert and Bev Newton of the Nebraska Department of Education who are partnering with Partnerships for Innovation (PFI) and postsecondary educators to offer these top-notch professional development opportunities.

#### BMIT Standards Workshops

*9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at all locations*

- Northeast Community College-Norfolk – **Oct. 1**, Norfolk Lifelong Learning Center, Room C & D, 601 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk
- Western Nebraska Community College-Scottsbluff – **Oct. 7**, Harms Advanced Technology Center, The Plex Room, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff
- North Platte Community College, South Campus – **Oct. 8**, McDonald-Belton Bldg., Room 122, North Platte (located south of interstate at 601 West State Farm Road)
- Central Community College-Grand Island – **Oct. 15**, Room 210-211-212, 3134 West Hwy. 34, Grand Island
- ESU 3, Omaha – **Oct. 21**, Calamus/Platte Room, 6949 S. 110th Street, Omaha
- Country Inn and Suites, Lincoln – **Oct. 22**, Nebraska Room, 5353 N. 27th Street (1.3 miles south of Exit 403 from I-80)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Learn Instructional Strategies to Enhance Literacy in Business Classes

Expert Interview? Reciprocal Reading? Four Corners? Share One; Get One? First Impressions? Are you familiar with these English/Language Arts instructional strategies?

In June, English/Language Arts teachers developed a bank of strategies that can be used to support the Nebraska ELA Standards. Following that, over eighty Nebraska secondary teachers representing all disciplines contextualized the strategies. In other words, content teachers provided examples of how those specific strategies can be used in content area classrooms. The strategies are designed to improve student mastery of the Nebraska ELA Standards by providing content-specific teaching strategies that support the ELA standards across all disciplines. A total of 16 business, marketing and information technology (BMIT) teachers were on hand to develop instructional strategies for a wide variety of BMIT courses. Thanks to the following BMIT teachers for their great work:



CIS Team:  
Front row L to R:  
Sydney Kobza, Tennille Gifford, Shelly Mowinkel;  
Back row L to R: Kelly Means, Jacqui Garrison, Janelle Stansberry



BMM Team:  
Front row L to R:  
Lori Anderson, Cindy Talley, Kurk Shrader, Mary Janssen;  
Back row L to R:  
Shannon Quible, Teresa Feick, Maegan Lindquist, Jennifer Davidson, Melissa Schram



### Twitter Users

If you have a Twitter account and would like to get the latest information from Nebraska Career Education, sign up for Twitter and follow Nebraska Career Ed (@NECareerEd).

### Business Analytics Program Offered by UNL CBA

Big data. Business analytics. Data analytics. Behavioral analytics. Companies are collecting volumes of data like never before, about everything from customer shopping habits to how people use the Internet to other aspects of life. Managers need to know how to analyze customer behavior – though the amount of data can be overwhelming.

The UNL College of Business Administration offers a solution to this problem. Last January, they launched four business analytics courses online. The courses include:

- Graduate Business 851: Business Analytics – Broad understanding and knowledge of important business analytic topics and how they can be used to support decision-making in all business areas, government, education and agriculture.
- Economics 817: Intro to Econometrics – An introduction to basic econometric methods, including economic model estimation and analyses of economic data.
- Marketing 850: Strategic Database Marketing – Theory and strategic use of large marketing databases.
- Management 853: Data Mining Applications – Application of quantitative analysis to support managers in identifying actionable information from large amounts of data.

The program is designed to be completed in one year. Students must complete the graduate business and economics courses prior to taking the marketing and management courses. It is recommended to start the program in January and progress through the curriculum in order. Check out

<http://cba.unl.edu/programs/business-analytics>

### NSBEA Fall Conference from Shelly Mowinkel

As I sit down to write, summer is winding down and the excitement around our house increases as we day by day get closer to the school year starting. I hope you have had a re-energizing summer and are ready to begin the fall semester. As President of NSBEA, I have the opportunity to promote the NSBEA Fall Conference.

The Fall Conference will be held in Lincoln on Saturday, November 8, 2014 in the Haymarket. The morning will begin at Hudl—voted as one of the best places to work in Lincoln—a company that creates video software for coaches and athletes. According to Inc. 5000, Hudl is tabbed as the 2013 #1 Company in Nebraska and the 149th fastest growing company in the United States.

After a tour of Hudl, the conference will continue at the Railyard/Canopy Street area in the Haymarket. NSBEA members will transition to Vega and listen to a panel of entrepreneurs led by Will Scott, one of the partners of WRK, LLC. He will discuss the development of the Railyard/Canopy Street and the future vision for the area. The panel will include another entrepreneur and manager with ties to Canopy Street.

