



Epsilon Sigma Phi  
Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter  
**News**  
Your Key to Professional Excellence

Fall 2009

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Hello ESP members,

The various ESP committees are busy with awards and planning for our Annual Conference. Please be sure to thank the various committee members for all the work that they put into their committees. They really do help to move us forward as individuals and as an organization. I hope that you also consider joining a committee.

We also have two major committees working on current issues. The first is an ESP Structure Committee Chaired by Graham Cochran with David Crawford (President Elect), Greg Davis, and Treva Williams serving as members. To help our ESP chapter stay current relative to changes in OSU Extension and National ESP the committee is reviewing current ESP documentation and structure and has made recommendations to the Board. The committee investigated three issues and decided to: (1) recommend a change in the membership statement for the constitution that will be brought before the membership, (2) make no change at this time to geographic representation, and (3) make a change in committee name and function that was approved by the board. More details will be shared at the annual meeting.

The second committee is collecting information for an applied research project to find out best practices in Extension systems that have adopted regional program delivery and organizational models. The committee will be conducting focus groups with states that have or are moving to a regional system. Our goal is to develop a series of best practices that can be used in Ohio and other states. Committee membership is Tom Archer, Kirk Bloir, Maurus Brown, David Civittolo, Doris Herringshaw, Mike Hogan, Jack Kerrigan, Jeff King, and Jerry Thomas. We feel that both of these committees will help to keep ESP contemporary and to fulfill our mission of professional development.

This newsletter also includes information about the Alpha Eta Chapter's participation at the National ESP meeting. Ohio once again received top individual and organizational awards. You will also find information about the 2010 Leadership for Tomorrow conference. ESP is a major sponsor in this professional development opportunity and also provides reduced conference rates for Alpha Eta Chapter members that attend the full conference. Please consider not only attending, but also submitting a proposal.

Take care and I hope to see all of you at our annual meeting.  
Sincerely,

Jerry Thomas,  
Alpha Eta Chapter President

# 2009 Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference

Fargo, North Dakota

## Award Winners

Congratulations to the ESP Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter members on their National Awards

**Ohio DSA** – Treva Williams

**Team** – Gary Wilson, Barbara Brahm (attending to receive the award), Susan Russell, Steve Lichtensteiger, Angela Crist (Financial Education Program Coordinator), Kathy Biery (Office Associate), Peg Meents (Office Associate), Karen McDougal (Office Associate), Dawn Feller (Office Associate), & Patti Koester (FNP PA): *Be Healthy Now*.

**North Central Mid-Career** – Greg Davis

**North Central Administrative Leadership** – Karen Bruns

**Chapter of Merit, Platinum Level** (highest level possible): Alpha Eta Chapter

**2009 Membership Increase:** Alpha Eta Chapter



ESP Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter members who attended the conference include: Barb Brahm, Karen Bruns, Treva Williams, Jerry Thomas, David Crawford, Gwen Wolford, and Graham Cochran.

## Academic Presentations

Our chapter was well represented at the conference with one poster and three presentations.

### Posters

*Forecasting Trends with an Organizational Environmental Scan.* Jerold Thomas & David Crawford.

### Presentations

*-OSU Extension Competency Study: Developing a Core Ohio Competency Model for Extension Professionals.* Graham Cochran.

*-Increasing Organizational Effectiveness and Engagement Using Online Tools and Systems with eXtension.* Jerold Thomas.

*-Everyone Growing Through Today's Organizations: How to Bring Others Into a Meaningful Community and Keep Them.* Karen S. Bruns & David Ross (Maryland).

## ESP Membership Information

Reasons why **YOU** should **invest** in yourself and your **career** by joining/renewing your **ESP Membership for 2010**

- Mini-grants and Scholarships
- Awards and Recognition on a state, regional and national level
- Opportunities for Professional Development
- Leadership Development

Click here for the [membership dues and extension request for payment form](#).

Complete the membership form and pay your 2010 dues by **October 15, 2009** in order to be eligible (in 2010) to vote on chapter business, apply for awards where a membership requirement exists, or to be a candidate for an officer or board member. You must be an Extension employee for at least 5 years to join ESP.

ESP is open to A&P staff and Faculty

**Questions?** E-mail Beth Flynn [flynn.61@osu.edu](mailto:flynn.61@osu.edu) or Brenda Young [young.9@osu.edu](mailto:young.9@osu.edu)



## Annual Conference 2009

### A New EERA in Extension

2009 OSU EXTENSION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## Save the date

December 16 & 17

Ramada Plaza Hotel,  
Columbus



## ESP Mission

Epsilon Sigma Phi is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional



**Leadership  
for Tomorrow**



## **Call for Proposals**

### **Leadership for Tomorrow: Strategies for Resurgence**

*Sponsored by Ohio State University Extension; Gist Endowed Chair for Extension Education and Leadership; Alpha Eta Chapter (Ohio) of Epsilon Sigma Phi; and The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences*

**April 21-22, 2010**  
Columbus, Ohio

Proposals currently are being accepted for the Leadership for Tomorrow conference to be held in Columbus, Ohio, on April 21-22, 2010, sponsored by Ohio State University Extension; Gist Endowed Chair in Extension Education and Leadership; Alpha Eta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi; and The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Resurgence has been defined as “a rising again into life, activity or prominence.” The conference committee encourages submissions on skills and strategies needed for resurgence – leadership needed when the economy rebounds and recovers – from Extension professionals, scholars, practitioners, educators, business, law, military and community practitioners. We are seeking proposals for presentations that encourage critical thinking, discussion, and practical application. Concurrent breakout sessions will be 45 minutes in length. Examples of topics can include, but are not limited to:

- Entrepreneurship
- Innovation
- Communication/engagement
- Prioritizing
- Diversity
- Globalization
- Creating Prominence

(over)

# Leadership for Tomorrow Call for Proposals

## Guidelines:

The proposals will be judged based upon a 500-word maximum abstract and a 50-word short description. We also request that you send a brief biographical sketch of up to 75 words.

The proposal should be high quality and understandable for a diverse audience.

The proposal should be dynamic and creative.

The proposal should relate to the conference theme of leadership strategies for resurgence.

The proposal should add to the audience understanding of theory, research or knowledge related to the overall topic of leadership.

## Selection Process:

The Ohio State University is coordinating a peer-review process.

Acceptance notices will be sent via e-mail by mid-January 2010.

## Submission:

Please note that each concurrent breakout session presenter must register and pay registration fees for the conference.

You may submit multiple proposals. We reserve the right to edit proposals to meet space constraints or to combine sessions and individual submissions on similar topics.

The primary contact person will be the individual with whom we communicate. If you are the primary contact person for the proposal, it is your responsibility to notify your other presenters.

To submit a proposal, go to <http://leadershipfortomorrow.osu.edu>

**Due by November 30, 2009**

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Lekies, Ph.D., Proposal Committee