



Epsilon Sigma Phi

ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER, WISCONSIN
MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE 2016

<http://wiesp.org/>

Your Key to Professional Excellence

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings ESP Members,

This past year I've had the opportunity and honor to serve as your ESP President. This has been a great and unforgettable experience! The year opened doors of change with UW-Extension and the nEXT Generation process, and with our Alpha Sigma chapter participating as a pilot state with the National ESP online member management software. A recent highpoint was attending the National JCEP Leadership Conference. This was an excellent conference that provided professional development, enhanced my professional leadership skills, provided networking opportunities with colleagues from across the country, and the opportunity to learn more about the efforts of other ESP chapters across the nation. Jones Loflin presented as the keynote speaker on the topic of 'Leadership across Generations'. One piece that resonated with me, and my work as a Family Living Educator, was recognizing the strengths of each generation that I work with and how we can 1) work together to create a work environment that is healthy and thriving 2) cultivate our priorities, our process, and our people 3) communicate across generations using a variety of media and 4) celebrate our unique contributions. In support of those ideas I would like to invite all of you to join me at the annual JCEP Conference being held April 19-20 at the Chula Vista Conference Center near Wisconsin Dells. The morning of April 20 we will hold our annual ESP meeting and I anticipate seeing many ESP members there. I look forward to this meeting, and handing over the gavel to Mark Hagedorn in the President's position. It will be an honor to serve in the position of ESP Past-President, as we continue to work together and maneuver future changes.



The past year has allowed me to lead alongside our ESP Board Members, and Committee Chairs and Members. A special thank you goes out to them, the Dean's office, and the National ESP Board. The ESP leadership is a strong and committed lot, and I'm thankful for their enthusiasm and continued dedication to ESP! I'm also grateful to all the annual and retired members for their support of the mission of Epsilon Sigma Phi. In changing times that mission remains the same: to foster standards of excellence in the Extension System, to develop the Extension professional, and promote a spirit of fellowship.

Best wishes,

Mary Ann Schilling
ESP President WI Alpha Sigma Chapter

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Wisconsin ESP President Elect

Mark Hagedorn



I had the opportunity with ESP members Mary Ann Schilling and Peggy Compton to recently attend the National JCEP Leadership Conference. Mary Ann has done a nice job of recapping the JCEP component of the Conference so I will dedicate a moment or two reviewing some key points touched on during the ESP breakouts. We received a comprehensive update from other State Associations from across the United States about their efforts to maintain and increase ESP membership. Some good talking points arose that can be used in future Board discussions here in Wisconsin. New marketing materials as well as a review of the new electronic membership annual dues payment system (now being used in Wisconsin) was also reviewed.

Please be certain to review the ESP by-law changes that have been (or will be) distributed for review prior to our annual Membership Meeting to be held at the JCEP conference in April. We look forward to seeing you all at the JCEP Conference to be held April 19-20 at the Chula Vista Conference Center near Wisconsin Dells. Have a great spring.

Mission of Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP)

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

Vision of Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP)

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) leads the Extension System in providing and facilitating professional development that focuses on the Extension organization and the Extension professional.

GALE VANDEBERG SHARES ESP MEMORIES WITH NEW RUBY PIN

Peggy Compton & Linda Kustka, Chair



In 1982, former Wisconsin CES Director Gale Vandenberg received the National ESP Ruby in recognition of his outstanding state and national service. Gale estimates he spent 50% of his time for several years advocating on behalf of the national Cooperative Extension system with national stakeholders within Congress and USDA. His work helped further establish formal national networks that shared impact and needs of Cooperative Extension.

After retirement, Gale served on the national ESP board and was President in 1985. That board established the ESP endowment, which has funded state chapters' and individuals' grants and scholarships for decades.



