

PLN FCS Committee Notes

August 19,20, & 21, Fort Worth, Texas

Attendance:

Alabama: Jatunn Gibson, Auburn

Arkansas: Lisa Washburn, University of Arkansas

Florida: Michael Gutter, University of Florida

Georgia: Debbie Murray, University of Georgia

Kentucky: Kris Grimes, Joanne Bankston, Kentucky State University; Cherry Kay Smith, University of Kentucky

Louisiana: Karen Overstreet, Louisiana State University, Kasandra Cyrus, Southern University

Mississippi: Paula Threadgill, Mississippi State University

North Carolina: Claudette Smith, North Carolina A&T State University

Oklahoma: Jorge Atilas, Oklahoma State University

South Carolina: Crystal Stanford, South Carolina State University

Tennessee: Leslie Speller, Tennessee State University, Laura Stephenson, University of Tennessee

Texas: Carol Rice, Texas A&M University, Jacquelyn White, Prairie View A&M University

Virginia: Novella Ruffin, Debra Jones, Virginia State University

West Virginia, Bonnie Dunn, Kelli Batch West Virginia State University

Advisors: Karen Ramage, University of Kentucky and Gina Eubanks, Louisiana State University and Southern University

USDA-NIFA: Dr. Robert Holland

Tuesday

Welcome: Kris Grimes, Co-Chair

New Program Leaders were recognized and welcomed.

Committee members and institutional representatives introduced themselves and gave highlights from their state reports. Institutions were encouraged to complete state reports and submit them to the secretary for posting on the PLN Network website.

Center for Nutrition Excellence Discussion

At least three proposals were submitted from the region representing multiple institutions. Discussion centered on the region being actively involved with the successful center institution. Concerns centered on the short turnaround and the expectations with not that much funding for this RFA. Our advisor Dr. Eubanks urged us to provide positive feedback on the centers.

An action item on the Center for Excellence will be submitted to the directors.

Administrative Update from advisors Dr. Eubanks and Karen Ramage

The 1890's will be celebrating the 125 anniversary 2nd Morrill Act next year. Dr. Ryan and Dr. Brooks will be leading the celebration. Jorge Atilas and Gina Eubank published in JOE a commentary about FCS contributions to Extension during the 100 years of Extension.

http://www.joe.org/joe/2014june/pdf/JOE_v52_3comm1.pdf

It is very important for our members encourage FCS specialists and members to apply for the APLU Excellence in Extension Awards. <http://www.aplu.org/page.aspx?pid=505>

The Joint COPS meeting on Health and Wellness held in San Diego was discussed. Positive feedback is very important. FCS **must** “step up to the plate.” The Directors are developing training on the Farm Bill, what is in it. They have asked for clarifications on the Centers as proposed in the Farm Bill and what is our connection to the centers. As we look at indicators for impact we need to make sure we are determining indicators for base programs too.

Announcements

UK Spain Study Tour will be next summer. Several members of our group attended the Italy study tour this past year and highly recommended it to the group. Send an email to Ann Vail ann.vail@uky.edu or Cherry Kay Smith cherrykay.smith@uky.edu for more information and to let them know you are interested.

Joanne Bankston, Kentucky State University, asked program leaders to share information (Handout) for the **2014 Association of Home Equipment Educators** to be held in Louisville, Kentucky November 5-7. There will be a tour of GE Appliance Manufacturer, an event at Churchill Downs, and a research day. The registration fee will be \$100.

Wednesday

Presentation: **ECOP Health Extension Framework**: Carol Rice, Texas A & M University and ECOP Health and Wellness Task Force Committee member

Carol shared a **handout** of an overview of the report of the Health Task Force committee report. (Handout)

Task Force Report can be viewed at: <https://www.aplu.org/document.doc?id=5134>

Carol shared examples of what was happening in Texas and members discussed implications of the new framework and the leadership role of FCS.

