

NCATE TODAY – December 9, 2005



Dear Colleagues, let us be mindful of the hard work and dedication given by so many to prepare for the 2005 NCATE visit. However we can only



reminisce for a short time before we must turn our heads to the future. If my calculations are right, our next NCATE site visit is fall 2012. While that seems a long way off, for those of us who have seen a year slip by in what seemed like a minute, seven years is not far



away. While we can bask in the sunshine of having met all standards, we know that we have a great deal to improve upon. The expectations will be high for us since we



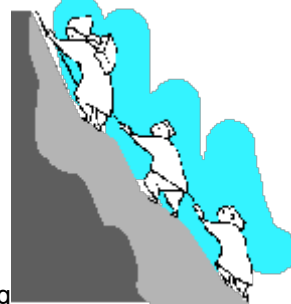
did such a great job with this visit. I know that many of you are thinking about retirement within the next couple of years. However, the success of the SOE is because of the strong foundation and commitment established before the 1999 and 2005 NCATE visit and we will continue to appreciate that history.

The next site visit is a distance away. However, the Indiana Program Review process is beginning. NCATE approved Indiana's protocol (for the Program Review process) and renewed its partnership agreement. The professional Standards Board will pilot the program review process in the spring of 2006 with Social Studies. So, we will wait to hear when we will begin the review of our programs. So, as you can see, time marches on and the work must continue.

With all of that in mind, let me present to you the new NCATE coordinator, Robin Fankhauser who will help develop a system for us over the next several years. Robin was trained at the June

2004 BOE training at IUS, she served as a reviewer for the state, and worked very closely with Carolyn in preparation for the 2005 visit. The NCATE steering committee will meet next week to begin to draft short and long term plans for the unit and we will be looking for your input.

I can't say enough about the NCATE steering committee. The team was committed to the goal



and stayed the course even when it looked a little daunting. This is the team that helped with the 2004 training and the 2005 visit. Please take some time to thank the NCATE steering committee: Carolyn, Magdalena, Jim Clements, Jane Riehl, Robin, and Jeanette for the long hours and team work.



I realize that everyone played a key role in preparing for the visit.

on the faculty and staff

I do want to thank some individuals. I truly hope each and every one of you will take few minutes to thank Carolyn Babione. Carolyn has really worked in preparation for this visit since 1999. She deserves a standing ovation, flowers and so much more for all she did to make this happen for



the SOE.

She carried the torch for us through it all. She was able to do this with the help of some of our non-NCATE steering team colleagues like:



Cathy Shea for being her friend and

making sure that she didn't miss meals,



Bill Jamski for editing the IR over and over and over again,



Susan Ridout for representing us at Farnsley and driving the team and Margaret Harshfield for taking the team to the airport on Wednesday.



And through it all was the support staff, Linda Shingleton, Linda Davidson, Sharon Burke, Denise Townsend, Mary Ann Wild, Chris Countrymen and our student helpers who responded quickly and graciously when help was needed.

Oh yes, I don't want to forget the husbands who helped. Carolyn's husband Bernie



who came in and helped with organizing the tubs and doing some word processing and Magdalena's husband Milton for helped organize and design the brochure



for the poster session.
Thanks to everyone.