

The Three R's, Rigor, Relevance and Relationship

From the Director, Cynthia K. Arendt, Ph.D.

The theme for the summer MoEFACS conference was *“Get Your Rigor and Relevance with Family and Consumer Sciences”*. The theme, selected by the MoEFACS Board, for the conference was based on Willard Daggett’s “Rigor/Relevance Framework.” Dr. Daggett directs the Successful Practice Network which is a division of the International Center for Educational Learning located in Rexford, New York. His work around rigor and relevance is getting a lot of attention in the education world, so much so, that he has been able to gain support from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation.

The Division of Career Education staff has been challenged to ensure that every professional development opportunity we provide meets the Rigor, Relevance and Relationship criteria. According to Dr. Daggett, academic rigor is about the quality of thinking, not the quantity of thinking required of a student. Adding extra length to an assignment does not mean you have added rigor. Level of difficulty does not mean the assignment will meet Daggett’s definition for rigor. Rigorous learning also requires the student to engage in reflective thought. “Academic rigor is learning in which students demonstrate an in-depth mastery of challenging concepts and tasks to develop cognitive skills through reflective thought, analysis, problem solving, evaluation or creativity.” Rigorous learning can occur at any grade and in any subject.

Teachers using critical thinking as the framework for teaching Family and Consumer Sciences content should be able to relate to this definition. The critical thinking framework calls for reflective thought with each assignment. A Family and Consumer Sciences practical science perspective focuses on developing family members, workers, and citizens who are capable of reflective judgment and informed socially responsible action.

The Missouri and Ohio curriculum guides are two examples of curriculum guides developed using critical thinking as the basis for facilitating the learning of Family and Consumer Sciences content for students. Notice I said, “for facilitating the learning” and not teaching to students. Academic rigor requires that students are engaged in their own learning. This is a change from the teacher being the dispenser of all knowledge and the student more or less a participant in the learning process.

Let’s look at the definition for relevance. We each know students or we had friends who were at the top of their class; they had great academic success but lacked the relevant skills needed for living and operating in the real world. I live in a college town where there are many examples available of students who came here to the University and found it such a safe environment they are still a student 20 years later. Rigor without relevance can enable a student to be successful in school but fail once she or he no longer has the structure and safe environment that school provides for them. “Relevance refers to learning in which students apply core knowledge, concepts and skills to solve real-world problems.”

Fall Issue



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http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/facs_staff.htm



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Relationships complement rigor and relevance. It is the element that keeps the student engaged in learning. According to Daggett, there are four dimensions of relationships important in schools: 1) learning relationships with students are essential for support in the learning process, these are formed from a combination of relationships with parents, peers, and teachers; 2) staff relationships among teachers, administrators, and support staff that influence teaching, support functions, staff retention and development, and school decisions and problem-solving; 3) professional relationships each educator creates and maintains to learn and develop in the profession; and 4) community relationships of the school as an organization with parents, business, and community leaders.

Relevance refers to learning in which students apply core knowledge, concepts, or skills to solve real-world problems. Relevant learning is interdisciplinary and contextual. A Family and Consumer Sciences program that uses a practical problem-based curriculum meets the relevance criteria. It is a curriculum that is emergent in nature, meaning the details of curriculum planning are developed as instruction proceeds. Criteria for content to be taught are determined by the recurring practical problems in the home and family, culture, and society. Problems such as what to do about family finances, what to do about providing shelter, feeding a family, selecting a career, managing the home, and using resources wisely are only a few of the recurring issues that families and individuals deal with on a regular basis.

Our mission as a staff is to assist you in providing a Family and Consumer Sciences program that meets the criteria for the "Rigor/Relevance/Relationship model." It is too important for any of us to ignore as the world does indeed become flatter and the stakes for excellence are pushed higher than ever. Hopefully, we will continue to provide you with quality professional development that will help us all meet the challenge of Daggett's "Rigor/Relevance/Relationship model."

Dr. Daggett will be the keynote speaker at the Division of Career Education's Building Bridges Conference at Tan-Tar-A, November 11-13, 2007. The theme is "Focusing Professional Development on Student Achievement." Visit <http://missouricareereducation.org/pd/conference07.html> for more information.

For more information about the International Center for Leadership in Education visit www.LeaderEd.com or e-mail info@LeaderEd.com

Greetings from the 2007-2008 MoEFACS President: Virginia "Ginny" Stone

Welcome to a new school year and best wishes for making many great memories with your students. As educators of career and technical education, we play an important role in the lives of our students. We guide students to select and prepare for a career path that is right for them. Currently high stakes testing is being emphasized so our teaching skills must be perfected and more effective than ever. As a member of Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFACS), I believe that our organization provides the opportunity for educators to increase their knowledge of the principles and techniques of teaching in content areas. As Family and Consumer Science teachers we instruct students in thinking skills and problem solving skills needed to make life long decisions.

The Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Science and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education work together to provide and facilitate training classes. It also organizes seminars for lesson plan development, and provides opportunities to examine best practices from individuals from all over the United States. Increasing our knowledge and skills as teachers will help us prepare our students to be successful citizens, informed consumers, lifelong learners, and productive workers. I take pride in being a part of MoEFACS and the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) and feel that it is very important for Family and Consumer Sciences teachers to support and promote their profession. MoEFACS sets the stage for professionals to have opportunities to network with other teachers, students, business members, and community members.

Increasing public awareness and appreciation for our programs will help us obtain funding for local, state, and federal programs and gain support from government leaders. My challenge to you is to confront the critics of education and explain what you and your colleagues are doing. Invite them to visit your classroom where they can observe great programs for students. We teach the skills for balancing life and work.



Have a great school year!

2007 Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Summer In-Service Conference Highlights

The Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFACS) held their annual in-service conference in conjunction with the Missouri Association of Career and Technical Educators (Missouri ACTE) from July 23-26, 2007 in Springfield, Missouri. The MoEFACS theme was "Get Your Rigor and Relevance with Family and Consumer Sciences."

All divisions of Missouri ACTE were welcomed to the conference during the Missouri ACTE Opening General Session on Tuesday, July 24 at the Springfield EXPO Center. To kick off the session, Ronna Ford, 2007 Missouri ACTE President, introduced the Missouri ACTE Award winners. Missouri ACTE Legislator Awards were presented to Representative Kathlyn Fares (R-91) and Senator Wes Shoemyer (D-18). The Missouri ACTE 2007 Teacher of the Year is Michele Ray, Marketing/Business educator from Blue Springs. Kelly Chapman, Lebanon Technology Center, is the Missouri ACTE 2007 Outstanding Career and Technical Educator. Other awardees included Craig Evans, Lebanon Technology Center, the 2007 Outstanding Teacher in Community Service; Stanley Green, 2007 Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher from Lebanon Technology Center; and the Missouri School Counselor's Association, recipient of the Diversity Action Award winner. Certificates of Appreciation went to Ron Tierney with the St. Louis Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program; Betty Norman, with Lake Ozark Employment Services; and Bob Forsee, a retired graphic arts instructor from Rolla Technical Institute.

Dr. Harry K. Wong, noted educator and speaker, concluded the opening session with an inspiring and informative keynote presentation on classroom management and student motivation. Dr. Wong continued his presentation in the afternoon, providing attendees with a wealth of practical information and ideas to take back to the classroom.

While at the Expo Center on Tuesday, MoEFACS members also attended the Missouri ACTE exhibits and the MoEFACS DESE Update. The day ended at the Clarion Hotel with the MoEFACS Awards and Recognition Reception. The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) state officers were introduced along with the teachers serving as mentors and their protégés. The retiring teachers also were recognized and the 2007 MoEFACS Teacher of the Year was honored; Regina Rainey from Zalma High School.

Wednesday, July 25 featured the MoEFACS division meetings, the annual business meeting, the Family and Consumer Sciences resource rooms, and concurrent sessions. Concurrent session topics this year included relational aggression and the learning climate; rigor and relevance in the classroom; and utilizing power writing, to name just a few offered.

Tom Krause, noted speaker, author, and high school coach from Nixa, gave the closing general session keynote address entitled "What Makes a Good Teacher" on Thursday, July 26. The finale of the conference was Carousel/ Roundtable Sessions featuring a variety of speakers and topics.

Mark your calendar now for the 2008 conference to be held in Springfield, July 21-24!

Ginny Stone, President 2007-2008, Renee Meents, President 2005-06, Belynn Kaplan, President 2006-07, Joy Behrens, Secretary 2006-07, Past President 1999-2000, Cheryl Landers, Treasurer 2007-09



MoEFACS Members Honored at 2007 Awards and Recognition Reception

Charlotte Gray, 2006-07 MoEFACS Awards Chair

MoEFACS recognized outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences educators, retirees, and scholarship winners during the MoEFACS Awards and Recognition Reception, Tuesday, July 24, at the 2007 Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Summer Conference.

MoEFACS Teacher of the Year



The recipient of the 2007 MoEFACS Teacher of the Year Award is Regina Rainey. Regina has been teaching for 32 years and for the last 27 years she has been educating and supporting students at Zalma School District, a small school located in Southeast Missouri.

In a school that is limited by its size, lack of local businesses and resources, and low socio-economic status, it would be easy for the family and consumer sciences students at Zalma High School to stop trying and settle for less than their best. Through Regina's use of creative approaches to technology, diversity education, exposure to leadership situations, and her ability to meet the needs of the students in her district, she ensures that her students rise above minimal expectations to experience and learn about the world and opportunities available to them. She has added college credit courses to her curriculum, integrated technology into her classroom, and helped many students to experience the world beyond their own school traveling the United States.

