Dear ESP Members

We are off to a busy start to the new year! In what will be a transitional year for OSU Extension, the ESP Board and membership are preparing to play a leadership role. The Board met in February and brainstormed initial ideas on ways to work with Extension professionals, the other associations, and administration to make a positive impact on the transition process. The Association Presidents and Vice-Presidents (ESP, OAEP, & CES) have our first meeting with Administrative Cabinet’s executive committee in March and will move ahead with the process. Please feel free to share any ideas, concerns, or suggestions with David Crawford (ESP Vice-President), any board member, or me. We will share more information via the ESP list serve and newsletter.

ESP is again co-sponsoring the Leadership for Tomorrow conference in April. Ohio ESP members are eligible for a $50 discount if they register for the entire conference. This is a great opportunity to attend a national conference without leaving Ohio. And an excellent chance to learn new leadership methods and trends. More information is available at: www.leadershipfortomorrow.osu.edu. Early bird registration ends on March 28, so please take a few minutes now to register. County directors who are ESP members need to be sure to select the ESP & county director registration option.

Thanks for all of your help and support!

Sincerely,
Jerry Thomas
Alpha Eta Chapter President
Epsilon Sigma Phi

Need a gift for an ESP Member who is retiring?
Consider a Life Membership to ESP? It would make a nice presentation at a retirement reception.
Retiree Report

Primarily due to family illness, I was unable to attend ESP Board meetings this year. Nonetheless, some work was accomplished. This report reflects the progress and/or actions taken on the items that were described in the 2007 ESP Retiree Report that I identified to be addressed in this second year of the term.

Meeting materials (accumulated during this term) and an ESP Life Member list have been incorporated into a notebook-file to pass on to the next Retiree ESP Board Member.

Working with the ESP Membership Chair, a brochure was designed especially for ESP members at retirement to describe and encourage Life Membership in ESP. A congratulatory letter and invitation to consider life membership was prepared to accompany this brochure. Another letter to accompany the brochure was designed for the host of a reception or event recognizing the retiree’s Extension service and career – to consider a gift of ESP Life Membership as a way to honor the retiree.

The ESP Membership Chair and the Retiree Board Member talked briefly about ESP at the Extension FCS/HE Reunion on June 17, 2008, focusing on Life Membership, financial contributions through ESP, and other selected programs and projects. The Retiree Board Member also attended the Extension Retirees Picnic in September where ESP President Karen Bruns presented summary highlights of work and accomplishments through the Alpha Eta Chapter.

A simple, small survey (convenience sample population) was conducted with retirees, half of whom are ESP Life Members and half are not. The purpose of the survey was to gain insight into why Extension retirees do or do not become Life Members of ESP, to gather suggestions or ideas for the Retiree ESP Board Member’s role, and to learn what expectations Extension Retirees (especially Life Members) might have of the Alpha Eta Chapter of ESP. A composite of the results of the survey were prepared and shared with the ESP President, the Membership Chair, and the Retiree ESP Board Member.

Deanna L. Tribe, OSU Extension Community Development Specialist (Retired)
Epsilon Sigma Phi - Scholarship Recipient Report

International Camping Congress – Quebec, City - Canada

During the first part of October, I had the privilege of traveling to Quebec City, Quebec, Canada to attend the 8th International Camping Congress. This year Quebec marked its 400th anniversary and it was evident in the festive atmosphere and historical charm throughout the city. The International Camping Congress (ICC) happens every 4 years and was filled with an amazing diversity of organizations, agencies, and individuals from around the world who value camping for young people. There were over 600 participants from more than 40 countries. 200 workshops and seminars were offered by presenters from over 20 countries. In addition to being a delegate from the US, I had the honor of presenting a workshop session highlighting my experience working with diverse groups of youth in camping. Participants in my session were from over 10 countries and had many questions which demonstrated the global commitment to camping. It was fascinating to learn about similarities and differences of how “camp” operates on a global scale.

The Congress was a unique international event, which afforded me opportunities to exchange ideas and create networks with camp representatives from various cultures and countries. I enjoyed discovering and exchanging ideas on new trends, developments, and other subjects affecting camping on a local and global scale. I got to network and explore partnerships with organizations located in other parts of the world, so that Ohio 4-H can benefit in the future and will be able to become even richer in our diversity.

I express my sincere appreciation to the membership of ESP for the generous support for my attending this wonderfully rich conference.

Steve Brady – Warren County

Upcoming Events:

April:
22 Board Meeting
27-29 JCEP - PILD Conference
28-30 Leadership for Tomorrow Conference: Exploring New Approaches

May:
20 Board meeting

June:
24 Board Meeting

September:
20 Excellence in Extension Nominations Due

EspMission

Epsilon Sigma Phi is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional.
Hello ESP members,

The various ESP committees are busy with awards and planning for our Annual Conference. Please be sure to thank the various committee members for all the work that they put into their committees. They really do help to move us forward as individuals and as an organization. I hope that you also consider joining a committee.

We also have two major committees working on current issues. The first is an ESP Structure Committee Chaired by Graham Cochran with David Crawford (President Elect), Greg Davis, and Treva Williams serving as members. To help our ESP chapter stay current relative to changes in OSU Extension and National ESP the committee is reviewing current ESP documentation and structure and has made recommendations to the Board. The committee investigated three issues and decided to: (1) recommend a change in the membership statement for the constitution that will be brought before the membership, (2) make no change at this time to geographic representation, and (3) make a change in committee name and function that was approved by the board. More details will be shared at the annual meeting.

