

**Alpha Rho Chapter – Epsilon Sigma Phi Council Meeting
February 20, 2013, 1:15 p.m.**

<http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho>

The meeting was called to order by President Gayle Price at 1:17 p.m.

Those in attendance (participating by telephone conference call) were as follows:
Carol Blocksome, Cheryl Boyer, John Forshee, Doug Jardine (joined late), Jay McMahon, Sy Nyhart, Becky O'Donnell, Margaret Phillips, Gayle Price, Brenda Taxeras, Stacey Warner and Sandra Wick

Motion made by Sandra Wick to approve minutes from the previous Council Meeting (December 19, 2012). Seconded by Brenda Taxeras. Motion passed. Minutes have been posted and made available on <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho>

Chapter Officer Reports:

- **President** - Gayle Price
 - Asked that each Council member, as they provide their reports, offer ideas regarding how KSRE might mark 100th anniversary of Smith-Lever Act.
 - Reported on her attendance at National JCEP. She will continue to share ideas and information on future president messages. Gayle felt she got a lot more out of it this year.
 - There has been a request for each Chapter to donate two items (\$50 value) for the ESP development fund during Galaxy conference. President encouraged a continued support of the development fund. Compared with other chapters, our Kansas Chapter has been the recipient of a larger share of benefits from the development fund over the years.
 - Submitted the Chapter Annual Report to National ESP- (On-line)
 - President continues to communicate with Martha Monihen to update ESP Chapter website and email lists <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho/>
 - Sent January and February mid-month messages and posted on website
 - Participated in a North Central Region ESP Leadership Conference call.
 - Email communications with committee chairs on a variety of Chapter operational items.
 - Correspondence/encouraged- ESP Chapter membership with new KSRE professionals.
 - Attended the 2013 JCEP Leadership Conference in Memphis February 12-14.

- **Smith-Lever celebration suggestions:**
 - Develop a KSRE exhibit highlighting Extension activities across the State for display at Galaxy
 - Arrange for a Governor's Proclamation; timed to occur during KSRE legislative event next year.

- **President Elect** - Chuck Otte
Not present
 President inquired if any other Council members might provide information on progress of the Ruby Award nomination. Cheryl Boyer will include that report later in the conference call.

- **Secretary** - Becky O'Donnell
 Minutes of the ESP Council Meeting from December 19, 2012 were written and posted to the web site.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - Oral history project highlighting engagement work of KSRE faculty/staff (especially those retired/deceased KSRE personnel from years past). Perhaps, enlist the assistance of History faculty to incorporate project into class assignment.
 - Special Endowment scholarship for an engagement project

- **Treasurer** - Jennifer Wilson –
 Not present. The current Statement of Accounts, Budget and Endowment Fund Report were sent out (via email) by the Treasurer to the Council prior to this meeting. Treasurer's report reflects Chapter membership totals of 89 annual members renewed, 12 new members joined and one lifetime member. These totals were submitted to National. (***National does not recognize Associate membership status. Thus those numbers were not included in report to National.*)

- **Annalist/Historian** - Sy Nyhart
Nothing to report

- **Editor** - Jennifer Smith
Not present.
 President requested members submit items for the March newsletter to Jennifer as soon as possible.

- **Past President/Endowment Chair** - Sandra Wick
 Endowment should have received the fund report from the Treasurer. The committee did award the Connie Hoch scholarship this past year. One grant was awarded. Currently, \$14,897 in Endowment funds is available for grants. Sandra requested that

committee chairs encourage members to apply for grants, including funds for professional development. Sandra noted that this year very few applications have been received compared with recent years.

- **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - Develop some “marketing minutes” which Extension personnel in the field would utilize. Enlist Communications Department to assist in that development, including 140 character bits for Twitter.

Council Director Reports:

- **Northwest Director** - Nadine Sigle
Not present.
- **Northeast Director** - John Forshee
Nothing to report.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - No suggestions. However, John liked the ideas that have been presented.
- **Southwest Director** - Robin Eubank
Not present.
- **Southeast Director** - Jan McMahon
Nothing to report.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - No suggestions.
- **State Director** - Doug Jardine
Had not yet joined the call at this point; submitted report once joined
Had the opportunity to call several more potential members (since last Council meeting)
- **Retirees** - Ann Domsch
Not present
- **Extension Administration** - Daryl Buchholz
Not present.
President relayed that anyone is willing to assist in updating KSRE history for the Smith-Lever celebration, to let Daryl know.

