

espconnection

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The Newsletter of Epsilon Sigma Phi

August / September 2016

ESP Announces Appointment of Kathleen Tweeten as National President-Elect

Patricia Dawson, National ESP President



Kathleen Tweeten

The month of August proved to bring many unanticipated changes to our Association. It was with deep regret that the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Graham Cochran on August 4th. Just a few days earlier, Graham was selected to serve as Senior

Administrative Officer with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at Ohio State. This was an unexpected opportunity for Graham that provides him with the ability to serve in a college-wide leadership role working closely with the Vice President and Dean of his college focusing on strategic planning; evaluation of programs, departments, administrative leaders and programmatic opportunities;

policy; and advisory committee engagement. While Graham wrestled with his commitments to ESP as well as JCEP he knew that in his new role, he would not be able to commit the time and energy to support ESP appropriately, meet



Patricia Dawson

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ESP National Committee Members In Place for 2017

Beth Claypoole, 2nd National Vice President

I want to thank everyone who submitted an application for membership in a national committee! Participation at this level is a huge commitment to our organization and the “boots on the ground” for getting things done! We had more than 50 people apply for membership and everyone was able to get on a committee. Special thanks to those who talked with me and agreed to be on a committee not of their original choosing.

Please think about your application as a committee member for the future. All committee applications are due April 1 and new committee membership starts at the national meeting in the fall. Currently, you must renew your interest and application each year. You can be on a committee for 3 total years. This can be challenging to remember to “renew” your committee membership each year and your committee chairperson should be reminding you to do this. This process may change in the future as we are looking for ways to increase participation and decrease effort to

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President's Message—Member Connections...Change, Challenge and Opportunity

Patricia Dawson, National ESP President

As I sat down to prepare my President's Message I realized that this will be my final article. It has been a true honor to serve as your President. Without a doubt, Epsilon Sigma Phi members are the gem of the Extension Service. Your leadership, innovation, and ongoing efforts to strengthen our Extension System are noteworthy. I have met so many phenomenal colleagues through ESP and appreciate your generosity, dedication to the profession and most importantly, your friendships.

I am grateful to each and every one of you who have supported me during my journey as President. While I can't mention you all I do want to express a special thank you to my Gamma Chapter colleagues at Oregon State University. You have been my cheerleaders, my advisors and my helping hands. It has been such a privilege to have you at my side.

To our past national presidents – thank you for sharing your wisdom and passion. I so value your expertise and appreciate your willingness to roll up your sleeves when I called for advice. We are all richer because of your selfless generosity.

I have been blessed with a wonderful team that has served as your National Board. Collectively, they rose to my high expectations and made great strides in bringing our Strategic Action Plan from a "vision" to a "reality." A heartfelt thank you to Ann, Beth, Dan, Elizabeth, Graham, Peggy and Rusty for giving so much of yourselves to the association.

And last, but not least, thank you to Bob, our Executive Director and Jeana for your upmost professionalism. Your exemplary, behind the scenes work has proven invaluable.

As we move forward I encourage you to explore ways you can become further engaged in ESP – consider serving on a committee, become a mentor, run for an office. Rest assured it will be an incredible experience.

I look forward to seeing you in Cape May. Our friends in New Jersey are working hard to deliver an exceptional conference filled with outstanding speakers, professional development experiences and fellowship in a unique setting. It is going to be an AWESOME event – see you all there!

Patricia Dawson can be reached by email at patricia.dawson@oregonstate.edu.

Reminder: Don't Let the 2016 Charitable IRA Rollover Opportunity Pass You By!

Doug Beech, Resource Development and Management Committee Contributor and Life Member, Alpha Rho Chapter, Kansas

If you are an IRA owner age 70½ and older, the Charitable IRA Rollover provision of the U.S. tax code may provide you with the opportunity for **unusually significant** tax-efficient giving to charity. IRA withdrawals made directly to charity (up to \$100,000 each calendar year) are **excluded** from the donor's adjusted gross income, thus avoiding the income tax that would otherwise be owed on the withdrawal. Such treatment means that taxpayers who don't

itemize deductions (a substantial majority of taxpayers) can receive a tax benefit from their generosity, and also opens the door to many other potential tax savings, including possible reduced state income taxes depending on the donor's state of residence. And to top it off, Charitable IRA Rollovers **count toward the account owner's IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.** If the above summary sounds intriguing to you, don't wait any

longer to schedule an appointment with your tax advisor to determine the extent of the tax savings that could be provided to you by utilizing the Charitable IRA Rollover provision. You may be very pleasantly surprised! The earlier in the year you decide that one or more Charitable IRA Rollovers are right for you, the easier it is to draw up a good charitable giving plan for the remainder of 2016 and to coordinate your RMD with your

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Addressing Public Issues—Who, What and How

Ann Berry, Past President and Public Issues Committee Chair

The ESP National Public Issues Committee works *to build and strengthen political and public support for Extension through consistent, targeted communication with local, state, and federal decision makers and agencies and to educate them about public policy and emerging legislative issues affecting Extension programs and staff.* Public issues are defined as “matters of widespread public concern.”

The committee recently surveyed leaders in state chapters of ESP. The goal was to determine the diversity of ESP’s membership, which states are addressing public issues and how, and the depth of participation in ESP by Extension administration.

Thirty-one members representing 18 states responded to the survey. Nine respondents indicated their

state has an ESP Public Issues Committee, while 16 responded that they do not. Most responded that they did not know how public issues are addressed in their states.

Some of the public issues that states are addressing and/or see the need to address include diversity and inclusion, working with legislators, telling our story, writing impact statements, supporting members to attend JCEP PILD (Public Issues and Leadership Development Conference), and keeping Extension relevant and in the public eye. The administration involvement in ESP activities varied from state to state, from either very active to not at all.

Results of this survey reveal that we need to do a better job of educating our members and

administrators in the scope of public issues and ESP and Extension’s roles in addressing them. ESP state chapters can take the lead in this effort, with the support of your national Public Issues Committee.

You can view the complete summary report of the survey that is posted on the Public Issues Committee by clicking on this [link](#). If you have questions or would like more information about the survey results, please contact any of the Public Issues Committee members. Thanks to Debra Bolton, Public Issues Committee member from Kansas, for analyzing the survey results and compiling the report!

Ann Berry, can be reached by email at aaberry@utk.edu.

Looking for "Transportation from Airports to The Grand Hotel in Cape May, NJ?"

Jeannette Rea-Keywood, 2016 National Conference Chair and Alpha Xi / New Jersey Member

Time is flying and before we know it the 2016 ESP National Conference in Cape May, New Jersey, will be here!

There are two companies that will work with ESP members to accommodate you in the most time and cost efficient way possible. It is, however, more cost effective if you travel in your shuttle with multiple people.

If you are interested in sharing transportation with other ESP members who are arriving at the airport at approximately the same time as you, please contact Anne Rhinesmith at grandma.9@hotmail.com providing your name, phone number, email, airport, arrival and departure dates & times, and airline. Anne will be in contact with you with regard to suggestions for sharing transportation.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2016 National ESP Conference! It is going to be a great conference!



Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference - Cape May, NJ - October 24-27, 2016

Meet the Friends of Extension for 2016

The Friend of Extension recognition was created to recognize individuals who have worked tirelessly to support and enhance Extension programs in their communities, their state and even on a national basis. Honorees can come from one of four categories: Extension Volunteer / Lay Leader, Professional Business Leader, Business / Organization or Elected Official.

The following have been selected to receive the 2016 Friend of Extension awards at the 2016 ESP National Conference at Cape May, New Jersey. The recognition will be presented at the Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, October 25, 2016.

Representative Terry England – Georgia (Elected Official)

Representative Terry England is a champion for the University of Georgia Extension. He steps up to the challenge every time he is called upon and takes his position

in the Georgia House of Representatives seriously. Representative England uses his public influence for the good of the state of Georgia. His efforts have been instrumental in the growth of UGA Extension. He has championed UGA Extension programs and helped to ensure that our infrastructure was solid as our state moves forward. UGA Dean of Extension Laura Perry Johnson described him best by saying, "Representative Terry

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Graham Cochran

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his own high expectations for service to ESP, and balance commitments to his new job duties with Ohio State.

While we are all sad to see Graham depart from the Board it is important that we reflect on the many ways in which Graham has enriched Epsilon Sigma Phi. Graham has provided years of stellar, innovative leadership at both the state and national level including roles as North Central Vice President as well as National President-Elect. Graham has helped shape the Resource Development and Management Committee's Annual Development Fund Campaign into a record setting effort bringing in an all-time high level of contributions and new supporters. Without a doubt, we are all stronger thanks to the impactful leadership of Graham Cochran. **A sincere THANK YOU is extended to Graham.**

As your President, I can't begin to express how very proud I am of your Board of Directors and how we have worked over the past 25 days to transition new leaders to the table. Our Bylaws stipulate that a vacancy should be filled from the respective region – in this case the North Central Region. The Board was very mindful of the importance of Regional Balance throughout the process. Due to the short timeline prior to the upcoming national conference it was important that we act quickly and that we not overwhelm one individual with the work required

leading up to the meeting in New Jersey. Thus, we separated the role of Resource, Development and Management Committee Chair from the President-Elect role. I am pleased to announce that Cindy Barnett, Purdue University, has agreed to fill the remainder to the RDM Chair position thru this year's national conference. David Ross, Maryland, will serve as Chair of the National Conference Auction. Both of these individuals bring a wealth of experience to the table and will provide excellent stewardship for ESP. **Thank you Cindy and David for agreeing to step in and share your expertise.**

Four incredible leaders from the North Central region answered our "Call for Office" to fill the remaining two years of Graham's term, and we are truly appreciative of their willingness to share their skills. After extensive deliberation, I am pleased to announce that Kathy Tweeten, North Dakota, has accepted the position of President-Elect. I will be passing her the gavel to start her term as National President at the close of our National Conference in New Jersey in a few weeks. Kathy brings a wealth of leadership skills to the table including representation on our ESP Board as NC Region VP from 2010-2012; past National President of NACDEP; JCEP Board of Director member, as well as experiences within the Carnegie Community Engagement program. Known as innovative, visionary and strategic...without a doubt, ESP is in very capable hands. **Please join me in welcoming Kathleen Tweeten to the Board of Directors as your President-Elect.**

Patricia Dawson can be reached by email at patricia.dawson@oregonstate.edu.

Growing Our ESP Membership Through 1890 Institutions

Vivian Anderson, Ph.D., Alpha Tau / Missouri Chapter Member, Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee

At last year's Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) conference during the "Regional Breakfast Roundtables" the topic of discussion was membership growth and diversity. Through a series of questions, members discussed ways to grow ESP at the national and state level. Notes from the Southern, Northern and Western regions included a discussion about including 1890 institutions in ESP membership. Using those notes and following up with other land-grant institutions who have 1890 sister institutions, some strategies and tips emerged that might help other land-grant universities grow their membership by including 1890 institutions.

Why is diversity important to ESP? One reason could be that by having a diverse membership, it allows ESP to overcome the challenges of losing members or creates ways to increase members and achieve goals such as increased membership at both the local and national levels. Another reason could be that it promotes a collaborative environment that values open participation from different backgrounds/institutions. Finally, diversity in our membership helps the ESP organization to be transparent, communicative and engaging.

After reviewing the notes from last year's regional breakfast roundtables, I followed up with some of the land-grant universities to find out what they are specifically doing to encourage 1890 participation in their local chapters and what, if any, ideas they had for other states to consider as they reach out to their 1890 institutions.



125 Years of Providing Access and Enhancing Opportunities

Ken Jones, Alpha Kappa, Kentucky, says that local chapters need to be intentional about promoting ESP membership among staff at 1890 institutions. He also states that chapters need to encourage 1890 members to serve as officers or committee chairs. He goes on to say that chapters need to work with 1890 members to host ESP events on the 1890 campus and finally, designate an 1890 member as a liaison to serve on the local chapter board.

Mary Sheffield, Alpha Beta, Georgia, tells me that their ESP chapter has encouraged 1890 specialists and agents to serve in leadership roles. Their chapter reaches out to their 1890 Extension Director to provide regular updates at their annual meeting. Further, Mary points out this is important because the entire organization hears from their 1890's Extension program at the same time that they hear from their University of Georgia operations director. Finally, Mary said, "I believe that administrators from the land-grant and 1890 institutions play a role in helping to build a good relationship with each other and our membership follows that lead so that we can help each other be

effective and gain greater opportunities for professional development and collaboration across the state."

William Sheftall, Alpha Delta, Florida, told me that their chapter has for many years made inclusion of 1890 colleagues in their officer rotation a priority. Other ways Alpha Delta has ensured 1890 inclusion include: recruitment of 1890 faculty to serve as committee chairs and co-chairs. He points out that the 1890 colleagues serving in these officer roles have an opportunity to reach into the ranks of their institution and recruit into ESP membership and leadership. He said that "they have found that whatever one's affiliation and discipline, being recruited into ESP by colleagues you already know and have worked with is by far the most effective approach." Finally, Will said that "in Florida, we have prioritized maintaining an 1890 affiliation and perspective in our officer line-up, and will continue to do so because we think ESP is an important vehicle for fostering networking and collaboration between faculty of our sister Extension systems."

Clearly, some themes that emerge are:

- As a land-grant institution who wants to include your 1890 institution, it needs to be intentional and be a priority.
- Collaboration and relationship building is key in the chapters that have had success reaching out to their 1890 institution.
- Involve your Extension administrators to build a strong relationship between your institutions in order to grow your ESP membership.

(1890s Institutions Continued on page 6)

“Creating International Extension Programs” Webinar Scheduled for September 19th

A professional development webinar, a collaborative effort of the ESP Global Relations Committee and the ESP Professional Development Committee, will be presented on Monday, September 19, 2016, at 12:30 PM Eastern, 11:30 AM Central, 10:30 AM Mountain, 9:30 AM Pacific.

Register now, and attend on Sept. 19th, by going to <https://Learn.extension.org/events/2742>.

Over the past four years, Epsilon Sigma Phi’s Global Relation Committee has created YouTube videos and interviews on the benefits of getting involved in global Extension. We’ve hosted two Administrative Panel discussions at our annual conference and explored the benefits, challenges, and opportunities through the eyes of administration. The evaluations overwhelmingly asked us for the same sort of dialog from those of us in the field who have created, and worked, Internationally through Extension. As we become a more global society, the opportunities for Extension to expand into the International arena will only increase and this webinar is designed to assist with that process.

This 1.5 hour webinar will explore the ins and outs of creating an International Extension program including: how to meander the red tape, funding

sources, how to locate sites and establish relationship with the host country, University expectations and how to bring it back to your local community, and how to prepare for the culture with which you will be interacting. Our panelists include Michael McGirr, a National Program Leader in the Center for International Programs at USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA); Dr. Paul Lachapelle, Community Development Specialist for Montana State University Extension; Dr. Norma Samuel, Urban Horticulture Agent, and International Programs Advisory Team Vice Chair for the University of Florida/IFAS; and Dan Culbert, retired Horticulture Agent for the University of Florida/IFAS.

