

The NEWS in Missouri Family Consumer Sciences & Human Services



Missouri ACTE/MoEFACS Summer Inservice Conference – July 26-29, 2010

MoEFACS Conference Theme – “CTE – Create the Experience”

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services Education Summer In-service Conference, July 26 - 29! The conference will be held at the Clarion Hotel, 3333 South Glenstone, in Springfield. The conference is designed to provide inservice for all career education instructors and is sponsored by the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education (MoACTE), the Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFACS), and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The annual meeting provides high quality professional development and networking opportunities for Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services educators at all levels. Program support also is enhanced through opportunities to join colleagues in professional organizations such as MoEFACS, Missouri ACTE, the Association for Career and Technical Education, and respective national affiliates.

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Missouri ACTE Opening General Session



Rita F. Pierson, Ed.D. of Houston, Texas, has been a professional educator since 1972. As an educator, Dr. Pierson has served in numerous roles, including elementary regular and special education teacher, junior high school teacher, counselor, assistant principal, director, testing coordinator, and consultant. In addition, she is a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Dr. Pierson has an established record of successful educational leadership and management experience, particularly in curriculum and instructional development, community relations and personnel supervision. Dr. Pierson was responsible for the development and implementation of

a school community involvement program for a large urban elementary school, as well as the initiation, organization and training of an in-school crisis team for students in need of immediate intervention.

Continued on page 3...

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REGISTRATION

This year, as in the past, there will be no separate MoEFACS registration form. MoEFACS members will only need to complete the Missouri ACTE registration form to pay conference registration and dues. **MISSOURI ACTE REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED AND YOU MUST HAVE A MISSOURI ACTE NAMETAG TO ATTEND ALL MOEFACS ACTIVITIES AND SESSIONS.**

Missouri ACTE on-site registration will be from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26; and from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27. Registration will be at the Springfield Exposition Center, 635 East St. Louis Street. The Exposition Center is located directly across the street from the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center. Packets for those who pre-registered will be available during these times. Late registration will be open on Wednesday, July 28, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the lobby of the University Plaza Hotel.

Registration information for Missouri ACTE and MoEFACS pre-conference workshops can be accessed from the Missouri Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services website at: http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/facs_professional_development.htm#MoACTE. To access Missouri ACTE information and registration directly, visit the Missouri ACTE website at: <http://www.mo-acte.org/>.

LODGING

Rooms at the Clarion Hotel, headquarters hotel for the MoEFACS division, are \$77.95 plus tax, which includes a full, hot breakfast buffet. One to four occupants per room will be housed at this rate. **Hotel reservations must be made through the Springfield Convention and Visitor's Bureau.** An official housing form for the conference was mailed to all current Missouri ACTE members in early February. Those forms can be submitted by mail to the Housing Bureau, 815 East St. Louis, Suite 100, Springfield, MO 65806 or by fax to 417-881-7201. Conference housing can also be secured through the Springfield CVB/Missouri ACTE Housing Bureau on-line at: <https://secure.pcis.net/missouritravel/housing/macte/>. **All room reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or purchase order number.** If you wish to stay at the Clarion, make your reservation early! Housing is on a first come, first served basis with a deadline of June 25, 2010.

MISSOURI ACTE EXHIBITS AND GENERAL SESSIONS

The Missouri ACTE Conference will open Tuesday, July 27, with the Opening General Session for all divisions from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Springfield Exposition Center. The keynote speaker for this session will be Dr. Rita Pierson Ed.D. of Houston, Texas. Dr. Pierson's eye-opening lectures have introduced a new awareness among teachers on just how much poverty affects children both in and out of the classroom. Box lunches will not be provided this year, but concessions will be open for those attending the afternoon session. The MoEFACS Program will continue from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Expo Center. Dr. Pierson will delve into the instructional strategies talked about in the morning session. MoEFACS members are encouraged to attend both sessions.

Exhibits will be at the Springfield Exposition Center and will be open from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, and from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27. All MoEFACS members are encouraged to attend to view the exhibits and express their appreciation to the vendors for their participation and support.

PRE-CONFERENCE COURSE AND WORKSHOPS

A pre-conference "for credit" course through University of Central Missouri (UCM) (July 25 and 26) and several workshops (July 26) will be offered in advance of the conference. More information and registration forms for these sessions can be found on the Missouri Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services website at: http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/facs_professional_development.htm#MoACTE

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

Missouri ACTE will sponsor a breakfast reception honoring new professionals on Tuesday, July 27, from 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. at the Springfield Exposition Center. All new professionals in the MoEFACS division are encouraged to attend this event. MoEFACS will host an Awards Celebration for all MoEFACS conference attendees on Tuesday, July 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel. MoEFACS Awards and Recognition for 2010 "CTE – Celebrate the Experience" will be presented beginning at 5:00 p.m. The annual Missouri ACTE All Division Social will be held on Wednesday evening, July 28, at The Ramada Oasis Convention Center (formerly The Oasis), 2550 North Glenstone. The social is free of charge to all Missouri ACTE members.

The forms for Missouri ACTE registration and housing forms, as well as the conference program and other information to assist MoEFACS members are available on the DESE Missouri Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services Web page at: http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/facs_professional_development.htm#MoACTE. See you in Springfield!

Continued Opening General Session...

“I’m not teaching anymore, I teach teachers now. I took a leave and the leave has turned into years,” Dr. Pierson said. “I do a training on understanding poverty where I talk about how economics impact student achievement.” Dr. Pierson met a woman in 1996 named Ruby Payne, who had written a book called “*A Framework for Understanding Poverty*” and after a workshop learned the research Payne had done research in Haiti was similar to the research she had done on her students in Chicago.

