



Epsilon Sigma Phi

Gamma Chapter

Winter 2017

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President's Message

2016 proved to be an incredible year for Gamma Chapter. We were awarded the Platinum Award—Chapter of Merit for our accomplishments during the year and Platinum Award for our Achievement in Chapter Membership. We were well represented at the national level with members serving on national committees, presenters at the National Conference as well as national awardees.

I invite you to peruse this long awaited newsletter and as you read, please be thinking of who should be a member. We are invited to join Epsilon Sigma Phi due to our high quality work in programming and/or administration—who is missing? To whom should we be extending an invitation? Remember, our colleagues need only to be in their position for 6 months to be eligible for membership. Please encourage your colleagues to join ESP today.

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Save the Dates

*Award Nominations due **January 31, 2017**

*JCEP Leadership Conference is **February 8-9, 2017** in Orlando, Florida. The JCEP board invites all interested parties to attend this conference, not just those holding leadership positions in our associations.

*Call for Proposals (Posters/Seminars) National Conference due **March 20, 2017**

*PILD Conference is **April 2-5, 2017** in Arlington, Virginia. This is an excellent conference and is open to all.

*The National Conference will be **October 8-12, 2017** in Wilmington, North Carolina, based at the Grand Hotel. Watch for more details in the near future.



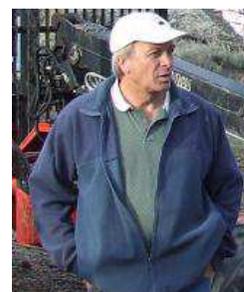
Meet your 2017 President



Bob Parker stepped in to the role of Gamma Chapter President last month. Bob is based in Baker County where his primary assignment is with the Forestry Programs for Baker and Grant Counties. Bob also serves as Baker County Extension Leader. Bob holds degrees from the University of Idaho in Wildlife Management and a Masters degree from OSU in Forest Resources.

During his career in Extension he has served in many leadership roles with the Society of American Foresters, Riparian Advisory Committee, Watershed Council and Small Woodlands Association. Bob is also known for his awesome Outdoor Education Program and 4-H Camp classes.

Bob is noted for his thoughtful, kind style. Welcome Bob!



Meet your President-Elect

Kevin Gamble has a 30+ year career with Cooperative Extension. He is currently working as a leadership and management consultant to the National eXtension Foundation. Prior to this he served as the Director of Knowledge Systems for Michigan State University Global before retiring in 2015. His primary responsibilities at Global were in working with the Global Center for Food Systems Innovation in deploying ICTs to reach small farmer stakeholders in Malawi and Ethiopia. He served as the Associate Director, and Chief Information Officer for eXtension from 2005-2013. He has worked for Extension at North Carolina State University (twenty years), Oregon State University, Iowa State University, and NIFA. He has a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Extension Education from Iowa State University. He is a life member of both Epsilon Sigma Phi and the National Association of Extension Program & Staff Development Professionals. Welcome, Kevin!



National ESP Report

First-Timer's Perspective

By Shanna Northway ~ Grant County

What a great learning opportunity! The location was beautiful and relaxing and we could not have asked for better weather at the end of October. It was amazing to be at a conference that had a very wide range of views and perspectives. ESP does a great job keeping both new, experienced, and retired agents engaged in their organization. This allowed me to gain insight from colleagues from across the Nation that have been through the growing pains that Extension has experienced, but have an understanding and a drive to continue to push Extension forward. Keeping our work relevant, services easily accessible, and Extension's mission in the forefront was definitely a reoccurring topic throughout the conference.

My experience started out with a breath taking ocean cruise aboard the American Star (Cape May Whale Watching and Research Center Boat). This experience was a combination of networking and learning. We had the chance to meet colleagues from across the nation while on the lookout for dolphins.