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

This webinar is presented on behalf of Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) to support our mission of professional development. Our organization provides its members with many other benefits. If you are interested in joining ESP, email the National ESP office, espoffice@espnational.org for membership information.

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rollovers. Also, because these rollovers **must go directly from the IRA provider to the charity**, it is important that you allow plenty of time for the required paperwork to be completed and for the IRA provider to cut and send the check to your chosen charities before the end of 2016.

Of course, National ESP would be exceedingly grateful and honored to be one of the charities you choose to receive a Charitable IRA Rollover. Details on doing so (as well as additional details on Charitable IRA Rollovers in general) were given on pages 3 and 5 of the February/March 2016 edition of the ESP Connection newsletter, archived on the National ESP website. Or, Executive Director Bob Ohlensehlen can be contacted directly at 208-736-4495.

Doug Beech can be reached by email at dbeech@ksu.edu.



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Growing our ESP membership both locally and nationally will be the key to our future. Something I read not long ago said, “diversity is being invited to the party; inclusion is being asked to dance”. Follow the lead of states like Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and others and not only ask your 1890 institution to be a member of your chapter, but make sure they are engaged and are actively participating in your chapter to grow your membership.

Vivian Anderson can be reached by email at masonv@missouri.edu.

Reflections and Directions

Ann Berry, Past National President

This will be my last *ESP Connection* article written as a member of your National Board. Serving on the Board has been the most rewarding professional experience I have had, and I thank you for this opportunity. Past national presidents Sandy Corridon and Deborah Thomason both told me that it would be the most gratifying experience in my career, and they were right! I thank them both for encouraging me to step up to the task.

In addition to Sandy and Deborah, I want to thank Mark Stillwell, Ellen Burton, Jeff Myers and Bob Ohlensehlen for all of their help throughout my Board service. I have been fortunate to work with some incredibly talented and dedicated Board members throughout the past four years. I am also grateful to the Tennessee Omega Chapter, Dr. Tim Cross, Dr. Laura Stephenson and Dr. Shirley Hastings for their support, as well as my colleagues Jane Gault and Dena Wise.

ESP offers the most return on an Extension professional's investment, with the incentives for participation in professional conferences, opportunities for leadership development, and the nurturing nature of the organization. You will get out of it what you put in. Our association depends upon active chapters to engage our membership as well as to recruit new members. I know that we have to compete with six other Extension professional associations for membership. Engaging Extension professionals early in their careers with participation in ESP is critical. A personal contact will go a long way and will make the greatest impact.

Extension professionals must also see a benefit for joining and staying active—activities at the state level as well as at the national level—must be visible and relevant. The National Board has been working this year to increase educational webinars that benefit all members, not

just your chapter leadership. Consider hosting webinars in your own states for members that address topics of personal and professional interest to a broad range of members. A critical public or emerging issue, retirement planning, writing impact reports, working with local and state government, leadership development, etc., are just a few possible topics. Capitalize on the strengths of your members. Get your administrators involved in ESP; show them the value of supporting membership in our association.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve this awesome association!

Ann Berry can be reached by email at aaberry@utk.edu.



Customize Your Chapter's Marketing Kit

Joanne S. Cavis, ESP Marketing Committee Member

Your chapter can create a customized **Marketing Kit**—a tool for you to engage colleagues and position Epsilon Sigma Phi as the “Key to Professional Excellence.” Visit the Marketing Committee's poster/table during the Poster Session at National Conference in Cape May. See all of the items you can order. Review the many documents created for you to use to market ESP, recognize chapter Board members, and recruit and retain members. Look at the table-top and floor model roller shades. Decide which one meets your needs. Do you want to borrow

a display? The ESP National Office has loaners. You pay only the return delivery charges (about \$30). Do you want to buy one for your chapter to use more frequently? The 24" x 40" sells for \$125, and the 33" x 60" sells for \$135. Displays are shipped directly to the chapter from the manufacturer. OR, do you want a poster? The poster graphic is on the ESP website to download in the size you want. Just print out and laminate it.