“We’ve done lots of work in cultural diversity, but not a lot of work in economic diversity and that is the great equalizer. Not, what color you are, but how much money you’ve got,” Dr. Pierson said. “The problems that economics produce haven’t been dealt with as much as popular cultural problems that currently exist and that needs to change in a hurry,” Dr. Pierson said.

Daniel Santiago, Closing Keynote MoEFACS Summer Conference 2010

Daniel is a dynamic speaker that is hip, articulate, relevant, and keeps it real! He believes every child has the ability to succeed; regardless of their circumstances and culture, they just need the resources, opportunity, and support from people who are compassionate and courageous enough to care. You are those people! Family Consumer Sciences Educators will have the opportunity to hear Daniel as the closing keynote on Thursday, July 29. Better yet, he will be participating in concurrent sessions on Wednesday where he will work with teachers on Reaching and Teaching unmotivated youth and coworkers. You can access his information at www.danielsantiago.org.



Don’t miss him at our 2010 Summer Conference, July 26-29, Springfield, Missouri. See YOU there!

Deana Palmer Leaves Career Education, Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services

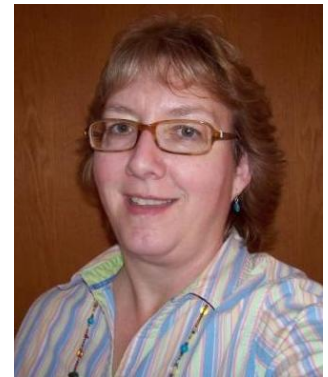
Deana has been with Career Education for almost nine years. She started in the GED Section and then four years later took a position with Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services. Sadly, we say good bye to Deana, who has been our Administrative Assistant II for almost five years. Most of you know Deana as the person who helps you with grants, manages the List-Serve and puts together the News. She is also the computer whiz at the LifeSmarts State Contest. Deana has also been one of the hard working staff members behind the scene at STAR Events and the Fall ACCESS meeting for FCCLA. It is with all sincerity that we wish her the best as she starts her new career with Aqua America this month.



LeeAnn Tomlinson, President – Elect

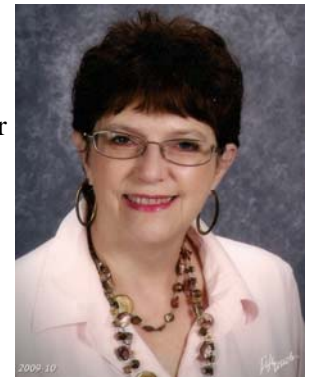
Family Consumer Sciences is a fascinating, busy, sometimes overwhelming career choice. Like super glue, with a tiny bit of support, encouragement, and professional development, we can stick to the challenging task that is before us to educate and prepare our students for their futures.

We are in a constantly evolving subject area that demands continual upkeep. As your president I will work diligently to represent you and provide the leadership you need to be successful. I have attended four national conferences and know firsthand what the professionals in our career say about the need for CTE. I am willing and able to be your leader.



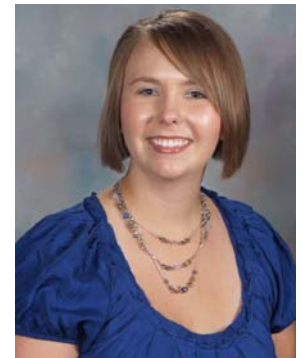
Retha Weathers, Secretary Candidate

I view myself as a servant to others, both in my professional and personal life. It has been a privilege to serve the FCS teachers of Missouri through membership on the MoEFACS board for the past three years. To continue service to all of you as this organization's secretary would be my honor. I pledge to perform the duties of the office to the best of my abilities by maintaining the level of excellence demonstrated by your previous secretaries.



Allison Kreifels, Secretary Candidate

Although I have only been teaching for three years, I cannot imagine any better area in which to teach. Family Consumer Sciences has been what has created the experience for me. With high quality professional development, experienced mentors, and positive networking opportunities, my experience has grown exponentially. Because of my confidence in the classroom, I am able to use Family Consumer Sciences to create experiences for my students as well. Whether students are looking into best practices for children's emotional development, determining appropriate methods to reduce calories in a recipe, or practicing leadership skills through Power of One modules, my students are preparing themselves for the future while having some of the greatest experiences of their high school career. I am forever grateful that Career and Technical Education has not only created the experience for me but that I am now able to create the experience for my students.



Student Culinarians Compete in High School ProStart Competition

Twenty-five high school teams from around the state competed in the annual Missouri ProStart High School Culinary Contest making it one of the largest state competitions in the country. Over 100 students demonstrated their culinary skills in a competition as challenging as those held for professional chefs. The competition was held February 18-19, 2010 at East Central College in Union, MO.

Each student was required to fabricate a chicken into eight pieces in addition to using their knife skills to cut a variety of vegetables into pieces of exact size and shape. The cut vegetables had to be incorporated into the final meal preparation.

Teams of four members from each school were required to prepare a three course meal for two people within one hour using only two butane burners as the cooking source. The appetizer, entrée and dessert had to be completed at the exact time in order for the entire meal to have a fresh, beautiful presentation with a palate pleasing taste and aroma.

The teams are rated on appearance, teamwork, sanitation, recipe content and costing, originality, presentation and taste. Twelve professional judges monitor the entire event while scoring each aspect of the competition and taking notes and comments which were later shared with the students.

Herndon Career Center, Raytown, MO, won first place in the competition followed by Hillcrest High School of Springfield in second place while Kansas City's Park Hill High School walked away with third place honors.

Herndon Career Center will advance to the ProStart National Invitational in Overland Park, KS, on April 30, 2010. Herndon is the defending national champion having won the Nationals in San Diego last year.

Herndon's Award Winning Menu:

Appetizer: Artic Char Sashimi: Beets. Blood orange, pomegranate, pine nuts, chervil, Yuzu.

