

KAFCS NEWS

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FACS more than ever

A Message from KAFCS President Cris Elliot

A lot has changed in our profession since it was established in 1909 by Ellen Swallow Richards. Wouldn't it be interesting for Ellen to see our world today? What do you think she would be most surprised by?

Our workforce is more diverse than ever and certainly technology has reshaped our entire culture. The face of our communities and neighborhoods has changed drastically and the "family" itself has perhaps experienced one of the greatest "make-overs". While Family and Consumer Sciences continues to address many of the areas that Ellen built our profession on such as sanitation and safety, there are countless new areas that we have the ability to impact. Our world has become very complex in nature.

The recession has taken a tremendous toll on families and communities, we have widespread unemployment and families are dealing with financial issues that are unprecedented. People and communities need knowledge, resources and tools to assist them with decision making in order to build healthy communities,

individuals and families. I challenge you to take a serious look at your own community and note the needs and challenges. I can assure you that it may be overwhelming and discouraging, but I can also assure you that if you address those needs one at a time, the results will be uplifting.

I don't want to sound like the "preacher talking to the choir". I certainly acknowledge all of the absolutely fabulous programs that are being accomplished in FACS classrooms, extension programs, 4-H, university programs and other FACS related careers. I do however, encourage you to "toot your horn" and boast about our profession and how it is truly a profession that empowers individuals, communities and families to live a better life.

Gayla Randel, KAFCS President-elect is currently working with a public relations consultant to develop a plan for getting the word out that FACS is powerful and mighty in our communities. We are asking that each and every one of our members make a commitment to "boast" about our profession. This

would include things like increasing awareness of your programs, encouraging young people to join our profession, attending professional meetings, write articles for local papers, connect with legislators and keep up with what is going on in our profession.

The AAFCS website is a wonderful resource for all of us. Please make it a point to spend some time surfing the site and set some new goals for 2011. FCS is a great profession, it has provided most of you with a fruitful and exciting career, please take the time to give back. While you're on the website, be sure to check out the new logo and branding that AAFCS is introducing.

Hope to see everyone at United Conference.

[In this issue](#)

- [Officer candidates and their bios](#)
- [FACS Media Campaign in Kansas](#)
- [2012 UAC Chairman position available](#)

Get to know the KAFCS Officer Candidates

President-elect

- Sharolyn Jackson, Extension Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences, for the NE Area

Vice President of Operations

- Renae Spangler, FCS teacher in the Wichita school district

Treasurer

- Duane Whitbeck, Department Chair of Family and Consumer Sciences at Pittsburg State University

Foundation Trustee

- Karen Pence, Assistant Dean of the College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University
- Beth Ireland, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Eureka Junior/Senior High School
- Gayle Price, Extension Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences, for the SE Area
- Cris Elliott, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher educator at Pittsburg State University

Looking for the 2012 United Conference Chairman!

KAFCS is looking for a motivated individual to coordinate a team of professions with the purpose of planning the 2012 United Conference. Your duties would include reviewing evaluations from the previous, leading discussions on the theme, workshop content and presenters, organize conference calls and work as the central organizer for all conference committees. If interested, contact Gayla Randel at grandel@ksde.org.

KAFCS Exploring FACS Media Campaign for Kansas

Did you know the U.S. will need 552,000 FACS educators by 2018? It is projected Kansas alone will need to fill 996 positions.

Recently the KAFCS executive council hired Ms. Janet Horton, Independent Consultant in the field of media and advertising to explore opportunities in Kansas to share the message of Family and Consumer Sciences with our State.

She was challenged to locate a variety of media entities (including radio, television, internet and bill boards to spread this message). Other FACS related professional organizations are invited to become involved in this project.

More information will be shared at the 2011 United Conference through my president-elect report.

THE KAFCS NEWS

is the newsletter for members of the Kansas Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. Photos and articles from and about members are welcome.

Editor

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The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization with 10,000 members, dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families. AAFCS and its affiliates may accept charitable contributions, which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.