Regina's teaching abilities are characterized by a strong passion regarding the curriculum, application of knowledge, and most of all her students. And her impact on students, community and the FCS profession can best be described as all encompassing. She has had former students become FCS teachers, students becoming involved in many community service projects and as she began her teaching career with an understanding that professional involvement was important.

Regina has held professional membership and given countless hours of service to MoEFACS, Missouri ACTE, ACTE and NATFACS, MSTA, and others. Regina has served on many district and state committee's as well. Other contributions to the profession include helping to author the MAP health tests, Missouri's Family Health curriculum critical thinking guide, and co-authoring the Missouri Department of Conservation curriculum

Contributions to the FCCLA organization are unending including presentations, mentor advisor, 80 student officers in FCCLA at regional and state levels as well as two national officer candidates and numerous FCCLA honors.

Regina has been dedicated to her fellow peers from the beginning. A peer stated, "When I consider the qualities that would be represented in a "Teacher of the Year", I think of someone who goes far above and beyond to provide students with unique opportunities they would otherwise not experience, someone completes the essential, yet often non-glamorous work that needs to be accomplished in professional organizations and district committees, someone who welcomes new professionals to conferences and educational opportunities, providing them with encouragement." Regina is all of these things and so much more to our profession. She finishes the tasks that are necessary and important for our profession, such as mentoring new teachers, developing strong, close relationships with policymakers, building a reputation with district administrators that would have them shudder at the thought of closing her program just to save a little money.

It is truly a pleasure to honor Regina as our Missouri Educator of Family & Consumer Sciences 2007 Teacher of the Year!

Retiring FACS Teachers

In addition to the various awards presented, retiring teachers were recognized for their years of service to Family and Consumer Sciences Education:



Left to Right: Nola "Pinky" Gum, Debbie Agee, Maude Coy

Nola "Pinky Gum"	Willow Springs High School
Judy Glaze	Carrollton School District
Mary Gray	El Dorado Springs Middle School
Ann Martin	Fairfax High School
Debbie Agee	Pleasant Hope High School
Maude Coy	Blue Eye High School

MoEFACS College and High School Scholarships

College Scholarship

The MoEFACS college scholarship is awarded to college students with at least 60 credit hours or who will have completed 60 credit hours (college sophomore or junior) at the completion of the current semester; who plan to obtain an education degree in Family and Consumer Sciences at a Missouri college or university with a grade point average of at least 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale.

The 2007 college scholarship winner is Donna Sharpe, Northwest Missouri State University. She will graduate in May 2009 with her Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences Education. Donna is a graduate of Highland High School, Ewing Missouri.

In her application she wrote:

"Through out most of my life I have always wanted to help people in some way. As I went through school I have had many excellent teachers and role models. The teacher that has had the biggest impact on my life was my Family and Consumer Sciences teacher in high school. I discovered that teaching FCS was my passion and mission in life. With this passion it is more likely that I will be able to engage the students in daily activities and be able to relate it to daily life. This profession is one of the greatest in the world! This particular area allows me to be able to teach a wide array of classes. Helping children is my passion and I think that every student can succeed if given the right tools, and a friend to talk to and support them!"

Her professor's have found the same enthusiasm as she continues her college education. Lauren Leach stated, "Ms. Sharpe serves as an excellent role model of involvement, enthusiasm, and self-development that a college student should commit to. She speaks well of her career aspirations as a FCS Educator and there is no doubt Donna will be an asset to FCS education."



Left to Right: Destiny Lewis and Donna Sharpe

High School

The MoEFACS high school scholarship is given to a high school senior who plans to obtain an education degree in Family and Consumer Sciences Education at a Missouri college or university with a grade point average of a least 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale.

This year's winner is Destiny Lewis. Destiny is a graduate of Scott County Central High School, Sikeston, Missouri, and will pursue a Family and Consumer Sciences Education degree from Southeast Missouri State University.

Destiny has been involved in cheerleading, band and softball. Her activities also included art club, History club, beta club student council, and her church. Destiny received recognition in her senior class as Outstanding Citizen.

Her FCCLA activities included committee chairperson, chapter vice-president, chapter president, and Region 6 First Vice President, participation in STAR Events and various FCCLA conferences and various community service projects.

Destiny prepared a PowerPoint about "Reasons for being a Teacher". She included many pictures of her working on projects, giving presentations and working with young children. She stated that being a teacher means: teaching students life skills, having fun while learning, imparting knowledge, and dealing with real world situations. In her concluding slide she stated "I want to teach young people life skills that they will need and with this scholarship I feel it will contribute greatly to getting my training to becoming a teacher."

We look forward to working with both Destiny and Donna in the years to come!