Entrée: Wagyu Rib Eye Cap: Horseradish, parsley root, romanesco, Nantucket Bay Scallops, blue foot mushrooms.

Dessert: Pistachio Cake: Chocolate in textures, almonds, orange & fig pearls, popping powder.

Hillcrest High School featured "A Taste of Germany" theme of Spaetzle, German Potato Salad, Rolladen (flank steak rolled in a medley of spices and topped with a savory gravy), Sauerkraut, and German Apple Pancakes.

Park Hill High School showcased an appetizer of Chicken-Wasabi Dumplings enhanced with sliced Texas Wagyu beef "Shobu-Shobu" style, followed by a pan-seared chicken breast with Beech and Shitake Mushrooms and ending with a green tea crepe with brandied cherries and mango coulis topped with Macadamia nuts.

The competition was hosted by East Central College in Union, MO. The faculty, staff and students of the college provided a welcoming yet professional atmosphere for the event while showcasing their fully accredited ACF Culinary Arts Program and state-of the art kitchen facilities. Chef Ted Hirschi, Culinary Arts Program Coordinator along with his faculty, staff and students plus the entire administration of the college is to be commended for the tremendous success of this event.

ProStart is a two year high school Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management Program developed by the National Restaurant Association and administered by the Missouri Restaurant Association Education Foundation.

You may contact Hank Huitt at (417) 844-1351 for more information.

The Emphasis: College and Career

By: Louise Lunkenheimer, Immediate Past President MoEFACS and Culinary Instructor, Nevada Regional Technical Center

As the Past President of MoEFACS, I had the honor of serving as a delegate to the ACTE National Policy Seminar held in Washington, D.C., March 8 -10, 2010. Ginny Stone, MoACTE Legislative Chair, Marcia Ritter, and Ronna Ford were also in attendance. The National Policy Seminar was three full days of immersion into the Obama Administration's Educational Plan for our students, our teachers and our country. Obama's plan emphasizes that we "educate our way to a stronger economy." I attended several sessions, but I highlight two which I found to be of the greatest relevance to Career and Technical Education and Family Consumer Sciences Educators.

The keynote speaker at the opening general session was Roberto Rodriguez, Special Assistant to the President for Education, Domestic Policy Council, and The White House. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the Obama administration feels that recovery and the health of the economy can best be achieved if the public school systems and post-secondary education emphasize "college and career education" for all students. Mr. Rodriguez stated that career education should begin at birth and that morally "all children should succeed" in our US educational system. The Obama administration is looking at more rigorous standards toward academic and career curriculums. The administration is also revisiting No Child Left Behind, no longer advocating for a "one size fits all" to a more uniform level of performance where students are better prepared for college and career. The administration is pushing for "transformational change" where new systems will "better support our teachers, our students and our parents."

On Tuesday afternoon I attended a meeting on Programs of Study, the relevance of which became clear in the closing general session. The speaker was Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. Ms. Dann-Messier stated that by the year 2020:

- Occupational courses will be a high school graduation requirement for all students.

- Coherent Programs of Studies will be required for all students (introduced in the 7th/8th grade year).
- Transition counseling for all high school graduates into a college and career OR the workforce (perhaps adding a 13th year where students attend college and receive remediation or workforce placement services from the high school).
- Sixty percent of all graduating seniors will go on to post-secondary college and career training (Ms. Dann-Messier emphasized that post-secondary funding will be based on outcomes).

Ms. Dann-Meissier also spoke of the value of our CTSO's in all areas and that participation in these is considered crucial for the administration's vision that we educate and prepare our students for both college and career.

I was truly struck by the omission of OR between "College and Career." The administration believes the future strength of our nation's economy depends on better educating and preparing our students for college and career. The "or" comes into play as we prepare those not going on to college for the workforce. *Now is the time for CTE!* I look forward to seeing all of you at the MoACTE/MoEFACS Summer Conference where we will, together, prepare for the challenges ahead of us in Career and Technical Education and Family Consumer Sciences Education.

Do You Teach What They Need To Know?

By Cynthia K. Arendt, Ph.D., Director

Hard to believe we are about to close the books on another school year! What are the successes you are happy to claim? What things did you feel were failures that you are determined not to repeat? Just as we want our students to reflect on what they learn, we must use the same process to plan for next year. A question I always asked myself at the end of a semester or year was "Did I teach them what they need to know?" I hope so, but I could never be sure. I am sure that I did not teach them all they needed to know.

How do we decide what they need to know? That is a very difficult question. These students are growing up in a world that is changing all of the time. They will work and live in a world that probably cannot even be imagined at this time. How can a teacher begin to prepare them with the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful? Something that must be a part of the Family Consumer Sciences content is how to use critical thinking to solve problems. Sue McGregor in her book, *Transformative Practice: New Pathways to Leadership*, published in 2006 by Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society, discusses critical science and critical theory. Articles by Dr. McGregor, a Canadian Family Consumer Sciences professional, always challenge my thinking. Gatzler (1999) also discusses a distinction between critical theory and critical science. Critical theory refers to the *outcome* or the improvement in human life. People need to improve their living conditions rather than accepting and coping with present conditions. I will focus more on critical sciences. Critical science practitioners are reflective and are able to articulate the assumptions that inform their practice. Gatzler also talks about self reflection which involves figuring out "why one is doing what one is doing in daily life." What are the actions, or habits that are keeping people down-trodden? By teaching students to reflect on the things that happen in daily life and helping them to find a way to change them requires critical science –a reframing of thinking and actions. Helping students work toward the mastery of critical science gives them the best possible tool for success.

Critical science refers to the *process* that professionals and others apply to obtain the desired result. It is one of the four process skills for Family Consumer Sciences and one of the Show-Me process skills. Yoo stated in 1999 that the critical science process unites science for observation (evidence with philosophy) for analysis and criticism (reason) resulting in improved human conditions. The mission of Family Consumer Sciences is to improve the quality of life for all individuals.

