

**Higher Education Academy Report**  
**Joan Trimpey, Metro Community College, Chair**

During this past year, the members of the Higher Education Academy held the HEA bi-annual Conference July 26-27, 2013, in Kearney. Based on the discussion of the Higher Education delegates at the NSEA Delegate Assembly in April 2013, the conference took a different approach by asking all of the local association presidents to send at least two members for a more informal conference. The conference was focused on better communication and understanding between HEA members and NSEA staff. NSEA staff members Neal Clayburn, Larry Scherer and Kristen Sedlacek shared information of what NSEA could do to help HEA members. All in attendance felt that it was a successful conference.

In October at the NSEA Advocacy Conference, we had a special session just for Higher Ed negotiating teams that was very productive. Based on this session, the Community Colleges had a number of phone conferences to help keep everyone up-to-date regarding what was happening at each college. This was a big help for all the negotiation teams.