The speakers at this conference were top notch. They all brought a new and inspiring message that I could easily relate to my work. Matt Lohr spoke to us about building a lasting legacy by making sure we stay focused on our guiding values, making choices that have impact on our vision by being intentional, have unwavering determination, and lastly gladly serve. His story really spoke to me and I love his reminder to "gladly" serve. In the field of Extension we are asked to give so much to our work and we are always serving others, this was a reminder to serve others with the right attitude, feel it in your heart, and be thankful we have the opportunity to give back to the communities we live in.

Bob Andrzejczak opened our session on Wednesday morning with a tear jerking talk about overcoming great odds. His story, although tough to hear, was so inspirational. Often when things get tough we bail on important programs or community events but he reminded me that I have people that depend on me and our programs and even when things get tough and overwhelming that it is important to uphold your word and do what you said you would do. Push through when times get tough because you never know who might be waiting to cheer you. The failure to push through when times are tough may not open doors that will make things easier.

The conference capstone speaker Jennifer Smith spoke to us about "Game Changing Leadership." She was well prepared to speak to a room full of extension agents and told us from an outside perspective where we were missing huge opportunities to connect with people. I walked away wanting to create an eye popping infographic for our program and communicate our program's work in simple easy to understand language. She motivated me to take a long hard look at what we are doing in our program and why we are doing it. I walked away with new motivation to do the hard work it takes to continually make sure our programs are relevant, easy to understand, and easy to access.

During the first concurrent sessions I was able to learn about new programs that may enhance programming that we are already doing in my county. I learned that by engaging students through drawing, writing, and sculpting you can enhance their ability to connect to their environment. We do several programs that incorporate STEM and outdoor education, this session made me realize that there are some fun and easy ways to incorporate the arts into more of our current programs.

(con't) First-Timers' Perspective

The second concurrent session shed some light on new types of publications that are headed our way. How Extension needs to be ready to evaluate new types of scholarship and publications as well as what is currently being done to make sure academia is ready to support Extension faculty to review these new efforts in scholarship. The session inspired new ideas about how I can take information that already exists but make it more client friendly, for example taking fact sheets and turning them into infographics. I was also able to attend a concurrent session on teamwork, building a highly efficient team as well as understanding what qualities a dysfunctional team may have. Lastly I was given the opportunity to team teach a concurrent session with my mentor Mike Knutz. What a great opportunity to present in front of a very supportive audience.

Overall the conference was very well run and had great personal and professional development opportunities. We had the opportunity to have a long Q&A with Extension administrators that answered questions about the future of Extension and how they see us moving forward. It was so refreshing and exciting to know that we work in an organization that truly values innovation and technology. They really made me feel like I need to push harder to be more innovative and break outside of the norm of what Extension "normally" is to their community. It is our job to make sure that we keep this long running program relevant over the next 100 years! Looking back on the opportunity I walked away feeling reenergized and ready to innovate to bring our long running programs into the now. ESP is a very supportive close knit group of professionals that understands that there is enough room in the world of Extension for all of us to be successful. "Honk, Honk" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>



National Leadership



Congratulations to **Patricia Dawson**, Umatilla County, who served as National President for 2016 and Chairs the Scholarship, Grants & Recognition Committee in 2017.

Mike Kuntz, serves as the Western Region Contact on the National Public Issues Committee.

Kevin Gamble serves as the Western Region Contact on the Global Relations Development Committee for the 2016-2017 program year.

Lynette Black is serving as Western Region Contact for the National Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee.

Barbara Brody is providing leadership as Western Region Contact on the National Marketing Committee.

Nancy Kershaw is serving as Western Region Contact on the Resource Development and Management Committee.

Serving on a National ESP Committee is a fantastic leadership opportunity as well as a wonderful way to learn more about the ESP organization and the chance to meet and work with colleagues from across the country. Most groups meet via teleconference 3-6 times annually with a face-to-face meeting at the National Conference. Committee members do receive a \$200 stipend if they attend the National Meeting. Application to serve on committees are due April 1st ~ No Joke!