Congratulations to all award and recognition recipients for making a positive impact on Missouri Family and Consumer Sciences Education!

Thoughts from 2007-2008 MoEFACS Treasurer Cheryl Landers

Each year at summer conference, the candidates for a MoEFACS office must make a speech addressing a topic they have been given in advance. I am always impressed with their comments. For those of you who were unable to attend the summer conference, I thought it might be nice to share with you thoughts from the treasurer, Cheryl Landers. Following is a part of her speech regarding some of the changes in the Family and Consumer Sciences content.



"The idea that all aspects of life may be reduced to tasks--make a garment, prepare food, clean a room--has been being replaced by emphasis on social structures, knowledge of relationships, and achievement of mutual goals. This change is reflected in the decision our discipline has made in order to focus on the future. The vision and mission statements focused the Family and Consumer Sciences profession and education programs in new directions leading to these developments:

- * focus on practical problem solving skills in real-life applications,
- * activities that build skills for family, workplace, and community settings,
- * activities that aid students in planning the transition from school to career,
- * learning environments, including process-based learning, that meet the developmental needs of students.

I recently attended training and during the training we were asked to think about three important questions. The first one was "what brought you into this profession?" For me it was my Family and Consumer Sciences teachers. I don't remember when I decided that I wanted to be a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher; it was just what I wanted to do. Remember that what we do as teachers may influence one of your students to decide to become a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher.

The second question was “what keeps you in the work?” I know that every morning I am excited to come to school. I feel it in my stomach-those butterflies of excitement and wonder of each day. The proud faces of students who have completed a project or assignment are always a treasure.

The last question was “what will you not compromise?” I will not compromise my integrity. I will not compromise my expectations for my students.

As you begin the new school year think about what brought you into this work, what keeps you in the work and what will you not compromise? Let these answers be your reasons for teaching.”

Farm Bureau Honors Teacher for Role in Ag Literacy

Source: Show Me Missouri Farm Bureau Magazine

A Missouri teacher is one of five teachers receiving national recognition for their outstanding efforts to promote agricultural literacy. Suzanne Beck teaches Family and Consumer Sciences at Trenton Middle School in Grundy County. She also serves as promotion and education chairman for the Livingston County Farm Bureau.

Beck received a \$1,200 scholarship from the White-Reinhardt Fund for Education during the National Agriculture in the Classroom (NAITC) Conference in New Orleans, June 8. The scholarship fund was established to honor two leaders in the national effort to improve agricultural literacy. The scholarship is sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

At Trenton Middle School Beck has developed lessons for students in different grades to study the importance of the agricultural industry. Last September, the Livingston County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee hosted a teacher in-service program that reached more than 40 teachers throughout the county who learned about the Agriculture in the Classroom program.

Teachers attending the NAITC conference gain information to expand their outreach to students regarding the food and fiber system. The Missouri AIC program is coordinated by Missouri Farm Bureau with the goal of helping students gain a greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society.

Welcoming a New Member to Family and Consumer Sciences

As of July 16th Jamie Iler joined Family and Consumer Sciences as the new FCCLA Administrative Assistant. Jamie was previously employed with Missouri Assisted Living Association. In Jamie’s spare time she enjoys horseback riding, volleyball and most of all fishing, canoeing and camping. We are thrilled to have her!



Welcome New Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers!

By Merilee Thoenen, State Supervisor

Thirty-nine new or returning FCS teachers have joined our Career Education Mentoring program for Year One protégés. They join the forty-three protégés who are returning for Year Two. A special thank you to the thirty-four Year One and thirty-five Year Two mentors for agreeing to be a part of the mentoring program.

Year Two mentors and protégés attended a Kickoff Breakfast on the last day of summer conference in Springfield. Led by content experts Elaine Duncan and Jane Wolff, the participants reviewed the timeline for the second year of the program. The second meeting will be held on January 18, 2008 at the Columbia Country Club.

Year One participants met in Columbia on September 11 and 12 at the Holiday Inn Select in Columbia. Following dinner, the protégés met with DESE staff to discuss topic such as curriculum resources, the list-serve and the loaning library. At the same time, the mentors were working with Elaine Duncan and Jane Wolff on tips and techniques of being a good mentor.

Day two began after breakfast with a short meeting with DESE staff to explain the elements of an approved program and to learn how to use the online mentoring blog designed exclusively for the protégés and mentors. The remainder of the time was devoted to working together on mentoring plans and experiences.

The next meeting date will be on January 18. Year One will join Year Two protégés in Columbia for a full day of work with their mentors. We will hope for a beautiful winter day, but will meet on January 25 if the weather does not cooperate.



Mentors



Protégés

Opportunity for Secondary Students and Teacher to Win Housing Award

If you teach housing, the Housing Education and Research Association (HERA) has developed a new award to encourage housing education in "secondary classrooms." The "Goodheart-Willcox Secondary Education Housing Teaching Award" is supported by the Goodheart – Willcox Publishers and solicits the submission of housing related projects conducted by teachers and/or students in high schools.