Gale proudly wore his Ruby pin on his suit for years. Recently, the pin went missing. Our chapter decided to replace this important pin that recognized the impact of Gale's service. The top left photo is from Linda Kustka's visit with Gale when she gave him the new pin. The bottom right photo is of Gale and his wife Zona receiving the original recognition.



RETIREE COMMITTEE

Paul Roback, Committee Chair

The Retiree Committee includes Paul Roback, Chair (2018), Kathi Vos (2016), Jim Hovland (2016), Christine Kniep (2017), Mary Mennes (2018) and Marilyn Herman, Board Liaison (2016). Recently, the committee coordinated a nomination for the ESP Retiree Service Award. Paul is coordinating with the ESP Treasurer Melanie Miller to update the retiree e-mail distribution list. Retirees are receiving e-mail communications regarding the nEXT Generation Model. Paul has been forwarding communications from the Chancellor and the Dean. The committee is researching a retiree networking event to be held during the JCEP Conference, which may include visiting Upham Woods.



SPOTLIGHT ON RETIREMENT—KAY SCHROEDER

Kathi Vos, Retiree Committee

The ESP Retiree Committee is conducting a series of Spotlight on Retiree interviews. The July 2015 ESP newsletter featured an interview with JoAnn Gruber-Hagen who shared how she's become a community voice for the underdog and created a community coalition to end demand for human trafficking. On February 5, 2016, Kathi Vos interviewed Kay Schroeder about her quilting passion and how it helps preserve history and a heart felt legacy.

Here's a snapshot of Kay's Extension career: Ozaukee 4-H Youth Development Agent (1977-2008). She retired on March 3, 2008. The next day football legend, Brett Favre, retired for the first time from the Green Bay Packers. She recalls watching Brett on TV, who was practically in tears. She couldn't understand why Brett was so sad, for Kay was happy as could be on March 4.



How did you identify and tap into your passion?

When I retired I told everyone there were three things I wanted to do: clean my house, stay ahead of the weeds, and learn to quilt. My biggest accomplishment has been to learn to quilt, and the rest are still on my to-do list. I took a six-week quilting class, and things exploded after that. The fall before I retired, I put an article in the 4-H newsletter about starting a 4-H quilt project and got three people to respond. At the first meeting I was the 4-H Agent; at the next meeting I was a 4-H volunteer. I got immersed in all aspects of the 4-H quilting project. Each year, the 4-H quilt project members visit the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts to see the exhibits and learn about history. Since 2008, I have worked with over 100 youth in the 4-H quilting project.

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How did you get involved in the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts?

I knew people on the board who had been 4-H leaders. When they heard that I was retiring, they took me out to lunch and asked me to join the board. I got involved the year they were designing the new quilt museum renovation. Some of the things Extension staff do every day, like organizing projects, talking in front of groups, planning community events; they just gobbled up. This organization needed my skills. I was at the right place at the right time.

In my volunteer role, I was the curator of an exhibit celebrating 100 Years of 4-H Fiber Arts, entitled "From the Heart", on display in the museum gallery from April 9-June 22, 2014. At the grand opening, people came and talked about their memories of 4-H and what 4-H had given them. There were 55 exhibitors with over 150 items from around the state. It was all very heart warming.

Any Memories of the building and planning process?

We planned for the sky, realized at one point that we only had 1.3 million, and then had to adjust accordingly. I was involved in making lots of decisions as well as doing lots of work. I can tell you exactly what walls I personally painted. It was all volunteers who raised the money, and worked with the contractors and architects to design the museum. In mid August 2010 we had ground breaking, with the grand opening one year later. It was a very busy year.

The purpose of the museum is not only to preserve and document quilts, but also to preserve and document the lives of women in history. I currently serve as the Recording Secretary of the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts Board and I am on the Adult Education Committee. Currently I'm working on 2017 classes and am recruiting nationally known quilters and negotiating their contracts.

What have you gotten out of volunteering?

