



## **Epsilon Sigma Phi- Alpha Sigma Wisconsin Chapter 2014-2015 Retiree Committee Report**

*Respectfully Submitted by Paul Roback, Chair*

The Retiree Committee continues to seek out ways to communicate with, engage and recognize ESP retirees. Committee members include Marilyn Herman, Jim Hovland, Christine Kniep, Mary Mennes, Paul Roback, and Kathi Vos.

Committee activities include:

- Coordinated with the Dean's office to transition in the ESP Life Member e-mail distribution list from an Outlook contact list to an Extension List-serv. This will allow the Dean's office and the Retiree Committee the ability to update and maintain the list.
- Interviewed Associate Dean and Director Yvonne Horton prior to her retirement. An article was published in the ESP Newsletter capturing Yvonne's thoughts as she was transitioning into retirement. The intent was to provide insight for other colleagues who are planning to retire in the near future.
- Address retiree engagement by interviewing ESP Life Members to capture some of their amazing achievements they have accomplished during their retirement and learn how these members successfully transitioned into retirement. These interviews will also be published in the ESP Newsletter.

The ESP Retiree e-mail distribution list continues to be utilized to communicate:

- ESP updates
- Retirement announcements
- Passing of colleagues
- Communications from the Dean and Chancellor
- Communications among retirees
- Advocacy opportunities
- Other relevant UW-Extension information.

This strategy continues to receive positive feedback from retired members.

The ESP Retiree Committee needs you! Are you interested in becoming involved with ESP in retirement to ensure that you and others stay connected with Cooperative Extension? We are looking for a few additional committee members to help provide guidance in keeping retirees engaged with ESP and Extension. The committee performs most of its work through e-mail communications and meets by teleconference as needed. If you are interested in serving, please contact Paul Roback at [paul.roback@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:paul.roback@ces.uwex.edu).

**EPSILON SIGMA PHI - ALPHA SIGMA WISCONSIN CHAPTER  
2014-15 Awards Committee Annual Report**

*By Monica Lobenstein, 2014-15 Committee Chair*

Congratulations to the Washington County Team who received the National ESP Diversity-Multicultural Team Award for the North Central Region! They were recognized on October 8, 2014 at the 2014 ESP National Conference Recognition/Awards Reception.

The ESP Awards Committee for this year, including when their term expires:

- Monica Lobenstein, Chair (15)
- Paula Hella (15)
- Jason Hausler (16)
- Donna Peterson (16)
- Randy Knapp (17)
- Patrick Robinson, Board Liaison (17)

The Awards Committee conducted its work via email and WisLines throughout January - March. Committee activities included:

1. Reviewing and updating committee timelines and tasks
2. Reviewing applications and selecting award recipients
3. Completing tasks in preparation of the Awards Breakfast and Luncheon at the JCEP Conference
4. Brainstorming ideas to help increase the visibility of and applications for ESP Awards

**Chapter Award Recipients announced at the ESP Breakfast on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 include:**

- **Early Career Service Award**
  - Aerica Bjurstrom
  - Mary Ann Shilling
- **Mid-Career Service Award**
  - Patrick Nehring
- **Retiree Service Award**
  - Melanie Miller
- **Continued Excellence Award**
  - Christine Kniep
- **Diversity/MultiCultural Team Award**
  - Jennifer Blazek, Joy Kirkpatrick, Ryan Sterry, Katie Wantoch
- **Distinguished Team Award**
  - Larry Jones, Laurie Boyce, Ann Keim, Dale Leidheiser, Kandi O'Neil, Jennifer Kushner, John Shutske, Dave Williams, Dave Berard, Tom Blewett, Karl Martin

**Chapter Award Recipients announced at the All Association Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 include:**

- **Friend of Extension Award**
  - Bob Bosold, WAXX 104.5



This year eleven (11) eligible award applications were received by the extended state deadline. The deadline was extended for another week. This represents a significant increase over the previous four (4) years. The committee will work to build on this growth in the coming year.

The committee encourages ESP members to nominate colleagues or self-nominate for chapter awards in 2016.

The committee again looked at the ESP Awards timeline and agreed is not adjustable due to National requirements; the deadline hits in the midst of the holidays and end of year reporting. Award information is located on the Alpha Sigma Chapter ESP web site under Committees; Awards: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/admin/esp/>. For additional information on ESP state, regional, and national awards, check the National ESP website: <http://espnational.org/>.

Thank you to the committee members for their work this past year. The committee is actively recruiting members for 2015-2016. Paula will return for a second term and begins her service as the Awards Committee Chair for 2015-16. If anyone is interested in serving on the Committee, please contact Paula Hella at [paula.hella@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:paula.hella@ces.uwex.edu).