Honoring Our Members & Supporters

Congratulations to the following ESP Gamma Chapters Members for their excellence in Extension Programming

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) has been a professional organization dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional since 1929. It is the one organization that represents all Extension Program areas. Recognition is one of the ways in which ESP encourages excellence with the Extension System.

Distinguished Team Award

ESP believes in the concept that TEAM stands for Together Everyone Accomplishes More; and so we recognized those who have teamed up to deliver programs with impact. Teams must be comprised of 50% or more by ESP Members.

The **Distinguished Team Award** was awarded to **Youth Advocates for Health! - Teens as Teachers program team of:**

Mary Arnold, State 4-H Specialist
Carolyn Ashton, Benton County 4-H
Maggie Livesay, Benton County 4-H
Shanna Northway, Grant County 4-H
Barbara Brody, Malheur County 4-H, SNAP-Ed, FCH
Judi Peters, Polk County 4-H
Susan Hunt, Josephine County 4-H
Lynette Black, Wasco County 4-H
Maureen Hosty, Portland Metro 4-H



Youth Advocates for Health! -Teens as Teachers program builds teaching, leadership and self-confidence and self-efficacy in teens. Having teens teach children results in teens learning and adopting many of the health-related things they are teaching. Evaluation results have provided evidence to secure additional funding for program expansion, leading to increased sustainability and scope of the program. Adopted in Washington State, the YA4-HA Teens as Teachers curricula is published and recommended by the National 4-H Council. ESP also recognized this team with the National Award at their National Conference.

Distinguished Team Award

The ESP Diversity/Multicultural Recognition acknowledges outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs that engage underserved audiences. ESP provides an Individual and a team award. Both Oregon's awardees were recognized as Regional Winners at the National 2016 ESP Conference.

Recognized by National ESP with the Diversity/Multicultural Team Award is Nutrition Educator Maria Falcon & 4-H Faculty Member Mike Knutz from Yamhill County.

With 13% Latino youth served in 4-H, when Latino youth represent 23%, Mike teamed with Maria to offer Healthy Kids Clubs. This outreach effort provides hands-on nutrition education and physical activities to elementary and middle school aged youth. Facilitated in community rooms within low-income housing developments, the program has served over 150 youth - over 90% are Latino children. Nearly 100% of participants agreed that they now: make food choices based on what body needs, make healthful food choices, match food intake to number of calories needed each day, consume more fruits, veggies, whole grains, water, and less junk food and soda.



Receiving the Chapter Award for Diversity/Multicultural programming is: Luisa Santamaria.

Now promoted to associate professor, Luisa is a bilingual plant pathologist who teaches nursery workers how to prevent the introduction and spread of plant diseases and pests. She tours their greenhouses and fields, pointing out potentially problematic areas and assists them in implementing best practices. In the last six years, she has trained nearly 1,000 nursery workers from over 25 businesses. Her efforts to increasing nursery workers' knowledge has helped in curtailing disease outbreaks and decreasing spray costs.



International Service Award

International Service Award recognizes an Epsilon Sigma Phi member who has contributed significantly to the development and/or expansion of an Extension program in another country or countries through in-state and/or overseas work. This year's awardee; **Shana Withee**, received National level recognition as well.

Shana Withee's commitment to international programming began as a Youth Development Project Volunteer working in Thailand in the early 80's. Over her 27-year tenure as the 4-H Extension Professional in Harney County, her commitment to 4-H Global Citizenship/International Exchange Program has resulted in:

- 41 youth and two adults have traveled to Japan
- Harney County has hosted two high school FLEX delegates from Russia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan—in addition to students from Japan and South Korea
- Over 170 Harney County Families have hosted over 256 Japanese youth

With that track record, it's not surprising that Shana was tapped to serve as state coordinator for the Japanese Summer outbound/inbound programs.



Early Career Service Award

The Early Career Service Award recognizes the achievements of a rising professional who has shown noteworthy enthusiasm, performance, and accomplishment in program design and delivery with less than 10 years of service.