Sy indicated that he would be able to help in the compiling/updating of the history of KSRE.

Standing Committee's Reports

- **Annual Recognition Reception** - Brenda Taxeras
Brenda has reviewed her committee duties. Nothing else to report at this time.
President noted that the Annual Recognition Committee will be meeting in early March.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - No suggestions. However, Brenda liked Sandra's idea of short "bits" for websites and Twitter.

- **Recognition** – Cheryl Boyer
Cheryl reports that the Recognition Committee had an involved discussion at the end of January, believing the nomination deadline (for the Ruby Award) was February 1st.
Chuck Otto called headquarters. Cheryl was able to visit with Chuck this morning as well as telephoning the ESP Executive Director. The actual nomination deadline is March 1st.
As Chuck is busy with other commitments, Cheryl sent an email to the committee as to what will need to be accomplished by that deadline and requesting volunteers to help with the nomination application. Cheryl will keep the President updated on progress.

Discussion by members on this call included: the desire to put together a quality and comprehensive application; request input from Daryl and/or Suzy Wilkinson; and, visiting with KSRE Communications media staff for assistance developing the application. Stacy Warner offered to assist Cheryl (and any other committee members who volunteer) in working with the Communications staff.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - Cheryl liked Sandra's media idea, especially the use of short bits for websites and Twitter. Perhaps, short media items which Agents could utilize in their regular newsletters and newspaper columns throughout the year.

- **Budget and Audit** – John Forshee
The Committee will begin working on next year's budget in June or July. Committee budgeted current year's budget based on Chapter membership of 90 full members. So we are in good shape.

- **Constitution and Bylaws** – Megan Kennelly
Not present.

- **Global Relations** – Becky O'Donnell
Becky continues to share announcements of international opportunities for grants, travel, and other possibilities related to global projects via email list. Upon the suggestion of Dr. Charlotte Shoup-Olson, Becky notified Committee members of the upcoming dates and locations for the

“Navigating Difference” workshops to be held in 2013 as well as a brief summary of the workshop. Anyone interested in attending the workshops, or for more information, is directed to contact Dr. Zelia Wiley directly.

In reviewing content of the ESP website, Becky noticed deadline of Feb 15th for application for International Travel Grants, and passed that information along to the committee.

Unfortunately, Council had previously eliminated funding for those grants through the Professionalism Committee. President Price arranged for that link/information to be removed from the website. Becky directed the applicant to submit funding request to Endowment.

President thanked Martha and acknowledged the others in Umberger that support ESP through assistance maintaining the website.

President informed the Council that the International Global Relations committee is developing a video that will be posted on the National website

- **Membership Recruitment and Retention – Stacey Warner**

The Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee was asked to review the current associate membership structure of our chapter. As background information, our chapter has an Associate membership category that is available to extension professionals who are in their first five years of membership. They pay a reduced amount for dues (currently \$20). They are eligible for our chapter grants and awards but since they do not pay national dues they are not considered a member of the national organization. Thus, they do not receive national communications and are not eligible for national awards, scholarships or grants.

During the December conference call the MRR Committee consider the pros and cons of the current structure and some options. During the February conference call the MRR Committee decided to recommend to the council that the Associate membership category be changed/lowered to be for those extension professionals with less than **3 years of employment and then also that the dues be raised from the current \$20 to \$30. (**the 5 year was an Alpha Rho requirement, not a National requirement.)

The final amount of the dues should probably be set in consultation with the Budget and Audit Committee. That it may be more appropriate for any due recommendation come from the budget committee.

Additionally, Stacey suggested that it might be appropriate to have the Council vote as to whether to take the recommendation to the full membership. Council options in consideration would be to recommend the issue to the full membership, amend it or pass it forward (similar to how the Council handled the due increase issue last year).