Following is the announcement, contact information for any questions, and the link to the application form.

http://www.housingeducators.org/Awards/Secondary_teacher_Award.pdf

Chamber of Commerce offers Student Workshops

If you are looking for student workshops to offer in your school district, each year, the Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry offers to schools in Missouri, three, day-long workshops for students. These nationally recognized workshops are unique in that each involves local business and professional leaders as small group facilitators. These facilitators bring the programs to life for the students by connecting the real-world of ethics, finance or entrepreneurship to the table discussions, activities and simulations.

Briefly, the three workshops are:

Ethical Decision Making

Ethical Decision Making in the Workplace and Society is a five- to six-hour program designed to help high school seniors understand values and ethics, how they are acquired, and how they are applied in the workplace. Co-sponsored with local chambers of commerce and schools, students are divided into small groups based on their career choice. Community leaders serve as consultants for each small group, as students learn personal and group decision-making skills, develop an ethical code based on the community's values, and then apply those values and ethics to real-world situations.

Entrepreneurship Project

This five- to six-hour workshop is designed to give high school students an opportunity to learn about the American Free Enterprise System and how it encourages new ideas, products and services. Cosponsored with local chambers of commerce and schools, students are divided into small groups with a local business leader serving as their consultant. Each group then develops a plan for a new business that will provide a product or service to meet a community need. Participants learn team building, problem solving and communication skills as they develop a radio and newspaper ad for their new product or service.

Financial Fitness for a Lifetime

This five- to six-hour workshop is designed to give high school students an opportunity to learn about income, spending, saving and credit. Students are divided into small table groups of six. A table leader consultant, a local banking or investment professional from the community, serves as the "real world" guide for the students. Each table group works through a variety of activities and simulations designed to teach the value of education, saving, investing and budgeting, and the responsible use of credit.

FBLA, DECA and FCCLA chapters have hosted one or more of these programs in their schools as well as hosting regional programs including other schools. (District 5 FBLA in southwest Missouri holds a program each November.)

The Missouri Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation does have some grant money available for specific programs and targeted areas to help defray the cost of the program.

For more details on hosting one or more of these workshops for your students, please contact:

David Lankford
Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry
P.O. Box 1155, 428 E. Capitol
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone # 573-634-2414
Fax # 573-634-8855
E-mail: dlankford@mochamber.com



Missouri LifeSmarts



Sponsored by [American Century Investments](#) and coordinated by [the Missouri Family, Career & Community Leaders of America \(FCCLA\)](#)

[LifeSmarts](#), the ultimate consumer challenge, is an educational program that develops the consumer and marketplace skills of teenagers in a fun and rewarding way. It is a flexible classroom or group activity that teaches teens to be smart and responsible consumers and citizens. The program complements any curriculum in middle and high schools and can be used as an activity for classes, groups, clubs and community organizations. LifeSmarts is operated by the National Consumers League.

Now featuring a [Junior Varsity](#) Competition for grades 6-8
and a [Varsity Competition](#) for grades 9-12
and introducing the new exciting [LifeSmarts Tech Lab](#)

Teams of teens compete online, with the top state teams competing in state Junior Varsity (grades 6-8) finals February 26 and Varsity (grades 9-12) finals February 27, 2008 in Jefferson City. State Varsity champions advance to the national LifeSmarts competition April 12-15 in Minneapolis, MN.

LifeSmarts is a fun way for students to learn about areas of:



Personal Finance



Consumer Rights & Responsibilities



Technology



The Environment



Health & Safety

Missouri's online competition will begin on **September 17, 2007** and end on Friday, **January 25th, 2008**.

Missouri LifeSmarts contact: Merilee Thoenen, Coordinator
Family & Consumer Sciences Education
Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
573-751-6878
merilee.thoenen@dese.mo.gov

“Access FCCLA” Conferences

Unique to Missouri is our “Access FCCLA” conference program. The “Access FCCLA” conference will be held October 21-22, 2007, at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. Students and advisors will choose one of three FCCLA conferences to attend. The three conference options are 1) Take AIM (Active & Involved Members); 2) Leadership Unlimited; and 3) Chapters In Action. Regular registration ends September 21 – purchase orders will be accepted for this event.

Missouri Alumni & Associates sponsors scholarships for students attending this conference. For the scholarship, registration, and housing forms, visit the state website at <http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/fccla.htm>.



2008 State Leadership Conference Preview

The 2008 State FCCLA Leadership Conference will be held March 30-April 1 at the Holiday Inn Select Executive Center in Columbia. The State Executive Council has chosen the theme “Clue Into Leadership” and spent their time during their summer executive council meeting making many exciting plans for conference delegates.