Since the late 90s Missouri has used the critical science and problem solving approach to curriculum. Unfortunately, over a decade later there are teachers who continue to use only the technical skill approach when developing curriculum. Critical science and problem solving are philosophies and methods of instruction that serve as the basis for deciding what to teach AND how to teach it. These are not new ideas.

Kelly Ritter, Family Consumer Sciences teacher at Lebanon Junior High, shared with me a Master of Arts thesis written in 1928 by Gladys Marie Wyckoff. Ms. Wyckoff was on target in her *The Organization of Home Economics in the Secondary School on the Problem Solving Basis* thesis. She explored the concept of using the problem solving method to teach home economics. One section of the thesis was "Suggested Methods of Assisting Home Economics Teachers in Overcoming the Difficulties Encountered in Understanding the Problem Solving Method of Teaching."

This philosophy of using problems to teach content, is something teachers still struggle with. I would love to have the opportunity to sit down and talk with Ms. Wyckoff today. One question out the many I have is, why or how she became interested in using problem solving to teach content.

The section “Suggested Methods of Assisting Home Economics Teachers in Overcoming the Difficulties Encountered in Developing the Solution of the Problem with the Class” recognizes the value and importance of facilitating the class to find a solution(s) and not giving a possible solution(s) to the students. The teacher facilitates the learning and keeps students on track as they search to find ethical solutions to the problems. Ms. Wyckoff shared a quote from an article written in 1923 by H.O. Rugg regarding problem solving as a method of instruction. “Now what is necessary in organization of curriculum materials, if the obligation is to be fulfilled, (keeping people from acting on impulse) is; first and foremost an arrangement by which pupils will be confronted constantly with definite issues, obstacles which block the smooth passage of thought. Not the learning of texts but the solving of problems is what we need.

Our methods must be organized around issues, problems, unanswered questions which the pupil recognizes as important and which he really strives to unravel.” He further states that students should be “compelled to do real thinking, draw conclusions, make inferences, unravel tangles and surmount every obstacle that stands in the way. This should be the intellectual aim of every teacher.”

Some teachers are still focusing totally on teaching students technical skills, skills that will constantly change. I regret that when we visit schools in the state, we see that a large percentage of the class time for students between the ages of 10 and 15 is devoted to the two areas of food and clothing. This is a time when students are beginning to seek independence from their parents as they try to determine their identities and try out new roles. Students need to begin to search for ways to solve these issues or problems as they occur. This is a time when family relations/human development subject matter is of primary importance. Discussing goals and values is particularly important for early adolescents who are discovering their own uniqueness while seeking group acceptance. We find very little class time spent on consumer education/management or units in the food and nutrition classes that emphasize the values of a healthful diet and exercise, the dangers of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco. These are most likely covered in the upper level semester courses but excluded at the middle school level due to the content only addressing food preparation and sewing.

The problems facing these students are real and should be approached using critical thinking. Solving problems such how to resist negative behaviors, how to increase self-control, and how to express disapproval effectively and become assertive need to be addressed. Learning how to use critical thinking to solve these problems and similar ones, is true for the junior and senior as well as the early adolescent. It is also important to keep in mind that middle school is where most students are exposed to Family Consumer Sciences. This exposure becomes the image of Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services that moves on with the student.

The Search for Protégés

It is that time of year again when we are actively seeking out potential protégés for the Career Education Mentoring Program. Do you know anyone who would qualify?

The 2010-11 protégés will be 1st year Family Consumer Science and Human Services teachers (Or within the first few years if not identified their first year). They may also be experienced teachers, but new to FCS or experienced FCS teachers that have been away from teaching for more than 5 years.

Although it would be nice to have a list of those potential protégés land on my desk each spring, the reality is that I conduct a search each year to find these potential members of the mentoring program. The Teacher Education Council members supply me with a list of the FCS graduates at their schools, a list is made of job openings from the list-serve, and schools are listed that will have a FCS retirement this year...But, there are still new or returning teachers out there that have not been identified and could benefit from the mentoring program.

If you hear of any new, new to FCS or returning FCS educator, please have them contact me for information about the mentoring program. You may also send me their contact information and I will get in touch with them.

Thank you for your assistance. You may contact me by phone at (573) 751-6878 or email Merilee.thoenen@dese.mo.gov.

Six Years of Success

The Missouri LifeSmarts program has ended its sixth year. Each year more students and coaches become involved in the program.

In 2009-10, 1,948 students, 94 teams and 110 coaches registered for the LifeSmarts online program. That represents a national rank of 1st place in number of coaches, 3rd place for number of teams and 4th place for number of students. In the first year of participation, there were 24 coaches, 38 teams and 181 students—quite a remarkable increase in just six years.



The state finals were held in Jefferson City in February. Camdenton Middle School with Mary Beth Otto, FCS teacher as coach was the top Junior Varsity team and Southern Reynolds R-II in Ellington was the Varsity champion with FCS teacher, Krista Hampton as their coach.

The Whippets from Southern Reynolds represented Missouri at the national LifeSmarts competition in Miami, Florida from April 24-27. The Missouri program is coordinated by the Missouri Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) with American Century Investments of Kansas City as the financial sponsor.

The team placed 19th after four days of individual assessments, team activities and head-to-head competitions. The team represented Missouri well with their professional appearance, team work and determination to succeed. Several state coordinators commented on the good manners and professional appearance of the Missouri team.

There is still time to take advantage of the LifeSmarts resources. The Spring Season non-competition practice quizzes will remain online until June.

The 2011 LifeSmarts season begins August 1, 2010. State finals will be in Jefferson City with Junior Varsity, Tuesday, February 15, 2011 and Varsity on Wednesday, February 16, 2011. The National LifeSmarts competition will be held in Los Angeles from April 29 to May 3, 2011. You may go to http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/LifeSmarts_national.htm for more information.