ESP is proud to recognize **Patty Skinkis** with this Award. Since beginning her work as the State Extension Viticulture Specialist in 2007, Patty has developed the Statewide Crop Load Project involving 15 Oregon vineyard and winery businesses spanning across 5 American Viticultural Areas with the purpose to research increasing yields while not compromising fruit and wine quality. She has authored over 15 refereed journal articles and 26 OSU Extension Publications. She was named the Visionary Horticulturist by the American Society of Horticultural Science in 2014. Congratulations Patty!



Mid-Career Service Award

The Mid Career Service Award recognizes Extension professionals with 10-20 years of service who have exhibited continuing leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, and evaluation in program and/or administration.

This year's recipient is **Lynette Black**. In the 8 years Lynette has been the 4-H Agent for Wasco County she has grown the program from 300 traditional 4-H club members to reaching over 2000 youth with traditional club programming and afterschool, comprehensive in-school, specialized day camp, and residential camp programs. In addition to being 4-H Faculty, she is the EDEN (Extension Disaster Education Network) representative for Oregon and the County Leader for Wasco County Extension Service. This past year, Lynette was chosen to serve the state 4-H Program as the specialist for Expressive Arts and Family Consumer Science programming.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an experienced Extension professional who has consistently exhibited continuing leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation over a career of 20 or more years.

Shana Withee is both the chapter and National DSA winner. Shana runs an extraordinary 4-H program, with over 250 youth enrolled. She has a talent for keeping older youth involved. With a population of fewer than 7,000 and large uninhabited spaces, Harney County is considered frontier. Throughout her 30-year tenure in Harney County, Shanna has constantly secured funds for new and innovative programming. She currently has a day camp – "4-H Fun Fridays" held when schools are closed. Shana recently took leadership for Oregon's Summer International Exchange Programs.

Continued Excellence Award

The Continued Excellence Award is reserved for those individuals with more than 20 years of service who after receiving the DSA have continued to exhibit leadership, initiative, and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, and or administration.

Lyla Houglum is our chapter and national winner. Lyla's long and distinguished extension career began as a County Agent in Montana in Home Economics, 4-H and Community Development. However, this photo may suggest that her timeless leadership may have contributed to the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 which authorized the Cooperative Extension Service Nationwide. Senator Michael Hoke Smith is on her right while Senator Frank Lever is at her left.

Some of Lyla's other endeavors include serving Oregon as a state 4-H Specialist and Dean of Extension. Lyla served as an Emcee at the NAE4HA Conference last year and has long used her eloquent speaking skills to advocate for Extension in Oregon as well as Washington D.C. Lyla serves on the Budget and Legislative Committee within the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) and the Executive Committee of the Western Extension Directors Association (WEDA) and National Association of Counties Extension liaison committee.

Visionary Leadership Award

The Visionary Leadership Award is designed to recognize Extension professionals whose significant accomplishments have resulted in leading Extension forward in new directions.

Under Jeff Sherman's leadership, the Open Campus and Juntos have expanded from three counties to 14 of Oregon's 36 Counties. Both programs have brought communities together to support and motivate students to continue their education after High School. Each program site boasts 100% high school graduation rates and 100% post-secondary access. Jeff Sherman has been visionary in his ability to leverage partners, generate funds, and lead OSU efforts to reach underserved audiences and expand the network of Outreach & Engagement and the OSU Extension Service. Jeff is the coordinator of the Leadership Development Program for Executives, the OSU Engagement Academy and Bus tour, and other emerging Strategic Initiatives at OSU. Jeff received this award by National ESP as well.



Administrative Leadership Award

Administrative Leadership Award goes Barbara Brody for her noteworthy administrative enthusiasm, performance, and collegial skills that have enabled her to build strong community partnerships and expand Extension programming. Her outreach programs reach undeserved audiences in Malheur County, which has the highest poverty rate of Oregon Counties. Barbara has been recognized by National ESP for her work as an Extension Professional. She has secured \$65,000 of grant funding, manages the SNAP-Ed budget of \$127,000, across two counties, 2 staff and over 75 volunteers. One program assistant credits Barbara for "leading by example" and "a mentor with a true passion for the work."



New National ESP Award

Nominations for the 2017 JCEP Creative Excellence award are now being accepted. The overall goal of the award is to provide recognition for creativity and innovation, especially around emerging issues. The National ESP winner will receive \$250 award and be submitted for consideration of the overall JCEP National Award which includes \$1,000 and an opportunity to present at the 2018 JCEP Conference in Orlando, FL. The application form can be found by going to <http://jcep.org> under the JCEP Awards tab on the homepage. The nomination packet must be submitted **no later than March 1, 2017** to be considered for the ESP Association nominee. Contact patricia.dawson@oregonstate.edu if you have any questions.

2016 National Friend of Extension Award

2016 National Friend of Extension Award goes to Oregon's Cliff and Judy Bracher – (Extension Volunteer / Lay Leader).

Gamma Chapter was thrilled to host the Bracher family during the National Conference in Cape May, New Jersey where they were honored. A total of nine Bracher family & friends journeyed across the country to accept the award.

The bio for the family noted the following: The Cliff and Judy Bracher family has been the go-to family working with Oregon State University Extension as full partners in educational delivery ranging from 4-H Youth Development to Agriculture at the local and state level for over 50 years. Their initiative, vision and advocacy have helped expand OSU efforts throughout the nation benefitting thousands of lives. Unique to the family's connection with Extension is their multi-disciplinary engagement with several Extension Agents in a ten county region as well as the fact that all generations of the Bracher family provide Extension leadership. They have been tremendous supporters of the OSU Extension Service and Experiment Stations in Oregon serving in leadership roles on the Extension Citizens Advisory Network, 4-H advisory boards and state development boards. Annually, the family logs in over 800 hundred hours of Extension service ranging from leadership at Advisory Board sessions to teaching volunteer leaders. Without a doubt, the Brachers are true friends of Extension.



Congratulations ESP National Award Recipients

The following were honored as National winners at the 2016 National Conference in Cape May, New Jersey. Congratulations!

Shana Withee ~ International Service

Lyla Houglum ~ Continued Excellence

Shana Withee ~ Distinguished Service

Jeff Sherman ~ Visionary Leadership

Maria Falcom & Mike Kuntz ~ Diversity/Multicultural Team Award

Youth Advocates for Health—Distinguished Team

Oregon in the Spotlight

Gamma Chapter assisted with the National 2016 Conference in many ways. It was exciting to have our own Pamela Rose serve as a key participant during the "Dialogue with Administrators," and to have Barbara Brody and Lynette Black open General Sessions with "Thoughts for the Day."

Way to go Gamma Chapter!



Gamma President Barbara Brady conducts "Morning Thoughts for the Day."



Pamela Rose
Dialogue with Administrators



Lynette Black Shares
"Closing Thoughts for the Day."

Accepting ESP Award Nominations

Mike Kuntz, Awards Chair

Dear ESP Members,

Now that we just finished with Awards at Annual Extension Conference, It's time to start the cycle again. Either apply yourself and/or think about your colleagues who have impressed or inspired you this past year and nominate them for an ESP Award. State Winners will be nominated for national recognition as well. The 2017 ESP National Conference will be held at Wilmington, North Carolina, October 8-12, 2017. Please consider submitting a proposal to present at this year's National ESP Conference. If you are accepted, your conference registration will be covered.

All award nominations are due January 31.