The conference will conclude with a demonstration of the “CUBE”—the life-size LED digital screen, and a tour of Canopy Street, the Railyard area and the Hyatt. The NSBEA board meeting will follow the fall conference and will be held at Old Chicago.

For those of you coming from out of town, the Hyatt Downtown-Lincoln has reserved a block of 10 rooms (5 King and 5 Double Queen) on Friday, November 7, 2014 for NSBEA members at a rate of \$119. Please call the Hyatt or book online and use the code: G-NSBE. The rooms will be released on Wednesday, October 8, 2014.

Go ahead, mark your calendars for the NSBEA Fall Conference, Saturday, November 8, 2014. Come and learn about one of the best places to work in Lincoln and explore Canopy Street and the Railyard. I look forward to seeing many of you. Registration forms will be online at [nsbea.org](http://nsbea.org).

## Personal Finance Institute to be held at Northeast Community College July 14-15-16, 2015

Do you teach Personal Finance? Are you interested in revising an existing Personal Finance course to add more rigor? Would you like to earn financial education industry certification? If so, consider attending Nebraska's Personal Finance Institute, to be held at Northeast Community College July 14, 15 and 16, 2015. Accepted participants are also required to enroll for graduate credit (no audits) from either Wayne State College or the University of NE-Lincoln.

Dr. Patricia Arneson of Wayne State College and Dr. Tammie Fischer and Jennifer Davidson of UNL will serve as instructors/facilitators; and guest presenters will be Sherry Roberts, Middle Tennessee State University, and Mike Casey, University of Central Arkansas.

The Personal Finance Institute will be offered as a 1- or 3-hour graduate credit on-campus course from July 14-16, 2015 with all course requirements due on or before July 31. You must do two things to guarantee participation in the Personal Finance Institute:

1. By Friday, May 1, 2015, you must complete the online Personal Finance Institute application to indicate your intention to participate in the Institute. The Personal Finance Institute is limited to the first 35 completed registrations. Apply online at <http://nebraskacouncil.unl.edu> This information is needed before textbooks and resources can be ordered from the publisher(s). When registering, please provide your home mailing address (no PO Box addresses or school addresses). Textbooks from Pearson Publishing can ONLY be shipped to an actual home address.

Prior to the Personal Finance Institute, registrants are required to read and complete textbook homework assignments and readings to be emailed prior to the workshop to the Institute presenters. The pre-work will assist the presenters in customizing instruction to better prepare you for the end-of-workshop certification testing.

2. Register for one of the following on or before May 1 (no one will be allowed to participate in the institute on a non-credit basis).
  - a. WSC - ECO 600 Seminar in Economic Education: Personal Finance Institute (3 credits) for the July session through Wayne State College. No prerequisites in economics are required. Summer registration begins February 23, 2015. To enroll, call the Continuing Education office at Wayne State College (1-800-228-9972 Ext. 7215). Tuition (including fees) is \$687.75. If you have never taken a course through WSC before, an additional \$15 one-time matriculation fee is charged. The deadline for registering for WSC is May 1.
  - b. UNL - Economics 851 (Special Topics in Economics): Economics and Personal Finance course (1 credit) through the University of NE-Lincoln. After submitting your application at <http://nebraskacouncil.unl.edu> by May 1, 2015, applicants will be contacted for the official UNL course registration by the UNL Center for Economic Education, Dr. Tammie Fischer ([tfischer1@unl.edu](mailto:tfischer1@unl.edu)). No prerequisites in economics required.
3. Guffey Scholarships through the Nebraska Council on Economic Education are available to Nebraska K-12 teachers completing the Institute; Registrants at each institution will receive a \$250 scholarship. WSC registrants will receive the \$250 Guffey scholarship check via mail upon completion of the Institute; UNL registrants will have the \$250 Guffey scholarship deducted from their tuition bill. Note: Community college and college/university educators are not eligible for the \$250 scholarship due to Guffey restrictions.

Any Nebraska middle school, secondary and/or 2-or 4-year college educator who intends to implement personal finance into their curriculum is eligible for the Personal Finance Institute. Those participating in the Institute should understand that they are responsible for paying their tuition prior to the Institute. Off-site lodging is your own responsibility, although a discounted housing block will be established at a local Norfolk hotel (probably the Hampton Inn). Meals, one round-trip mileage, WISE Financial Literacy Certification pretest and exams and curriculum teacher resources will be funded by the Institute partners.

