

**2013 Annual ICHRIE summer
conference**

A Double Tree by Hilton Hotel

July 24-27

Sat. Louis Union Station

Seungsuk Lee, Ph.D.

Professional Development Grant Report

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Restatement of problem researched, creative work or professional enhancement opportunity:

I attended the 2013 Annual International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (ICHRIE) summer conference at the double tree hotel in St. Louis from July 24 to July 28, 2013. This ICHRIE conference provided me an opportunity to bring some potential internship opportunities to hospitality and culinary majors when I met a lot of industry professionals and professors. I was able to represent Arkansas Tech university's Hospitality administrations in a session of the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA).

Brief review of the professional enhancement opportunity, creative work, or research procedure:

The 2013 Annual International Council on Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education (ICHRIE) summer conference encourages academic and professional collaboration and networking with hospitality industry professionals and educators. This conference provides educator and marketplace sessions to hospitality educators to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, research ideas, and industry trends.

The purpose of this conference was to attend all education and marketplace sessions including the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA). I was able to obtain updated information and procedures of ACPHA. Also, I could find recent trends in hospitality field and new research topics. I had the opportunity to network with hospitality industry professionals and was able to have internship opportunities for hospitality and culinary majors from the marketplace sessions.

Summary of findings, outcomes or experiences had:

There were two reasons that I wanted to attend at the ICHRIE conference. First, once I participated in the session of ACPHA, I could obtain more updated information and through the ACPHA session, we shared experiences of ACPHA process such as what not to do and what should do. I met ACPHA representatives who will visit our hospitality program when we request a site visitation. This was a good chance to know each other before the ACPHA reaccreditation is started. The accreditation process required three major parts: 1) a programmatic self-analysis, 2) an evaluation by professional colleagues, and 3) a review and decision by the Commission. Through self-study analysis, I could find that our hospitality program must use the standards to analyze its effectiveness, strengths and weaknesses and to work towards improvement. This is the first step and most important part to be on the right track in the process of the accreditation.

I had a good opportunity to meet industry professionals and could have more information about new technology, products, and services in hospitality fields. I was able to bring more internship opportunities to hospitality and culinary students who wanted to have their internships in other states.

Conclusion and Recommendation:

Through the ICHRIE conference, I had the excellent opportunities to network with hospitality industry professionals and professors from other institutions of higher education. Especially, the session of ACPHA was very useful and informative for our hospitality program once we are preparing on the reaccreditation of hospitality program. I was able to represent not only Arkansas Tech University but also the department of Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration.