



PRESIDENT'S CORNER-NOZELLA BROWN

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2016 Upcoming events:

- **August 15**—Deadline for Alpha Rho Chapter Endowment Fund Grants
- **August 15** — Nominations for our Alpha Rho Chapter ESP recognition
- **October 24-27**—National ESP Conference—Cape May, New Jersey



As I write this, it's a beautiful sunny day with mild temperatures that makes it hard for me to believe there is flooding, tornadoes and extreme heat in other parts of the country.

That's life—something I had to remember while reading the unfortunate reports of permanent budget reductions, university reallocations, county tax lids and Fair Labor Standards Acts rules. We join many of our Extension colleagues across the nation experiencing similar challenges that threaten the existence of the land-grant system.

In fact, at this year's **Public Issues Leadership Conference (PILD), the theme, "Innovation: The Story of Extension"**, addressed these complex challenges. From the keynote speakers, the workshops, networking and visits to the hill, I was encouraged to examine my approach as a decision-maker and sharpen my advocacy, education and leadership skills.

Personally, I find the climate of our nation, our universities and our communities unsettling. It's easy to feel depressed and hopeless. However, through reflection, I'm reminded that just as we experience the seasons in nature, we experience seasons in society.

Extension was birthed during a season of turmoil. The system has not only survived, but thrived. **Why?** Because Extension workers remembered their purpose, their mission, their calling—to improve the quality of life for those in their community. So here I sit reminding myself, "It's not only about me." I need to **"BUCK"** up. For me that means:

- **Be honest, be realistic.** I know I can only do more with less for so long. What I can't imagine are the innovative and creative resources that will emerge from the loss in traditional funding. The world is yet to see the positive impacts of our 21st Century Extension professionals on communities as a result of current financial challenges.
- **Unite.** In times of lack, it's easy to resort to a survival mode or crab mentality. However, our strength lies in pooling our resources and forging through the murky waters together. The strength of Epsilon Sigma Phi is our ability to bring all Extension professionals and associations together to tackle seemingly unsurmountable problems.

- **Choose a vision bigger than ourselves.** I can choose to see our situation as a shrinking pie or as a limitless sky. I choose the latter.
- **Keep moving.** As we face the challenges ahead, our communities still look to us for direction and solutions. We must refuse to give up, sit down and complain. We are still the link between our communities and the "ever-changing discoveries in the laboratories".

This really is an exciting time as we once again demonstrate the importance of the Extension system to the survival of our communities—our nation. This summer, whether you're feeling the heat from the sun or the heat from your situation, pause long enough to sip on your past successes. Be sure to rest and relax when necessary. Then join me as we **"BUCK up"**, knowing we're all in this together.

Nozella Brown, Ed.D.
President

K-State Research and Extension
Alpha Rho Chapter





Benefits of ESP membership:

- Opportunities in professional and personal development, leadership, and networking.
- The interdisciplinary nature of the organization.
- ESP is the one organization that includes all Extension professionals.



PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT: NADINE SIGLE

Thanks so much for the opportunity to attend JCEP this spring in Las Vegas, Nevada. This was my first time to visit Las Vegas and I can truly say my heart is in Kansas. It was interesting to see both the old and new strips and walk through the casinos, but my preference is the wide open spaces and fresh air we have in Kansas.

One of the highlights of the conference was learning about time management from Jones Loflin. A tip he shared was to start setting aside 30 minutes every day to close the door to your office and work on a task undisturbed.

Let staff know you are starting this practice and allow the same for them. Your productivity will be greatly increased. If you would like to know more check out his website at www.info@jonesloflin.com. Sign up for his newsletter and receive weekly tips on time management.

As the summer progresses, I'll start gearing up to take over the role of president and will be contacting folks to serve on committees and in the chair and chair-elect positions.

Since national meeting falls during annual conference, I will not be at annual conference and the first meeting of the board will take place the week following annual conference through a zoom meeting. It'll be the perfect opportunity to share information gained from national meeting while it is still fresh on my mind.

Nadine Sigle,
President-Elect
K-State Research and Extension
Alpha Rho Chapter

ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship was established to support Alpha Rho Chapter members in attending professional development opportunities that are regional or national in scope.

The following individuals have been selected for these scholarships:

- **Diane Burnett** - \$425 to attend the National Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference

- **Jennifer Wilson** - \$425 to attend the National Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference
- **Holly Dickman** - \$250 to attend the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting

- **Jaime Menon** - \$250 to attend the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals/National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals Annual Conference
- **Jill Martinson** - \$250 to attend the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Meeting

CONGRATULATIONS to all awardees!

ESP SILENT AUCTION AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Members of ESP.....don't miss out on the exciting items at the silent auction which will be held during annual conference on **Tuesday, October 25th**. We need items for the auction as well as bidders at the auction.

There will be items for everyone!

The money raised is used to further our mission as well as support professional development.

Be thinking now what you could bring for the auction. KSU "stuff" always is a hit as well as homemade items.

Ann Domsch,
ESP Silent Auction Chair

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nomination Committee will be meeting July 11 to begin securing nominations for several leadership positions in our chapter.

The positions include president-elect (a county or district member), secretary, editor, and directors

from the northeast, southeast and retirees as well as an endowment trustee.

Volunteers or nominations from the membership are welcome!

If you have any questions on responsibilities for any of the positions, don't hesitate to give me a call.

Stacey Warner
Nominations Chair



**NOW IS THE
TIME TO GIVE
BACK TO ESP
WITH YOUR
LEADERSHIP!**

**“ESP is the only
professional
organization where
you associate with
all Extension
professionals,
including retirees.”**

Kansas ESP Member



ONLINE DUES COLLECTION FOR THIS FALL!

NEW for this fall, will be the ONLINE collection of dues for ESP!

Be thinking ahead and budgeting for your annual ESP dues for 2016-17.

The Alpha Rho Chapter has made the switch to

the national ESP online dues payment system and we will begin collecting dues electronically this fall. After the first of September, we will send all members an email with instructions for creating your account and making the electronic payment.

Please be on the lookout for this email. Annual member dues will be **\$70** for those with three or more years of Extension tenure and **\$20** for those with less than three years.

Jennifer Wilson,
Treasurer

ESP ENDOWMENT FUND GRANTS

Looking for funds for programming or professional development?

A benefit of Epsilon Sigma Phi membership is the opportunity to apply for program innovation or professional development grants from the Extension Endowment Fund.

Applications are being accepted until **August 15** for the next round of grants.

Program innovation grants are to be for programming that is new, can be replicated and is timely and relevant to the mission of K-State Research and Extension.

Professional development grants can be used for attendance at the National ESP Conference, for graduate studies or for other innovative professional development opportunities.

In recent years grants funded have ranged from \$200 to \$3500.

A total of \$85,765 has been awarded to Alpha Rho Chapter members since 1992.

For details on the application process and a list of previous grants funded go to:

<http://www.ksre.k-state.edu/esp-alpharho/endowment/>

Stacey Warner,
Past President/Endowment Chair



2018 NATIONAL ESP CONFERENCE TO BE IN KANSAS!

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi will be hosting the 2018 National ESP Conference. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Manhattan on **Sunday, September 30 to Wednesday, October 3.**

We believe the conference will be a great leadership and professional development opportunity for our chapter members as we work together to plan and carry out the event!

We are honored to be serving as the co-chairs for the conference. As you can imagine, an event of this magnitude will require the input of many people. We are currently in the process of learning about our chapter's responsibilities, but we know that we will be looking for committee chairs and members. We will keep you informed.

For now, we encourage you to put the date on your calendars and plan to attend.

**2018 National ESP Conference Co-Chairs,
Stacey Warner and Jennifer Wilson**

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



2017 BUDGET REQUESTS FROM COMMITTEES

Attention - 2016 ESP Committee Chairs.....

It's that time of year when we ask the ESP Committees to submit their budget request for 2017.

The funding amounts requested will be needed when the 2017 budget is prepared. You will find a "**Budget Request Form**" to use for your planning at the link below:

<http://bit.ly/29qdtz4>

Please complete the budget request form with **funding requested** and return it to me via e-mail by **August 15, 2016.**

Thank you.

Diane Burnett, Chair
Budget and Audit Committee Alpha Rho Chapter



RECOGNITION NOMINATIONS REQUESTED

Now is the time to nominate yourself or a colleague for the outstanding Extension work you and your colleagues are doing!

There are fifteen categories of awards to recognize members for outstanding accomplishments. To be eligible for recognition, individuals must be current ESP members and meet the guidelines for the recognition category. Only Epsilon Sigma Phi members can make a nomination or complete an application.

For details on how to make a nomination, visit our **Alpha Rho Chapter ESP Recognition webpage** at:

<http://bit.ly/29tuvfW>

Starting this year, nominations for the “**National Recognition Categories**” will be submitted **on-line** at the National ESP site.