At the end of the training, teachers are required to take the WISE financial literacy certification exam. Passing or failing this literacy certification exam will not affect the course grade. However, being able to add an industry certification to your teaching resume is a valuable aspect of professional development!

Participants are required to attend the entire on-campus training sessions, including evening meals, for the 3 days of the Institute, plus take the literacy certification exam. The Institute will run approximately from 8:00 am each day and conclude around 7:30 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, and 4 pm on Thursday. Your registration indicates your commitment to fully attend and participate in the Personal Finance Institute.

Participants should bring a laptop or tablet for use throughout the Institute. Dress is business casual. Rooms can be chilly – please bring a sweater or jacket.

Visit <http://nebraskacouncil.unl.edu> to view the tentative agenda and complete the Personal Finance Institute online application, which is due by May 1. Deadline application reminders will be sent through future BMIT listserv announcements.



Nebraska Money Smart Week  
November 3-9, 2014

*Money Smart Week* is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. Groups come together once a year to stress the importance of financial literacy, inform consumers where they can get help and provide free educational seminars and activities throughout the week. If your BMIT department, FBLA and/or DECA Chapters want to get involved, visit [www.moneysmartnebraska.org/get-involved/](http://www.moneysmartnebraska.org/get-involved/).



## From Crete to Wall Street

by Jennifer Coe, Crete High School

Wall Street and the New York Stock Exchange in New York City are very different from Main Street of Crete and Crete High School, but Jennifer Coe, a Crete High business teacher, was able to experience the center of the nation's financial capital first-hand. She applied and was accepted to the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) Teacher's Workshop Program and spent the week of June 22-27, 2014 with 30 teachers from around the U.S. learning about the capital raising process, the NYSE's trading platforms and strategies to teach about financial markets in the classroom.

Each day the teachers got to learn from the experts with presenters representing different departments of the NYSE organization sharing information and answering questions. Topics included history and changes of the NYSE, roles of the floor brokers and designated market makers, futures, options, steps to an IPO, regulation, exchange traded products, clearance and settlement and how the different parts of the NYSE corporation work together. Time was also spent each day working as teacher groups on how to implement the information in the classroom. Highlights of the week were several visits to the floor of the NYSE, networking lunches with professionals, a visit from Duncan Niederauer, President of Intercontinental Exchange, NYSE: ICE and a visit to the Museum of American Finance. After teacher workshop sessions, participants had evenings to explore New York City. For more information and pictures of Mrs. Coe's trip please visit a blog of her experience at <http://fromcretetowallstreet.blogspot.com/>.

The Teacher's Workshop Program, which is sponsored by the NYSE, is in its 27th year.

There are three one-week sessions and one graduate section offered each summer and a competitive fellowship available to teachers that apply and are chosen to defray travel expenses. For more information about the program, visit the NYSE Teacher's Workshop website at <http://goo.gl/vb2Y34>. This once-in-a-lifetime experience is available to elementary, middle school and high school teachers of any discipline where these concepts are taught. Applications are due at the beginning of May each year.

## New Honors Program for Business Students to Begin Fall 2015 at UNO

The College of Business Administration (CBA) at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) is excited to announce a new honors program, designed specifically for students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. The program will prepare high-achieving students to be the business leaders of tomorrow through rigorous academic work, strong connections to local businesses and a broadened worldview through travel abroad and community service.

Many classes in a variety of business topics will be reserved just for students in the program, allowing those who excel in the classroom to challenge each other. Students will also have streamlined access to professionals in the business community through monthly mentorship programs, corporate visits, workshops and internships.

Twenty students will be selected for the program each year, with the first cohort admitted for fall 2015. All students in the program will receive a \$2,500 scholarship each academic year and a one-time \$2,000 scholarship to study abroad; these scholarships are stackable with other scholarships available through UNO and CBA. Applications for the program will open in mid- to late-October.

Questions regarding the College of Business Administration Honors Program may be directed to Bethany Hughes, Director of the CBA Honors Program, at [bjbhughes@unomaha.edu](mailto:bjbhughes@unomaha.edu), 402-554-3912.

### CBA Honors Academy at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The College of Business Administration (CBA) Honors Academy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is currently recruiting high school seniors to join the program in Fall 2015. Since beginning in Fall 2013, the Academy has attracted high-ability student leaders from all across the country to come to UNL for a four-year, cohort-based, enhanced business education. Each year, 40-45 students are selected into the Academy where they complete most of their foundation and core business courses together as a cohort using action-based learning focused on the development of critical thinking, technical and communication skills. These classes, taught by top faculty, allow students to discuss and develop solutions for real-world business problems and create the social and intellectual bonds necessary to ready students for the ever-changing business world. Outside of the classroom, Academy students create a strong social community, attend monthly leadership workshops with prominent community figures and visit with corporate executives from across the country.

