

Alpha Rho Chapter

EPSILON SIGMA PHI

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

2021-2022 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- President – Shane Potter | Sarah Maass
- President-Elect – Sarah Maass
- Secretary – JoEllyn Argabright | Nora Rhoades
- Treasurer – Deb Wood
- Editor – Rachael Clews
- Historian – Elizabeth Kiss
- Past President | Endowment Board Chair – Marlin Bates
- Western Region Council Director – Patsy Maddy
- Central Region Council Director – Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena
- Eastern Region Council Director – Gary Fike
- State Council Director – Jan Steen
- JCEP Vice President – Jill Martinson
- JCEP Board of Directors Representatives – Ariel Whitely-Noll and Cassie Thiessen
- Annual Conference Planning Committee Representative – Nora Rhoades
- Annual Recognition Banquet Committee – Michelle Beran
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee – Chuckie Hessong
- Endowment Auction Committee – Karen Blakeslee
- Global Relations Committee – Berny Unruh | Donna Krug
- Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee – Erin Yelland
- Memorial Committee – Teresa Hatfield
- Professional Development Committee – Susie Latta
- Recognition Committee – Mary Sullivan
- Resource Development and Management Committee – Jenni Carr
- Retiree Committee – Jodi Besthorn
- Tenure Recognition Committee – Aliesa Woods

PRESIDENT | PRESIDENT ELECT

Sarah Maass

Thank you for the privilege to serve as your president-elect and transitioning to the president role a little early this past year. I want to thank Marlin Bates for all of his guidance throughout the last few months to help make this transition as smooth as possible.

Thanks to the vision of Marlin, your Alpha Rho, Epsilon Sigma Phi Council came together in Wilson, Kansas, earlier this year to revisit our purpose and structure of our committees and get our organization back on track. This Council Retreat provided us the opportunity to collaborate and have some time truly focused on our organization and its future. I thank everyone of our Council members for taking time to make our association a priority. This retreat was made possible through our chapter grant program.

In April, I had the opportunity to represent our association at the Public Issues Leadership Forum. We had good speakers and the privilege to tell our Extension story to legislators and their staff. One of our speakers, Mark Bayer, gave us some key points to consider before we went to Capitol Hill.

- Connect before you communicate.
- Show them the preview, not the movie.
- Don't get to the point; start at the point.
- Don't take "yes" for an answer.
- Build relationships, don't just make a request.

While these five things are not new to us, we sometimes need to be reminded of them.

I also had the privilege of attending the National Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference in Branson, Missouri in September. What a wonderful conference and opportunity to network with colleagues across the nation and across program areas. One of our speakers was Dr. Marshall Stewart, Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement & System Chief Engagement officer for the University of Missouri. His message was so insightful and made me think how important it is for us to **connect our work as Extension Professionals back to Kansas State University**. I know we say we are K-State Research and Extension, but we are much bigger than that! Dr. Stewart reminded us that **what we do is not about us, it is about our clients** and how we can help them thrive. It is vital we **know and align with the goals of our university** as this only makes us all stronger. We need to **integrate our work into the administrative layers above us**. It is imperative all levels of our profession and administration know what we do and our impacts from our work. All the more reason for us to make sure our quarterly reports, program activities, and outcomes are put into PEARS. We need to **connect leadership with our events and programs**. Our stakeholders can be our biggest advocates. **Be consistent** in our message and what we do. We not only need to connect our work back to KSU, but **we need to not fail to highlight our university first**. Dr. Stewart went on to say that *“What we do and why we do it hasn’t change. How we do it will continue to change.”* When I heard him say this, I thought about how our 4-H program is not the same as it was in 1902. We have continued to evolve with the times and needs of the youth. This is the same with all Extension program areas. Dr. Stewart ended with a strong ah-ha moment for me. He said, as Extension professionals in Missouri, we *“Serve Missouri and Deliver Mizzou.”* Our profession is all about service and relationships. As we look towards this next program year, I encourage you to reflect on how you serve Kansas and deliver K-State to the communities in which you work.

I look forward to working with you this next year as we continue to serve the people of our great state and deliver Kansas State University to all Kansans.