John Forshee, chair of the Budget and Audit committee, suggested that the Council look at the issue and consider referring it to the Budget committee for consideration

Discussion ensued regarding timing (when the change would go into effect). Stacey noted that it becomes an issue as the Membership committee will be sending out invitations to new

members in July. Thus, if the issue has not been voted on by full membership (which probably will not occur until October during Annual Conference) if the Council approves the issue, may want to consider not having it go effect for another year.

Stacey clarified that the three (3) years is not referring to the length of membership with ESP, but tied to lengthen of employment with Extension. National does not have Associate membership category.

It is the Membership Recruitment and Retention recommendation that the Council vote at the next meeting whether to take the issue to the full membership. President suggested that we add this issue to the agenda for the next Council meeting.

President thanked Stacey for her helpfulness in alerting the President when new members join.

- **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - No suggestions at this time.
- **Memorial – Mark Ploger**
Not present.
- **Nomination – Sandra Wick**
Sandra reports that the Nomination committee will be meeting in May or June to develop next year's list for officers. If anyone has suggestions for nominations for officers, Sandra would appreciate those suggestions.
- **Professionalism – Carol Blocksome**
 - The first issue was clarifying the funding for the travel grants. That matter has already been discussed and resolved.
 - The second matter that has arisen is how may her committee promote or alert memberships regarding professionalism opportunities or activities? There does not seem to be a location for such posts on the chapter website. Ideas generated included:
 - Utilizing the list-serve to send information and notices out to the entire membership
 - Send the information to the President and she will include it in the President's monthly email message.
 - Finally, the Professionalism committee would like to offer an educational "hands on" activity at the KSRE annual conference. Carol requested input as to what the membership would feel would be most useful. May conduct a survey to generate ideas and receive input.
- **Retiree – Dave Schafer**
Not present

- **Tenure Recognition – Debra Bolton**
Not present

Alpha Rho ESP National Committee Members

- **Stacey Warner – Membership Recruitment and Retention**
The National Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee encourage all ESP members to attend the Galaxy Conference to be held in Pittsburgh PA from Monday, September 16th to Friday, September 20th. Attending the national meeting is an opportunity to meet, network with and learn from extension professionals across the country.
- **Margaret Phillips – Scholarships, Grants and Recognition**
Nothing to report from national level. Margaret hopes our local chapter will have some nominations for national officers/committees in the coming year.
 - **Smith-Lever celebration suggestion:**
 - Update our ESP chapter history.
 - There are some really interesting documentation in our chapter achieves. There might be opportunity to share some of those highlights at National.
 - Highlight historical and national legislation that have affected Extension up to today. One example would be to develop/display a time line of those events. Mentioned a speaker from North Dakota. Perhaps, apply for a grant for funds to bring that speaker to KSRE annual conference.
- **Marie Blythe – Professional Development**
Not present
- **Doug Jardine – Marketing**
Held meeting several weeks ago regarding the production of the promotional video. There have been some delays meeting with Randal Kowalik as Randal has been out of the state. Doug is hopeful that the project will get moving again.

Old Business:

President noted the only old business is informational:

- Membership Committee Recommendation regarding fees connected with Associate Membership status with National Alpha Rho
- National Awards Applications for ESP members – Ruby Award

New Business:

- President entertains a motion for our chapter to donate two (2) items up to \$50 value for the ESP National Development Fund auction during this year's Galaxy Conference. Sandra so moved. John Forshee seconded. Doug Jardine suggested that items relating to Kansas in general might generate more appeal and interest from the national

audience. No other discussion or comment. Motion unanimously carried. The President will work with the President-Elect.

- Margaret Phillips noticed the Budget still included a line item, under Professionalism Committee, for travel grants, even though those are no longer available through that committee. John Forshee moved to eliminate the travel grants line item, under Professionalism Committee, from the Budget as presented. Brenda Taxeras seconded. Motion passed unanimously. President will let the Treasurer know of the change, to be reflected on next year's budget.

Announcements:

- Next ESP-Alpha Rho Chapter Council Meeting will be held (via telephone conference call) on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, at 1:15 p.m.

Adjourn

Brenda Taxeras moved that the meeting be adjourned. Doug Jardine seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Becky J. O'Donnell
ESP-Alpha Rho Secretary