To kick off the inaugural year of leadership workshops, the Academy hosted Tim Miles, UNL Men's Basketball Coach, to learn about teamwork and how to gain trust and buy-in from the community. The first-year students also took their first corporate trip to Kansas City to visit a variety of businesses including Cerner, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Google Fiber, Kansas City Startup Village, Big Brothers Big Sisters of KC and Sporting KC. The trip allowed students to experience the breadth of corporate cultures and gain a better understanding of how different types of businesses operate. "My favorite moment since I've been at UNL was definitely the Kansas City trip," said current student Angela Cuadros. "It was a fantastic opportunity to meet CEOs from the Kansas City area and see what some of our futures may potentially look like. It really reassured me that I'm in the right place; I'm with the right people and I'm following a career path and passion that I'm going to be happy with for the rest of my life."

The rising second-year Academy students have used their enhanced experiences to secure internships early in their academic careers at companies that include Hudl, Merrill Lynch, Bulu Box, Platte Valley Bank and the UNL Athletic Department.

If you know a student who would be well suited for the CBA Honors Academy, please encourage them to come for a campus visit and apply by November 15, 2014. See below for more information about our application and selection timeline:

- Prior to November 1: Apply to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- By November 15: Complete Honors Application on MyRed. Specify CBA Honors Academy.
- Mid December: Selected candidates invited to on-campus interviews.
- January/February: On-campus interviews.
- Early March: Offers to join the CBA Honors Academy extended.

Academy staff will be in attendance at most of the October BMIT Fall Workshops and will provide further information about the program. If you have additional questions, visit <http://cba.unl.edu/honorsacademy> or contact Associate Director, Erin Burnette at [eburnette2@unl.edu](mailto:eburnette2@unl.edu).



## RESOURCES

### Elementary Keyboarding Resources

Lincoln Public Schools is currently doing a review of elementary keyboarding software. Kent Steen chairs a taskforce that is reviewing a wide variety of keyboarding and computer literacy applications. A few of the packages that were reviewed are included with a short synopsis of each that was submitted by the company representative. Lincoln Public Schools will be piloting several keyboarding packages this fall. At a later date Kent will share with us their recommendation for the district-wide adoption for Lincoln elementary schools.

**QwertyTown** was created by two elementary school educators, Paul and Dave, to address the glaring need for a keyboarding web application that enhances digital literacy and teaches the skills necessary to be proficient online communicators. They acknowledged that keyboarding and online communication skills are fundamental components of literacy for today's students, whether it is to collaborate with peers, publish projects to the web or simply chat with teachers and classmates.

#### Here's a little bit about QwertyTown

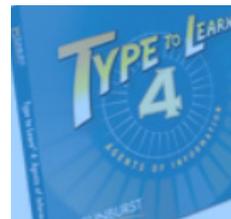
QwertyTown is a web-based keyboarding app that teaches typing and online communication skills to elementary and middle school students. While becoming fluent communicating with a keyboard, students are learning how to interact in an online environment. With the Chatterbox (communication) features, QwertyTown addresses the need for keyboarding instruction in the context of communication for all academic, social and professional purpose. This environment will prepare them with a fundamental skill set essential for academic and professional success in the 21st century. Keyboarding and online communication skills are recognized by The Common Core State Standards as essential to a student's success. QwertyTown addresses all of the CCSS required for K-8 students.



#### The Teacher/Admin Experience

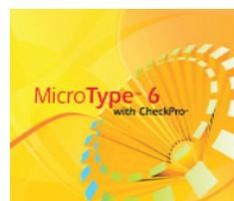
QwertyTown equips teachers, administrators and parents with tools that make it easy to monitor users' communications and overall experience. They have the ability to differentiate instruction by adding, removing and customizing individual communication features such as instant messaging and emailing. QwertyTown values the importance of delivering detailed data about users' performance in a fast and easy format. Parents and teachers always have the ability to adjust performance benchmarks in lessons and level challenges.

For further information, contact Paul Garofano, [paul@qwertytown.com](mailto:paul@qwertytown.com), 646.522.4343 or Dave Grammertstorf, [dave@qwertytown.com](mailto:dave@qwertytown.com) at Second Nature Learning, LLC.