I've learned a lot about quilting and have been part of a documentation team that examines the quilt, writes down how it was made, and describes the history of the textiles. I've made lots of friends with people who have similar interests. More importantly, I feel that this is a wonderful place to volunteer. When you walk in the museum you feel that it is a safe, caring place to share your stories, as well as a creative place to refresh your soul.

How else have you contributed to your community since retirement?

Since retirement, I have served a two-year term as the retiree representative on the board of the Alpha Sigma Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi and am currently on the ESP Grants Committee. Additionally, I coordinated 4-HYD Retired Professionals gathering in Port Washington in 2014, volunteered at 4-HYD Centennial and 4-H Hall of Fame Induction events, and I served on the Upham Woods fundraising committee.

What Advice do you have for those who are about to retiree?

Go and volunteer with something you are passionate about. Many community organizations need volunteers who are willing to lead. Don't be afraid to chair a committee, and plan an event. Time goes really fast, and you should enjoy that time, but you also need to give back to your community.

The Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts will be here, long after we're gone. It will preserve history, but more importantly, it will capture the stories of the people who have worked hard to make this museum a reality and truly given their heart . . . people like Kay Schroeder.



IN MEMORIAM

JoAnn Gruber-Hagen, Volunteer



IN MEMORIAM -- We are saddened to share that we received information of losing three friends and colleagues since our last newsletter.

Leo Joseph Martin, age 84, died December 12, 2015, due to complications from Alzheimer's. Leo earned his Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and master's in Agricultural Economics, both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served his country in the United States Army, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1985 after 28 years of service. After 21 years as the Marathon County Farm Management agent, Leo began an active retirement that focused on helping people. He provided education and worked to improve living conditions and opportunities for people in communities around the world, with organizations including Helping Hands. He served on many boards, including the Marathon County Board and the Historical Society and Library Boards. He was an active member of civic organizations including the Noon Optimists, and St Matthew's parish, where he was known for helping people feel welcome in the congregation. He attributed his love of words, jokes and puns to his proud Irish heritage.

Lois Eileen Christenson, age 94 of Amery, passed away on December 24, 2015. Lois attended Stout Institute (now UW-Stout) and studied home economics education. At the time, there weren't many females earning college degrees, especially those who came from rural backgrounds. Lois graduated from Stout Institute in May 1943, and began work on July 1st at Neillsville High School as a home economics teacher. In 1945 Lois began work as a home agent in Taylor County until her resignation in December 1947. Lois served as the Polk County Extension Home Economist from 1965 to 1983. Some of her responsibilities included working with homemakers groups, leading a nutrition program, co-organizing 4-H camps, and leading the family living division of the 4-H program. Lois was extremely active in her church throughout the years, singing in the choir, sewing with the quilting group, reading during services, and working at church meals and bazars. Her meatball recipe was often requested. Lois also was active in 4-H leadership and the county fair, Sons of Norway, Understanding Friends, and the Red Hat Society.

Dennis (Denny) D. Dornfeld, age 70, of Princeton, passed away at his home on February 15, 2016. He attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Science and Agronomy. He taught agriculture at Cambria and Pardeeville high schools before returning to the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a Master's degree in Agriculture. He worked for the UW-Extension office in Green Lake, WI as the County Ag Agent before beginning a brief career in farm finance at M&I Bank in Oshkosh and Production Credit Association in Fond du Lac. He returned to UW-Extension as the Agriculture Agent for Waushara County and spent the next 20 years providing guidance to the agricultural community of Waushara County. He was an avid outdoorsman and spent much of his leisure time in the woods and on the water hunting and fishing. He fulfilled a life-long dream to hunt elk in the Colorado Mountains, a trip he treasured.

Help Us Recognize Colleagues Who Have Passed On

As a service to our ESP membership, we try to share information of deaths of colleagues. You can help if you would forward information you become aware of to JoAnn Gruber-Hagen. She will prepare announcements for ESP newsletters as well as for ESP gatherings. If you have an ESP event coming up and would like to be able to recognize colleagues who have passed, please contact JoAnn and she will be sure you have the most recent information. You can contact JoAnn via mail at W4048 Kammes Drive, Belleville, WI 53508 or via email at joann.gruberhagen@gmail.com.



