6
MEET NEW BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10
CYBER AWARENESS IN EDUCATION: THE NEED CONTINUES

13
DON’T BE INSECURE ABOUT CYBERSECURITY
“GoGuardian for us was a complete package. Our teachers fell in love with it within minutes and said, ‘Whatever you do, don’t take away GoGuardian.’”

Shad McGaha | Chief Technology Officer, Wichita Falls ISD

Unify your filtering, classroom management, asset management, and student mental health tools into a single suite for remote or in-person learning. Visit goguardian.com to start a FREE trial today!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 President’s Message: A Time to Stop—Technology Leadership Now
   By Phil Scrivano

5 How We Adapted in 2020, Where We’re Going
   By Andrea Bennett

6 Meet the New Board and New Executive Committee
   by Andrea Bennett

10 Cyber Awareness in Education: The Need Continues
   By Carl Fong, Kevin Riley

13 Don’t Be Insecure About Cybersecurity
   By Chris Clark

15 Educating Future Cybersecurity Professionals
   By Patrick Sawyer

17 Student Cybersecurity Dreams Come True
   By Henry Danielson
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

A TIME TO STOP—TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP NOW

BY PHIL SCRIVANO

We are confident that we will be able to meet in person for the 2021 conference in Sacramento. Mark your calendars now for November 16-19, 2021. At CITE, cybersecurity/privacy is a big topic for our members. We are working with Capitol Advisors Group (CAG) to ensure legislators understand what is happening at schools and what support is needed. We have hired a new person who will be dedicated to the Resource Programs. We are launching a new CSPQA Services program to help districts with privacy contracts and we are in conversations with AWS, Google, and Palo Alto Networks on new programs to lower costs and increase support. New professional learning opportunities including Microsoft workshops are also planned.

Regional Groups continue to be the heart of our state community and offer local leadership opportunities as seen with the elections of our three newest board members. More support, new guidelines to help leadership, and more outreach to Northern California is planned. In this issue of (in)CITE you will find insightful articles on cybersecurity. This year at Simi Valley Unified School District, we went through our security audit by a professional third party. Although not a comfortable process, we were able to shore up discoveries prior to a board report which did not compromize security. I encourage every district to do the same on an annual basis; much like we do financial audits.

The threat of a cyber attack recalls the complexity of the jobs we do as technology leaders, engineers, data specialists, and technicians. I was asked a question this week that I think is not only of interest to every one of us, but also an opportunity to share in our CITE Community Discussion. Here is the question:

“As a technology leader, what are the remote resolution tools you use to mitigate technology problems in your district?”

As a technology leader, reliability is on my mind 24/7. When our superintendent, Dr. Jason Peplinski, hired me, he stated that if the internet goes down for two days, he will need a new technology department. One tool that I have found extremely useful in mitigating problems came from the gaming industry. The device is called a Stream Deck by Elgato.com. This is a simple USB device run by an easy-to-use, software-based programming tool. I have developed over 50 commands in the last year. Some of the most crucial time saving commands are the ability to ping upstream to VCOE and Google and go down for two days, he will need a new technology department. One tool that I have found extremely useful in mitigating problems came from the gaming industry. The device is called a Stream Deck by Elgato.com. This is a simple USB device run by an easy-to-use, software-based programming tool. I have developed over 50 commands in the last year. Some of the most crucial time saving commands are the ability to ping upstream to VCOE and Google and

continued on 20

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

APPRECIATION FOR THE PAST AND EXCITEMENT FOR THE FUTURE

BY ANDREA BENNETT

Happy 2021! I know there is nothing magical about the fact that our calendar has flipped to a new year, but I am feeling hopeful about the next 12 months. The pandemic will be under control soon, school funding is better than we thought, and there is a lot of attention being paid to broadband needs at the state legislature level. We will have a lot of work to do to ensure any laws that are passed don’t include unfunded mandates and unreasonable procedures that limit schools’ ability to provide the best learning experience.

We are also feeling confident that we can resume our in-person conference in Sacramento on November 16-19, 2021, at the newly renovated Sacramento Convention Center. We are already in the planning stages and are looking forward to seeing many of you there. Do we know the importance of the online experience for those not able to attend and are we considering options for that as well. Stay tuned throughout the year for more information.