The Whippets, South Reynolds High School: Krista Hampton, Coach;Kendell Loyd; Chad Mann; Jarrett Kille; Captain;



On the beach in Miami - Joaquin, Jarret, Kendell, Chad

Program Closures—Is Your Program at Risk?

(Guest Post from Renee Meents, Greenfield High School. This is aimed toward family and consumer sciences teachers, but is applicable to all educators.)

We are living in uncertain times. Education is in danger of becoming one of the largest underfunded mandates. School districts are being asked to continue to do more for students with fewer funds. Across the nation districts are being forced to make tough decisions about money. There are no easy or painless solutions to the problem. Thousands of teachers are being laid off as administrators look at every possible way of saving money. Unfortunately FCS (Family and Consumer Sciences) programs are often on the chopping block. Each of you should be asking yourself, “Is my program at risk?”

My answer to you, after 31 years of teaching is YES, but it doesn't have to be. My question to you is “Are you part of the problem or part of the solution?” My fear is that in far too many instances you are part of the problem. As I bring my career in education to a close I would like to challenge you to evaluate the FCS program that you are associated with and your approach to teaching. Self-reflection, if truly done can be painful however; it is the only way to grow. If we are no longer growing, we are dying. Some of you will choose not to read this and that's fine. Others of you will accuse me of finger pointing and perhaps I am. Please remember however, that when I point one finger, there are three pointing back at me. As I reflect on my teaching and my program I can definitely point several fingers my way. Here are some questions to guide your self-reflection and program evaluation process:

Are you preparing your students to be 21st century learners?

We cannot begin to teach them what they will need to know because we have no idea what that will be next year let alone 30 years from now. When I started teaching AIDS was unheard of, I typed my tests using a typewriter and mimeograph paper, I used film strips and 8 mm projectors. People talked face to face, phones plugged into the wall, many in Missouri were still on party lines and TV's had channels you walked across the room to turn. If you needed information you looked it up in an encyclopedia that was probably two or three years old.

How do the students in your school perceive your classes?

Are these the classes they take for “fun” while the other classes are “important?” What about their parents? Do they see the value in your classes?

Are you working to change that image?

Are you developing at least one [program of study](#) or are you hoping it will go away? (Guess what? It's not going to so you better jump on board early.) Learn all that you can about programs of study and [Technical Skills Assessments](#) (TSA). Be the person in your district that understands them and are working toward developing at least one program of study. Show your counselor and administrator how family and consumer sciences courses fit into career clusters and programs of study. If you don't, who will? If no one can then your program is expendable.

Do your courses focus on technical skills?

Be honest. These skills are valuable but if you need to learn how to do something, don't you just Google it like everybody else? Teaching the [technical skills](#) is important, but they are far from the most important. James Clary, restaurant owner in Springfield once said at the MoEFACS meeting, that he “Hires for attitude and trains for skills.” Employers and our communities need our students to be able to think, problem solve, communicate, work together in teams, and to be leaders. Being able to sew the perfect seam or make a child's toy from inexpensive materials can be beneficial but being able to evaluate quality or safety is far more important. As FCS teachers we like to defend our programs by saying that we teach the life skills everyone needs. Are those life skills the technical skills that we enjoy teaching and our students enjoy learning or are they the skills that will help families solve the real problems that they face that have no easy solution or ready-made answer?

Are your students actively involved in the community?

What kind of involvement does the community observe? Do they see students that are learning to be leaders that will be a valuable asset to the community in the future?

What classroom activities does your community and administration hear about from your students?

Is it the so called “fun activities”? Even if these activities are legitimately a part of your curriculum does your community and administration understand how these are going to help the students and the district meet state and federal standards? The tests and standards are not going away.

Are you treating the last 25 days of school as importantly as the first 25 days?

What is the educational value of the projects that your students are doing? A Popsicle house might be a fun project and could be used to show roof styles, window styles, etc. but does it truly encourage critical thinking skills that could be applied to a job? How many employers in the housing and design industry would see this project as both authentic and valuable? The same goes for pumpkin carving, wedding planning, gingerbread houses, etc. I’m not saying these can’t be valid projects, but if you were an administrator or a school board member trying to decide which positions to eliminate, would you see the important educational value in them?

If a prospective employer asked one of your students to give examples of skills learned in your program that he/she will bring to the job what would the answer be?

What would your students share about your program?

Are students in your classroom learning to understand, adapt to and conform to change?

Are you setting the example by revising curriculum, staying abreast of technology, utilizing a variety of current resources?

Are you teaching the text or do you engage your students in learning?

If you need to ask for a copy of the answers from a textbook generated test or work sheet, then did you really teach the unit? Shouldn’t you know the answers? If a textbook company test meets your needs then you taught the text. A text is a resource. How many of you would be satisfied if your students did a research project and only used one resource?

Does your community and administration see your FCCLA organization as a vital part of the education process of its students?

Is your [FCCLA](#) integrated into your courses? Are you encouraging your students to take active roles at the regional, [state](#) and national levels?

Is your FCCLA a “club” or an organization?

There is a difference. A “club” focuses on fun activities—the Valentine’s Dance, the Christmas party, fun monthly meetings, etc. An “organization” has specific [goals and mission](#). Fun activities are included but most of these activities have a purpose that goes beyond having fun. FCCLA chapter meetings are planned around the organization’s state and national programs, members are challenged to grow as individuals as they set and achieve goals and step out of their comfort zones to become leaders.

Are you a member of [MoEFACS](#), [MoACTE](#) and [ACTE](#)?

Legislators at all level are listening as they make difficult funding decisions. These organizations are your voice what volume level do you want them to speak with?

