

**Arkansas Tech University**

**Professional Development Grant**

**Final Report**

**Association of Teacher Educators 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**February 11 – 15, 2012**

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1. The Association of Teacher Educators 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting was held in San Antonio, Texas, from February 11 – 15, 2012. The theme selected for 2012 was *Creating a Global Community of Learners: Guiding the Future of Education*. My purpose for attending the Association of Teacher Educators 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in San Antonio were as follows: (1) to serve in the capacity appointed by former ATE President, Dr. Annette Digby, to promote postsecondary partnerships, particularly with community colleges in Arkansas and other states; (2) to network with colleagues throughout the nation and other countries; (3) to promote innovative and best practices in my classes and the teacher education program in order to enhance learning and learner success; (4) to retain currency in the field of teacher education; (5) to attend the Leadership Academy (invitation only), and (6) to enhance and gain knowledge and skills that enhance my professional growth.
  
2. I attended the meeting of the National Commission on Community Colleges of Teacher Education in which we discussed partnerships, issues and exemplary programs that encourage student success as they transfer to university programs. We are looking into writing a manuscript for publication regarding these issues. I also attended the Leadership Academy, which was very informative. Our meeting was held on site of the Alamo. We had several informative speakers about the culture, history, and events surrounding this historic event. We also participated in ATE Leadership activities. Also, I attended the National Planning Committee for the February, 2014 Conference, which is truly a great honor for me.  
  
I especially enjoyed the General Sessions and in particular, Dr. Carol Tomlinson, faculty member and Chair of the University of Virginia's Department of Educational Leadership, Foundations, and Policy. Her comments and research are easily applied on a grassroots level to how to deal positively with students and how to increase their chances of success.
  
3. On a personal development level, I value the experiences gained through professional development opportunities (sessions, commissions, Leadership Academy and other functions), interacting with colleagues in the field, presenting scholarly works, and staying current on educational trends and

technology. I also look forward to sharing this information with my students and adapting the curriculum and instructional experiences based on new knowledge and skills gained at this conference.

4. In conclusion, the 92<sup>nd</sup> ATE annual meeting not only enhanced my professional capabilities, but also provided an avenue for me to stay abreast of future trends and current best practices in teacher education. While attending the conference, networking opportunities assisted me in making professional contacts throughout the academic community for me and other ATU colleagues; in gaining valuable knowledge needed for teaching, teacher education and program development; and in discovering innovative practices and how they might apply to improving practice in my classes at ATU. Thank you, Arkansas Tech, for affording me this opportunity.