**Type to Learn 4** from Sunburst continues to be a quality elementary keyboarding application that is available in network and web-enabled versions. Type to Learn 4: Agents of Information® will improve student typing speed and accuracy by teaching how to type more efficiently. Type to Learn® 4 keyboarding software has 34 lessons, 5 engaging, skill-targeted typing games with each lesson, and 7 assessments. The User Management area allows administrators to create, edit, delete and import students and teachers. Developed on a research-based method of sequential, cumulative touch typing instruction, Type to Learn 4 builds critical 21st Century skills for all keyboarding students in grades K-12.

For further information, contact James Hanson, Nebraska Sales Rep for Sunburst, [jbanson@sunburst.com](mailto:jbanson@sunburst.com).



**MicroType 6.0** – This sixth version of **MicroType** introduces keyboarding and skillbuding reinforcement—



and combines document checking using **CheckPro** along with Microsoft® Office 2013.

Separate versions for **Century 21 Computer Skills and Application 10e** and **Century 21 Digital Information Management 10e**, and **Century 21 Jr. Computer Application 3e**

- **Keyboarding Lessons**—with timed writings, skill builders, communication skills and textbook keying
- **New Reference Features** for communications, Word 2013 document formats and movies
- **New Document Checker** in the **CheckPro** feature for **Word, Excel** and **PowerPoint® 2013** documents
- **Enhanced Teacher Utilities** with reports and grade book

The changes between MicroType 5 and MicroType 6 are minimal. They have the same menu interface; the main difference is the documents used in CheckPro (Word and Excel 2013); and the textbook keying drills and timed writings are unique to the Century 21 Computer Skills and Applications, 10e, text. MicroType 6 will be available with CheckPro for the newest keyboarding titles. (C21 CSA and DIM). Also, a big difference will be that MicroType 6 is compatible with Office 2013 and the most current version of Windows 8.

For further information, contact Kristin McDonald, Nebraska Sales Rep for Cengage Learning (South-Western), [kristin.mcdonald@cengage.com](mailto:kristin.mcdonald@cengage.com).

**EduTyping Jr.** from B.E. Publishing is a web-based keyboarding software with no software to install, update or maintain and is compatible with PC, Mac, Linux and all major Internet browsers. Its feature-rich Instructor Control Center helps teachers manage classes and students. To see a list of Nebraska schools using EduTyping, visit [www.edutyping.com/ne](http://www.edutyping.com/ne), where you can also sign up for a trial version. Pricing is available for annual transferrable student licenses with renewal licenses receiving a 20 percent discount. Contact 888.781,6921 or [sales@bepublishing.com](mailto:sales@bepublishing.com).



### BMIT and NEFBLA Listserve

*Has your email address  
recently changed?*

If you are a business, marketing or information technology teacher, you are encouraged to subscribe to the BMIT Listserve. If you are an FBLA adviser, you should also subscribe to the NEFBLA Listserve.

Please follow the directions on the BMIT Listserve link on the BMIT website. Once you are subscribed, you can send a regular email message to [bmit@lists.k12.ne.us](mailto:bmit@lists.k12.ne.us) OR [nefbla@lists.k12.ne.us](mailto:nefbla@lists.k12.ne.us).

## Educate-Engage-Empower Entrepreneurs: The E4 Factor

by Gregg Christensen

Nebraska Career Education has intentionally and strategically incorporated entrepreneurship into the NCE Model. If you look at the outer rim of the model, it's visually represented on an equal footing with employment as the outcome of career education. Why? Entrepreneurs have been the creators of jobs in our economy while large corporations continue to downsize.

But...while some assume that Americans are entrepreneurs by nature and that entrepreneurship is a "given" in our economy, the facts speak differently. We are actually not the leaders in innovation and entrepreneurship anymore. The U.S. now ranks 12th (yes, 12th) among developed nations in startup activity. And, China has surpassed us in patent applications. All CTE teachers, but especially BMIT teachers, can be key to reversing that trend.

Whether you teach an entrepreneurship course or are looking for news, resources or curriculum, there are an array of websites, e-newsletters, and listservs literally a few key strokes away to help you.

The Nebraska Entrepreneurship Education website, [www.education.ne.gov/entreped/importance.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/entreped/importance.html), is focused on Nebraska e-ship and includes the National Standards, events information, student and instructor resources and information from the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force (NETForce).

Also, if you want to receive timely news and information, sign up for the Entrepreneurship Education listserv at <http://lists.k12.ne.us/www/subscribe/entre-ed>. Regular "Nebraska E-News and Views" are posted, usually on Fridays, that keep you up to date and point out new resources. Don't want to sign up for the listserv, but have a question related to teaching entrepreneurship? Email me at [gregg.christensen@nebraska.gov](mailto:gregg.christensen@nebraska.gov).