GRANTS COMMITTEE

Pattie Carroll & Chris Kniep, Committee Co-Chairs



The ESP Grants Committee incorporated the proposed changes into the 2016 Grant Application process – adding the named awards for donors, changing the award amounts, and membership criteria for named awards. The winter deadline was also changed for the year to March 1, 2016 – we were slow in getting the grant information out and only one application was received by deadline. The new application was shared electronically with colleagues and posted on the ESP Website. We are also working on updating the list of grant recipients to include missing recipients from 2009-2012. This list is important in tracking the 3 years between grant requirement.

Our committee has three new members: Mandi Dornfeld, Winnebago County FLE, Leah Eckstein, Adams County, and Mary Pardee Polk County. These new members provide representation from all 4 program areas –YEAH!!! We will be reviewing applications early in March to be ready for JCEP presentation.

At this time we have LOTS of dollars to spend on grants - \$7,899 in the Algren account, \$35,753 in the Professional Development account and \$17,906 held by Chad McClure. This money is a combination of funds remaining from pre-2015 and unspent this year.....some things for us to figure out....

As the committee meets this year, we will be discussing grant guidelines compared to ESP Bylaws and “creative” uses for the funds – perhaps funding association representatives to attend PILD, JCEP Leadership Conference, National ESP Conference and/or using funds to support core competency offerings by PDE. We are hearing county, region and state funds are dwindling. Any suggestions from the board would be greatly appreciated!

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' REPORTS

Christine Wen

I'd like to sincerely thank you for your gracious support in providing me with a scholarship to help me pursue a Master's Degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Education. I am happy to report that I have successfully completed my first semester as a graduate student with a 4.0 GPA and I am looking forward to learning so much more!

The scholarship funds were used to take a class on urban food production. This class allowed me to read, critically assess, and summarize several scientific papers and books that concentrated on urban food production. The course covered urban food systems, food insecurity, community gardens, hydroponics, aquaponics, water, air, and soil contaminants, alternative practices used around the world, and urban agriculture business practices. It opened my eyes to the possibilities, and struggles, that our urban food systems face and has helped me understand how local food systems can impact local communities.

Overall, this course was very engaging and I look forward to applying what I learned to my work with the UW -Extension, community organizations, and local partners that I work with.

Christine Wen Horticulture Educator UW-Extension Walworth Co.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' REPORTS

Cathy Techtmann

Thank you ESP Grant Committee for awarding me such a generous scholarship to attend the Rising Voices -Engaging Scientific and Indigenous Weather and Climate Research Conference in Boulder, Colorado June 28-July 1, 2015. I attended both as a participant, learner, and presenter.

To set the stage, the conference was held at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) which also houses the University Center of Atmospheric Research (UCAR). This was truly an international conference with over 150 indigenous leaders from sovereign tribal nations, researchers, students and non-indigenous climate experts and governmental leaders from around the world in attendance. Most of the attendees had worked together on Indigenous climate change research and adaptation for many years and knew one another. I was one of the few non-indigenous, new attendees, but was welcomed as a colleague into the Rising Voices "family."

This was the third Rising Voices conference to be held. Each conference has resulted in key messages and position papers to document new research and make recommendations for managing impacts of the planet's changing climate on Indigenous communities. An impressive outcome of this conference was the creation of a Rising Voices position paper that was presented at the United Nations Framework on Climate Change Conventions-21st Conference of the Parties, also known as the "2015 Paris Climate Change Conference."

