



Chapter News, September 2017



President's Message

As I was decluttering my office, I came across the book Insights on Leadership, edited by Larry C. Spears.

Within this book is a chapter titled **Work as a Calling** by Elizabeth Jeffries. Her simple question to her readers was, "Why are We Here, Anyway?" She feels that work should be a calling.

Jeffries explains that having a calling infers that we know on a deep personal level what we are meant to do. Moreover, a calling has four characteristics.

First, each calling is unique. A calling is a passion for doing something that you simply cannot say no to.

Second, a calling requires certain preconditions, such as talent. For example, no matter how strongly I feel I am called to be the middle linebacker for the Denver Broncos, I might not have this talent, physical ability or physical stature. Therefore, it is probably not a true calling.

Third, a true calling reveals itself in the enjoyment and sense of renewed energies it practice yields. We are willing to shoulder any of the burdens of a calling, because we know what we are meant to do.

And finally, callings are not usually easy to discover. Many false paths may be taken before finding our true calling. Experiments, false hopes, discernment, and much patience are required before the light goes on.

As I look at the Extension Professionals Creed, I read this:

I believe in my own work and in the opportunity I have to make my life useful to humanity.

That is certainly an admirable calling – a calling worth the effort to discover.

Best wishes to all,

David N. Brown

David N. Brown

Human Sciences Specialist, Family Life, dnbrown@iastate.edu

Alpha Mu Chapter

2016-2017
Executive Board

David N. Brown
President

Barb Fuller
President-Elect

Mary Weinand
Treasurer

Barb Wollan
Secretary

Open Seat
Historian

Dennis Johnson
Member-at-Large

Sandra McKinnon
Past President

Open Seat
Life Member

Andrea Nelson
Membership Chair

Web Links:

www.espnational.org

www.extension.iastate.edu/esp

Renew Now!

It's time to renew your Epsilon Sigma Phi membership for 2018!

Our Iowa Alpha Mu Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi is participating in the online Wild Apricot membership system again this year. The process is very straight forward and takes just a couple of minutes to complete. If you prefer to use a help guide, visit our [Alpha Mu Chapter website](#) to download the help sheet.

To begin, members should go to:

<https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/>

Start with the Login button in the upper right hand corner. You'll login using your IASTATE email address and the ESP password that you selected when you made your account last year.

Renewing members will click on the "Renew to 02/01/2019" button. Next you will be given an opportunity to update your profile information. Iowa members will pay \$40 of national dues and \$20 of chapter dues. To pay by credit card, simply click on the "Pay Online" button. To pay by check, press the button to generate an invoice and follow the instructions for sending a check.

Voila! Your dues are renewed!

Remember, your continued membership benefits YOU by increasing your professional value. Members are encouraged to explore opportunities in leadership and professional development. Benefits include scholarships to attend national conferences, access to webinars, networking and scholarly activities.

Submitted by Andrea Nelson, Membership Chair,
nelsonar@iastate.edu



An excellent learning opportunity:

Consider signing up for the free, self-paced online course from Stanford Online: **America's Poverty and Inequality**. For more details, visit <https://lagunita.stanford.edu/courses/course-v1:HumanitiesSciences+PovertyCourse+ongoing/about>

Submitted by Sandra McKinnon, Past President

ESP Annual Meeting Goes Virtual

The Alpha Mu Chapter of ESP Annual Meeting will be held virtually this year. We will meet on **Thursday, October 26 from 9:00 to 11:00 am** via Adobe Connect. The link is located at <https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/esp>.

This came about due to a number of reasons. First, the decision was made to disband ISUCEP, a key sponsor for our annual Professional Development Day. This decision was supported unanimously by the leadership of various Extension related professional associations, including ESP. Second, the Professional Development Day scheduled for October 26 was cancelled. The Professional Development Unit has offered so many excellent training opportunities regionally, that it was thought another day of training might be redundant. This also left open the opportunity to offer an Administrative Professionals Day event on that same date.

Therefore, ESP was left with no venue or event to draw our membership to Ames to have our meeting in person. After consultation with National ESP, we also found that many states were already having their meetings virtually. The Executive Committee then decided to hold our event via Adobe Connect.

This will be an important event to attend as new officers are elected, committees report their year's progress, and members are recognized for their service to the chapter. We will also be initiating new members virtually as well.

So please plan to join our Annual Meeting from the comfort of your office or even home on October 26!



Which Committee Interests You?

At the state meeting October 26, you'll have a chance to contribute to ESP by joining a committee. Choose the one that best fits your interests!

- Membership Recruitment and Retention
- Professional Development
- Nomination
- Global Relations
- Public Issues
- Resource Development and Management
- Scholarships, Grants and Recognition



ESP National Meeting

The 2017 National ESP Conference will take place from **Sunday, October 8, through Thursday, October 12**, and hosted at the Hilton Riverside Hotel, in Wilmington, NC.