For example, in a recent posting, I highlighted some of my favorite sites. Here they are in no particular order:

### **Nebraskaentrepreneurship.com -**

[www.nebraskaentrepreneurship.com/](http://www.nebraskaentrepreneurship.com/)

This site is a wonderful place to find news, videos, special topics, calendar of events information and resources. Whether you are an entrepreneur or an entrepreneurship teacher/instructor, it's full of great information. Recent postings include articles about [www.DrumAngle.com](http://www.DrumAngle.com) and the Kauffman Foundation's grant to Pipeline, plus videos highlighting NMotion's Accelerator for startups and Strive, a live video streaming platform for high schools.

### **TheBigPlate.com -** <http://thebigplate.com/>

The Big Plate is designed as a way for entrepreneurs, artists and innovators to connect, collaborate and create. Sign up is free and it gives you anywhere, anytime access to a network of smart startups. The Big Plate website offers articles, case studies and a great blog plus hosts Thursday Morning Open Coffees in the Haymarket area of Lincoln. The Calendar of Events on the site is definitely worth checking periodically.

### **Silicon Prairie News -**

[www.siliconprairienews.com/](http://www.siliconprairienews.com/)

Silicon Prairie News interviews the region's

*E4 continued on page 14*

### INFORMATON TECHNOLOGY

#### Google Doc Resources

Google recently released a few *interesting updates* to its Drive applications. One important update that was shared on July 2, 2014 by Tech & Learning is called Suggested Edits. This new feature is great for collaborative work on Google Docs. Before, when you shared a Google document with your collaborators and granted them the editing rights they could edit anything in it. But with Suggested Edits you, as the owner of the document, can control this editing process by allowing collaborators to make only suggestions that you can either accept or reject. This new feature is not available on Google Docs for mobile. *Check it out!*

#### Resources for Computer Science

During the 2014 NCE Conference, Jacob Knutson, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, chaired a panel of top information technology industry leaders as they discussed the future of information technology in Nebraska and related career opportunities. The knowledge and skills students should have before they leave high school was discussed. Panel members included Amanda Adams, Xpanxion; Greg Nichols, Proxibid and Susan Thaden, Client Resources, Inc. Their recommendations, which included the following online resources, have been linked to the BMIT website – Curriculum – Information Technology Career Cluster – Programming and Software Development. With so many IT jobs going unfilled each year, use these IT industry leaders' panel presentation with your students to get them thinking about preparing for a technology career in Nebraska.

#### Learning Resources

<https://www.learnstreet.com/>

<http://code.org/learn>

<http://scratch.mit.edu/educators/>

<http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/>

#### Nebraska Teachers

<http://www.nebraskacsta.org/>

#### Careers

<http://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-2/careers-in-growing-field-of-information-technology-services.htm>



"We know that the nation that goes all-in on innovation today will own the global economy tomorrow. This is an edge America cannot surrender." ~ Barack Obama

## CSOs in Action

### Nebraska FBLA Ready to Step Up to the Challenge

Nebraska FBLA experienced “excellence in action” at the 2014 National Leadership Conference (NLC) when members brought home 30 Top Ten awards, including the following 3 first-place recognitions:

- Wyatt Story, Natalie Elwood and Brenna Backemeyer from Elmwood-Murdock, American Enterprise Project
- Ojus Jain, Elliot Sandfort and Alicia Zeng from Lincoln East, Global Business
- Dylan Steinkruger from Minden, Cody McCain from Tri County, Abi Sheen from Kearney and Anna Bauerle from Chase County

Susan Wellman from Syracuse was honored as Nebraska’s Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser. Recognized as Nebraska’s recipient for Who’s Who in FBLA was Trevor Koger from Arlington. Complete NLC results can be found on the Nebraska FBLA [website](#).

The 2014-2015 FBLA State Officer Team has developed an energetic program of work based on the new state theme, “Step Up to the Challenge.” New state projects include the Connect with Business program, which encourages chapters to partner with community businesses to expand business opportunities for members. StepUp2Tech offers recognition to chapters that expand the use of technology—both for chapter communication and for competitive events.

Nebraska FBLA kicks off the conference season with the 2014 Fall Leadership Conferences hosted in Kearney on September 23 and Omaha on September 24. Jonathan Sprinkles keynotes with his presentation, Be the One. Members and advisers will be introduced to Nebraska’s new programs and competitive events.