Activities for conference attendees will begin on Sunday, March 30, with STAR Events registration, consultant’s orientation and the Opening General Session that evening. On Monday, March 31, attendees will participate in STAR Events, workshops, Meet the Candidates and general sessions. On Tuesday, April 1, regional executive councils will have the opportunity to meet, chapter leadership workshops will be held, and general sessions will take place, with the Closing General Session ending by noon. It will be an exciting event for all FCCLA members!

Conference materials will be posted on the Missouri FCCLA web site and mailed to chapters in early January.



Clue Into Leadership!

By Hannah Sperandio, Missouri FCCLA State President

“Clue into Leadership” is the theme of the 2008 State Leadership Conference to be held March 30th through April 1st at Holiday Inn Select Executive Center, Columbia, MO. The members of the state executive council met in July to discuss and plan the schedule, workshops and speakers that will be included at this leadership meeting.

State meeting is the culmination of the FCCLA year at the state level. STAR events will be held with the top winners advancing to national competition. Also, the new state executive council will be installed. The workshops that members will attend will improve leadership skills, address teen issues and encourage membership involvement at all levels of the organization.



Members will be challenged to discover their own leadership skills and clue into the FCCLA organization. Have a great and successful year in your chapters and plan to find the clues to your leadership puzzle at the 2008 State Leadership Conference.



Missouri FCCLA officer and advisors give advice during a panel presentation during the MoEFACS pre-conference “Implementing FCCLA into the Curriculum.”



Missouri State Executive Council members get “energized” with a Twister activity during their Summer Planning Meeting this July.

Missouri Students Attend Aarsalyn National Conference in Washington, D.C.

Six Missouri students, along with FCCLA Advisor Beverly Plymell, attended the 6th annual Aarsalyn national conference, August 9-12, in Washington, D.C. The conference, "Bridging the Partisan Divide: Rediscovering Deliberation" included more than 120 youth from across the country. The youth, ages 16-20, had the "opportunity to witness how our country and its leaders come to conclusions that dictate national and international policy" explained Christian Johnson, Director of the Aarsalyn Program, located in Glendora, California. The Aarsalyn Program of Ludwick Family Foundation was created in 1996 to encourage young Americans to become informed and active participants in the electoral process. The Aarsalyn Program views the civic and political engagement of young people as beneficial to country, community and character. The Aarsalyn Program is firmly committed to a non-partisan, non-issue-based and inclusive approach to ensure that voting becomes a lifetime commitment on the part of our nation's young adults.

Among those addressing the youth and discussing the art of political deliberation were former congressman Martin Frost, William Powers, a writer for the *Atlantic Monthly* and *National Journal*, David Mark, a senior writer at *The Politico*, representatives of Study Circles, and Mobilize.Org.

Each of the 120 students participating applied to be included in the conference and was selected for his or her role in their respective communities in furthering the involvement of peers in the voter education process. The Aarsalyn Program provided food, lodging, conference materials and reimbursement for a portion of the individual's travel expenses.

Among the programs created and in use by the Aarsalyn Program are Democracy in Action, a four-part age appropriate curriculum on voting and the election process that has been distributed to more than 1000 elementary, middle and high schools across the country; sponsored town hall conferences for high schools students on current issues; and Aarsalyn Peer Exchange, a program that supports the travel and information sharing of youth groups from different parts of the country. For more information on the Aarsalyn program, please visit their website at www.aarsalyn.org



Missouri students attending the Aarsalyn Conference Included Whitney Smith, West Plains; Nikki Cole, Hermann; Robbie Hollingsworth, Holts Summit; Camie Steinhoff, Trenton; and Richard Sommerfeld, Keytesville. Also attending but not pictured is Jenna Gegg, Ste. Genevieve.

2007 National Leadership Meeting Update: Leadership Revolution!

By Levi Rash, National Vice President of Membership

Nearly 5,000 members, advisors, and parents joined together in Anaheim, California for the 2007 National Leadership Meeting of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. This year's conference was themed, *Leadership Revolution*, and it was held July 6-12 right next door to the infamous Disneyland and California Adventures theme parks. FCCLA members had the opportunity to learn how to revolutionize their families, careers, and communities by participating in youth workshops, general sessions, competing in STAR Events, and taking in some real California culture!



Highlights of the event included hearing an opening general session address by "The Rookie", Jim Morris and a surprising welcome for the First Lady herself, Laura Bush. A mini Relay for Life was held during the week and FCCLA proudly presented the American Cancer Society with a check for \$410,515.21. Attendees of the conference enjoyed viewing the National Executive Council create characters in which helped everyone figure out how to revolutionize their leadership skills. Katherine Hoffman made Missouri proud as she finished out her term as the National Vice-President of STAR Events.