We’ve got a lot of other things going on like new professional learning opportunities, new resource programs, additional regional group support, and strong partnerships. We are adding a new staff member to support the resources programs. There will be a lot of information coming out in the next few months, so be sure to pay attention to the online community for announcements.

For this edition, I’d like to highlight the three CITE Board of Director members who stepped down this year. Peter Skibitzki, Steve Thornton, and Tim Landeck. Many of you saw our tribute and their goodbyes at the conference but their work deserves more recognition and appreciation.

CITE has grown a lot over the last few years and prior to the excellent staff we have now (if I may say so myself) being hired, the Board was a working Board. Meaning that directors were asked to perform operational work in addition to the governing and leadership requirements. Peter, Steve, and Tim all did this with dedication, thoughtfulness, and with the best interest of the members and organization as their highest priority. They, along with the other serving Board members, were able to transition into a Governing Board while continuing the respect and trust already built.

Steve Thornton began his Board service in 2009. He worked as our Publications Director for the organization’s magazine called Databus. This required getting articles, working with the publishing company on design, and editing before publication. He served as President, which is a 3-year commitment as part of the Executive Board and requires extra time in meetings and in responsibilities. After that, Steve served as our Secretary, taking copious notes and paying extra attention to detail to ensure our records were solid.

Steve was essential to the development of our Regional Groups. He and Aaron Barnett were convinced that these groups could benefit members and create more respect for the organization. They started the Inland Area Regional Group in Southern California’s Inland Empire and the rest is history. Our Regional Groups are a strong benefit for members and even nonmembers are able to attend meetings. The meetings are a great place to connect and get information and resources, or just have lunch with friends.

Steve has brought much wisdom to the organization. His thoughtfulness and attention to detail have helped us through many tough decisions.
MEET THE NEW BOARD, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF

As part of our bylaws, we conduct an election each year during our Annual Conference. The election confirms our Executive Committee, modifies bylaws as necessary, and installs new Directors-at-Large. With the exit of three long-time board members, we had a significant shift in the composition of our Board.

2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Phil Scrivano
President-Elect: Brianne Ford
Past-President: David Goldsmith
Treasurer: Eric Calderon
Secretary: DeWayne Cossey

2021 NEW BOARD MEMBERS

MAGGIE BUN TEN, CCTO
Director of Technology, Information Services
Chino Valley Unified School District
2020 CITE Tech Leader Award CTOM Mentor Program Mentor

What are you most looking forward to as part of the Board?
I am looking forward to engaging with our members, state, and federal leaders to continue CITE’s advocacy efforts to support all facets of technology in education.

What’s your favorite CITE memory?
My favorite CITE memories are the (many) late Friday nights spent bonding with my CTO cohort (We go to 11, in case you didn’t know).

What do you most enjoy about being involved with CITE?
I really enjoy the collaboration and support everyone is always willing and happy to provide each other. We really are a group who learns from each other, lifts each other up when we are down and need support and we are always happy to celebrate each other’s accomplishments.

How did you learn about CITE and what made you get involved?
I learned about CITE when I worked on the private side for a Student Information System. I always admired the work that CITE was doing to support districts’ efforts and the advocacy efforts to shed light on the challenges that districts face.

ANTONIO ROMAYOR, JR.
Chief Technology Officer
El Centro Elementary School District
CTOM Mentor Program Mentor

What’s your favorite CITE memory?
Oh wow! My favorite CITE memory. Like most of us, I’d imagine we have SO many great memories to choose from. While thinking about the conferences, PD events, and CTO Mentor Program, I feel a common theme exists. My favorite CITE memory is the feeling I experience when I’m part of anything CITE related. The sense of camaraderie, support, and understanding: the emotion I experience when spending time with others that face similar challenges and circumstances—those feelings and emotions compose my favorite CITE memory.

What do you most enjoy about being involved with CITE?
I’m motivated by several factors; being helpful is one. Therefore, being helpful is the way I experience joy from my involvement with CITE. The work of helping others by presenting or planning. The pride we feel when we see the growth of an individual that is part of the CTO Mentor Program. The smiles from friends and colleagues at the regional meetings. I’m recharged and filled with exCITEment whenever I can contribute and help others, especially when it’s related to CITE.

