



Epsilon Sigma Phi-Alpha Nu Chapter

The Extension Professionals' Organization

Spring 2008

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Linda Smith

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Susan Guinnip

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Sharon Kuhns

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Member Services:

Pam Jacobs &
Marjorie LaFont, Co-Chairs

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Stan Eden, &
Bill Whiteside, Co-Chairs

President's Report

Linda Smith



Greetings, ESP members!

It seems each day brings bits and pieces of news regarding Extension's current financial situation. Being the eternal optimist, I believe we should all be thankful for some at least some movement in the political process. No news would be very trying, and even more frustrating, to be sure.

I truly believe we owe Pam Weber, Jeanne Harland, Jerry Hicks and the other members of Extension Partners working on behalf of Extension staff throughout the state a huge debt of gratitude. I can't imagine where we would be in this process without them standing in the wings ready to go to bat on our behalf anytime, anywhere. These waters have truly been untested, so let's use these experiences, both good and not-so-good, as lessons to be learned.

Consider Joining Extension Partners Today!!

Stan Eden, Extension Partners Membership Chair, encourages all Extension staff to join this very viable organization and become part of an organization helping build Illinois' future. Extension Partners is comprised of organizations and volunteers-people of all ages, professions and life experiences. What they share is an awareness of Extension's benefit and a commitment to building support for it.

More Extension Partners members are needed to cover the added costs of dealing with the current Extension funding crisis on top of their general budget, which includes hiring a legislative consultant, renting a post office box, keeping current on organizational registration fees, licenses, etc.

In addition to the financial needs of a not-for-profit organization, more members means the more credibility Extension Partners has as an advocacy group. Legislators are interested in how many people support an issue, so the more Extension Partners there are, the more the members of the Illinois General Assembly will listen to what is shared about the impact Extension has on the citizens of this state.

Please consider joining Extension Partners today. Anyone who cares about University of Illinois Extension can join, so tell others about the need for membership.

Annual membership in Extension Partners is only \$20 for individuals and \$50 for organizations. Private or business donations of any amount are always gratefully accepted. Please make checks payable to Extension Partners and mail to:

Extension Partners
P.O. Box 5531
Bloomington, IL 61702-5531

Members receive legislative updates and other time-sensitive information via e-mail, so please include that information when you send in your membership. To learn more about Extension Partners, click on the PDF file below to secure a brochure with the membership form included. Please go to the Extension Partners web site to seek more information.

The people behind Extension Partners:

- Mike Brokaw, Treasurer
mbrokaw@uproducers.com
- Anne Crider - criderfm@farmwagon.com
- Anna Dollinger - deedoll89@yahoo.com
- Stan Eden, Membership Chair -
edensre@msn.com
- Stu Ellis, Secretary - stu@jonesthomas.com
- Jeanne Harland, Legislative Chair -
jharland@winco.net
- Jerry Hicks, President - Jerry@agrivestinc.com
- John Huston - hustons@yahoo.com
- Betty Johnson - btjohnson@insightbb.com
- Lowell Lenschow, Affiliate Associate Manager
lenschow@ilfb.org
- Elden Niemeyer - deneln@htc.net
- Anne Oppenheimer - anneopp@comcast.net
- Gordon Ropp, Vice-president
- Orion Samuelson, Honorary Chair
- Kyle Simpson - kyle.l.simpson@gmail.com
- Pamela Weber, Legislative Consultant -
pweber221@aol.com



**Susan Guinnip,
President-Elect**

ESP Auction Goes Online

The ESP Silent Auction will again be held during this year's Epsilon Sigma Phi Annual meeting in October. So as you are shopping, traveling and, yes, even cleaning (you never know where treasures are lurking), consider picking up a unique item or two that might peak someone's interest at our auction.

Be Creative! It might be a night out in Champaign or Chicago, Illini memorabilia, baskets filled with chocolate, a night at a bed and breakfast in your neck of the woods, dinner for two at a familiar or quaint restaurant. The sky's the limit, and the more items we have to auction, the more we can do with our ESP Scholarship fund.

NEW THIS YEAR, the auction will go online! Watch for details later this summer, but plan now to have your donated items in hand by **August 29**. You need a photo of each item, a minimum bid and the text or description. Send the information to Susan Guinnip at sguinnip@uiuc.edu or call 1-217-826-5422. The silent auction will close at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and winners will be announced at that time. **Bid early and bid often!**

PILD

The Public Issues Leadership Development Conference was held April 28-30 in Arlington, Virginia...just a hop, skip and a jump from our Nation's Capitol. It was a good trip and a very educational experience. Probably the most noteworthy was the opportunity to get to know the 11ESEAC members and to hear them tell the Extension story. They are very committed to our organization. The climax of the trip was a visit to Capitol Hill. In meeting with Legislators, they were generally supportive of Extension, but would sometimes comment that there are a lot of good projects out there, and they cannot fund all of them.