Another highlight of the meeting included the election and installation of the 2007-2008 National Executive Council. Missouri was excited to see another state officer, Levi Rash, elected to serve as the National Vice-President of Membership for the upcoming FCCLA fiscal year. Memories were made and leadership skills were enhanced during the course of the week. Missouri was well-represented in STAR Events and took the largest group to date for the state. It is time to start a new year with FCCLA and everyone is ready to start revolutionizing!



Troy Middle School was selected as implementing the top Middle School FACTS (Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety) program for 2006-2007.



Dale Lightfoot of Kansas City was honored with FCCLA Honorary Membership. Lightfoot Photography has been the official FCCLA photographer for nearly 20 years.



The 2006-07 National Executive Council closes out their year of service. 2nd from the right, Missourian Katherine Hoffman served as the National Vice President of STAR Events.



Missourian Jenna Gegg receives the Beth Middleton Memorial Scholarship.



Katherine Hoffman presented the Alumni Achievement Award to Missouri FCCLA Advisor Christine Hollingsworth.



The newly installed 2007-08 National Executive Council includes (2nd from right), Levi Rash, National Vice President of Membership (South Shelby High School).



Making a Difference Everywhere – 2007 National Cluster Meetings

Interested in attending one of the four national cluster meetings this fall? Meetings are being held in Atlanta, Georgia; Buffalo, New York; Denver, Colorado; and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Registration materials were mailed to all affiliated chapters in August. The materials are also available on the national FCCLA website – www.fcclainc.org.



It's Time to Rev Your Engines!!!

Your FCCLA chapter is invited to participate in the 2007-08 RACE Into Reading program.

RACE Into Reading - Reading About Career Experiences is an interactive school/community service project between Missouri CTSO members and elementary students that promotes reading for fun and information. Now in its third year, participation in the project allows elementary students to learn about a variety of career opportunities and allows the CTSO member to develop leadership skills and serve as a positive role model for elementary students. The project is sponsored through Missouri Career Education and Missouri's Career and Technical Student Organizations – DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, SkillsUSA, and TSA.



RACE Into Reading projects may also be a part of the service-learning opportunities and before and after school childcare programs. Tying the projects to a school/community need and collaboration between staff can provide additional leadership development opportunities for CTSO members. Also, February Career and Technical Education Month is another excellent opportunity for your chapter to offer fun activities to promote awareness of careers.

All chapters that participate will be recognized at the state leadership conference.

[RACE Into Reading Toolkit Order Form](http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/RACE_index.htm) (http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/RACE_index.htm)

Free toolkits filled with supplies and great ideas will be available for distribution by November 1.

[Watch the RACE Into Reading Video!](#)

Streaming video about how CTSOs can get involved with the RACE Into Reading program (4 minutes)

For more information, contact Sandy Murray at 573-751-3500 or email sandy.murray@dese.mo.gov.

Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Named Missouri Teacher of the Year Finalist

Congratulations to Ronna Ford, MEd, a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher from Lebanon Technology and Career Center for being selected by state education officials as one of five finalists in the 2007-2008 Missouri Teacher of the Year program. The finalists were chosen by a nine-member selection committee appointed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.



The other finalists are Sue Haugen, sixth-grade math teacher, Jefferson City Public Schools; Kristin Jackson, chemistry teacher, Harrisonville School District; Nicole "Cole" Ratner, fifth-grade teacher, Hazelwood School District; and Nancy Smith, journalism teacher, Rockwood School District. Eric Langhorst, an eighth-grade social studies teacher in the Liberty School District was selected by the committee as Missouri Teacher of the Year.

Ronna Ford, an exceptional educator, has taught at Lebanon since 1983, building its Family and Consumer Sciences program into a state-of-the-art department through ambitious grant writing, curriculum writing, tireless lobbying, achievement of extra certifications, along with an entrepreneurial spirit toward developing programs that help her students.

Two new occupational avenues for Lebanon FCS students include a ProStart Culinary Certificate and a Child Development Associate Certificate, as well as dual credit and articulated credit opportunities. Serving as chapter advisor for FCCLA, she infuses a heavy dose of community involvement in her programs, putting theoretical discussions into context.

Ronna was an original member of the Missouri Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Leader Cadre established in 1997. This group of teachers devoted a minimum of four days each year for three years to make an in-depth study of using critical thinking/practical reasoning in the instruction and assessment of FCS content. She continues to serve as a peer educator, presenting workshops, and serving as an instructional mentor.

In addition to being a dedicated educator in the classroom, she serves in numerous leadership positions at local, state, and national levels. She has been recognized for her contributions in many areas, such as state and national awards for excellence with the ProStart program in 2005. She recently completed a term as President of the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education. She also chairs the national ACTE Bylaws Committee and chairs the Legislative Committee for the National Association for Teachers of Family and Consumer Science. For more information about the state recognition program, visit www.dese.mo.gov/commissioner/awards/TOY/index.html.