The second committee is collecting information for an applied research project to find out best practices in Extension systems that have adopted regional program delivery and organizational models. The committee will be conducting focus groups with states that have or are moving to a regional system. Our goals is to develop a series of best practices that can be used in Ohio and other states. Committee membership is Tom Archer, Kirk Bloir, Maurus Brown, David Civittolo, Doris Herringshaw, Mike Hogan, Jack Kerrigan, Jeff King, and Jerry Thomas. We feel that both of these committees will help to keep ESP contemporary and to fulfill our mission of professional development.

This newsletter also includes information about the Alpha Eta Chapter’s participation at the National ESP meeting. Ohio once again received top individual and organizational awards. You will also find information about the 2010 Leadership for Tomorrow conference. ESP is a major sponsor in this professional development opportunity and also provides reduced conference rates for Alpha Eta Chapter members that attend the full conference. Please consider not only attending, but also submitting a proposal.

Take care and I hope to see all of you at our annual meeting.

Sincerely,

Jerry Thomas,
Alpha Eta Chapter President
Award Winners

Congratulations to the ESP Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter members on their National Awards

Ohio DSA – Treva Williams

Team – Gary Wilson, Barbara Brahm (attending to receive the award), Susan Russell, Steve Lichtensteiger, Angela Crist (Financial Education Program Coordinator), Kathy Biery (Office Associate), Peg Meents (Office Associate), Karen McDougal (Office Associate), Dawn Feller (Office Associate), & Patti Koester (FNP PA): Be Healthy Now.

North Central Mid-Career – Greg Davis

North Central Administrative Leadership – Karen Bruns

Chapter of Merit, Platinum Level (highest level possible): Alpha Eta Chapter

2009 Membership Increase: Alpha Eta Chapter

Academic Presentations

Our chapter was well represented at the conference with one poster and three presentations.

Posters
Forecasting Trends with an Organizational Environmental Scan. Jerold Thomas & David Crawford.

Presentations
-OSU Extension Competency Study: Developing a Core Ohio Competency Model for Extension Professionals. Graham Cochran.

-Increasing Organizational Effectiveness and Engagement Using Online Tools and Systems with eXtension. Jerold Thomas.

ESP Membership Information

Reasons why YOU should invest in yourself and your career by joining/renewing your ESP Membership for 2010

• Mini-grants and Scholarships
• Awards and Recognition on a state, regional and national level
• Opportunities for Professional Development
• Leadership Development

Click here for the membership dues and extension request for payment form.

Complete the membership form and pay your 2010 dues by October 15, 2009 in order to be eligible (in 2010) to vote on chapter business, apply for awards where a membership requirement exists, or to be a candidate for an officer or board member. You must be an Extension employee for at least 5 years to join ESP.

ESP is open to A&P staff and Faculty

Questions? E-mail Beth Flynn flynn.61@osu.edu or Brenda Young young.9@osu.edu

Annual Conference 2009

Save the date

December 16 & 17

Ramada Plaza Hotel, Columbus

ESP Mission

Epsilon Sigma Phi is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional
Call for Proposals
Leadership for Tomorrow: Strategies for Resurgence

Sponsored by Ohio State University Extension; Gist Endowed Chair for Extension Education and Leadership; Alpha Eta Chapter (Ohio) of Epsilon Sigma Phi; and The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

April 21-22, 2010
Columbus, Ohio

Proposals currently are being accepted for the Leadership for Tomorrow conference to be held in Columbus, Ohio, on April 21-22, 2010, sponsored by Ohio State University Extension; Gist Endowed Chair in Extension Education and Leadership; Alpha Eta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi; and The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Resurgence has been defined as “a rising again into life, activity or prominence.” The conference committee encourages submissions on skills and strategies needed for resurgence – leadership needed when the economy rebounds and recovers – from Extension professionals, scholars, practitioners, educators, business, law, military and community practitioners. We are seeking proposals for presentations that encourage critical thinking, discussion, and practical application. Concurrent breakout sessions will be 45 minutes in length. Examples of topics can include, but are not limited to:

- Entrepreneurship
- Innovation
- Communication/engagement
- Prioritizing
- Diversity
- Globalization
- Creating Prominence

(over)
Leadership for Tomorrow Call for Proposals

Guidelines:

The proposals will be judged based upon a 500-word maximum abstract and a 50-word short description. We also request that you send a brief biographical sketch of up to 75 words.

The proposal should be high quality and understandable for a diverse audience.

The proposal should be dynamic and creative.

The proposal should relate to the conference theme of leadership strategies for resurgence.

The proposal should add to the audience understanding of theory, research or knowledge related to the overall topic of leadership.

Selection Process:

The Ohio State University is coordinating a peer-review process.

Acceptance notices will be sent via e-mail by mid-January 2010.

Submission:

Please note that each concurrent breakout session presenter must register and pay registration fees for the conference.

You may submit multiple proposals. We reserve the right to edit proposals to meet space constraints or to combine sessions and individual submissions on similar topics.

The primary contact person will be the individual with whom we communicate. If you are the primary contact person for the proposal, it is your responsibility to notify your other presenters.

To submit a proposal, go to http://leadershipfortomorrow.osu.edu

Due by November 30, 2009

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Lekies, Ph.D., Proposal Committee