



National
Extension Diversity
Award
2013

Award Sponsors:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Extension Committee on

Organization and Policy (ECOP)

The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2013.

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to acknowledge accomplishments in achieving organizational changes that support diversity, pluralism and innovation in programs that impact our Extension audiences. The Award for Diversity is presented at the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A·P·L·U) Annual Meeting.

Meaning of Diversity and Pluralism

Beginning in 1991 with the distribution of “Pathway to Diversity: Strategic Plan for the Cooperative Extension System’s Emphasis on Diversity,” Extension forged a new commitment to expanding and reorganizing diversity efforts.

Diversity is defined as differences among people with respect to age, class, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practices and other human differences.

Pluralism is defined as an organizational culture that incorporates mutual respect, acceptance, teamwork and productivity among people who are diverse in the dimensions of human differences listed above as diversity.

Eligibility

The recipient can be an individual, team or Extension organization. The Award for Diversity supports efforts that go beyond simply meeting EEO/AA program requirements. Extension efforts should support the creation of a diverse and pluralistic organization at the local, regional, state or national level. Such efforts could impact one or more of the following areas:

- Audience
- Administration
- Funding
- Coalitions
- Programs
- Policies
- Initiative
- Staff
- Advisory and decision-making groups
- Educational materials and delivery methods

Nomination

Nominations can be submitted from any level of the Extension education system. Nominees can be individuals, teams or Extension organizations. Nominations can be made by anyone, including self-nominations.

Since the program is limited to one award recipient per year, it is recommended that previously submitted non-recognized nominations be resubmitted. When writing nominations, special attention should be given to efforts that have the potential to be sustained over time or can be replicated in other comparable situations.

The six following elements will be considered in the review process:

1. Purpose: Why was this effort undertaken?
2. Basis: Why is this effort worthy of recognition?
3. Effort: Are actions and activities in support of diversity appropriate, sound, and demonstrate impact?

4. Positive Impact: Have efforts led to positive, sustainable change?
5. Scope: How broadly did or will this effort affect the system?
6. Innovation: How did or will this effort create new models for positive change?

Nomination Format

Nominations must not exceed five pages and must contain the following elements:

- Name, title, address, phone number and e-mail of nominee (s).
- Name, title, address, phone number and e-mail of person making nomination.
- A brief synopsis of nomination (30 words or less)
- A Nomination narrative organized with the following six headings:
 1. Purpose of Program/Effort
 2. Basis for nomination
 3. Nature of Efforts
 4. Evidence of Positive Change
 5. Scope of Impact
 6. Innovation

Note: Only survey submissions will be accepted. Please do not send videotapes, bound publications or other support materials with the nomination.

Selection Process

An Award Review Panel is appointed by the ECOP Program Subcommittee to review nominations and recommend the recipient to the ECOP Chair and NIFA Director.

The successful recipient of the Award for Diversity will be recognized at the A·P·L·U Annual Meeting held in November each year, with a commemorative plaque from NIFA, a \$5,000 monetary award from ECOP and travel support up to \$1,000.00 per award to attend the annual meeting. Recipient will be asked to submit photos and a project summary for inclusion on the A·P·L·U and the eXtension Diversity, Equity and Inclusion websites, the NIFA Update and for inclusion in the Award Program Brochure. The award recipient will also be asked to submit an impact statement for Strategic Opportunities and Measuring Excellence website and Database.

Due Date

The due date for nominations is June 1, 2013

Survey submissions only. To obtain a unique link to the nomination form contact chrystal.checketts@extension.org.