

Arkansas Tech University

Professional Development Grant  
Final Report

Association of Teacher Educators 2012 Summer Conference  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
August 3 – 7, 2012

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## B. Restatement of Professional Enhancement Opportunity

The Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) Summer Conference entitled *Living and Learning across a Lifetime* was in Cambridge, MA, August 3 - 7, 2012. My presentation was *Walking the tightrope – educator, mentor, and evaluator – where do you draw the line and where do you cross it?* This conference proved to be extremely beneficial for my professional growth and aligned well with Arkansas Tech University's (ATU) Mission Statement. Furthermore, I presented with Dr. Regina Thomason and Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim on the initiative to incorporate aspects of the EMPACTS model into the field experiences of ATU Early Childhood Education (ECED) students. This mutual presentation, "Living and Giving: Academic Civic Engagement across the Curriculum", illustrated the history of EMPACTS and communicated ATU students' experiences using aspects of this model in their field experiences.

## C. Brief Review

The ATE 2012 Summer Conference afforded me the opportunity to attend the Leadership Academy which is a venue for preparing future leaders for the organization. Through networking, I have been asked to review a book and submit the subsequent report to one of the ATE professional journals. Additionally, I have been asked to serve on the ATE National Credentials Committee. I was made a part of planning a pre-conference session on technology for the upcoming 2013 Annual Meeting. In addition to renewing associations made at previous conferences, I was able to meet other colleagues who are active both regionally and nationally.

## D. Summary of Experiences

While attending the ATE 2012 Summer Conference, in addition to presenting individually and with a team of two other Arkansas Tech University faculty members, I attended many informative sessions where

current research was presented, past goals reviewed and future developments in education explored. New technologies were investigated in the “21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom”, a display set up to allow conference participants to have hands-on experience in working with new applications, learning tools and equipment being placed in classrooms at the present time.

#### E. Conclusion

In conclusion, the experiences gave me the opportunity to grow as a professional, both through presenting and collaborating with other lifelong learners. The theme of the conference, *Living and Learning across a Lifetime*, proved to be representative of the sessions, associations and experiences provided that supported the conference, such as the history tours made available in the Boston area for all participants. The sense of history that pervades the region added a unique backdrop to the valuable information that was both shared and received.



Gmail - ATE

<https://mail.google.com/mail/?ui=2&ik=11bb32a104&view=pt&q=A...>



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**ATE**

1 message

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**David Ritchey** <dritchey@ate1.org>  
Reply-To: dritchey@ate1.org  
To: spepper@atu.edu

Fri, May 11, 2012 at 9:24 AM

Dear Stephanie Puckett Pepper,

Congratulations! Your proposal has been accepted for presentation at ATE's 2012 Summer Conference in Boston at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge, August 3-7, 2012. Scheduling should be completed in a week or so, and we will send out information at that time on when your session is scheduled.

In order to be included in the official Program Book, all presenters must register to attend the Summer Conference. As session organizer, please contact any other presenters for your session and let them know the session has been accepted. Registration information is available at the following link: [http://www.ate1.org/pubs/ATE\\_2012\\_Summer\\_Co.cfm](http://www.ate1.org/pubs/ATE_2012_Summer_Co.cfm).

If you or one of your presenters is unable to attend, I would appreciate it if you could let me know as soon as possible. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact us either by return email or phone, 703-331-0911. Thanks for your participation, and again congratulations on your work!

David Ritchey, Executive Director  
Association of Teacher Educators