I’m recharged and filled with exCITEment whenever I can contribute and help others, especially when it’s related to CITE.

I’m recharged and filled with exCITEment whenever I can contribute and help others, especially when it’s related to CITE.
I figured out they were the Board members. Come to think of it, shirts must leave a memorable impression on me! Because I also recall Dr. Todd Finnell, an educator from Imperial County (now County Superintendent of Schools), and other CITE Board members rocking their matching Board member shirts. The summation of the experience had a lasting impact. Years later, I was accepted into the CTO Mentor Program (#WeGoTo11). Then, I became the founding member of the Imperial Valley CITE Regional Group. And now I’m thrilled to have been one of the newly-elected CITE Board members. Clearly, a long-winded response to say that my regional colleagues introduced me to CITE, and I stayed involved because the work has lasting and transformative significance. I’d add that I feel that we have a duty to respond in-kind in our lives in a positive manner. We can choose to invest in others by sharing our most valuable asset, our time.

What are you most looking forward to as part of the Board?
I’m most excited about working with my colleagues to expand the professional development and resources available to CITE members. I believe that through our advocacy efforts we can influence policies and state budget decisions that take the importance of IT and data systems into education into consideration. I also believe that we can leverage the size of our membership to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with vendors and other organizations that will help K-12 IT professionals deliver high-quality services for all their stakeholders.

What’s your favorite CITE memory?
Graduating from the 7th cohort of the CCTO mentorship program and standing on stage with all my new friends. It’s no exaggeration to say that the CCTO program was life-changing for me, and the personal and professional relationships I developed through the program continue to endure today.

What do you most enjoy about being involved with CITE?
The collaboration and cooperation. Just being able to talk to your peers about a challenge you’re experiencing at work, or about a new project you’ve recently rolled out makes me a better CTO and leader. Related group meetings and conferences are quite literally therapeutic in that they help affirm the work I’m doing or offer course corrections when I’m going down the wrong path. CITE allows IT and EdTech staff to be seen and valued in a way that doesn’t always happen at the office, and that recognition keeps me motivated and engaged.

How did you learn about CITE and what made you get involved?
My dear friend, former boss, and ultimate mentor, the late Aaron Barnett brought me to what were some of the first (then CETPA) Inland Area Technical Group meetings when I was his Network Manager at Moreno Valley USD in the early 2000s. I think I went to my first conference around that time, too. When I went took the IT director position, I freaked out with all the new responsibilities, expectations, and pressures, and in venting to Aaron about my initial shock, he basically said “get your butt back to the regional meetings, dude. And consider the CCTO program. You sound like you could use some help” The rest is history...
**CYBER AWARENESS IN EDUCATION: THE NEED CONTINUES...**

**CO-AUTHORS CARL FONG AND KEVIN RILEY**

CITE’s vision, “Shaping the Future of Education through Technology” holds true. Digital transformation of the classroom is becoming more prevalent as students, parents, teachers, principals, support staff, and administrators require immediate access to information using a variety of different devices. As a result, educational organizations have come to rely upon technology-based solutions for secure storage and dissemination of confidential information.

While educational organizations trust most cybersecurity responsibilities to IT, cybersecurity is generally more effective when responsibilities are shared throughout the district. Recent studies, such as the 2019 Verizon Data Breach Report, have shown an increase in the number of phishing emails and ransomware attacks towards educational organizations. Now with COVID-19, distance learning/hybrid environments and work from home (WFH), the need for cybersecurity professionals is more in demand. Yet, the skills and resources of the IT departments to defend their organizations are at a minimum. We need to understand that the people causing all this chaos are organized, well-funded, and determined.

However, it is not all doom and gloom. There are a few things that will go a long way in defending your organization from the darkness of the internet.

Develop a security program document and follow it. Good security starts with good policy. A great place to start is with the SANS Institute (https://www.sans.org/security-resources/policies/). They have free policy templates that you may use and modify to fit your organization.