**Pam Jacobs &
Marjorie LaFont,
Co-Chairs
ESP Member Services**

Epsilon Sigma Phi Award Opportunities for You!

It's always nice to be recognized for a job well done. As a member of ESP, it isn't very difficult to complete a nomination form since it is just two pages long. There are many award categories, so there should be something for everyone. Complete an application for one or more of the awards and encourage your co-workers who are ESP members to do the same.

Illinois Award Opportunities

Frank H. Shuman Scholarship (\$500) supports study opportunities that enhance professional and personal development. Applicant needs to list in detail how they will use the funds.

M. S. Williams for Innovative Programming goes to an individual or team with the most innovative program.

J. C. Spitler Individual Leadership Award is presented to an individual who has provided continuous leadership for an effective Extension program.

Alpha Nu Chapter Scholarship (minimum of \$400) up to 2 awards given to support study opportunities. **Lifetime Member Award** is presented to a retiree (eligible 3 years after retirement) for service/contributions/activities after retirement. There is a separate application form for this award, contact Pamela Jacobs or Marjorie LaFonte for the form.

State, Regional & National Awards

(*Denotes award applications that are forwarded for regional judging. Membership must be maintained in 2007 and 2008).

***Distinguished Service** is given to a person with 20 years or more of service who has exhibited continuing leadership, initiative, and excellence in program planning, delivery and evaluation in program or administration.

***Administrative Leadership Recognition** is given to an Extension professional showing noteworthy administrative enthusiasm and accomplishment during an Extension career of 10 years or more. Criteria includes documentation of candidate's work in meeting needs and furthering the efforts of supervised faculty, staff and/or program. Administrative leadership may be at county, regional, state, program, department, or national level.

***Mid-Career** recognizes a person who has shown outstanding continuing leadership and excellence in program planning, delivery, and evaluation in program and/or administration (10-20 years).

***Early Career** recognizes a professional who has shown enthusiasm, accomplishment and performance in program design and delivery in Extension work (less than 10yrs.) years).

***Team Award** recognizes teams who have developed outstanding programs responding to and incorporating one or more of the CES National Initiatives (a minimum of 50% of the team must maintain ESP membership).

***International Service** recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the development and/or expansion of an Extension program in another country or countries through in-state and/or overseas work.

***Diversity/Multicultural Individual and Team Recognition** acknowledges outstanding efforts in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs and/or audiences in our diverse society. Program must have been implemented in the past three years.

Visionary Leadership recognizes a member who has achieved significant accomplishments resulting in leading Extension forward in new directions.

****Friend of Extension*** recognizes individuals who support the mission and goals of University of Illinois Extension.

Meritorious Support Service Award is presented to an individual or individuals who provide outstanding support to the staff of University of Illinois Extension.

****Continued Service Recognition*** presented to an Extension professional with 20+ years of experience who has exhibited continued leadership, initiative, and excellence in Extension programming, delivery, evaluation or administration on a state, regional and/or national level after receiving the state DSA Award. An Extension professional will become eligible for this recognition 5 years after receiving the State DSA recognition.

For more information on the awards, contact Pamela Jacobs at jacobsp@uiuc.edu (618-939-3434) or Marjorie LaFonte at mlafont@uiuc.edu (Phone: 309-685-3140). For More Information: <http://espnational.org>. All regional and national awards are described in detail. On left side bar select ESP Handbook. You will find membership and recognition programs in Section E.

What to Submit

Applications are limited to 1 page, front and back. See the “*Award Nominations: Checklist for Winning Writers*” at the end of this newsletter. Unless otherwise specified, use the suggested outline and suggestions at the end of the award list.

Where & When

Applications are due on **Tuesday, July 1, 2008** (postmark acceptable). Put the due date on your calendar and get started assembling your materials. E-mail the award application (Make sure it fits on the 2 page limit) to: Pamela Jacobs jacobsp@uiuc.edu.



Call for Articles: Extension in Action

Janet Burnett/Judy Taylor, Co-Chairs ESP Public Information Committee

Extension in Action: The Spring 2008 issue of *Extension in Action* was hand delivered to Illinois senators, representatives and executive offices by Jananne Finck, Jennifer Fishburn, Jodie Tate and Judy Taylor on April 7. We appreciate the staff who continue to submit articles. We are responding to all who submit comments so that they are more aware of how their submissions measured up to the criteria we use to select articles.

Writing for Impact: The committee is planning a follow-up training to the March 5 PDO, *Evaluating and Writing for Impact*. This training will focus on *Writing for Impact* and will be the first in a series. The tentative date for this training is May 29 from 10 a.m.– 12 noon, open to all of Extension. If you’re interested, please hold the date and watch for more information via e-mail, soon. Since the budget crisis has caused many changes we are not clear if we’ll proceed with this telenet in May or wait until fall. Either way, we’ll get information out about the series shortly. Other topics being discussed include, Logic Models and Designing Evaluation Tools.

