

Epsilon Sigma Phi

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Calendar of Events

*2010 K-State
Research and
Extension Annual
Conference
Manhattan, KS
October 18-21*

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



*By Linda Beech
ESP Awards
Committee chair
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From the President, Laurie Chandler

In a recent Tuesday Letter, Daryl Buchholz wrote, *"If you believe yourself to be a professional, you are obligated to seek ways to continue your professional development and growth. As an extension professional, being a part of your professional society should be an automatic; being a part of Epsilon Sigma Phi should be your goal."* I want to thank Daryl for his encouragement to all extension professionals to be a part of Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP). Daryl's message provides a wonderful opportunity for all of us to talk with our co-workers about joining ESP as part of their professional development. Receiving



a personal invitation to join an organization is one of the most effective methods for member recruitment.

Diane Mack and I represented the chapter along with the officers from the Kansas agent associations at the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP)

Leadership Workshop in Nashville, TN in February. The theme for this year's conference was "The Family-Friendly Workplace" – an issue of great interest for all extension professionals.

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New ESP Recognition Categories for 2010

Four new categories for chapter recognition will be available to ESP members this year. Take a look at the Awards section of our Alpha Rho website

(www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho) for details about these new awards and all the areas in which Epsilon Sigma Phi members may be recognized.

Administrative Leadership -

Demonstrated noteworthy administrative enthusiasm, performance and accomplishment during 10 or more years of service.

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Want to know what is going on nationally in Epsilon Sigma Phi?

Check out the ESP Connection newsletter at <http://espnational.org>

Click on "Current ESP Connection" under "Newsletters"

*By Margaret Phillips
Past President and
Endowment Fund
Chair
margaret@ksu.edu*

*Applications due
August 15*

*By Karen Blakeslee
Editor
kblakesl@ksu.edu*

New Recognition Categories, cont.

Visionary Leadership -

For those whose significant accomplishments have led Extension forward in a new direction.

Diversity/Multicultural (Individual) - Recognizes outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs in our diverse and multicultural society.

Diversity/Multicultural (Team) -

Recognizes outstanding efforts and accomplishments in developing, achieving and sustaining Extension programs in our diverse and multicultural society. At least 50% of team members eligible for ESP must be members in good standing.

The process for self-application or nomination of other ESP members is

simple! There is no special form required, just submit a brief description (no more than 2 pages) of why the person or team should be considered for the recognition.

The application deadline is **AUGUST 15**, so start thinking about worthy candidates for ESP recognition now!

Endowment Fund Grants

The purpose of the Endowment Fund Grants is to improve the quality of educational programs offered by K-State Research and Extension by encouraging faculty professional development experiences and special projects. Grants may be used for professional development or program innovation. Examples of professional development

include attendance at an ESP professional meeting, graduate studies or innovative professional development opportunities targeted to extension professionals and/or clientele. Examples of program innovation include something new; something that can be replicated; or something timely and relevant to the

mission of Extension and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Contributions to this fund have been made by Extension faculty, friends, and supporters of the Alpha Rho Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi.

For more information about the application process see the [Endowment Fund](#) site.

ESP Newsletter Changes

At the recent ESP Council meeting, changes were recommended and approved for future issues of the ESP Newsletter.

This newsletter will be the last Spring issue. A Summer issue in July will

be more timely to remind members of due dates and upcoming annual meeting information.

The Fall issue will become a Winter issue in December to highlight annual meeting and

banquet events plus other upcoming information.

Also, if short messages need to be emailed, the editor would be glad to "dress them up" with ESP logos to help identify them easily.

Connie Hoch Leadership Scholarship

Connie Hoch, a former extension agent and PRIDE program assistant, considered the Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference an outstanding opportunity for professional growth. In the spirit of her enthusiasm for ESP and leadership development, this scholarship was established in her memory in 2008. It is made

possible as a result of the many friends, family and colleagues who wanted to honor Connie's passion and her professional career in K-State Research and Extension and commitment to leadership in the Alpha Rho Chapter.

Each year, for as long as the funds are available, one scholarship for early

bird registration will be awarded for an Alpha Rho member to attend the ESP National Conference.

Preference is given to a member attending the conference for the first time and must be used the same year as granted.

For more information about the application process see the [Endowment Fund](#) site.

I'd like to thank the ESP Endowment Board of Trustees for awarding me the Connie Hoch Leadership Scholarship to attend the 2009 ESP National Conference. It was a great learning experience and opportunity.

Karen Blakeslee

Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship

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 was established honoring his

parents, Lawrence and Gladys, and wife Mary, who are deceased.

The annual available earnings from this fund will be used for professional development for extension professionals. Funds may be used for any professional development

experience, with preference to the National ESP Conference or an administrative leadership professional development that is regional or national in scope.

For more information about the application process see the [Endowment Fund](#) site.

