

Epsilon Sigma Phi

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Calendar of Events

*2009 ESP National Conference
Fargo, ND
September 13-16*

*2009 K-State Extension Annual Conference
Manhattan, KS
October 19-22*

*2010 ESP National Conference
Jackson Hole, WY
October 12-15*



From the President...

Margaret Phillips, Alpha Rho President

Greetings to Alpha Rho chapter members and retirees. Epsilon Sigma Phi is the Extension Professionals' organization and you are part of the important work of the local chapter. Your membership and active participation are important. Through ESP we can participate in many unique professional development opportunities.

Following the annual banquet last fall, someone came up to me and said that they were happy to have received recognition and now wanted to make sure that they were also making a contribution to the organization. They wondered if I could share some opportunities for giving back. After



reflecting for a moment about why I choose to be an ESP member, I shared these opportunities:

- meet and share with professionals of many fields related to extension
- contribute through committee work
- recognize my peer

colleagues through recognition

- apply for grants and scholarships to support professional growth
- participate in national conference with colleagues throughout the USA

See page 7 for more

We Have a New Look!

We have a new chapter website.

www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho/

It has a wealth of information about today's association as well as

information from the past in the archives.

Committee descriptions were updated last year. Not only does this help you know the responsibilities, but serves as information for

deciding which committee to work on next year. Currently, officer descriptions are being updated to help you decide which officer positions you'd like to serve.

ESP Travel Study Grants Available

Are you considering a professional development travel opportunity this year? An Epsilon Sigma Phi travel study grant might help you meet your goal.

This year \$1,590 is budgeted for a travel grant or grants. This could be used for international travel, attendance at a professional meeting or another opportunity related to your professional development. Depending on the applications, the \$1590 might be awarded to one applicant or divided among several applicants.

Applications for the Travel Study Grant are due by August 15, 2009 to Fran Richmond, chair of the Professionalism Committee. Application information will be posted on the ESP website about May 1.

GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL STUDY GRANT

1. The grants are available to ESP members.
2. The grant application must be approved by the applicant's immediate supervisor.
3. An individual can receive a Travel Study Grant one time.
4. The grant will be awarded 30 days before the travel begins.
5. The grant must be used within one year of being awarded.
6. Grant recipients will report about their travel to the Professionalism Committee and chapter president within 30 days of completion of the travel.

Study Grant are due by **August 15, 2009** to Fran Richmond, Professionalism committee chairperson. If you have more questions you can contact Fran at the Osage County Extension Office at 785-828-4438 or at frichmon@ksu.edu. The mailing address is:

Fran Richmond
Osage County Extension
128 W. 15th
Lyndon, KS 66451

The application form for the Travel Study Grant can be found in the "Forms" section of the Alpha Rho ESP web site at www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho



Alpha Rho ESP Professional Development Scholarship Recipients - 2008

After the first day of Galaxy III I wondered why I had not tried harder to make it to the two previous Galaxy conferences. The synergy created by the wide range of extension interests was energizing. It was especially beneficial to

share the Galaxy III conference experience with extension administrators and agents with specialization outside one's own subject area. I appreciated the variety of exhibitors that were there – many that I had not seen at NEAFCS

conferences but had information I could use. As always, the interaction with the Kansas delegation as well as with extension workers from other states expands one's vision of Extension's possibilities.

*Donna Martinson
Family and
Consumer Sciences
Agent
Geary County*

The 2008 Galaxy III Conference, Celebrating the Extension System, Strengths, Diversity, and Unique Qualities held in Indianapolis, Indiana was an exciting opportunity. Thanks to an Alpha Rho Professional Development Scholarship, I was able to attend and experience my first "Galaxy" Extension Conference.

I attended a pre-conference on "The Childhood Obesity Pandemic," and participated in breakout

sessions ranging in topics from employee management systems and evaluation, to using social media in extension programs. The conference keynoters were inspiring and challenging. One goal of mine was to attend the ESP Awards and Recognition committee meetings to learn more about the association and the national recognition process. The information received and knowledge gained has been extremely helpful as I

serve the Alpha Rho Chapter as the Awards Committee chair.

As with most national professional conferences, the opportunities to meet and network with other professionals and to renew old friendships are also a plus. If you haven't participated in an ESP National Conference before, you could Engage, Enlighten and Enjoy the 2009 conference in Fargo, North Dakota, September 13-16.

*Gayle Price
Family and
Consumer Sciences
Specialist
Southeast Area*

After the 2008 Galaxy III conference, I returned to Wyandotte County rejuvenated. I had collected a backpack loaded with resources, assembled a diverse network of Extension professionals, gleaned quality programming ideas and participated in

creative and scholarly workshop and poster sessions. For me, this conference clarified Extension's mission, and my role within it, as colleagues from across the country connected the best of the past with the challenges of the future.