The Marketing Kit consists of a roller shade banner, plus samples of ESP stick pens (20),

flash drives (2, 4GB), key chains (2), letter slitters (2), luggage tags (2), post-it notes (2), bookmarks with member benefits list (20), thank you cards (1 set of 5), and a pocket folder with sample ESP brochures (customizable with your chapter contact information), and various membership and marketing copies from website. (The items range in from \$0.05 to \$5.50.) An order form is available on the ESP National website. Look under “Marketing.”

Are you interested in clothing items? Examine the polo shirts (white, green, stone, \$28-\$30) and wind breakers (green with white accent \$30-\$32) available in sizes S-XXXL. Use the order form under “Marketing.”

SO --- **A Marketing Kit** is available for your chapter to use at appropriate Extension functions whether you create, borrow, download, or buy various items. Use it to Engage – Translate – Transform!

Joanne Cavis can be reached by email at jscavis@gmail.com.

Enjoy the Auction Excitement! Bring an Auction Item to Donate...

David Ross, Resource Development & Management Committee Member and Tau / Maryland Chapter Member

Individual donations are requested for the 2016 ESP Development Fund Auction to be held Tuesday, October 25, during the ESP National Conference in Cape May, NJ. Chapters are asked to donate a basket, state product or other items. There will be both silent and a live auctions. Bidding is fun and it is for a worthy cause. Drop auction items off at the

Silent Auction



Registration Desk to auction personnel on Sunday afternoon, Monday, or early Tuesday morning. Please complete a [Consignement Form](#) in advance with a description and the estimated value of your item. A receipt will be provided.

Items can also be shipped in advance to ESP 2016 Auction, c/o Jeannette Rea Keywood, 1636 Delaware Avenue, Cape May, New Jersey 08204, to arrive by October 19, 2016. Include full donor name (chapter or individual), address, phone number, item description and estimated value.

Questions? – email me, David S. Ross at dsross@umd.edu.



(Friends Continued from page 4)

England is a friend to many, but we count him among our close circle of friends and colleagues in the Alpha Beta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi and UGA Extension. We are indebted to him for the time and effort he puts forth on behalf of bringing an impactful Extension program to our state.”

Cliff and Judy Bracher – Oregon (Extension Volunteer / Lay Leader)

The Cliff and Judy Bracher family has been the go-to family working with Oregon State University Extension as full partners in educational delivery ranging from 4-H Youth Development to Agriculture at the local and state level for over 50 years. Their initiative,

vision and advocacy have helped expand OSU efforts throughout the nation benefitting thousands of lives.

Unique to the family’s connection with Extension is their multi-disciplinary engagement with several Extension Agents in a ten county region as well as the fact that all generations of the Bracher family provide Extension leadership.

They have been tremendous supporters of the OSU Extension Service and Experiment Stations in Oregon serving in leadership roles on the Extension Citizens Advisory Network, 4-H advisory boards and state development boards. Annually, the family logs in over 800 hundred of hours of Extension service ranging from

leadership at Advisory Board sessions to teaching volunteer leaders. Without a doubt, the Brachers are true friends of Extension.

Anne S. K. Turkos – Maryland (Extension Volunteer / Lay Leader)

For 31 years, Anne S. K. Turkos, University Archivist, University of Maryland College Park (UMCP), has been the “go to” source for information about the UMCP College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR), including University of Maryland Extension, the Tau Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the Maryland 4-H Agents Association and the Environmental Science and Technology and Agricultural Engineering Departments. Her dedication to the

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources earned her place as an AGNR Alumni Association Honorary Member.

Anne Turkos spent countless hours with Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) officers sorting, updating, and organizing all Tau Chapter records from 1928 to 2015.