Websites:

Alpha Nu Chapter Illinois ESP:

www.extension.uiuc.edu/ESP

National ESP:

www.espnational.org

Extension Partners:

www.extensionpartners.org

Registration for Galaxy III Now available!

Go to:

<https://sharepoint.agriculture.purdue.edu/ces/galaxy/registration.aspx> to register. Here are some things you need to know:

- You **must** have a housing confirmation number before you can register at the \$395 early bird rate. This rate is good until June 5th. If you are not staying in a conference hotel, you will be charged a facilities fee.
- The registration fee includes the Opening Reception, Ruby Luncheon, Auction dinner, ESP Breakfast, the Recognition Banquet and Closing Brunch.
- Registration can only be done on-line and paid by credit card. If you need to use a University PO to pay for your registration, you will need to contact Purdue Conferences directly.
- There will be no on-site registration. All registration closes on August 15th.
- Tour descriptions are now up on the Galaxy website. Tours will be on Thursday starting at 9:30am and are ordered when you register.

Important Dates Ahead

- June 14, Early Bird Registration deadline for Galaxy III
- August 1, Deadline to submit Mini-grant applications for second opportunity
- August 15, Galaxy III Registration closes
- September 15, ESP Pre-Conference, Leading Change for a Healthy Organization
- September 15-19, Galaxy III, Indianapolis
- September 13-19, 2009, ESP National Conference, Fargo, North Dakota

Greetings from the ESP National Office

**Linda Cook, ESP
Executive Director**



The National Board had a very productive mid-year meeting last week. You can read the mid-year reports from the National Committees and Board Members at:

<http://www.espnational.org/ncomm.htm>.

Thank you for all you do for ESP. It could not happen without you working at the chapter level.

Other Galaxy III Information:

- **Volunteers** are still needed for many jobs during Galaxy III. Go to <https://sharepoint.agriculture.purdue.edu/ces/galaxy/overview.aspx> to find your special place of service.
- The **Scholarship Auction** (at Galaxy) needs your items. Drop off will be near the Registration Desk on Monday and Tuesday. Note that you are donating the item for ESP so we get the money.
- Help is needed to host the **ESP Booths in the exhibit area**. If you would like to give an hour back to ESP, please let us know when on Tuesday and Wednesday you would be available to assist.

2008 Dues Renewals and New Memberships Still Being Accepted

If past ESP members would like to renew their membership, there is no penalty. ESP would love to have them back. The Member Recruitment and Retention Committee sent a message to all non-renewed members from 2007 encouraging them to re-up.

EPSILON SIGMA PHI
MEMBER SERVICES NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Award Nominations: Checklist for Winning Writers

- Review Section E: Member Services And Recognition Programs in the Member Handbook (See the web site at www.espnational.org or contact your state Member Services committee.)
- Typewritten
- Title, recognition category, candidate, state and chapter clearly identified on nomination form
- Two (2) 8 ½" X 11" pages (NOTE: Print on front and back of page so there is actually only one (1) piece of paper being submitted per nomination.)
- Head/shoulders photo of nominee(s), optional (If used, it can be printed on document.)
- 1-inch margins
- No less than 10 point type
- Full name, current address, title, e-mail address (If team, list all information for contact person and only name and title for other team members.)
- Educational background--dates, degrees, etc. (If team nomination, not required)
- Reverse chronological listing of employment, titles and dates emphasizing Extension employment record (If team nomination, not required)

Professional Accomplishments

- Achievements and honors related to Extension
- Authorships—books, bulletins, articles, newsletters, speeches
- Committee/task force/study group involvement—state, regional, national level
- Presentations—professional meetings, conferences
- Leadership positions—state, regional, national
- Contributions to professionalism through group and individual activities

Program Accomplishments

- Professional and leadership roles played in planning, implementing and administering policies, procedures, programs, and trends
- Collaborative efforts/partnerships/involvement
- Mechanisms used to carry out program/special efforts/challenges/limitations
- Impact examples documenting the benefits to clients
- Future applications
- Organizational support
- Quotes/comments from users

Summary Statements

- Statement of Support/Summary Statement: Concise, well written, easy-to-read narrative summary statement (50-75 words intended to place the nominee in a very positive light for the reader).
- If applying for scholarship please outline in detail how funds will be used. Please attach as separate sheet to your award application.
- Summary of ESP involvement in addition to program accomplishments

General Hints

- Make sure that the nomination has a clear purpose and is concise, focused, well organized, and well written.
- Select examples of programs, accomplishments, and recognitions that are career highlights and/or relate only to the recognition criteria. Or, select those accomplished in the last five or 10 years.
- Focus on guidelines on the nomination form.
- Detail accomplishments and impact.
- Describe how the nominee has made a difference in the community; and what efforts were required of individual or team.
- Describe unique characteristics of individual/program nominee.
- Proof completed nomination; have someone else review it.

GOOD LUCK!