Once again, I thank Alpha Rho for making an investment in my professional development through its scholarship program. Galaxy III definitely "fueled my passion and commitment to improve lives."

*Nozella Brown
Family and
Consumer Sciences
Agent
Wyandotte County*

See more on page 4

What is an Extension Professional?

- Epsilon Sigma Phi provides the following definition:
- Is trained, experienced, and knowledgeable
 - Is culturally competent and demonstrates the ability to work with diverse audiences in a variety of settings
 - Exhibits excellent oral and written communication skills
 - Manages, networks, and collaborates to build alliances and partnerships
 - Adheres to high standards of personal and professional ethics
 - Demonstrates ability to work independently and is self-directed
 - Is an effective team member
 - Uses informational and educational technology to accomplish goals
 - Teaches in formal and informal settings as appropriate
 - Is a lifelong learner
 - Embraces and adapts to change
 - Upholds the Land Grant mission and that of his/her University
 - Is a scholar and demonstrates scholarship throughout his/her work
 - Is nationally engaged with educational presentations, research and professional development
 - Is a change agent, one who creates learning experiences that motivate and empower others to improve their life, family, business, community and world
 - Is a recognized source of practical, researched-based educational information
 - Maintains a positive attitude
 - Treats clients, colleagues and stakeholders with respect

Adopted by Epsilon Sigma Phi, 2008

Learn more about national Epsilon Sigma Phi at espnational.org

More Scholarship Recipients - 2008

I had the opportunity to represent the Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi as a scholarship winner at the Galaxy III Conference in Indianapolis, IN September 2008.

Having never been to an Epsilon Sigma Phi national meeting or meeting of this magnitude (over 2400 Extension professionals!), revving up my engine for this meeting was no easy task, but one that I thoroughly enjoyed

once the green flag was waved! With so many opportunities to network, be educated, and to celebrate the strengths, diversity and unique qualities of the Extension system, the possibilities of choosing which course to race on were endless!

I found that in attending the regional meeting that most Epsilon Sigma Phi chapters do not allow those rookie drivers in the organization. So while discussing the new logo

for Epsilon Sigma Phi, members of the marketing committee made sure to announce to us that Epsilon Sigma Phi is not a "fuddy duddy" group!

As a millennial, my charge to you is to think about how to connect with new Extension professionals and bring more associate members into the driver's seat with Epsilon Sigma Phi. Thanks for the opportunity to have been a part of the Alpha Rho racing network.

*Emily Morehouse
Former 4-H Youth
Development
Agent
Douglas County*

2008 a Good Year for ESP Endowment Fund

During 2008 the ESP Endowment Fund has benefited from the generosity of active and retired Extension faculty. There were cash gifts of \$21,917, payroll deductions from faculty of \$3,351 and pledges committed in the amount of \$8,520 for a total of \$33,788 in new commitments to the ESP

Endowment Fund. The December 31, 2008 Endowment Fund balance was \$102,046. We appreciate the support of everyone who made a contribution, pledge or signed up for payroll deduction for ongoing giving to Epsilon Sigma Phi. You are supporting professional development

and program opportunities for Extension professionals that would otherwise not be possible.

To become a contributor to the ESP Endowment Fund contact Jim Lindquist at jlindqui@ksu.edu or Dave Schafer at dschafer@ksu.edu.

The Epsilon Sigma Phi - Alpha Rho Endowment Fund, established in 1992 within the KSU Foundation, provides recognition in the form of financial support for innovative programs and professional development. Professionally delivered programs reach into the homes and communities of Kansas families resulting in healthier, safer, and happier citizens.

For information on the ESP Endowment Grants, Scholarships, and Giving, see the "Endowment" section of the Alpha Rho ESP web site at www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho

2009 ESP Conference

The 2009 ESP National Conference will be held in Fargo, North Dakota September 13 to 16. The theme is **Engage, Enlighten and Enjoy!**

Engage as you: Network with other ESP members from across the country. Honor colleagues who earn recognition.

Enlighten as you: Take part in a variety of

concurrent sessions. Browse educational posters and exhibits.

Enjoy as you: Tour local sites. Renew old acquaintances and make new friends. Take part in the live and silent auctions.

Several Alpha Rho Chapter members will have the opportunity to attend courtesy of the Connie Hoch Memorial

Scholarship and the Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship (see related story page 6).

Early bird registration of \$395 is due June 15, 2009.