Nebraska FBLA includes over 5,400 members in more than 150 chapters in Nebraska secondary and middle-level schools. If you don’t have an FBLA chapter in your school, the state officers and Bev Newton, State Adviser, would like to help you charter a chapter. FBLA provides members with leadership development programs, community service opportunities, business professional connections and nationwide networking. Adviser benefits include professional development, leadership opportunities and growth in class enrollments.

We don’t want you or your students to miss out on the FBLA benefits. Contact Nebraska FBLA today!



Nebraska FBLA’s award winning Parliamentary Procedure Team.

### Nebraska PBL Captures Six First-Place Awards and 52 Top Ten Honors

For the third year in a row, Nebraska Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) received six first-place awards at the National Leadership Conference (NLC) held in Nashville, Tennessee.

Overall, Nebraska PBL finished with 52 Top Ten awards, the most ever, which placed the state on top of all of the other states represented. This was the first time Nebraska PBL has ranked first in terms of total awards garnered at an NLC.

Approximately 80 Nebraska PBL members, advisers, and guests attended the annual conference held June 24-27. Nearly 1,700 of America's best and brightest college students traveled to the historic city of Nashville to make some history of their own as they showcased their talents as future business leaders and vied for the opportunity to win over \$79,000 in cash awards.

At the opening general session, University of Nebraska-Lincoln PBL member, Shannon Ronhovde from Eagle, sang the national anthem.



For the second time in three years, Nebraska PBL will be represented by two individuals as members of the Phi Beta Lambda's National Officer Team. Kevin Thor (Stanton) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will serve as secretary on the team. Thor is currently serving as Nebraska

PBL's Vice President of Communication. Excited to be serving at the national level, Thor stated, "Being elected as a PBL national officer is an unbelievable opportunity. I can't wait to continue to be inspired and inspire members from across the nation to achieve their goals and aspirations as business leaders."

Jenna Woitaszewski (Wood River) was appointed as the Parliamentarian for receiving the highest score on the Parliamentary Procedure examination. Currently, Woitaszewski serves as president of the Nebraska PBL chapter. Like Thor, Woitaszewski is



pleased to have the opportunity to serve at the national level. She noted, "Being appointed to a national officer position means being able to serve as an ambassador for this great organization. It has always been a goal of mine to show my leadership on the national level and I'm honored for the chance to actually do it. I'm really looking forward to the upcoming year!"

Out of the 52 national awards won by its members and chapters, Nebraska PBL had six first-place winners, with three of those representing Peru State College.

#### First Place

- Rebekha Dostal and Amy Poole, Peru State College – Business Sustainability
- Allie Buesing, Lydia Lusk and Preston Sunneberg, Peru State College – Community Service Project
- Tyler Wellman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Financial Services
- Sergey Ratakhin, Peru State College – Networking Concepts
- Ashely Quiring, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Word Processing
- North Platte Community College – Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

#### Second Place

- Jacob Long, Alex Wessels and Zach Zobel, Peru State College – Business Decision Making
- Veronica Waddell, McCook Community College – Desktop Publishing
- Kevin Thor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Human Resource Management
- Jamie Theye, Peru State College – Organizational Behavior & Leadership
- Julia Downey, Stacy Manson, Lisa Poppe and Jenna Woitaszewski, Doane College – Parliamentary Procedure Team

**Second Place continued**

- Stacy Manson, Doane College – Small Business Management Plan
- Lance English, Doane College – Sports Management & Marketing
- Beth Ebmeier and Jenna McCleary, Northeast Community College – Strategic Analysis & Decision Making
- Ashley Noltensmeier and Veronica Waddell, McCook Community College – Website Design
- Erin Mitchell, North Platte Community College – Word Processing

**Third Place**

- Kevin Thor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Business Presentation
- Sergey Ratakhin, Peru State College – Cyber Security
- Tyler Wellman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Financial Analysis & Decision Making

**Fourth Place**

- Shannon Ronhovde and Brooke Sullivan, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Community Service Project
- Priscilla Vega, North Platte Community College – Computer Applications
- Grant Moore and Ashley Noltensmeier, McCook Community College – Desktop Publishing

**Fifth Place**

- Cassandra Dishman, North Platte Community College – Computer Applications
- Michael Wallace, Northeast Community College – Economic Analysis & Decision Making
- Mark Clifton, University of Nebraska Omaha – Financial Concepts
- Lauren Stewary, Peru State College – Hospitality Management
- Charlotte Grooms, Rachel Henry and Preston Sunneberg, Peru State College – Integrated Marketing Campaign
- Ryan Klein, Doane College – Management Analysis & Decision Making