The conference's theme was education and adaptation through diverse ways of knowing. There were a wide variety of professional presentations, including a poster session, focusing on climate impacts on indigenous communities and adaptation research. Presentations demonstrated the effectiveness of integrating traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) with scientific research generated through indigenous perspectives. Poignant presentations brought home the impacts Indigenous communities are facing. An Alaskan tribal elder shared photos and stories of how his village of Shishmaref is drowning due to rising sea levels. A Quinault tribal researcher explained the urgency of her Washington state coastal community in securing access to the only escape route available to them if rising sea levels would require evacuation. This is a stop gap measure until the Tribe develops a relocation option that will move them from their ancestral lands. Tribal youth from several nations presented their perspectives on how climate change may affect their cultural traditions and research they are involved in.

My presentation on the "G-WOW Changing Climate, Changing Culture Initiative" was offered in the first panel session titled "Learning and Doing by Example." It was the only conference presentation focusing on climate change educational outreach. I shared the panel with six highly respected Indigenous climate researchers and TEK experts. Because of the support I have been given in developing the G-WOW climate literacy model by project partners from the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, the National Park Service, and the US Forest Service, I felt confident in that it offered a respectful, culturally relevant way to increase climate literacy and promote service learning action. The G-WOW model's strategy of integrating TEK with western climate science to promote climate action really resonated with the audience. It perfectly tracked the conference's theme.

Besides participation in all of the oral and poster sessions, breakout sessions were offered and charged with developing specific strategies to be included in the Rising Voices position paper. The sessions were organized according to four climate change impacts: water, relocation, phenology (impacts on plants and animals), and health & livelihoods. I attended the water breakout session. In this session many place-based

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examples were shared about how indigenous communities are using TEK to increase their climate resiliency. The one that resonated the most was about climate impacts experienced by Grand Bayou Indian Tribe at the southern tip of Louisiana. This small self-sufficient tribal community, accessible only by boat, is struggling to adapt as extreme weather events like Hurricane Katrina flood their homeland. I felt the tremendous frustration of two Grand Bayou tribal members as they explained how the Tribe had no input in the man-made alterations in the natural bayou ecosystems which had increased the flooding severity. Warming temperatures are also threatening the species that the Tribe relies on culturally. I read research about how climate change is impacting indigenous communities more than others because of their place-based culture and often their geographic ties due to reservation lands, but now I experienced it from people who were directly affected. There were also small group interactive sessions to gather strategies and collaborations needed to implement the break out session recommendations.

I also attended the conference's evening public "listening" session on climate impacts on indigenous people that was held at the University of Colorado's Wolf Law School. Here I listened to testimonials from individual Tribal members about why they were involved in the issue of climate change and what they were doing in response to its impact on their culture.

This conference was different from others I have attended, but reflected an Indigenous perspective from opening with ceremony and prayer that welcomed people of all Tribes and nations to come together "in a good way" to learn and take action. The impacts of climate change on Native people and frustration over inaction by national and global governments as well as an "arrogance" of broader society in not acknowledging the role of TEK in addressing climate change was evident. However, there was also the hope that indigenous perspectives could offer place-based solutions and increase resiliency.

This conference reinforced the importance of integrating culturally relevant, place-based TEK as an equally important way of knowing together with western climate research. This is critically important not only when working with indigenous people, but when trying to increase climate resiliency options for all communities. It offered me new perspectives on how Native people are using TEK to develop unique adaptation strategies where possible, however it was evident that in some cases their options are limited in the face of a rapidly changing climate. These are lessons that people of all cultures can learn from.

The key points that I learned at Rising Voices that I am integrating into my climate programming are: 1) despite a keen awareness of climate change, indigenous people have had limited access or acceptance of the importance of integrating it with climate-change science, yet they are among the communities most affected. 2) Indigenous people often have limited access in climate change decision making due to power imbalances in the politics of climate change. 3) While western science emphasizes facts, indigenous viewpoints emphasize relationships. Each knowledge system can contribute to our understanding and finding solutions to climate change impacts.