Baseline your security posture. Do you know what your risk tolerance is and where you are vulnerable? It is essential to understand what your business processes are and the risks associated with them. By conducting a risk/security assessment, you will better understand where to focus your efforts in the near and long term. Integrate yearly assessments into your security program and develop metrics that will show how your organization is improving over time.

Develop a security awareness program. The primary source of malware leading to a breach comes through email. Your users are the frontline of your cybersecurity defense, so give them the tools and resources needed to help identify and report potentially malicious emails or activity.

Automate where you can. Automation will help leverage and address the skills gap of your IT staff to defend against security incidents and disruption to your business processes.

Develop an incident response plan. Each team member should know what role they have and what to do if there is an incident. Perform tabletop exercises to simulate events and scenarios to work out the kinks in your response flow.

Patch. Patch. Patch. This one is simple but often overlooked. There is no better activity you can do in your organization to reduce the risk to your environment than patching. Develop a regular rhythm to patch servers, workstations, and don’t forget about those appliances like firewalls, backup systems, NAS, etc.

Get help. Many districts in California do not have the staff or skill sets to do much of the work required in developing a cybersecurity program. Engaging competent, outside professional help will allow you to prioritize and focus your efforts. This will also provide additional training for your staff in the process.

Don’t forget to ask your county offices of education for support. There are a number of county offices of education that are providing excellent resources on cybersecurity.

You have David Thurston, Chief Technology Officer at San Bernardino County Office of Education (SBCSS), known as the prince of cybersecurity. There is Terry Loftus, Assistant Superintendent Integrated Technology Services, at the San Diego County

continued on 12
When I began my IT career in K-12 education, I inherited a server that ran email (Exchange 2003) for the district. Everyone was scared of that server. The backups had not been tested and the storage was expanded with USB hard drives. I was told that it was temperamental and crashed frequently, often for days at a time. That server was the first thing that made me lose sleep during my IT career and it would not be the last.

Fast forward to 2020 and Gmail has totally changed my relationship with email. We have unlimited storage and 99.976% uptime. Now my sleep is being affected by threats of Ransomware, Credential Theft (Phishing), and data theft. I feel like all too frequently I see school districts in the headlines because of ransomware. Over the last two decades, security went from an afterthought to a forefront issue. When I started in the industry, the methodology was to get the system working and then change a few settings to make it secure.

Now, our systems are designed with security in mind and the new trust is zero-trust.

As IT practitioners we are charged with implementing the safeguards that protect our end-users and data from the enemies at the gate and the enemy in the mirror. Some of the safeguards that my team have been exploring are:

**Immutable Backups** - These backups are not allowed to be altered after they are created. When ransomware strikes, this will keep your backups from being encrypted as well. Companies like Veeam and Rubrik have them built into their backup solutions.

**Zero Trust Security** - This means that every person and device that accesses a resource needs to have their identity verified. The goal is to stop lateral attacks in your network and datacenter where an adversary gains access to your internal network and is able to move freely through the datacenter.

**Microsegmentation** - Creating small LAN segments for each server and service that you provide. Then you implement access policies on traffic entering and exiting that LAN segment specifically tailored for the service or server on the LAN segment.

**Log Analysis** - It seems that everything these days generates logs. Servers, switches and Wireless Access Points, Firewalls and Content Filters, and even applications. With all that data being generated, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the best way to get the insights you need to keep you safe. Take a look at Splunk or ElasticSearch (ELK) to help you correlate your logs and gain insights from that data.

**Behavior Analysis** - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI & ML) have allowed for new tools to
Finally, engage your cyber insurance provider and read a copy of the policy. Find out what they cover and what allows for a claim to be created. Your cyber insurance provider will be a valuable resource in the aftermath of a breach. Also, be sure to include your insurance in your remediation plan.

I wanted to leave you with a few resources that I have picked up over the years. Hopefully they will be useful for other K-12 districts. Remember that security is a journey, not a destination. Together we can go further!

**The Center for Internet Security (CIS) Controls -** [https://www.cisc.org/cis-controls-list](https://www.cisc.org/cis-controls-list)

The Center for Internet Security has a framework for security that they provide freely. The CIS 20 are a set of actions to protect your organization from known cyberattack vectors. CIS was at the CITE Annual Conference and is available to help districts.

**Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) -** [https://www.cisc.org/ms-isac](https://www.cisc.org/ms-isac)

The mission of the MS-ISAC is to improve the overall cybersecurity posture of the nation’s state, local, tribal, and territorial governments through focused cyber threat prevention, protection, response, and recovery. This organization provides a myriad of cybersecurity services including information about malware, IP black lists, and remediation services. CITE has promoted districts joining MS-ISAC for years and it’s free.

**Darknet Diaries -** [https://darknetdiaries.com/](https://darknetdiaries.com/)

This podcast is an entertaining and informative look at hackers, breaches, Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs), hacktivism, and cybercrime. The stories are well written and are a fun way to learn about a wide range of security related topics.

---

**EDUCATING FUTURE CYBERSECURITY PROFESSIONALS**

**BY PATRICK J. SAWYER**

What does the future of Cybersecurity look like in the world, the economy, and most importantly, our schools? Over the past few years, many have faced challenges that deal with creating and implementing a safe and secure environment while maintaining the highest level of functionality. Some school districts are looking at this global problem differently and have started to look at educating the future employees of the cybersecurity industry by offering information technology and cybersecurity CTE courses. According to AFCEA, 2019 in “Urgent Need for Cybersecurity Professionals Grows,” “the cybersecurity workforce gap is real, and it’s growing.” According to a state-by-state analysis on CompTIA’s cyberstates.org, there are currently 320,000 open cyber jobs in the United States. By 2022, the projected shortage of cybersecurity professionals worldwide will reach 18 million, according to the Center for Cyber Safety and Education.” Rather than complaining about viruses, ransomware, malware, and other security-related issues, the Kern High School District thought we would try to solve this problem by educating future cybersecurity professionals.

Over the past few years, the Kern High School District has been in discussion with various departments in the district about offering different levels of training to high school students by using existing trade-specific employees to teach students. The district tried to do this in the early stages by offering courses to adults in basic IT fundamental classes, enterprise cabling, and networking classes. They initially looked at this as an option to train-up professionals in the technology field so that when they do go out to hire technicians, they have not only trained them in the industry standards but know their skill set. After this adult school program was proven successful by the continued growth and feedback, they looked at offering similar classes in the technology field to high school students.

In the last two years, our district has been weighing options on how to take a full-time employee and have them teach to high school students during the day. Originally, we did not know how to balance employee schedules between departments, but after a few meetings, we were able to adjust schedules accordingly. The possibilities of sharing our knowledge and hopefully educating students in the technology field were the driving force with this schedule adjustment. In the spring of 2019, our district decided to take an opportunity to see if this model would work. I was asked to teach at Liberty High School, the same school that was offering the Bakersfield Adult School classes to...
EDUCATING FUTURE CYBERSECURITY PROFESSIONALS
continued from 15

see if that would be a comfortable fit. Since we are a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) school district, they wanted to take this opportunity to teach a new PLTW Cybersecurity program to seniors that have already gone through the earlier computer science courses.

Student Classroom Presentations

The PLTW Cybersecurity course gives students a broad exposure to the many aspects of digital and information security while encouraging socially responsible choices and ethical behavior. It inspires algorithmic thinking, computational thinking, and especially, “outside-the-box” thinking. Students explore the many educational and career paths available to cybersecurity experts, as well as other careers that comprise the field of information security. This course helps students identify cybersecurity threats and protect against them through various intrusion detection methods. They learn how organizations protect themselves in today’s world. This Cybersecurity course introduces the tools and concepts of cybersecurity and encourages students to create solutions that allow people to share computing resources while protecting privacy.

The courses that are available to students in the technology field have grown astronomically over the past five years. Educational institutions do not just see basic IT or keyboarding classes being offered any longer since that does not allow students’ minds to explore the options that are available to them in today’s economy. This thought process inspires students to explore future career choices or help them determine their major in college. Our district now sees exciting courses in Cybersecurity, Information Technology, Networking, Robotics, and the list goes on. What technical pathways does the future hold for our students in the fabulous State of California? I leave that question up to you. Do not simply answer that question with a list of programs or classes, start to be the solution and offer them to students. Remember being part of the solution is much better than part of the problem. •

CITE Student Showcase

Patrick has been working in the field of technology since 1986 after his first college class called “Computers in your future.” He would have never imagined that the interest of this class would lead to his first IT job cleaning PBX systems to now teaching technology classes and working in the IT department of the Kern High School District. Computers have become part of his future. Patrick is a CITE Certified CTO and a mentor for the program.

