



# CTSOs Role in Integrating Academic, Technical and Employability Skills

By: Sierra Jenkins  
National HOSA President Elect

**Sierra Jenkins and The Honorable Beto Gonzales, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education**



**Sierra Jenkins and Web Cast Moderator Gail Swartz, Director, Division of Academic and Technical Education from the Office for Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education.**

**D**uring Career and Technical Education Week, the week of February 12-18, 2006, a variety of awareness activities at the national, state and local levels were implemented in support of career and technical education. For the past 3 years, as part of the awareness campaign, there has been a Web Cast produced by The National Centers for Career and Technical Education featuring the national student organizations. This year's web cast was entitled CTSOs Role in Integrating Academic, Technical and Employability Skills.

The CTSO Web Cast was broadcasted on, February 16, 2006, in Washington, DC with Sierra Jenkins, President-Elect, representing HOSA. The focus of the CTSO Web Cast was CTSO's role in integrating academic, technical, and employability skills into career and technical education. There was a representative from the following career and technical student organizations at the web cast: HOSA, BPA, FCCLA, TSA, Skills USA, FBLA, FFA, and DECA. Each organization had the chance to discuss topics such as academic enhancement, bringing business in the classroom, industry standards, integrating CTSOs into the CTE classroom, professional development, leadership skills, civic consciousness, and service learning and how each of these topics are addressed in their organization.

Gail Schwartz, Director, Division of Academic and Technical Education from the Office for Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, served as the moderator for the web cast. The students were also given an opportunity to have a private question and answer session with The Honorable Beto Gonzales, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.

What a great opportunity for all Career and Technical Student Organizations to promote the importance of student organizations as a part of the classroom learning experience and especially for HOSA to promote its role in preparing students as part of the pipeline to becoming this country's future health care professionals.

If you would like to view a recording of the Web Cast it is archived at the following web site: <http://www.nccte.org/webcasts/description.aspx?wc=193>



**CTSO Web Cast panel with The Honorable Beto Gonzalez, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education. Participants are from left to right, back row, Shane Hageman, FFA, Ross Squires, FBLA, Secretary Gonzalez, Billy Plastine, FCCLA, and Nathan Ball, BPA. Front row are, Sierra Jenkins, HOSA, Jennifer Vaziralli, DECA, Stephanie Usry, Skills USA and Katy Galambos, TSA.**