Tau Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi was pleased to nominate Anne S. K. Turkos for the Friend of Extension Award for her unwavering enthusiasm and support of the University of Maryland, Tau Chapter of ESP, and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Life Member Corner



'Tweeten Motivates and Leads—We Are in Good Hands

Dan Culbert, Southern Region Vice President and Alpha Delta/FL Chapter Life Member

In October 2010 I was asked by our Florida chapter to attend the National ESP Conference in Jackson Hole, WY. I had just entered the chapter officer rotation and felt this was the best way to get to know what ESP was all about. I applied and was appointed to the Global Relations Committee.

As a first-timer, I was not sure what to expect. At the time of our first committee meeting, met many Extension professionals from all over the country that had an interest in all things Global. We were greeted by Kathleen Tweeten, newly elected Regional Vice President of the North Central Region. We learned she was also the Chair of this Global Relations Committee. Kathleen had this special talent to draw out our best ideas, talents and abilities, and got us all thinking about what we can do to put an International perspective in our programming. Boom! We took off...

With Kathleen's encouragement, many of us resolved to make presentations on our various individual International programs as a way to round out a "Global track" at the next several conferences. If you traveled abroad, you were expected to bring back a souvenir that would be part of one of new founded

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get those interested on the national committees. National committee participation is a key part of understanding your national organization. This is how I first started to learn about what ESP is all about and I credit the past committee chairs who served as my mentors: Gwen Wolford, Kendra Wells, and Ellen Burton. If it wasn't for the leadership of these women, I never would have thought to get involved in these committees.

Read the ESP handbook and find out about committee membership and benefits – there is the possibility of additional leadership roles if you are on the Public Issues Committee. I was able to service ESP on the PILD (Public Issues Leadership Development) Committee, a committee of JCEP

feature of the ESP Auction: the Global Relations Basket!

Kathleen motivated me to ease into new leadership roles, expanded my professional contacts

across the country and the globe into lasting professional friendships, and opened the doors of opportunity to serve my fellow Extension professionals.



When I recently learned that she was considering stepping in to fill the role of National President of our fraternity, I knew that we would be in good hands. I have every confidence that her style of leadership, her natural abilities as a team builder, and her innovative style of getting the best out of everyone will be a perfect fit as our new ESP President. Please introduce yourself to this outstanding professional, and then stand back and watch her help us all to Turn the Tide towards Professional Excellence.

Dan Culbert can be reached by email at espsouthernvp@gmail.com.

(Joint Council of Extension Professionals) and then I became chair of that committee.

Each ESP committee member, both returning and new members, receives a \$200 stipend for attendance at the national ESP meeting. Each committee member must attend their regional breakfast meetings and the committee meetings and complete the easy online stipend form. Thanks to our Executive Director, Bob, the process has increased in ease over the years!

So, think about this, talk with your colleagues who are on committees, and put your application in next year. We all have so much to share and so much to learn from each other.

Beth Claypoole can be reached by email at eac9@cornell.edu

The logo features the letters 'ESP' in a bold, green, serif font. The letter 'P' is uniquely designed as a key, with its stem extending downwards and its head forming the top curve of the letter.

Don't miss out on the 2016 ESP National Conference, October 24-27! Regular registration rate—\$475—ends on September 24!! Register now by clicking [here!](#)

Important Dates for Your Calendar!

SEPTEMBER

- September 24, 11:59 pm MDST, Regular Registration (\$475) Ends for the National Conference in Cape May, NJ, October 24-27, 2016
- September 24, Room Block closes for the ESP National Conference in Cape May, NJ, October 24-27, 2016
- September 25, Late Registration (\$525) Available for National Conference in Cape May, NJ, October 24-27, 2016

OCTOBER

- October 24-27, ESP National Conference, Cape May, NJ

NOVEMBER

- October / November Issue of *ESP Connection* distributed
- November 1, Distribution of 2017 Membership Renewal Information to Chapters
- November 7, Deadline to Submit National Conference reimbursements for committee and voting delegates
- Collect and Submit 2017 Membership Dues