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “The future does not exist, we are creating the future.” What future are you creating for your program and for your students? We know that the budget crisis and increasing demands on schools are not going away. Will your family and consumer sciences education program?

You have two choices, be part of the problem or part of the solution.

State Leadership Conference - 2010 “Discover the Magic of Leadership”

The 2010 FCCLA State Leadership Conference was held in the Holiday Inn Select Executive Center in Columbia, March 21-23. Nearly 2000 conference delegates and guests participated in the conference which focused leadership, education and careers, personal growth, and FCCLA programs and activities. Speakers included Aaron Davis, Ron Cole, Tina Meier, MoDOT, Kyle Pace, Kathryn Childers, MU Children’s Hospital, Center for Character and Citizenship (UMSL), as well as advisors and members of Missouri FCCLA chapters. Delegates attended workshops on FCCLA programs and activities, as well as learning about leadership, teamwork and careers. Topics such as distracted driving, cyber bullying and technology were well attended. Approximately 700 students participated in state STAR Events activities. Here are some of the rest of the highlights of the meeting:



- **Family, Career and Community Leaders of America - Outstanding School Administrator Awards**
Missouri FCCLA congratulates Mr. Mark Koca, Superintendent of Humansville Schools, and Dr. Larry Brown, Superintendent from Marionville Schools as the 2010 Missouri FCCLA School Administrator Award Recipients.
- **Family, Career and Community Leaders of America – Honorary Membership Awards**
The Missouri Honorary Membership Awards were presented to Chase Cornett, E-Marketing Manager at DATACORE Marketing and Elizabeth Leatherman, Human Resources Officer at Boone County National Bank.
- **Scholarship Recipients total \$8500**

Family and Consumer Sciences Career Cluster Scholarships:

- ◊ Hannah Evanson, Lathrop High School - \$2000 Missouri FCCLA scholarship; \$1200 Missouri Association of Family and Consumer Sciences scholarship
- ◊ Elizabeth Abraham, Hermann Senior High School - \$1000

Outstanding FCCLA Leadership Scholarships:

- ◊ Caroline Kirby, South Shelby High School - \$2000 scholarship
- ◊ Catherine Tipton, Chillicothe High School - \$1000 scholarship
- ◊ Leslie Caldwell, Thayer High School - \$1000 scholarship
- ◊ Whitney Jordan, Chillicothe High School - \$500 scholarship
- ◊ Britt Kagay, Maysville High School - \$500 scholarship
- ◊ Bryanna Rex, Tipton High School - \$500 scholarship

- **2010-2011 State Officer and National Candidates Selected**

Congratulations to the following FCCLA members who have been selected by their peers to serve as state officers and national candidates during the 2010-2011 school year:

State President – Cara Gooch, Bolivar

State 1st Vice President – Megan Fleeman, Ste. Genevieve

National Officer Candidate representing At-Large Membership – JaLee Gooch, Van-Far

National Officer Candidate representing Regional Membership – Brittney Stokes, Ste. Genevieve

Vice President of Occupational Membership – Sheresa Groves, Belton

Vice President of Development – Kelsey Cole, Maysville

Vice President of Elections – Shelby Jennings, Lathrop

Vice President of Membership – Courtney Kirby, South Shelby

Vice President of National Programs – Alexa Faries, Troy Buchanan

Vice President of Public Relations – Savanna Day, Dixon

Vice President of Alumni & Associates – Alison Davis, Campbell

Vice President of Parliamentary Law – Kelly Gillock, Puxico

Vice President of STAR Events – Chelsea Cloven, West Plains

Vice President of STAR Events – Andrea Mason, Greenfield

Vice President of State Programs – Emily Blackburn, La Monte

Vice President of Community Service – Kimberlie Koechner, Tipton

Vice President of Scholarships – Ashley Fyffe, Belton

- **Missouri Excellence in Advising Award Recipients**

Congratulations to the following chapter advisors who were recognized during the 2010 State Leadership Conference in Columbia as one of the Missouri FCCLA Excellence in Advising Award winners. Each advisor was nominated by their chapter to receive this award.

Kimberly Easter, Carl Junction
Nancy Gamet, Princeton
Laura Mauzey, Boonville
Sharon Nave, Pilot Grove

Debra Price, Walnut Grove
Joyce Schebaum, Hermann
Janet Sullivan, Cassville

2011 State Leadership Conference Dates

Mark your calendars for the 2010 State Leadership Conference, **March 26-29, 2011**, at the Holiday Inn Select Executive Center. Conference planning will begin in July, and information will be provided to chapters through the state FCCLA website.

11th Annual Missouri FCCLA Legislative Shadowing Project

On February 23-24, fifty-five Missouri FCCLA members met in Jefferson City to participate in the 11th annual Legislative Shadowing Project. These students, all high school juniors and seniors from across Missouri, applied for their place in this competitive program and were chosen to represent the Missouri FCCLA association to our elected officials.



Representative Mike Lair with members of the Missouri FCCLA State Executive Council - Missouri FCCLA photo

On Tuesday, February 23, students attended an evening dinner, keynote and orientation session. Representative Mike Lair (R-District 007) gave a heartfelt address to the students encouraging them to be knowledgeable about the state and national economy, to make wise choices and decisions, and to work hard at whatever they want to achieve in life. Students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed his presentation! Representative Lair is a former educator, having taught for 38 years in Nebraska, South Dakota, and Missouri. His wife, Jeanne, is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Chillicothe High School, along with co-teacher Kristi Christy.

2010 Legislative Shadowing participants - Missouri FCCLA photo



On Wednesday, February 24, students spent the day shadowing Representatives, Senators, and staff members of elected officials. Students were spotted throughout the Capitol Building - being introduced on the House and Senate floors, attending committee meetings on topics such as education and the state budget, and interacting with other visitors and lobbyists that were also seeking time with the Representatives and Senators.