Service Recognition <http://recognition.espnational.org/service-awards>

- Early Career (<10 yrs.)
- Mid Career (10-20 yrs.)
- DSA (over 20 yrs.)
- Continued Service (previous DSA winners)
- International Service

Leader Recognition <http://recognition.espnational.org/leadership-awards>

- Administrative Leadership
- Visionary Leadership

Other Recognition <http://recognition.espnational.org/other-recognition>

- Diversity/Multi-cultural (Ind.)
- Diversity/Multi-cultural (Team)
- Distinguished Team

***Note: When you go to the awards link you will find award section header tabs (Service Awards, Leadership Awards, Other Recognition). Click the respective link to take you to the online application form.**



ESP Award Descriptions

<p>Friend of Extension Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This is the highest recognition presented by an Epsilon Sigma Phi chapter to a non-Extension (lay) person, company or organization and is designed to recognize truly outstanding support and personal involvement in Extension efforts.</p>
<p>Early Career Service Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This recognition is designed to recognize the achievements of rising young professionals who have shown noteworthy enthusiasm, performance, and accomplishment during their early Extension careers (less than 10 years) in program design and delivery.</p>
<p>Mid-Career Service Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This recognition is designed to pay tribute to an experienced Extension professional (with 10-20 years of service) that has exhibited continuing leadership and excellence in State Extension program planning, delivery, and evaluation in program and/or administration.</p>
<p>Distinguished Service Recognition Certificate/pin</p>	<p>Awarded to an experienced Extension professional who has consistently exhibited continuing leadership and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation, in program and/or administration over a career of 20 or more years. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination.</p>
<p>Continued Excellence Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>Awarded to an experienced Extension professional with twenty-plus years of experience who has exhibited continued leadership, initiative, and excellence in Extension program planning, delivery, evaluation in program or administration, on a state, regional and/or national level in the years after receiving the state DSA award. Data supporting measurable impacts of the candidate's work in meeting the needs of clientele will strengthen the nomination.</p>
<p>Administrative Leadership Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This gives recognition to an Extension Professional who has shown noteworthy administrative enthusiasm, performance, and accomplishment during their Extension careers (10 years or more). Administrative leadership may be at county, regional, Chapter, program, department, or national level. Documentation of the candidate's work in meeting the needs and furthering the efforts of supervised faculty, staff and/or program should be primary in this recognition.</p>
<p>Visionary Leadership Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This recognition is designed to recognize Extension professionals whose significant accomplishments have resulted in leading Extension forward in new directions. This person's visionary leadership enabled Extension to anticipate a significant new opportunity and developed support to implement program organizational changes necessary to achieve success.</p>



(con't) ESP Award Descriptions

<p>Diversity/Multicultural Individual Recognition Certificates</p>	<p>The ESP Diversity/Multicultural Recognition acknowledges outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs and/or audiences in our diverse and multicultural society. Diversity refers to the fact that our community, both locally and nationally, is comprised of many individuals, each having unique attributes based on a variety of social, physical, and cultural characteristics. Multiculturalism is a philosophy that recognizes, accepts, and integrates the contributions and achievements of all people into the social and economic fabric of the community in which they exist. Multiculturalism requires an understanding of and respect for the historical bases of the belief systems and traditions of various groups to develop their members socially, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, and physically. Nominations should show understanding, valuing and celebrating differences among people relative to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status and sexual orientation (List is not all-inclusive and not limited to those mentioned.) Nominee whose innovative programming reinforces the organization's commitment to reaching diverse audiences.</p>
<p>Diversity/Multicultural Team Recognition Certificates to each team member</p>	<p>See above At least 50% of team members eligible for ESP membership must be current members.</p>
<p>International Service Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>This recognition is available to Epsilon Sigma Phi members 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.</p>
<p>Distinguished Team Recognition Certificates to each team member</p>	<p>This recognition is designed to recognize outstanding efforts on the part of a team of Extension staff in responding to and incorporating into a specific educational program one or more of the National Initiatives identified by the Extension System. At least 50% of team members eligible for ESP membership must be current members.</p>
<p>Meritorious Support Service Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>Designed to pay tribute to a staff member (non-faculty) over time, have shown support for the mission, program, and professional staff of Cooperative Extension. Such persons include secretaries, program assistants, camp directors, motor pool managers, public distribution clerks, print shop operators, budget analysts, computer operators and others.</p>
<p>Retiree Service Certificate</p>	<p>This recognition is designed to recognize continuing contributions and outstanding service by retired Extension professionals.</p>
<p>25-Year Recognition Certificate</p>	<p>As many members per state as reach 25 year tenure level</p>



National Presenters

Oregon was well represented at the 2016 National Conference. The following members shared their expertise as Seminar and Poster Session Presenters.