**Sixth Place**

- Julia Downey and Taylor Ziegler, Doane College – Emerging Business Issues
- John Beal, Derrick Davis and Dustin Gerdes, Peru State College – Network Design
- Alex Wessels, Peru State College – Sales Presentation

**Seventh Place**

- Mark Clifton, University of Nebraska Omaha – Marketing Concepts
- Tyler Pooschk, Doane College – Microeconomics
- Marshall Klontz, Peru State College – Retail Management

- Charlotte Grooms, Jacob Long and Zach Zobel, Peru State College – Small Business Management Plan

**Eighth Place**

- Ashley Quiring, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Business Communication
- Lauren Stewart, Peru State College – Client Service
- Rachel Henry, Peru State College – Future Business Executive
- Erin Mitchell, North Platte Community College – Information Management
- Peru State College – Local Chapter Annual Business Report
- Dylan Countryman, Southeast Community College–Milford – Macroeconomics
- Ryan Arnold and Amanda Jo Cleek, Peru State College – Management Analysis & Decision Making
- Grant Moore, McCook Community College – Management Concepts
- Jamie Theye, Peru State College – Retail Management

**Ninth Place**

- Cassandra Kennedy, Doane College – Future Business Educator
- Jenna Woitaszewski, Doane College – Public Speaking

### Tenth Place

- Leslee Damrow, Doane College – Cost Accounting
- Tyler Pooschke, Doane College – Economic Analysis & Decision Making
- Ryan Arnold and Amanda Jo Cleek, Peru State College – Integrated Marketing Campaign
- Amy Demers, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Personal Finance
- Marshall Klontz, Peru State College – Sports Management & Marketing
- Gary Brunckhorst and Michelle Haselhorst, Northeast Community College – Strategic Analysis & Decision Making

### Other Recognitions

Jenna Woitaszewski was Nebraska's selection for the national Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda.

Dr. Sheri Grotrian-Ryan from Peru State College was recognized as Nebraska's Outstanding Adviser of the Year.

Julie Hart from North Platte Community College was the only PBL member in the Mountain Plains Region to earn the President's Award for completing all levels of the Career and Membership Achievement Program (CMAP).

The North Platte Community College and Peru State College chapters were recognized as Gold Seal Chapters of Merit.

In addition, State Adviser Ted Harshbarger began his term as the Chair for the National FBLA-PBL Board of Directors following the conclusion of the FBLA-PBL conferences. Harshbarger, the 18-year state adviser for Nebraska PBL, will serve as the Chairman of the Board for the 2014-15 year and then will have a term as Past Chair during the 2015-16 year.



### Nebraska Public Schools at a Glance

Do you know the average years of teaching experience in Nebraska public Schools? Using Nebraska Department of Education State of the Schools Report for 2012-13, the average years of teaching experience for staff was 15.03. Teachers with Master's Degrees represented 51.13% of all Nebraska teachers. The average teacher salary was \$48,995. Source: Nebraska Career Education @NECareerEd using 2012-13 State of the Schools Report

### Calendars

#### Business, Marketing and Information Technology

[www.education.ne.gov/BMIT/conferences-workshops.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/BMIT/conferences-workshops.html)

#### Career Education Standards

<http://cestandards.education.ne.gov>

#### Nebraska DECA

[www.nedeca.org](http://www.nedeca.org)

#### Nebraska FBLA

[nebraskafbla.org](http://nebraskafbla.org)

#### Nebraska Career Education Calendar

[www.education.ne.gov/NCE/Calendar.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/NCE/Calendar.html)

#### Nebraska Department of Education Master Calendar

<http://ndecalendar.mhsoftware.com/>

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startups and established companies and announces events. The “tabs” on the website include News, Profiles, Opinions, Videos and a Job Board. You can choose editions for Omaha, Des Moines, Kansas City and National. I especially enjoy viewing the videos captured at Big Omaha. From a Midwest region perspective, the Calendar of Events is a wonderful resource.

#### QuickBooks DOCSTOC - [www.docstoc.com/](http://www.docstoc.com/)

Docstoc has a wealth of documents and content including articles, videos and wonderful infographics.

#### *SmartBrief on Entrepreneurs*

SmartBrief on Entrepreneurs provides a daily snapshot of topics for entrepreneurs with news from leading sources. It’s nice because it has summaries that give you a quick chance to scan the topic and decide whether to read the whole article.

This is by no means a complete list, so if you have websites, newsletters or blogs you highly recommend, please send me the link. I promise to share them with others in future E-News and Views.

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