Students sharing project experiences - Missouri FCCLA photo

At the end of the shadowing experience, students met again and discussed their experiences of the day. Students were genuinely impressed with the work of the person they shadowed - many didn't realize how much information an elected official must process each day, how much is demanded of their time, or how many people show up to lobby for a particular cause. And of course, many of the students were amazed at the fast pace of the legislative session - and how much walking is done throughout a day- and how many steps are climbed!

Each of the students will now go back to their local community and prepare a presentation about their Legislative Shadowing experience. Students will share this information with a variety of audiences - including administrators and school board members. They each document their activities and submit a report to the project coordinator, as well as suggestions for continued improvement of the project.

Why does Missouri FCCLA sponsor this project? For some students, public service is a career goal, and projects such as this help them refine future plans. FCCLA believes that all students are an important part of their local communities. Leadership development through FCCLA can help these students not only make a positive difference right now, but also in the future. Projects such as this can help them choose to be an active citizen - to vote, to volunteer for community projects and committees, and to make their voice heard.

Thank you to all the FCCLA chapter advisors, students, MoEFACS members (\$500 sponsorship) and Marcia Ritter (program coordinator) who make this event such a success each year. Special thanks to the Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri Senate members who agree to participate in this project and make our students feel so welcome. We are already looking forward to the 2011 event!

Congratulations to Karen Mason

Congratulations to Karen Mason, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at East Newton on being selected to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the National FCCLA Association. Karen will be recognized during the national meeting in Chicago, Illinois July 3- July 8th. Karen has rightfully received many awards in recognition of her work in and out of the classroom. To name just a few, she received the FHA/HERO Chapter Advisor of the Year 1999-2000, the Sam's Club Teacher of the Year for the Joplin Store 2004, Missouri Outstanding Women in Education 2004 Honoree, FCCLA Region 11 Distinguished Service Award 2006 and Missouri Distinguished FCCLA Alumni Award in 2007.



She has also been very active in her professional organizations. At the national level, Karen served three years as the Vice President for Family and Consumer Sciences for the national Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE). She then served as ACTE Region III Vice President. These positions have given her the opportunity to serve on two national boards: ACTE and Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). In these roles she has traveled extensively across the United States meeting with members to gather input as well as making presentations at several of the different state meetings. Although she was not elected in her 2009 bid for ACTE President, she continues to work tirelessly for career education.

Mark Your Calendars to Attend “ACCESS FCCLA” October 24-25, 2010



Mark your calendars now to have your FCCLA members attend one of the 2010 Access FCCLA conferences. To reduce time away from school as well as travel costs, three student conference tracks and one advisor track are being held concurrently October 24-25, 2010 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. Help your chapter members choose which conference track will best meet their needs. The Take AIM – Active & Involved Members conference is recommended for new members. Due to demand for this conference, there will be a middle school Take AIM conference and a high school Take AIM conference. The Leadership Unlimited conference is designed to meet the leadership needs of state and regional officers, with room for local officers as space allows. Again due to high demand, there will be two sessions of Leadership Unlimited to allow for more students to participate. The third program offered has proved to be beneficial for chapter teams on implementing national FCCLA programs. “Chapters in Action” will highlight 3 different national programs and chapter teams will leave with plans ready to implement for the 2010-11 school year. The advisors inservice will include information on STAR Events and other important FCCLA updates. Detailed information, schedule and registration materials will be available on the Missouri FCCLA web site in August, 2010. Access FCCLA participants choose only ONE conference/track to attend. Last year, we had nearly 1500 participants at Access FCCLA. As you prepare to attend the 2010 session, keep in mind the importance of adequate adult supervision. Please plan accordingly.

National Leadership Meeting



Approximately 200 Missourians will celebrate the 65 years of FCCLA leadership at the National Leadership Conference, July 4-8, 2010 in Chicago, Illinois. Anyone interested in attending the national leadership conference should contact the state office ASAP. Congratulations to the students who have earned the right to represent Missouri at the National Leadership Conference—either as a STAR Events participant, regional or state officer, or national officer candidate. Congratulations to the following schools representing Missouri in National STAR Events:

Belton High School
Bowling Green High School
Dadeville High School
Dixon High School
Fair Play High School
Forsyth High School
Gallatin R-V High School
Hale High School
Halfway High School
Herndon Career Center
Highland High School
Humansville R-4 High School
Iron County C-4 Junior High School
Lee’s Summit West High School
Maysville High School
Macon AVTS

Meadville High School
Milan High School
Mound City R-II High School
Neosho High School
North Harrison High School
North Kansas City High School
Pilot Grove High School
Pleasant Hope High School
Rock Port High School
Salisbury High School
South Shelby High School
Tarkio High School
Trenton High School
Trenton Middle School
Troy Middle School
Walnut Grove High School

National Cluster Meeting

Three [national cluster meetings](#) will be held this fall. Be sure to check out www.fcclainc.org for more information.



- November 5-7, 2010 - Albuquerque, New Mexico
- November 5-7, 2010 - St. Louis, Missouri
- November 19-21, 2010 - Charlotte, North Carolina

Detailed information on the 2010 National Cluster Meetings will be available soon from the national FCCLA website. We hope to see many of the Missouri FCCLA chapters in St. Louis!

Missouri FCCLA Media Team

If you were at the Missouri FCCLA State Leadership Conference, you may have noticed a team of students and adults with cell phone or laptop in hand posting updates during meetings...these were the Missouri FCCLA Media Team Members! This wonderful group of 16 volunteers worked together to provide the first ever “live” coverage of the Missouri FCCLA State Leadership Conference. You can see the results of their work by going to the Missouri FCCLA Blog and scroll through the posts to March, 2010. This was an exciting learning experience for the association and for volunteers. We hope to continue the media team at events throughout the year – so be watching for opportunities for you or your FCCLA members to participate! You can also view the conference photo gallery while at the blog, or from the Missouri FCCLA Facebook page.

