

espconnection

Number CIV

The Newsletter of Epsilon Sigma Phi

November/December 2010

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!

Deborah Thomason, National ESP President



It is hard to believe that 2011 is right around the corner! Seems like only yesterday that we were all anticipating Y2K! Some say that "time flies when you are having fun." I suppose that is why we all enjoy our jobs with Extension! Personally, I feel that my 30 years have flown by so fast and hold many precious memories – lifelong friends, successful programs, enjoyable travel and professional growth.

Your National ESP Board feels blessed to have been given the opportunity to work **for you** during this year, as we work to provide many more opportunities for professional growth for our members. In challenging times, organizations begin to focus on their "bottom line" and ESP is focusing on our bottom as well. However, I feel that our bottom line is "our members." You are the catalyst to the success of ESP and without your support and participation, we would be unable to fulfill our association's mission:

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

I hope you will find time during the Holidays to enjoy family and friends, rest and reflect on 2010 and make plans for 2011. Remember that ESP provides you many member benefits such as:

- McKinney P.I. Scholarships—Applications Due 2/1/2011
- PILD Scholarships—Applications Due 2/1/2011
- Professional Development Mini-Grants—Applications Due 2/1/2011

My wish is for you to have a Safe and Enjoyable Holiday Season! Happy Holidays!



CHECK OUT THE ESP WEBSITE!

<http://espnational.org>

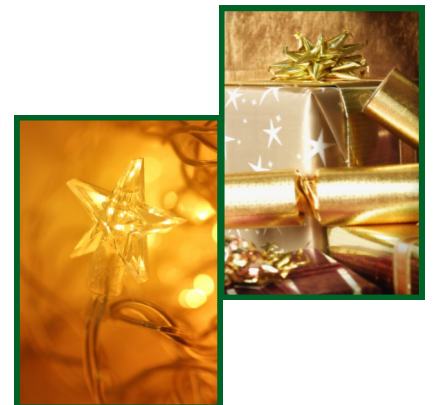
Or email us at: esppoffice@espnational.org



**JCEP LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION
Now Open!!**

***Extension - Moving
Forward: New Structure
and New Opportunities***
February 8-10, 2011
**Crowne Plaza Riverwalk,
San Antonio
San Antonio, TX**

Click **HERE** to register and pay online. Early Bird Cut Off Date: January 14, 2011!



An End of Year Tax-Deductible Gift to ESP

Jeff Myers, Northeast Region Vice President and
Chair of Resource Development & Management Committee



We hope you will consider an end of year gift to Epsilon Sigma Phi's Development Fund. Your tax-deductible contribution will support ESP's continued leadership in excellent professional development opportunities and recognition programs for current and retired Extension professionals.

Epsilon Sigma Phi has made a commitment to future excellence through the Development Fund to:

- Provide scholarships for professional improvement to individuals and mini-grants to chapters.
- Encourage participation of administration in the ESP National Conference by providing scholarships to attend the meeting.
- Provide for a comprehensive recognition program.
- Provide grants for professional development opportunities at the chapter level.

- Publish the latest literature on professionalism and development opportunities for Extension faculty/staff.
- Prepare resource materials that chapters can use to emphasize professionalism to prospective members.
- Update and maintain a record of Epsilon Sigma Phi history and encourage chapters to implement Extension history projects.
- Support internships to give new on-the-job experience in supervision and administration (future as funds become available)

These lofty initiatives can only happen with your support. Please consider supporting your profession and organization with a donation today. Gifts can be sent to: National ESP Office, 450 Falls Avenue Suite 106, Twin Falls, ID 83301. Donation information is also available at <http://esnational.org> under 'Giving – Development Fund' (on the left side of the home page under 'More Information On').

2011 Annual Conference RFP's Now On-Line

Justen Smith, National President-Elect and Professional Development Chair

RFP's for the 2011 Annual Conference to be held in Syracuse, New York is now-online. To date we have only received two proposals. All of you have great programs. Please submit proposals for either a concurrent session or poster. The deadline for submitting is February 28, 2011.

