

**CTEI Career and Technical Educators of Idaho
Summer Conference 2016
Award Recognitions**



Matthew Noble

ACTE New Teacher of the Year Award 2016

A student wrote, “He inspires his students to set goals and work hard to achieve them. Because of his encouragement, in and out of the classroom, I have achieved things that I never thought were possible.

He goes the extra mile on a regular basis to help his students. He stays late and works with students to help them in their classwork and their competitive event choices.

He makes sure that students are ready for and excited about their competitions, and he does this in the course content but somehow ties it to our events. He gets us excited about our classes by encouraging us to be part of the BPA chapter.

On a daily basis, he asks BPA members who are competing, “Will you be going to Boston?” His encouragement inspired me to work hard and to be prepared for my event.

He is a positive force for good in our community. He is influencing a lot of lives by helping students realize their potential. I've never heard him say anything negative about anything or anyone. He is always building up others and helping them realize that they can do anything they set their mind to.



Melinda Pals
ACTE Teacher of the Year Award 2016

Melinda Pals came into teaching a bit later than some, but has thrived as not only an educator, but as a CTE educator. Spending time in retail, as a conference coordinator and in the mortgage industry made a wonderful foundation for teaching Family & Consumer Sciences. Melinda is highly involved in her school and school district as well as IATFACS, CTEI, NATFACS and ACTE, serving as an officer, board member or committee member. She is also a long-standing Idaho FCCLA advisor and board member, serving her PTSO in multiple ways. She tirelessly gives of her time and talents to assure her classroom is a productive learning environment and any organization she involves herself with becomes a bit better having had her involvement. Melinda Pals is a strong advocate for both education and CTE and she represents both well for Idaho and the nation.



Tonja Bowcut
ACTE Postsecondary Teacher of the Year Award 2016

It was said, “She was hired to develop the Dental Assisting instructional program at the College of Southern Idaho. When hired, the program did not even own a tooth pick, let alone dental equipment, chairs, and X-ray equipment. From those beginnings, an outstanding career program has been developed.

“she is just a tiny little person in her physical being. However, she is a giant in the area of Career Education. She recruits students, instructs them in the skills of the profession, and maintains contact with the graduates of the program. She contributes her talents for the College and the Community.

She also has fun at her job. On recruitment days, she might dress as the Tooth Fairy. This may seem a little silly, but it brings students to her program. Students enjoy learning from a real instructor like:

Tonja Bowcut, CSI’s Dental Assistant program Director.