The National Board and North Carolina's Xi Chapter are excited to showcase three dynamic speakers during the 2017 conference. The opening keynote will be provided by Vivian Howard, owner of two North Carolina restaurants and the star of the PBS show "A Chef's Life." The second General Session keynote will be both energetic and motivational, provided by North Carolina native, Jones Loffin. The conference will conclude with a capnote provided by North Carolina Secretary of State and 4-H Alum, Elaine Marshall.

Representing the Alpha Mu Chapter will be

- David Brown - Chapter President,
- Barbara Fuller - President Elect,
- Sandra McKinnon - Past-President,
- Barbara Dunn-Swanson, and
- John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas.

Barbara Dunn-Swanson and John-Paul will also be conference presenters.

If you are still interested in joining us in North Carolina, go to: <http://conference1.espnational.org/> or to <https://espnational.org/en/>.

New ESP Latino Affinity Group

Please note this great opportunity regarding the first Extension-wide National Latino Affinity Group (NLAG). The NLAG Mission is to advance the mission of the land-grant universities by ensuring, equity, inclusion and full participation of Latino/Hispanic youth, families and communities in the benefits and leadership of Cooperative Extension.

Why is a Latino Affinity Group Important?

Reason # 1: Being a Latino/a Professional in Extension can be isolating. Latino/a professional can benefit from a formal vehicle professional support, mentorship, recognition and networking,

Reason # 2: Non-Latinos working with Latino/a populations can benefit from networking with Latino professionals and Culturally Relevant research-based professional development opportunities.

You can join when you renew your ESP membership at <https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/>. Renew your member and also select "Latino Affinity Group." Participation will cost \$15.

Thanks to John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas for passing on this information.



Your key to professional excellence

<http://extension.iastate.edu/esp>

www.espnational.org



Professional Development Opportunities

Besides the ESP National Conference in October 2017 there are other great opportunities for professional development.

ISUEO Professional Development provides many great options: www.extension.iastate.edu/professionaldevelopment/.

NEAFCS Annual Session: October 16-19, 2017 in Omaha, NE. Register at www.neafcs.org/2017-annual-session

NAE4-HA Annual Conference: Nov 12-17, 2017, Indianapolis, IN. www.nae4ha.com/2017-annual-conference#registration

NAEPSDP Annual Conference, December 5-7, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV. Register at: <https://naepsdp.org/page-18285>

NACDEP Annual Conference will be held June 10-13, 2018 in Cleveland, OH.

NACAA Annual Conference will be held July 29-August 2, 2018 in Chattanooga, TN.

Resources: Update

Here's an update on the "Just a Quarter" campaign as we head into the Fall of 2017. As of early August the campaign has raised \$410 since it began in 2016. On-going support of this campaign is welcome! Great appreciation goes to all who have supported this effort!

We honored Dr. Kress by providing an opportunity to support professional development through ESP through the spring and summer. To date this effort has garnered \$150, which will be used as an investment in ourselves to further professional growth.

For those who supported the Just a Quarter Campaign prior to January 1, 2017, we held a drawing for eight gift cards at our March 2017 meeting. Those gift cards were delivered and we have received thank you notes from recipients.

We are working on updating a donation letter to send out to all who have supported our resource development efforts in the past year.

The best fundraising for our organization occurs when we grow our membership. Our committee enthusiastically supports all ESP efforts that invite new members to join us.

We are committed to resource development efforts that are beneficial for ESP members. We are always striving to strengthen our connections with ESP, an organization that believes in the Extension professional.

*Submitted by Resource Development Committee,
Phyllis Zalenski, Barbara Dunn-Swanson & Terry Torneten*



Alpha Mu Financial Summary

October 1, 2016 to August 30, 2017

Beginning Balance: \$4,557.03

Savings Account Balance 9/30/16: \$3,000.00

Checking Account Balance 9/30/16: \$1,557.03

Current Balance: \$4,773.54

Savings Account Balance 8/31/17: \$3,000.00

Checking Account Balance 8/31/17: \$1,773.54

Income YTD: \$1,574.77

Expenses YTD: \$1,328.56

- Submitted by Mary Weinand, Treasurer

December 1 Deadlines for Scholarships/ Grants

PILD Conference - One \$600 scholarship per region to an ESP member attending the PILD Conference for the first time. Application Deadline: December 1

McKinney Public Issues - One \$500 scholarship to ESP member to attend a professional conference or meeting, or to take formal coursework toward an advanced degree in a public policy/public issues area. Application Deadline: December 1

Richard R. Angus Professional Development – up to \$500 scholarships to encourage, stimulate and support professional development through participation in courses, seminars or workshops. Must be current ESP member to apply. Maximum of four scholarships awarded per year. Application Deadline: December 1 (an additional March 1 and May 1 deadline if funds available)

Learn more: www.espnational.org/en/membership-benefits

Our Mission Statement

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the

Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional.

Our Vision Statement

Epsilon Sigma Phi leads the Extension System in providing and facilitating professional development that focuses on the Extension organization and the Extension professional.