I also realized that climate change is not just an environmental or economic issue, it is a social justice issue. Members of the Rising Voices "family" are using place-based TEK together with western science developed by tribal researchers to achieve more equitable social justice on the issue of climate change, in a respectful inclusive way.

As a result of attending this conference, several wonderful things have happened:

- A Bureau of Indian Affairs representative was so impressed with the G-WOW climate literacy model, that she arranged for it to be included on the NOAA "US Climate Resilience Toolkit" website. This positions

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the G-WOW Initiative a national educational resource. The URL is: <http://toolkit.climate.gov/tool/g-wow-guiding-tomorrow-changing-climate-changing-culture-initiative>.

- I was acknowledged as a contributor and partner within the Rising Voices network and now receive updates on indigenous climate change impacts and adaptation strategies that I can integrate into my G-WOW educational outreach. I continue to build these partnerships.
- I have integrated research and climate impact stories that I learned at Rising Voices into the 2015 G-WOW Changing Climate, Changing Culture Institute, a 4-day teacher professional development training. The perspectives I gained from the conference continue to inform how I work with tribal and non-tribal communities through the G-WOW Initiative and other Extension programming.
- I developed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing what I learned at Rising Voices for presentation at a UWEX Native American Task Force (NATF) meeting. However, I have not been able to synchronize my schedule to attend a meeting, but plan on sharing this information at the spring NATF meeting.

I have posted my Rising Voices PowerPoint on my UWEX fyi site: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/nglvc/cool-coasts/> under information about the G-WOW Initiative.

Chi Miigwech (a Big Thank You) to ESP for supporting me to attend this amazing conference!

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' REPORTS: "DON'T STEAL BY PAUSE"

Chris Kniep

It was my great fortune to receive an ESP Professional Development Grant, enabling me to attend the 2015 National ESP Conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The setting for the conference provided a beautiful location for learning and sharing. Reflecting on the 2015 National ESP Conference, 5 things stand out...

1. A special camaraderie of Extension Colleagues from across the country – many have faced the staffing and organizational challenges as we currently face in Wisconsin. They shared insights and empathy as we embrace nEXT Generation.
2. Powerful keynote speakers with clear messages about "Being the Best Educator Possible", "Leadership and You...A Priceless Combination", and "Extension Professionals-The Answer People or the Question People?". You can view these presentations on the National ESP website and learn more about "don't steal my pause" in Dr. Larry Roper's presentation. This request was made by his son after Larry jumped into one of his son's pauses to share his thoughts. As Larry noted, "all the good stuff comes after the pause".
3. Nationally recognized concurrent session presenters. While the sessions I attended focused on topics I have studied, (appreciative inquiry, team building, emotional intelligence and future trends) hearing about them from colleagues from The Ohio State University, Rutgers, University of Tennessee and University of Idaho, provided new perspectives and insights.
4. Seeing a WI colleague in a national leadership role. Hats off to Peggy Compton, North Central Region Vice President! Peggy did an outstanding job chairing the Regional Meeting and co-hosting the National Awards program. And finally,
5. Recognition from peers at the national level – MaryAnn Schilling, Patrick Nehring and I were all selected for National Awards: Early Career, Mid Career and Continued Excellence, respectively. This recognition was made even sweeter by being nominated for these awards.

Thanks to ESP for the funds to attend this meeting and for the nomination for the Central Region Continued Excellence Award.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' REPORTS

Chris Viau

Thank you to the ESP Professional Development Grants Committee for allowing me to attend the 2015 NAE4-HA Annual Conference and Business meeting in hosted by Oregon State University 4-H Youth Development Colleagues in Portland, Oregon.

I was able to experience the conference from two different perspectives. I am currently at the midpoint of a two-year term on the Board of Trustees as a North Central Region Director. Additionally, I was able gather information that will help me in my role here in Wisconsin.