Applications for the Connie Hoch and Jim Lindquist scholarships are due June 1 to Margaret Phillips at margaret@ksu.edu

2010 National ESP Conference

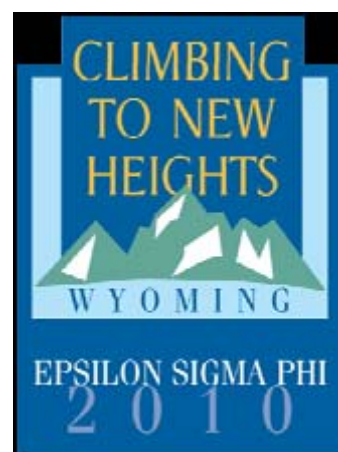
Anyone who has attended a National Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference knows what an opportunity for professional development it is! **Climbing to New Heights** is the theme for this year's conference, hosted by ESP Chapters in the Western Region.

Plan to head for Jackson Hole, Wyoming, October 12-15, 2010. Snow King Resort will be the Conference Hotel.

Each day of the conference has its own theme:
Wednesday - Building

Community, One Meaningful Action at a Time,
Thursday - Living Responsibly in Desperate Times, and
Friday - Leading Your Life with Your Strengths.

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*By Denise Dias
FCS Agent
Sedgwick County*

*2009 ESP Travel
Grant recipient*



*Alpha Rho Chapter
Travel Study Grants*

Return application electronically to the Professionalism Committee chair, Robin Eubank, by February 15 for mid-year International travel study, and by August 15 for the other travel.

Travel Study Grants may be used for international travel, attendance at a professional meeting, or another opportunity related to professional development.

For more information, see <http://bit.ly/aeYeHB>.

Kansas to Kenya II

Thank You Epsilon Sigma Phi for allowing me to use the International Travel Grant to return to Maai Mahiu, Kenya this past July. It was an opportunity for me to continue the rewarding work I had started the previous summer with the K-State Kansas to Kenya Team.

The Malika Moms (mothers of disabled children) were excited to have the sewing team return to teach them more sustainable sewing skills. They were excited to find out that their sewing story has been featured in several Kansas newspapers and even a national Sewing magazine.

The first day, I asked each of them to share what they felt sewing meant to them. Repeatedly these women shared that they had no hope for tomorrow before learning to sew. Many of them have been victims of domestic violence that

stemmed from their having a child born with a disability. These women have developed an informal support group through their sewing.

The women spent time brainstorming about the future of their business. One of our new team members this year worked with me to develop a business plan for their micro-entrepreneurship. The plan includes ways for these women to share their knowledge to train others, and to expand their operations and to eventually be able to start up their own sewing business, if they so desire.

Comfort The Children International had arranged for the women to take a bus trip to Nairobi. They visited a business called Armani Ju, which started out making patchwork placements in a missionary's garage. It has grown in just 12 years to a business that employs around 80

women. The Malika Moms were so excited to visit there and it gave them even more hope for what their sewing can accomplish.

Inspired by Armani Ju, the women learned how to sew patchwork placemats, diaper bags, drawstring backpacks, and head coverings. We developed a less expensive shopping bag to sell locally and they experimented with making various sized tote bags to be sold by Price Chopper and for a hotel in Nairobi. The women want to be able to improve their skills to create these new items and make them available for sale both locally and internationally.

The Malika Moms are all very excited about making other items to sell to expand their product offerings. They are hopeful that their sewing will help them and their families have a better future.



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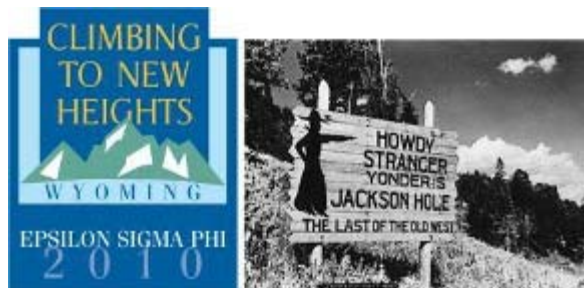
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We're on the Web!

www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho

2010 ESP National Conference, cont.

With three general sessions, concurrent sessions, poster sessions, Ruby Luncheon, Auction, Recognition Banquet, and lots of networking, you won't want to miss the 2010 Annual ESP Conference! Go early for the Pre-Conference Tours including Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, Snake River Ranch Agro-Tourism Tour, and National Wildlife Museum Tour. Watch for [registration information!](#)



From the President, cont.

The keynote presentation for the conference was Geania Dickey, Program Coordinator for the Arkansas Governor's Work-Life Initiative. We also heard from a panel of leaders from area businesses and industries that had been successful in developing family-friendly work environments. You can view the keynote address which is posted on the National ESP website, www.espnational.com.

In April, Diane will represent our chapter at the Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference in Arlington, Virginia. Diane and the representatives from the Kansas agents' associations will hear

about new opportunities in extension programming and volunteer work and have an opportunity to participate in roundtables with National Extension Program Leaders as well as visit with our Kansas congressional leaders. **Congratulations to Diane for receiving a National ESP scholarship to attend this conference!**

This fall, the Western Region chapters of ESP will host the 2010 National ESP Conference in Jackson, Wyoming, October 12-15. The theme for this year's conference is "Climbing to New Heights." Preliminary information

about the keynote speakers and tours is available at conference.espnational.com. To help defray expenses, there are two scholarships that you can apply for through the Extension Endowment. Information about the scholarships is available on page 3 or on our website, www.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho. Deadline is June 1. Hope to see you there!

Thank you for making ESP a priority in your professional development. Your commitment and involvement in ESP is important to our success as a chapter.

Laurie Chandler