

Southern Region FCS Program Leaders Network
Minutes of Conference call
JANUARY 12, 2012 – 9:00 AM CST/10:00 AM EST

Attending: Monica Fields, SC State; Jorge Atilas, OK State; Jenna Anding, TX AgriLife; Susan Barefoot, Clemson, SC; Jenell Kelly, NC AT& T; Dorothy Wilson, Langston University OK; Laurie Cantrell and Elizabeth Andress, GA; Laura Stephenson, KY; Kasundra Cyrus, Southern University, LA; Thelma Sanders-Hunter, TN State; Evelyn Crayton, AL. Advisors: Gina Eubanks

November Minutes. Available at: http://srpln.msstate.edu/fcs/fcs_minutes_11-11.pdf . Susan Barefoot, moved to accept, Kasundra Cyrus second. Minutes will be archived.

Advisors Report

- 1890 Advisor – Gina Eubanks reported the Association of Extension Administrators (AEA) is considering their participation in the Battelle Study. The AEA Winter meeting is scheduled in New Orleans, LA the week of January 30, 2012. The Association will dedicate a significant amount of time at the AEA system wide conference on the Extension model and delivery of Extension programs. The conference will be convened the week of June 24-28, 2012. Dr. Eubanks will send a link/information to the conference to the listserv. She encouraged us to read emails carefully so that we respond to information in a timely manner such as information related to EFNEP, Extension, etc. It is extremely important that you respond to surveys and let decision makers know our point of view.
- 1862 Advisor – Millie Ferrer-Chancy – Report received via email:
Winning Teams and Winning Grants- This past December (13-14) the Southern Region Directors assigned individual specialists to attend training on “Winning Teams and Winning Grants.” The purpose was for the SR to have faculty build team that lead to integrated competitive proposals. At this point Ron Brown and Eric Young have sent a survey to those specialists that attended the training to find out if they thought the workshop was useful and to facilitate progress in building teams that that lead to competitive proposals.
Battelle Study - The Southern Region Directors recently had a conference call to hear more about the North Central region's experience with the recent study conducted by Battelle on economic development of their region. After the discussion it was decided that Eric and Ron would poll all the SR Directors to make sure we had a consensus to move forward with the idea of a similar study for the Southern region but perhaps include a social component. It was also decided to invite the 1890's to be part of this study. This would make the study more comprehensive and politically effective.

PLC Representative Report. Update on plans for 2012 conference in Florida

1890 PLC Representative, Kasundra Cyrus reported on the results of the Atlanta planning meeting for this year's conference. The committee reviewed the conference evaluations. Concerns voiced were that registration costs were high and communication requesting exhibits was inadequate. Dr. Cyrus requested suggestions for evaluation logistics to gain maximum input (i.e. email follow-up)? She reminded all to open emails and respond when conference information is disseminated. Ideas for topical areas of interest at the meeting that had been discussed were social media and administrative support strategies.

Update on Southern Region FCS Program Leaders Network Spring Meeting.

Jorge Atilas reminded group to respond to his email request to indicate your plans to attend the meeting. The Southern Region meeting will be held on Wednesday March 7, 2012. 8:00 to 10:45 am @ Monticello Room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. Information on registration: <http://www.thebohs.org/>

SnapEd Update. Shirley Hastings was not in attendance this time. We will discuss these at later call.

- a. Discuss timeframe for a webinar
- b. Other regional funding issues.

Cross PLN Committee updates:

Obesity; military families; climate change, food; social marketing; national indicators, farm health and safety are the Cross PLN Committees. No information was available for any of the committees.

eXtension FCS module development update. Jacquelyn White. Nothing new to report.

Food Safety/ServSafe survey update.

Elizabeth Andress reported that she had made follow-up contact with Texas specialists to ask about the status of Servsafe. Servsafe is not offered as a curriculum choice for Extension in Texas. They have a curriculum that had been certified by Texas Public Health. The question was posed, Do we want to pursue a broader regional food safety survey or do we want to capture servsafe data? The decision was made that we take a broad approach. Dr. Andress will take the leadership to develop a broad regional food safety survey to include Servsafe as well as other aspects of food safety outreach.

ECOP BoHS Liaison Update.

Jorge Atilas reported that

- Doug Steele has assumed the role as new chair for ECOP. Dr. Steele will attend and share information at BoHs from ECOP.
- ECOP has prepared a survey for directors to explore the future strategic opportunities for Extension. There are not many responses from FCS. Please make sure that your institution's BoHS representative has responded: This survey will close by January 17. The survey can be found at <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22E7PKTNBYP>

Follow up on Action and Information Items to Directors:

- *Regional Caregivers Conference in September 2012.* Thelma Sanders-Hunter reported on the progress of the conference. Bonnie Parsons is Chair of the Planning Committee. The conference will be held at the Ramada Charleston Downtown, Charleston, West VA. Sept 11-13, 2012. Theme will be: Maximizing your Resources: Capitalizing on your Strengths. Contact Dr Parsons if there are others from our institutions that would want to be involved in conference planning.
- *NIFA-proposed Indicators, Discuss with ECOP, NIFA and ASHRED* – Concerns were communicated with all levels of administration in these organizations to make sure that Extension needs are included and effective ways to collect the data are discussed before final decisions are made on national indicators.
- *SR – Web-based Survey on our work on Obesity* (due July 2012). Kris Grimes – no report

- *Registered Dietitian's credential for educators.* Evelyn Crayton reported that 18 people have enrolled in the first class. Dominican University representative has completed her rounds. The first class will prep for the exam in the next few months and will set for the exam this summer.

Caring Hands update. Texas is still taking care of the logistics of this account. Transfer to Southern Region account has not been completed yet due to logistical issues. Currently we have \$1958 balance. The motion was made by Thelma Sanders-Hunter that we increase the retirement gift amount from \$125 to \$150, Monica Fields second. Hearing no dissension motion passed that the gift amount will increase to \$150.

Announcements by States:

- *Alabama* – People received raises this year
- *Florida* -Dr. Nayda Torres will retire August 1st, 2012 but her last day at work is April 19, 2012.
- *Georgia* –Associate Dean FACS search is underway, currently hiring agents
- *Kentucky* – Holding steady at county levels hiring agents as county stopgap funds and state funds are available
- *North Carolina*- Hired a new nutrition specialist and EFNEP coordinator
- *Oklahoma* – Both universities reported that they were holding steady, filling vacancies cautiously
- *South Carolina* – Both universities reported there had been no hiring due to financial situation. This is the first time in nine years the Governor did not recommend a budget cut
- *Tennessee State University* - One applicant had applied for the Program leader position – no decision made at this time