Below is a link to our ESP National recognition webpage:

<http://bit.ly/29j6adl>

The **National categories** are:

Distinguished Service; Continued Service; Mid-Career; Early Career; International Service; Administrative Leadership; Visionary Leadership; Diversity/Multicultural (Individual); Diversity/Multicultural (Team); Distinguished Team; and Friend of Extension.

Alpha Rho Chapter Recognition nominations will use the electronic nomination form on our Chapter website. **These applications must be electronically submitted to Rebecca McFarland.**

The categories are:

Horizon: Local Unit (2), Area (1), State (1); Meritorious Service: Local Unit (2), Area (1), State (1); 25 Year Tenure of Service Recognition; Retiree Service.

Recognition descriptions, previous recipients and a nomination form are available on our Chapter website under the “Recognition” tab.

All nominations are due by the August 15, 2016 deadline.

If you’ve not already been thinking about or preparing a nomination please consider some of the following ways to honor yourself and your colleagues.

- If you’ve been recognized in the past, consider nominating someone this year.
- Nominate someone in your local unit or someone you’ve worked closely with on a successful educational project
- Nominate someone you’ve mentored or someone who mentored you.

Rebecca McFarland
Recognition Chair



ESP ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE: CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER NOW PERMANENT!

In late 2015, Congress and the President approved legislation that made this highly popular charitable giving option a permanent part of the tax code. The Charitable IRA Rollover provision allows IRA owners, age 70 ½ and older, to make direct tax-free withdrawals of up to \$100,000 from their IRA’s to charity. **Obviously, Charitable IRA Rollovers offer the potential for very tax efficient charitable giving.** Because of the age requirements, (70 ½ and older), we will send a much more detailed explanation of the benefits and rules regarding Charitable IRA Rollovers to our ESP life members.

If any annual or associate members would like to see the details, feel free to contact Stacey Warner, ESP Endowment Fund Chair, at swarner@ksu.edu or Doug Beech, life member, at dbeech@ksu.edu.

Submitted by **Doug Beech**, ESP National Resource Management Committee member



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*Knowledge for
Life*

IN THE BEGINNING-1930....DOUG JARDINE, CHAPTER HISTORIAN

In the Sound of Music, Julie Andrews sang, "Let's start at the very beginning, a very good place to start." So, for this installment of Alpha Rho history, we are going to set the "Way Back Machine" to the year **1930**.

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi was chartered on **March 21, 1930** with eight Charter Organizers. They were, Dean Harry Umberger, Del-fa Hazeltine, A.L. Clapp, L.C. Williams, Floyd Pattison, M.H. Coe, E.G. Kelly, and Amy Kelly.

The charter was actually held open until the fall annual conference since so many field agents were unable to make it to campus for the initial initiation.

At the first Annual Banquet, held on **October 26th** in the Crystal Room of the Wareham Hotel, another 23 members were inducted as charter members bringing the total to 31.

The Alpha Rho Chapter became the **42nd chapter**, being chartered shortly after Alabama.

In the program, the following was identified as the purpose of Epsilon Sigma Phi: **The purpose of this organization is to maintain the ideals, preserve the traditions, uphold the morale of the Cooperative Extension Service, and develop the spirit of fraternity among the members.**

The program consisted of several songs by Miss Hilda Grossman, a talk on The Russian Agricultural Program by Dr. P.L. Gainey, Initiation, Business Meeting, and lastly, **card playing!**

The entrée for the banquet was Filet Mignon and dinner music was provided by Collegiate 4-H.

The first officers were: Dean of the House of Pioneers, H. Umberger, Chief, L.C. Williams, Sec'y-Treas, Amy Kelly and Analyst, E.G. Kelly.

Dues included a \$5.00 initiation fee and 50¢ collected annually for the national organization. Local dues were not to be decided until the closing of the charter.

In the national newsletter from that year, it was highlighted that W.D. Bently, Assistant Director of Extension in Oklahoma, received the second Ruby Award for Distinguished Service.

In the biography, it noted that Dr. Bentley worked closely with **Seaman A. Knapp** in establishing cooperative demonstration work for boll weevil eradication in Texas.



GLOBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE



The Global Relations committee will be submitting a proposal for a breakout session at annual conference. If selected, the session will highlight opportunities for international experiences for chapter members. Be watching for it in the breakout sessions!

Stacey Warner, Global Relations Committee Chair