One recommendation from the task force was: **To provide an outstanding professional development opportunity for internal and external audiences; implement a National Health Outreach Conference.** Formerly, the “Jeanne C. Priester” National Health Extension Conference, in which the “Priester” name will be retained and utilized for a keynote address, or some targeted aspect of the conference for ongoing memorial tribute, but rename the actual conference for the purpose of greater integration of health stakeholders and current cultural change. The National Health Outreach conference will be held May 6-8 in Atlanta, Georgia. <http://www.nationalhealthoutreach.org/>

NIFA UPDATE

Dr. Robert Holland, Deputy Director of NIFA http://www.nifa.usda.gov/about/AllUnits/staff_view.cfm?record_id=4864

Dr. Holland shared insight from his work on this year’s farm bill and the questions that congress asked regarding EFNEP and SNAP-Ed that cannot be answered with the existing evaluation and indicators that we assess in those two programs. The Wardlaw and Baker **Long-term evaluation of EFNEP and SNAP-Ed** study was cited as an example of evidence needed. <http://ncsu.edu/ffci/publications/2012/v17-n2-2012-summer-fall/wardlaw-baker.php>

Dr. Holland shared insights on the direction congress is going with expecting more rigorous evaluation for the more than a half Billion Dollars spent on nutrition education. Dr. Holland chairs a multi-agency task force on nutrition, health, wellness, and environment. Extension’s role will be discussed and our incoming ECOP Chair and Health and Wellness Task Force Chair, Michelle Rodgers, University of Delaware, will be part of that discussion.

Dr. Holland shared a new opportunity resulting from the Farm Bill. The Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) program. The **Food Insecurity and Nutrition Incentive grants** will provide Federal matching funds to organizations that provide food in communities for projects that encourage SNAP recipients to purchase fruits and vegetables by reducing their cost. The grant program is funded at \$100 million over 5 years, with an additional \$5 million authorized per year through FY2018.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/agricultural-act-of-2014-highlights-and-implications/nutrition.aspx>

The Community Food Program , <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/communityfoodprojects.cfm> will provide **\$5** mil for projects up to \$250,000.

Dr. Holland reminded everyone that the EFNEP formula mechanism had not been evaluated since 1982 and then needs to be accomplished.

Food Safety Modernization Act. There should be an announcement regarding this in 2015. There will be a role for Extension.

Dr. Holland asked program leaders to let himself or Helen Chipman know of any concerns they have with the process for the RFA for the Centers of Excellence for SNAP-Ed and EFNEP

ReadyCommunity Presentation and Discussion: Kris Grimes

A companion to FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, ReadyCommunity provides a process to help guide the work of local communities in planning for a disaster. Facilitated by a neutral coach, the initiative fosters broad civic participation, creates links to needed assets and resources within the community, and supplies current data to help guide the planning process. Current pilot efforts are taking place in Montana, **Texas, Kentucky, Mississippi**, Missouri, Washington, and North Dakota. Rachel Wellborn is coordinating this effort for the Southern Region Development Center <http://srdc.msstate.edu/readycommunity/>

Measures of Rural Viability and Local Foods Discussion: Rachel Wellborn and Laura Stephenson

This initiative came from a request from elected officials in Tennessee asking what are the measures of rural viability and what does that look like? Laura Stephenson consulted Brent Elrod and Rachel Wellborn and asked those questions. As a result, USDA NIFA is considering an initiative to address that. If members know of work that has been done at their institutions please share with Rachel. If you are interested in working on this, contact Rachel Wellborn. Rachel circulated a sign-up list for those attending to sign up. Many members signed up. More information will be forwarded to the program leader listserv. Rachel will share the handout once it has been finalized. The theme of this year's FCS Program Leaders Meeting will be **Rural Vitality and Health**.

House Keeping Items

The action items and state plan were finalized and submitted to Rachel Wellborn. Kris Grimes will submit the **final** reports to the listserv. These items will be discussed at the morning meeting of the Program Leadership Committee and amended and then submitted to the directors for approval.