As a member of the Board of Trustees of our National Association, I was able to see how a "different" organization conducts business and learn new ways to improve meetings. To efficiently conduct business for routine items, the Board uses a consent and recommendation calendar system. This approach may have applications to groups who have large amounts of procedural items to handle that may not be controversial but still require action.

The ability to network with colleagues from across the U.S. is always beneficial. I was able to gain insights about their state re-organization processes and learn that Extension education is able to influence our communities through a variety of models, as the people are the core of the mission.

As a conference participant, I was able to attend workshops on volunteer management (specifically conflict), STEM ideas, and listen to engaging speakers who provided thought provoking insights.

Dr. Donna Beegle told her story of growing up in poverty and how many forced me to think about what barriers, many unintentional, are in place that prevent participation in Extension programs. Sean Russell shared how 4-H helped him grow into an adult and help find a career all while trying to get youth and communities to care about the ocean through awareness projects and by founding the Youth Ocean Conservation Summit.

A highlight of the entire conference was the ability to network with numerous colleagues from Wisconsin and across the U.S. In turbulent times it is reassuring that the mission of Cooperative Extension has a national reach and there are committed colleagues and friends who are willing to help and support me.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' REPORTS

Katy S. Maas

The ESP Professional Development Grant, which I was awarded in the amount of \$1,170, was used to pay the tuition for a 3 credit course at UW Stevens Point. The name of the course was HWM 470: Assessment and Evaluation for Wellness Managers. This course surveyed general approaches to assessment, programming and evaluation in health and wellness settings. Throughout the semester various topics were covered exploring individual, group and organizational approaches to assessment, programming and evaluating efforts to promote both health and wellness.

Some of the major objectives and knowledge I have gained from this course included looking at diversity and how it is defined and measured, learning about commonly used program planning models, as well as reviewing a plan for conducting a community health assessment. I studied a program theory that encompasses both process and effect theory and learned to write clear, measurable process and effect objectives. In addition, I learned about factors to consider when designing the effect evaluation and when developing a budget for program evaluation.

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This has expanded my understanding of the various logic models and programming and evaluation processes used by UW Extension. I now have a greater level of knowledge and appreciation for the concepts necessary for proper program assessment, planning and evaluation. Thank you for supporting my continuing educational efforts.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Paula Hella, Committee Chair



Hello ESP members! The ESP Awards Committee has begun the process of reviewing applications and selecting 2016 award recipients. Thank you for all who nominated themselves or others! It is easy to see there is a lot of great work going on across the state!

Once the award recipients are chosen, we will focus our attention on preparation for the JCEP conference.

It's not too early to start thinking about nominating yourself or a colleague next year. The forms don't change much so copy one and work on it over the spring or summer. Then, in December or January, you can have your nomination ready to submit! If you are curious about the awards, their criteria or even just a listing of available awards, I encourage you to check out the online handbook https://espnational.org/files/Handbook/2015_Handbook.pdf starting on page 49.

Another great way to learn about the awards is to join the awards committee! The ESP Awards Committee will be welcoming new members to join in the coming year. If you are interested, call Paula Hella, 920-849-1450 or email paula.hella@ces.uwex.edu

Last but not least, a big thank you to the current awards committee members: Jason Hausler, Randy Knapp, Donna Peterson, Patrick Robinson, Jessica Beckendorf and Paula Hella (Chair).

See you in April at the Conference!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dan Marzu, Committee Chair



Well despite all the frustration, we got through the pilot of using the Wild Apricot website for membership enrollment. As of today, we have 111 members, one new member, and 84 life members. I want to thank all of you for your patience as we transition to this new system.



If you haven't renewed your membership you can renew at <https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/>. If you are having issues with receiving your account information, please contact me and I may have to adjust your account e-mail information. There will also be a display at the poster session during the JCEP conference to assist you with membership enrollment.

See you all at JCEP!



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If your email or mailing address changes, please contact Paul Roback via telephone (262)335-4480 or email at paul.roback@ces.uwex.edu

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