The 2010 National ESP Conference will be held October 12 to 15 in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.



Engage, Enlighten and Enjoy

2009 Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference
September 13-16 Fargo, North Dakota
www.ag.ndsu.edu/esp2009

NDSU
Extension Service
North Dakota State University

ESP

Apply or nominate a colleague for one of the following awards:

Distinguished Service

Distinguished Team

Early Career

Mid Career

International Service

Retiree Service

Friend of Extension

Horizon (2 county/ district; 1 Area; 1 State)

Meritorious Service (2 county/ district; 1 Area; 1 State)

For more information, contact:

Eric Otte
Sedgwick County
Extension Office
Phone: 316-722-7721,
Ext. 108
Email: cotte@ksu.edu

Members Deserve Chapter Recognition!

The ESP Alpha Rho Awards Committee is seeking applications for 2009 chapter awards. Kansas extension professionals are extremely talented and should have their skills and programs acknowledged at the state and national levels. The following Kansas Extension Professionals, who received Alpha Rho Chapter awards, have had applications sent for consideration for Epsilon Sigma Phi national awards:

- Dr. Jim Lindquist- National Distinguished Service Ruby Recognition
- Jan Stephens- Distinguished Service Chapter Recognition

• Diane Burnett- Mid Career Service Recognition

Now is the time to begin thinking about coworkers (or yourself) and the innovative extension work that makes a positive difference in the lives of Kansans. Perhaps an individual has continuously inspired you by serving as a mentor or a newcomer to Extension has been successful by using a new approach to address a challenging issue. There may be others who have contributed to a team effort and have achieved great results. Whatever the case may be, Kansas extension professionals deserve to have their work recognized

and contributions rewarded.

A brief description of each recognition category and the application/nomination process can be found on the ESP Alpha Rho website at: <http://tinyurl.com/dzfgwr>.

Click on "Chapter Award Recognition Process."

To view a list of current ESP Alpha Rho members go to: <http://tinyurl.com/c6nc6u>.

Applications are due August 15, 2009. Please send applications electronically to: M. Gayle Price, Awards Committee Chair, gprice@ksu.edu. For questions, please contact me at 620-431-1530 or gprice@ksu.edu.

New Scholarships for National ESP Meeting

Two new scholarships are available to pay the early bird registration fee (\$395 in 2009) for ESP members to attend the ESP National Conference.

Connie Hoch Leadership Scholarship

Connie Hoch considered ESP National Conference an outstanding opportunity for professional growth. In the spirit of her passion, this scholarship was established in her memory in 2008. It is made possible by many friends, family and colleagues who wanted to honor Connie's

passion, her career in K-State Research and Extension, and leadership in ESP.

Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship for Professional Development

Jim Lindquist has been an active member of Alpha Rho Chapter Epsilon Sigma Phi since 1979. His passion for professional development led him to endow this scholarship fund to encourage others to seek learning opportunities. This scholarship honors

his parents, Lawrence and Gladys, and wife Mary.

For both scholarships, preference is given to a member attending a regional or national ESP Conference or administrative leadership professional development for the first time and must be used the same year as granted.

More application information will be posted to the website www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho by May 1.

Application deadline is May 20, 2009.

Alpha Rho ESP Officers 2009

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Request for Alpha Rho ESP History

Do you have any information or documents on the history of the Alpha Rho ESP chapter? The

archives are housed at the K-State Library. Any items are welcome that will tell our story.

Please contact:
Jennifer Wilson
785-537-6350
jwilson@ksu.edu

ESP Mission Statement

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

More from the President

(cont. from page 1)

- work together with other associations on projects which add value through professional development.

There are many more, but this is fairly representative of how I have benefitted as a member of professional associations throughout my extension career.

Laurie Chandler, president-elect and I recently participated in the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) regional workshop. The mission of the Joint Council of Extension Professionals is to promote communication, cooperation and professionalism among

Extension educators. We were joined by officers from the three Kansas agent associations who participated along with more than one hundred professionals from the North Central and Western regions.

The keynote and workshop presenter was Dr. Albert C. Pierce, Professor of Ethics and National Security at National Defense University. The topic was, "Ethics in Today's Extension World." Our world makes constant demands on our time, energy, and ethics. The difficulty of balancing family and career, audiences and funders, and differing expectations of campus and field

requires that difficult ethical choices be made daily. This workshop challenged us to think through the ethical dimensions of our teaching, research, and outreach functions. It focused on how we, as leaders, can have a positive effect on the ethics of our organizations and our co-workers. As a result of this workshop, we learned to recognize and manage the impacts of the ethical choices we make every day.