But Wait, There’s More!

There’s more information about Missouri FCCLA than is possible to squeeze in this newsletter! Each week, information about Missouri FCCLA chapters, advisors, programs and opportunities are posted to the Missouri FCCLA Blog. Be sure to subscribe to the blog either by RSS feed (in readers such as Google Reader, or another of your choice) or by e-mail.

Some of the more popular posts lately include the FCCLA Chapter Website Showcase, State Leadership Conference Live Blogging, the “Chapter Spotlight” series, the “Missouri FCCLA Advisor VIP” series, and the “Alumni: Where Are They Now” series.

Since September of 2009, the blog has received nearly 4000 visits or “hits” from 43 countries. Don’t miss out on this great source of timely information! www.mofccla.blogspot.com

The Missouri FCCLA Facebook “Fan Page” exploded in growth this year! In March, we hit the 1000 follower mark, and new fans sign up daily for our page. You can find us at www.facebook.com/MissouriFCCLA

Tweet Tweet! Missouri FCCLA is on Twitter, too! Follow us at www.twitter.com/MoFCCLA



Missouri FCCLA Chapters Claim National Program Awards



Maysville Junior/Senior FCCLA was selected to receive the 2010 National [STOP the Violence](#)—Students Taking On Prevention Middle School Award. STOP the Violence is a peer-to-peer outreach initiative that empowers young people to recognize, report, and reduce the potential for youth violence. STOP the Violence Awards recognize outstanding chapters that develop, carry out, and analyze exceptional projects. As a national middle school winner, the Maysville FCCLA chapter will receive a \$1,000 award, presented to them at the 2010 FCCLA [National Leadership Conference](#), July 4-8 in Chicago, Illinois. The Maysville FCCLA Chapter organized a presentation on personal safety, after a young teenage girl was abducted from a Kansas City, MO Target store. Members wanted to make sure that didn't happen to anyone else. They worked with the Missouri National Guard in demonstrating safety methods to protect oneself from danger and harm. The students were shown personal safety techniques of how to prevent possible abductions and measures of not putting oneself in vulnerable, dangerous situations.



Congratulations to Hermann Senior High FCCLA on winning the 2010 National [Career Connection](#) High School Award! They will receive their award at the 2010 [National Leadership Conference](#) in Chicago, Illinois. In their project "FCCLA Worker Auction" chapter officers were challenged to create ways to introduce national program projects to chapter members. They planned a hands-on Career Connection project/fundraiser. Members chose age-appropriate jobs, created short resumes for bidders to review, and conducted a silent auction at a basketball game. Students learned more about careers, promoted the FCCLA chapter, and raised money at the same time.



Congratulations to Ste. Genevieve High FCCLA on being named the 2010 National Family Economics and Financial Education (FEFE) High School Runner-Up winner! They will receive their award at the 2010 [National Leadership Conference](#) in Chicago, Illinois. Their "Get a Clue About Identity Theft" project increased the public's awareness about the methods that are used to steal a person's identity. They wrote a skit based off the "Clue" board game, and partnered with the school's drama class to get some help with the acting and set design. A grant from Youth Service America helped fund the project, three shredders and a netbook computer that were given away as attendance prizes.

Two Missouri FCCLA Members Named National Leaders at Work Winners



FCCLA members Jordan Schilly, Ste. Genevieve High School and Ashley Yount, West Platte High School were recently announced as 2010 winners in the Leaders at Work program. Jordan Schilly received recognition in the Food Production and Services area and Ashley Yount received recognition in the Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation area. Congratulations!

Two Missouri FCCLA Members Receive Japanese Exchange Scholarships



Two Missouri FCCLA members will have an experience of a lifetime this summer in Japan courtesy of FCCLA and Youth For Understanding (YFU USA). Brandi Kern, Kelly High School and Holly Benbrook, Greenfield High School are two of fourteen FCCLA members who won scholarships that will place them with a Japanese family this summer. They will experience attending school, as well as cultural activities and family life in Japan. Congratulations! We can't wait to hear about your experiences.

Hermann High School Leads the Way in Dynamic Leadership



Hermann High School FCCLA, led by advisors Beth Beattie and Joyce Schebaum, is leading the way in the Dynamic Leadership program. Of the fourteen members recognized this year at the Leadership Excellence level, thirteen of them are from Hermann High School. You can see all of them listed at www.fcclainc.org. Congratulations to each of the students and to their advisors. They are definitely leading by example!



Missouri FCCLA

2010 Spirit of Advising Award Recipient

Each year, the state advisor has the opportunity to recognize an exemplary chapter advisor with the National Spirit of Advising Award. This year's nominee is Karen Gowan from Portageville High School. Karen will receive her award during the 2010 National Leadership Meeting in Chicago. Congratulations, Karen!

2010 Missouri FCCLA Members Receive Power of One Awards



For the first time in memory, Missouri FCCLA has 200 Power of One 5-Unit completers! To be eligible to receive state and national recognition in this program, members must complete all five units of Power of One and submit applications to the state office by March 1. During the State Leadership Conference, each award recipient in attendance was recognized on stage. Thanks to the many FCCLA advisors who help their students complete this personal development program which encourages positive change in families, careers, and communities, one goal at a time.

Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services e-Learning Center

The intent is to provide teachers with program information through a series of short podcasts. These short podcasts (between 7 and 15 minutes) present material on current topics and issues related to Family Consumer Sciences and Human Services programs. You may view these podcasts at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/fcs_elearning_center.htm. As new topics are posted to the e-Learning Center, educators will be notified via the [FCS list-serve](#).



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