Big cybersecurity dreams come to life for Luis Plascencia. From small town Cambria, California to Coast Unified School District to nationally ranked California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo to the Computer Science and California Cyber Institute.

I first met Mr. Luis Plascencia when he was a middle schooler enrolled in a Cybersecurity summer school course for middle and high school students at Coast USD. Luis struck me as a passionate, excited human wanting to learn as much as he could about cybersecurity, computer networking, and the Internet of Things (IoT). I knew immediately that Luis would go on to do amazing things.

Luis is a young man whose career path was changed by participating in local cybersecurity and Capture the Flag (CTF’s) competitions. Mr. Plascencia was team captain of the CyberPatriot team for Coast Union High School when they won the 2017-2018 CyberPatriot X 2nd Place Gold Tier Award, earned First Place in the Central Coast’s Regional Mayors Cup, and competed in the California Cyber Innovation Challenge three years in a row. Luis’ experience in cybersecurity competitions lead to a paid teacher assistant position at Cuesta College’s CyberPatriot summer camp in summer 2016. In 2019, he was accepted to the Computer Science Department at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo. In addition to being a college student, Luis has continued his career in cybersecurity as a Cyber Security Student Assistant at the California Cyber Institute.

Witnessing Luis’ success from middle school to college has been phenomenal. Luis is an up-and-coming computer information security player in the next generation of cyberspace professionals. He is going to protect us from cyber criminals and become an incredible cybersecurity practitioner! For the 2020 California Cybersecurity Innovation Challenge, Luis created the Forensics challenges and was the lead tech support on Discord during the competition! Watch here for a walk through. Luis has also been creating curriculum and preparing to teach a Cyber Digital Literacy Course to small and medium businesses. Luis has been a wonderful asset to the California Cybersecurity Institute. He was also part of a Vint Cerf interview and had an engaging discussion on cyber threats and outer space! He worked on a web application using various programming languages that worked with server side development for a company.

16 • (IN)CITE • WINTER 2021

STUDENT CYBERSECURITY DREAMS COME TRUE!

BY HENRY DANIELSON

“Big cybersecurity dreams come to life for Luis Plascencia. From small town Cambria, California to Coast Unified School District to nationally ranked California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo to the Computer Science and California Cyber Institute.”

I first met Mr. Luis Plascencia when he was a middle schooler enrolled in a Cybersecurity summer school course for middle and high school students at Coast USD. Luis struck me as a passionate, excited human wanting to learn as much as he could about cybersecurity, computer networking, and the Internet of Things (IoT). I knew immediately that Luis would go on to do amazing things.

Luis is a young man whose career path was changed by participating in local cybersecurity and Capture the Flag (CTF’s) competitions. Mr. Plascencia was team captain of the CyberPatriot team for Coast Union High School when they won the 2017-2018 CyberPatriot X 2nd Place Gold Tier Award, earned First Place in the Central Coast’s Regional Mayors Cup, and competed in the California Cyber Innovation Challenge three years in a row. Luis’ experience in cybersecurity competitions lead to a paid teacher assistant position at Cuesta College’s CyberPatriot summer camp in summer 2016. In 2019, he was accepted to the Computer Science Department at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo. In addition to being a college student, Luis has continued his career in cybersecurity as a Cyber Security Student Assistant at the California Cyber Institute.

Witnessing Luis’ success from middle school to college has been phenomenal. Luis is an up-and-coming computer information security player in the next generation of cyberspace professionals. He is going to protect us from cyber criminals and become an incredible cybersecurity practitioner! For the 2020 California Cybersecurity Innovation Challenge, Luis created the Forensics challenges and was the lead tech support on Discord during the competition! Watch here for a walk through. Luis has also been creating curriculum and preparing to teach a Cyber Digital Literacy Course to small and medium businesses. Luis has been a wonderful asset to the California Cybersecurity Institute. He was also part of a Vint Cerf interview and had an engaging discussion on cyber threats and outer space! He worked on a web application using various programming languages that worked with server side development for a company.