National Concurrent Seminar Presenters

~Turning the Tide to Engage Latino Youth and Families in Extension Programs

Presenters: *Barbara Brody, Liliana Vega, Missy Cummins and Judith McShane*

~Brain Centered Teaching: Engaging the Learner More Effectively

Presenters: *Mike Kuntz and Shanna Northway*

Ignite Sessions

~Trauma-Informed Extension Service

Presenter: *Lynette Black*

National Poster Presenters

~YA4-H! Youth Advocates for Health: The Impact of 4-H Teens a Teachers Program

Presenter: *Barbara Brody*

~Preparing for Disasters

Presenter: *Lynette Black*

~Turning the Tide for Healthy Lifestyles

Presenter: *Nancy Kershaw*

~Polk County Family Fun Nights

Presenter: *Susan Busler*



Thank You Gamma Chapter Members

It has been a true honor to serve as your National ESP President. Without a doubt, Epsilon Sigma Phi members are the gem of the Extension Service. Your leadership, innovation, and ongoing efforts to strengthen our Extension System are noteworthy. I have met so many phenomenal colleagues through ESP and appreciate your dedication to the profession and most importantly, your friendships.

I am grateful to each and every one of you who have supported me during my journey as President. You have been my cheerleaders, my advisors and my helping hands. It has been such a privilege to have you at my side.

I have been very proud of my OSU colleagues as you stood in the spotlight this year. Gamma Chapter had the highest number of members serving on National Committees in 2016, received numerous National Awards including the "National Friends of Extension," served as conference seminar & poster presenters as well as program facilitators. Hats off to Barbara Brody and Lynette Black for sharing powerful "Thoughts for the Day" during the National Conference...you made Oregon shine!!!

I will be forever humbled with the incredible generosity of our membership in supporting the ESP President's Key in my honor with over \$5800 in contributions made to the Professional Development fund. Thank you for the Gamma Chapter donation of \$2,000 in my honor as well as your many individual contributions. I am indeed overwhelmed with your thoughtfulness and dedication to support the President's Key.

One of my platforms this past year was to increase Professional Development opportunities for all members via technology as I truly understand how challenging it is to travel to Conferences for Professional Development. I was pleased that every National Committee rose to the challenge with a variety of webinars ranging from "Creating Inclusive Extension Spaces & Programming," "Using Surveys to Develop Successful Fund Raising Strategies" and "Creating International Extension Programs." These sessions as well as our National Conference Seminars and Keynotes have also been posted on the National website for ongoing professional development use.

I have one year left on the National Board as Past President and Chair of the Scholarship, Grants and Recognition Committee. Nominations for positions on the National Board are now being accepted with applications due April 1st for the Western Region Vice President and the 2nd Vice President position (this is the first year of a 4 year commitment leading to National President position and must be someone from the Western Region). Give me a call if you would like details about either of these leadership opportunities. I assure you that you will not regret the experience.





2017 National Conference—October 8-12, 2017

Wilmington, North Carolina

ESP in NC—Nothing Could be Finer!