Selection of new Program Leadership Committee 1862 and 1890 Rep and Officer
1890 Representative to the PLC: Rosalind Dale, NC A&T
1862 Representative and Vice-Chair: Laura Stephenson, UT

Cooperative Extension Curriculum Project (CECP) Core Competencies
<http://srpln.msstate.edu/cecp/resources/core.htm#FCS>

Committee members asked about the status of the work that began on the core competencies. Laura Stephenson reported that Tennessee is still collecting input on the Core Competency Survey. They plan to have some core competencies identified from the survey. They still need more educator input. The email went out nationwide in February from Dr. Crocoll. She asked that we continue to ask for agent and educator input. The original request is below:

LETTER TO EDUCATORS

We need your help to develop an accurate assessment tool for measuring core competencies of Family and Consumer Sciences agents. Your expertise as an FCS educator is invaluable to the success of this project. The University of Tennessee Extension FCS department has been working to develop an accurate assessment tool to measure core competencies of FCS Extension agents. This tool has questions related to professional skills, financial education, health,

safety, human development, and nutrition and food safety. The purpose of this tool will be to identify areas where new and existing agents need additional training to achieve basic competency in each area. This will help FCS agents to be confident sources of evidence-based information in their communities.

The link below is for an online survey. The survey contains about 27 knowledge questions related to the FCS subject areas and will take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. These surveys are completely confidential and no identifying information will be collected.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Karen Franck at kfranck@utk.edu or at (865) 200-4530.

Thank you for your help with this project.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7LZD3MD>

Orientation for New FCS Members

Long-term PLN FCS committee members, including Laura Stephenson, Ann Sartor, Jorge Atilas, Joanne Bankston, and Kasaundra Cyrus will work on an orientation package for new PLN FCS committee members so they understand the terminology, the expectations, the mission, etc. of the committee. Each year there are several new members who struggle to understand why they are at the meeting and the importance of what the committee accomplishes.

Thursday

Food Security Presentation was postponed

Development of Calendar and Procedures for the Next Year

Conference call dates were rescheduled so our region calls would be coordinated the Program Leaders Committee conference calls

9 a.m. Central/10 p.m. Eastern

Conference Call originally scheduled for Nov 6 will be moved to Oct 2

The May 7 call will be moved to June 4

Conference call information and schedules will be posted to the FCS Committee website and can be found at:

<http://srpln.msstate.edu/pln/fcs.html>

All reports, minutes of meetings, and important information is stored here.

National Program Leaders Meeting

Caroline Crocoll requested that each region prepare a report for the program leaders meeting, Wednesday September 17 and Thursday, September 18, held in conjunction with the NAEFCS meeting. The Southern Region will give a 45 minute presentation which Kris will present. It is important to get those state reports to Debbie Murray, as information from those reports will be used in the presentation.

House Keeping Items

Caring Hands Discussion: January 2012, the funds were still at Texas A & M. \$1958 was still in the account. Past minutes shows that Caring Hands funds were to be transferred from Texas A&M to Mississippi State University. Carol Rice will check on the status of the account at Texas A & M. Gift cards were suggested to be purchased for Shirley Hastings, Evelyn Crayton, and Lou Jolley. Laura and Kristopher will follow up with Carol. This will be an agenda item for the group at the program leaders meeting. (Carol Rice did report on 8/21 that there is an account for Southern Region Program Leader FCS that was set up in 2007, currently the account has \$1,650.

All members are urged to attend the National Program Leaders meeting at NAEFCS. Register at:
<http://www.neafcs.org/2014-annual-session>

We will meet as a Southern Region at the following meetings:

National Program Leaders Meeting, September 17 & 18, Lexington, Kentucky

Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences and the Board of Human Sciences, First week of March, exact dates will be announced, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C,