The Professional Development Committee is currently working on offering a pre-conference workshop for the 2011 Syracuse Conference. This will be a great pre-conference workshop and more details will come out once the workshop is confirmed. There are many Professional Development opportunities through ESP. Please visit the ESP website at www.espnational.org and click on the Professional Development link to see all the great opportunities. Opportunities include professional internships, webinars, and links to Professional Development websites.



Epsilon Sigma Phi Scholarships Available for Professional Development Opportunities

Bob Ohlensehlen, National Executive Director



One of the many benefits of ESP membership are the scholarships and mini-grants that are available for members to use for professional development

opportunities. There are four different scholarships available that can be used for several different professional development opportunities.

The **Public Issues Leadership Development Scholarship** is available to members for those who will be first time attendees to the PILD Conference held in April in the Arlington, Virginia. PILD offers an opportunity to travel to Washington, DC, to learn more about NIFA and other Federal partners, to explore firsthand the political process and to take home information that can be used on the local level. There are four \$600 scholarships that are available annually. The applications are found online at [PILD Scholarship Applications](#) under the **Applications/Reports and Scholarship** Tab.

The **Mike McKinney Public Issues Scholarship** is given to members interested in gaining or enhancing education or skills in the area of public issues. This scholarship was established in honor of Mike McKinney, a Life Member who dedicated his career to work in the area of public issues. Mike is a former Southern Region Vice President. This \$500 scholarship is awarded annually. The application deadline to apply for the McKinney Scholarship is February 1st. The applications are found online at [Mike](#)

[McKinney Public Issues Scholarship Application](#) under the **Applications/Reports and Scholarship** Tab.

The **Administrator / Leader Scholarship** is available to outstanding administrators or leaders to provide a professional development opportunity by helping to defray the cost of attending the ESP National Conference. There are four \$500 scholarships available annually to member administrators or leaders based on their accomplishments. The application deadline to apply for the Administrator / Leadership Scholarship is February 1st. The applications are found online at [Administrator / Leader Scholarship Application](#) under the **Applications/Reports and Scholarship** Tab. Recipients are expected to provide an article for the *ESP Connection* following the conference describing the professional development value of their experience that came from attending the National ESP Conference.

The **Richard R. Angus Professional Development Scholarship** was established in honor of Richard R. Angus, a Past National President and major contributor and driving force behind the ESP Development Fund, which funds our scholarships and grants. The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage, stimulate, and support professional development through participation in courses, seminars, conferences or workshops. To assist members in accomplishing these goals there are 4 scholarships of up to \$500 each, available annually. The application deadline to apply for the Richard R. Angus Professional Development Scholarship is March 1st. The application is found online at the [Richard R. Angus Professional](#)

[Development Scholarship Application](#) under the **Applications/Reports and Scholarship** Tab.

The scholarships are aimed at personal or individual professional development opportunities.

The **Professional Development Mini-Grant** is a source of funds that are available for training of groups of members such as for chapter member training. The Mini-Grants provide a larger sum of money and are expected to provide opportunities for more than an individual. The funds must be used to benefit groups that must be at least 50% ESP members and must have a multi-disciplinary planning team. There are up to four \$1,000 grants available per year. The Mini-Grants come with a requirement of presenting either a poster or concurrent session at the ESP National Conference following completion of the project and to provide an article describing the planning, implementation and evaluation of the project for the *ESP Connection*. The idea is to fund proposals that could be easily duplicated in other chapters across the country. The applications are found online at [ESP Professional Development Mini Grant Application](#) under the **Applications/Reports and Grants** Tab.

Epsilon Sigma Phi provides all of these opportunities for our members to grow professionally. Now it is up to each of you to participate - no one can do that for you!

Email the National ESP Office at espoffice@espnational.org if you have any questions!



Enhancing 4-H Global Perspectives

Warren Crawford, 4-H Youth Development Specialist and Kim Reaman, 4-H Volunteer Development Specialist and Member of Eta Chapter, WY

Warren Crawford and Kim Reaman, University of Wyoming 4-H Specialists, were instrumental in partnering with V. Sergelen and Ts. Batmunkh to establish the Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization in 2009.

The Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization began with 40 youth enrolled in a 4-H Book Club and has grown to almost 500 youth who participated in the 4-H summer reading program.

The comprehensive goal of the project is to facilitate the expansion of the 4-H Youth Development Program in Mongolia. In Mongolia and Wyoming, global citizens with an ability to work effectively in a global society, would be one of the long term outcomes.

Highlighted below are the specific purposes for this trip:

- Consultation with 4-H staff and volunteers to build upon the existing organizational structure currently used.
- Training in experiential learning processes for 4-H staff and volunteers to enhance their work with youth in the 4-H program.
- Preparations for the American Youth Leadership Program exchange planned for next summer.

Crawford and Reaman leveraged this Global Perspectives Grant Award and received a \$222,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural



Kim and Sergelen presenting certificates to members in the 4-H Book Club



Warren presenting awards for the 4-H Summer Reading Program



Ts. Batmunkh and V. Sergelen

Affairs Division to administer the American Youth Leadership Program in Mongolia.

The opportunities to share and learn from one another via the internet is unlimited. Many young people in Mongolia have Facebook accounts so a spot will be designated on the Wyoming 4-H Facebook page for Mongolian 4-H and Wyoming 4-H members to interact. E-mail addresses were collected from Mongolian 4-H members and we expect to match them up directly with Wyoming 4-H members as e-mail pen pals.

The identification of sister 4-H clubs between Mongolia and Wyoming 4-H will be pursued and a schedule developed to share 4-H project work through web-based technology.

Wyoming 4-H was awarded a grant to administer the American Youth Leadership Program with Mongolia. Twenty nine youth and six adult participants will be selected for a four week cultural exchange to Mongolia next summer.

It is our hope that financial support will be obtained to provide travel for the Mongolian youth to visit Wyoming, making the exchange we are beginning next summer a true exchange program.

This project will develop long-term, international cooperation between the University of Wyoming 4-H Program and Mongolian 4-H to help students reach their full potential in our global society.

(To see the entire article, go to – [Enhancing 4-H Global Perspectives](#))

Why I Give to the ESP Development Fund

Patricia Powley, Life Member, Alpha Omicron Chapter, PA

For 34 years I had the most rewarding career in Cooperative Extension. It afforded me valuable on-the-job training and opportunities for an abundance of professional development beyond what I could have ever imagined. Besides in-service training provided by the university, the professional development provided through attendance at national meetings of Epsilon Sigma Phi and NEAFCS were tremendous. Now that I'm retired, I still attend these national meetings, not so much to be professionally developed, (although there are still sessions of interest) but to enjoy the interaction with younger educators who are excited about their work and want to learn more to educate their audiences back home.

In retirement, I'm excited to give to ESP because it provides professional development opportunities to educators of any discipline across the board. It provides scholarships for leadership development, for administrators and for individual chapter interdisciplinary projects. I feel that if I support the Development Fund through donations and the support of the annual auction, I am giving support to future generations of Extension educators that will grow professionally as I did and, in turn, change the lives of others.



Important Dates Ahead – Mark Your Calendar!

DECEMBER

- Collect and Submit 2011 Membership Dues
- Register for 2011 JCEP Leadership Workshops
- ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

JANUARY

- Register for 2011 JCEP Leadership Workshop
- Collect and Submit 2011 Membership Dues
- January 14, 2011, JCEP Leadership Conference—Early Bird Registration Deadline
- January 28, Deadline for Electronic Submission of Chapter Reports for JCEP Meeting

FEBRUARY

- McKinney P.I. Scholarships Applications Due 2/1/2011
- PILD Scholarships Applications Due 2/1/2011
- Professional Development Mini-Grants Applications Due 2/1/2011

NATIONAL ESP CONFERENCE DATES

- 2011 National ESP Conference, October 9-13, Syracuse, New York
- 2012 National ESP Conference, October 6-9, Mobile, Alabama
- 2013, Galaxy Conference, September 15-20, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