Conference Objectives

- Provide opportunities for ALL Extension professionals to make scholarly presentations as well as to participate in personal and professional development
- Encourage and promote interdisciplinary programming and diversity of Extension programs
- Recognize members for excellence in programming
- Provide opportunities for ESP members to present programs of interest to retirees/life members

Request for Abstracts

The ESP Professional Development Committee is seeking proposals for Concurrent, Poster and Lightning Presentations that reflect the best thinking in Extension informed by research theory or practice. ESP members are invited to submit. The committee invites proposals that:

- Apply to a broad cross section of conference attendees
- Are learner-focused with clearly defined outcomes
- Are based upon a foundation of research, theory or practical application
- Showcase a collaboration and team effort in planning and delivery of project
- Reflect innovation and cutting edge content
- Stimulate and provoke audience engagement and adoption of new practices

Proposals will be submitted via the ESP website, <http://espnational.org>. Proposals require a 300-word abstract and a 50-word summary. Abstracts will undergo a blind review process to select those to be presented at the conference. Scoring criteria details can be found on the ESP website. Deadline for online submission of abstracts is March 20, 2017. Authors will be notified of their selection by May 2017.

Concurrent Session Presentations

- Concurrent Presentations will each be 60 minutes in length. Presenters should include at least 10 minutes for questions and discussion within this time.
- A Concurrent Session Presentation may be a presentation, panel discussion, round table discussion, hands-on demonstration or any other appropriate methodology.
- Presentation and materials must be submitted to the ESP National Office for posting on the web site.
- One stipend will be given to the lead presenter of a Concurrent Presentation if that presenter fulfills all requirements to receive a stipend. See "Stipends for Current ESP Members" below.
- Please indicate whether the proposal could be a Lightning Presentation or Poster Presentation if not accepted for a Concurrent Session Presentation.

Lightning Presentations

- Each presentation will be five minutes long. Presenters should cover a specific topic and may use visuals (PowerPoint slides, etc.).
- Each presentation will have up to three additional minutes for questions and answers.
- Presentation must be submitted to the ESP National Office for posting on the website.
- One stipend will be given to the presenter of Lightning Presentation if that presenter fulfills all requirements to receive a stipend. See "Stipends for Current ESP Members" below.
- Please indicate whether the proposal could be a Poster Presentation if not accepted for a Lightning Presentation.

Poster Presentations

- Maximum poster size is 36"x48". Posters that are not self-supporting will be displayed on table-top easels, provided by the host state. Poster board to mount the poster will be provided by the host state, *if requested prior to the conference*. Half of a 6'x30" skirted table will be available to poster presenters, *if requested prior to the conference*. Please indicate display needs on proposal.
- All posters selected to be exhibited during the National ESP Conference will undergo an additional review by a subcommittee of the ESP Professional Development Committee. Based on judging scores, up to 10 exhibited posters will be selected to receive an additional \$100 stipend.
- During this review, posters will be judged upon: Adherence to Poster Guidelines, Educational Value, Display Design, and Relevancy to Audience. (You will have a link to scoring criteria in the Request for Abstracts section)
- Poster presenters will be expected to be present during a specified time to discuss their posters.

Additional Presenter Guidelines and Information

All Concurrent, Poster and Lightning presentation authors/presenters are responsible for:

- Personal expenses including registration for the **entire** conference, travel, lodging, equipment rental and handouts
- Making their presentation during their assigned time slot
- Being available for consultation with participants immediately following their presentation

All presenters **MUST** register for the conference and are expected to attend the **entire** conference. Proposal abstracts must include only those presenters who are committed to attend the conference. A person may be the lead presenter on only one proposal submission. A person may be included as a co-presenter on one additional proposal submission.

Stipends for Current ESP Members

Selected presenters who are current ESP members and participate in the entire National Conference may qualify for a stipend: Concurrent Session Presentation \$250, Lightning Presentation \$100, Poster Presentation \$100 (up to 10 additional \$100 stipends awarded to top-scoring posters). Other stipends are provided for: official National Committee Members \$200 (must attend and sign-in for your regional meeting and committee meetings during the conference), and Council Delegates \$200 (must be registered as a delegate, attend the regional meeting and check-in and attend as a voting delegate for your state at the National Council meeting). A member is eligible to receive only one stipend. The stipend with the highest value will be awarded.

Visit the ESP website to submit a proposal between January 1, 2107 and March 20, 2017.

Submit a Concurrent Session Proposal

Submit an Ignite Session Proposal

Submit a Poster Session Proposal