I am also working for the California Cyber Institute as a Cyber Security Student Assistant. This job is by far the best and I never take it for granted because rather than competing in the Cyber Innovation Challenge, I am now designing it. Not only did I get to work in a field that I am extremely interested in but I also have the pleasure of working with the most amazing coworkers and supervisors I could ever meet. The support around here is parallel to that of a family and I definitely would consider the California Cyber Institute much like one. Our role is quite important in society and I believe that as a family we all collaborate in a way that is essential for pushing our mission out there with cyber security.

My college experience so far is the best it could ever be and I would never have done it without the people that helped me get here, thank you to all who helped me!” said Luis.
(IN)CITE PODCAST

Have you heard? If not, you’re going to want to listen...

To listen, visit cite.org/incitepodcast. You can listen directly on our website.
Stay tuned, we are working on getting published to Apple Podcasts and other streaming platforms to make it even more accessible.

If you have a topic idea or would like to be a guest, email podcast@cite.org.

He has helped us understand small districts’ needs and yet keeps a statewide perspective to serve all CITE members. Steve is our longest serving Board Member and he will be missed. Thank you, Steve.

Like Steve, Peter Skibitzki worked in many jobs for the CITE Board of Directors since he joined in 2011. Peter worked on the conference committee as Exhibit Chair, which means year-round work to ensure the show is a success. This included not only booth assignments, but sponsorships, floor plans, setup, schedule coordination, and more. Peter also served as Technology Chair, which was the position that handled the wi-fi access throughout the conference site. He was the Keynote Chair and was always on-hand to help setup the Hands-on-Labs, printers, and other technical needs.

Peter has been part of our Advocacy team and has represented us at national conferences. His pragmatic approach to decisions helped the Board understand all aspects of an issue. He too served as our President and has spent many years as our Treasurer. As all of the Treasurers before him, Peter made the financial well-being of CITE a priority. He spent countless hours paying bills, working on audits, submitting state and federal paperwork, making sure staff got paid on time, and ensuring that the organization was following all state and federal laws and best practices. Peter’s strong work ethic ensured that CITE would be financially sound for many years. Thank you, Peter.

Tim Landeck joined our Board of Directors in 2014. Tim’s energy and enthusiasm brings life to every meeting or event. Whenever our energy was waning, whether in a Board meeting or at the conference, Tim had a way of rejuvenating the team and helping us smile. Tim is passionate about serving students the best way we can. His dedication to CITE has helped propel us into a recognized authority across the state. Tim has been able to bring a perspective from both large and small districts and he always puts the CITE member first when discussing new ideas or programs. His sense of humor is overshadowed only by his passion for education and learning. Tim has worked hard for several years to make sure the Showdown sessions at our conferences are both informational and fun. He has always provided thoughtful feedback to the staff by listening to members and attendees. We appreciate his optimistic outlook and his commitment to CITE. Thank you, Tim.

We will miss these three men and we will always appreciate their work. We are stronger today because of them. We are also so grateful to have three new Board members. They have big shoes to fill but we know they will be successful. Welcome to the Board Maggie Bunten, David Thurston, and Antonio Romayor. You will read more about them later in this issue.

Be well and safe. See you soon! •

APPRECIATION FOR THE PAST AND EXCITEMENT FOR THE FUTURE
continued from 5
then downstream to our data center and thirty sites. Next, any server or device I need is a couple buttons to log into the device or system. This tool saves me an hour a day. The value happens when the phone rings all over the department at the same time. When this happens, I am a button away from taking action. This critical time saving device works out all the details before the event happens and I do not have to look up, or remember, what V-Lan a device is on.

Now it’s your turn. I will start a discussion on our CITE Discussion Community called President’s Message. Please add the tool(s) you use to this discussion. I am sure we can all add to our tool chests. I look forward to learning from you. ■

Cheers,

Philip Scrivano
CITE President
phil.scrivano@cite.org