New ProStart Instructors Attend Training

By Jerry Vincent, Missouri ProStart Program Coordinator, Missouri Restaurant Association



Fifteen new ProStart instructors representing thirteen Missouri high schools completed their New Teacher Training Seminar on July 23 in Springfield. The training was held at Ozarks Technical College in conjunction with the Missouri ACTE Summer Conference.

The training included ProStart program administration as well as culinary skills training. Jerry Vincent conducted the program administration training which covered reporting requirements required by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation and those for the Missouri Division of Workforce Development.

Chef Lou Rice, Division Chair of the Hospitality/Culinary Arts program at Ozarks Technical College conducted a session

on culinary arts skill development. The instructors worked on knife skills and worked in teams to prepare salads, entrees and desserts which were critiqued by Chef Rice and by the teams themselves. Participants in the training were:

Heather Ezzell, Central High School, St. Joseph
Lori Krug, Warren Co. Sr. High School, Warrenton
Brandi Keller, Macon Area Vocational School
Nora Whitney, Park Hill High School
Ann Pike, Lee's Summit North High School
Jan Stapinski, Hickman Mills High School, Kansas City
Peter Dech, Alta Vista Charter School, Kansas City
Arvetta Lawson, Alta Vista Charter School, Kansas City

Kristi Aldrine, Gibson Technical Center, Reed's Spring
Kelly Conn, Lafayette High School, St. Joseph
Jenny DeGroot, Park Hill High School
Aaron Hudlow, Poplar Bluff Technical Career Center
Chris Hunsaker, Glendale High School, Springfield
Constance Leonard, Kickapoo High School, Springfield
Jenny Cummins, Central High School, Springfield

ProStart Instructors Tour Keeter Center

By Jerry Vincent, Missouri ProStart Program Coordinator, Missouri Restaurant Association

During the recent Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Summer Conference in Springfield, Missouri ProStart instructors traveled to Branson to the Keeter Center on the campus of the College of the Ozarks. While there, they enjoyed lunch and toured the facility.

Speakers for the afternoon included Tom Healy, General Manager of the Keeter Center, who shared learning opportunities through the College of the Ozarks Work Program; Beth Huddleston, R.D., Assistant Professor at College of the Ozarks, who discussed available programs in food service; and Chef Robert Stricklin, Executive Chef at Big Cedar Lodge, who presented information about career opportunities in the hospitality field.

The Missouri ProStart Program is a culinary/hospitality program for junior and senior high school students sponsored by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. Seventy-three Missouri schools have implemented the ProStart program.

Teachers Earn NRAEF Foodservice Educator Certification

The National Restaurant Association Education Foundation developed and supports the ProStart program for secondary students. One of the major ways NRAEF supports ProStart is to provide excellent professional development for the teachers. For the last 6 years, restaurant management and culinary arts educators from across the nation have experienced the NRAEF Summer Institutes, weeklong intensive workshops delivered by industry experts. The goal of the NRAEF Summer Institutes is to provide educators with a forum to learn cutting-edge skills, which they can then take back to the classroom and teach their students to prepare them for a rewarding career in the restaurant and foodservice industry. In this dynamic and interactive environment, educators have the opportunity to:

- Earn restaurant/foodservice instructor certification
- Secure academic credits and CEU's (at select institutions)
- Learn from faculty composed of nationally recognized content experts
- Accrue great networking opportunities
- Participate in best practices forums
- Tour restaurants and foodservice facilities

ProStart teachers are encouraged by the NRAEF to receive the Foodservice Education Certification.

Why Certified Secondary Foodservice Educator Certification Is For You

- Interest in continuing education and professional development at the secondary level
- To improve/enhance your restaurant/foodservice content knowledge, technical and teaching skills
- To improve student learning by strengthening pedagogy within industry

Certified Secondary Foodservice Educator Requirements

- Associate degree or an equivalent from an accredited institution or from a recognized teacher education institution
- Certified under contract with school district or Temporary Certified Teacher under contract with the school district
- Complete the Requirements of the Restaurant Management/Culinary Arts Levels of the NRAEF Summer Institutes and pass certification test for all levels including Basic, Advanced and Mastery complete 120 hours of industry experience as outlined in the Internship Requirements (see application form below for Internship criteria)
- Submit a Unit Lesson Plan from Industry Experience

To learn more about the institutes visit: <http://www.nraef.org/prostart/teachers/development/institutes.asp>



Congratulations to these Missouri Teachers who have earned the Food Service Educator certification.

Ginny Stone, Oak Park, North Kansas City, Suzanne Cadle, Northwest Technical School, Maryville, Cheryl Landers, Grandview High School, Ronna Ford, Lebanon Technology Center, Barbara Selzer, Blue Springs High School

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*Wishing you a happy
and successful school
year!*