



# Kansas HOSA State Officer Team **STAYS BUSY**



*By Megan Nance, Kansas HOSA Chaplain, Pittsburg High School*

This year, the Kansas HOSA Fall Leadership Conference was held at Wichita State University in Wichita, KS on October 13, 2006. During the conference, round table presentations on various health-related education programs were presented by the Wichita State University College of Health Professions, WSU Undergraduate Admissions, WSU College of Education, WSU School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Wichita Area Technical College. Topics included the physician assistant program, dental hygiene, communication science and disorders, speech-language/audiology, health service management and community development, medical technology, nursing, physical therapy, pre-medicine, and athletic training. Paul Jackson, M.S., of Wichita Area Technical College, presented “Patient Education-Communication Skills for Health Care Workers.” He taught us how to communicate with patients in the most effective way. One of the highlights of this conference was the election and installation of the 2006-2007 Kansas HOSA State Officers.

The first duty assigned to the State Officer team was to attend a Joint CTSO Officer Training Workshop at the Best Western Hotel in Emporia, KS. Joining us in the training were State Officers from TSA (Technology Students Association) and BPA (Business Professionals of America). Bryan Fiese was the facilitator during our two days of training. Throughout this event, we got to know our fellow officers and develop our leadership and communication skills. During one activity, about half of our state officers were hypnotized.

In January, 2007, our Kansas State Officer team attended the Joint CTSO Citizenship Day, held in our state capital, Topeka. A speaker discussed different ways to talk with our senators and representatives about our student organization. We then met and ate lunch with members of the Kansas Board of Education, as well as employees of the Kansas Department of Education, Kansas Board of Regents, and Washburn University School of Applied Studies, and advisors and state officers from all eight CTSOs. Jessica Leon, the Kansas HOSA Vice-President, represented Kansas HOSA by giving a five-minute speech before the group during the luncheon. In addition, Lateece Griffin, Kansas HOSA Historian, visited and represented Kansas HOSA at the Kansas Board of Education meeting during the morning of the event. Next, we toured the capital building and had the opportunity to make appointments with our local legislators to talk about Kansas HOSA. This event improved our speaking skills greatly and taught us the proper and most effective way to share our information.



This has been my first year as a member of HOSA, and I have already learned so much. I have developed leadership, teamwork, and communication skills; I've become very close to students from many different places; I've gotten to see different towns and schools; and I have been able to observe some of the different careers the medical field has to offer. HOSA is an amazing opportunity, and I have no doubt it will help me in my future as I pursue a career in the medical field.

**Kansas HOSA State Officer Team attends Joint CTSO Officer Training – pictured from left to right: Lateece Griffin, Historian; Megan Nance, Chaplain; Jessica Leon, Vice-President; Jerry Carmona, Sentinel; Emily Vanderford, President; Miles Crowley, Parliamentarian; Tiffany Farrow, Secretary; Bryan Fiese, Facilitator for CTSO Joint Officer Training; and Brittany Green, Treasurer. Not pictured: Shyanne Sutton, Reporter.**