SECRETARY

Nora Rhoades

Minutes of the Alpha Rho Council and Executive Board meetings were written, reviewed and submitted for posting to the MS Team for the organization. They will also be made available on the website for longer-term reference. The 2022 Annual Report was prepared with information provided by officers and committee chairs. Thank you to the chapter for your support throughout the transition of this position, as I was appointed mid-year in response to role changes within KSRE.

TREASURER

Deb Wood

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi began the year with a checking account balance of \$20,228.58. Deposits of \$4,400.00 were made during the year and checks written in the amount of \$5,518.97 leaving a balance of \$19,109.61 as of the statement ending September 12, 2022. Alpha Rho has one Certificate of Deposit at Landmark bank in Manhattan. It earned \$5.74 interest in the last year and has a current balance of \$5,762.99. The principal balance of the ESP Endowment fund at the KSU Foundation is \$212,490.76 as of August 31, 2022.

EDITOR

Rachael Clews

As Editor, I participated in the ESP Leadership Retreat. I created and sent out the summer newsletter and disseminated it on September 2, 2022.

HISTORIAN

Elizabeth Kiss

The ESP Historian keeps the history of the organization. Information is collected throughout the year and placed on file in the University Archives. If you have items for the archives, please send them to me and I will submit them.

PAST PRESIDENT | ENDOWMENT BOARD CHAIR

Marlin Bates

Each year, the ESP Endowment Fund provides financial support to Extension Professionals to support their pursuit of professional development or program innovation. Last year, the Endowment Board of Trustees also supported the Alpha Rho Chapter by funding a retreat that was held in Wilson, KS on May 5-6, 2022. That Council retreat led to much-needed updates to the organization that will hopefully decode much of the organization while positioning us for success in the future. In addition to supplementing Extension Professionals’ programmatic innovation, the Endowment also funded an effort to bring cutting edge curriculum to Kansas. In February 20 KSRE Professionals attended Coming Together for Racial Understanding that was presented by the University of Tennessee Extension team. This curriculum was developed by request of ECOP and is being delivered by and for Cooperative Extension across the country.

This year two proposals for Endowment Funds were approved:

- Jeanne Falk Jones - \$2,000 Program Innovation: “Handling Limited Irrigation in Drought Conditions:
- Erin Yelland - \$1,000 Program Innovation: “Cooperative Extension’s Role in Addressing the Social Determinants of Health: Perspectives from the Field.”

Additionally, the Endowment Fund Board of Trustees has decided to update its approach to distributing its resources. After revisiting grant proposal requirements, they decided to combine the professional development and program innovation grant deadlines and to change the time of year that proposals are due. Look for this adjustment to grant offerings, which will also include the Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship, before the end of the year.

The 2022-2023 ESP Endowment Fund Board of Trustees were Marlin Bates, Shane Potter, Sarah Maass, Debra Wood, Gregg Hadley, Nora Rhoades, Jennifer Wilson and Daryl Buchholtz.

I also had the pleasure of serving as the Co-Chair of the National ESP Urban and Culturally Diverse Audiences Affinity Group this past year. Our monthly virtual meetings were organized around strategies identified by the group early in the year and included the development of a mentor program for Extension Professionals to feel more welcome within the association and the drafting of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Position Statement for the National Board’s consideration of adoption. I’m proud of the work of this group to formalize its status within the framework of National ESP by drafting a group charter that I presented to the National Board in March. This group also hosted quarterly Live Discussions for ESP members to learn more about serving diverse audiences, improving their cultural competence and addressing Urban issues. I encourage each of you to consider plugging into ESP at the national level as it is an enriching experience.

WESTERN REGION COUNCIL DIRECTOR

Patsy Maddy

Throughout the year, I encouraged fellow Extension professionals to join and renew ESP membership. An email was sent to Western Region Extension Professionals inviting them to attend our association meeting at Annual Conference and consider joining our association.

CENTRAL REGION COUNCIL DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena

On the Spring SE FCS working day, I talked about ESP and its benefits with the agents. After the ESP National Conference, I emailed agents in my region, reminding them to renew their membership. I provided the link for easy navigation. I suggested sharing the ESP information with the office staff. If they have questions, they can contact me.

EASTERN REGION COUNCIL DIRECTOR

Gary Fike

I spoke to the new agent training group the week of October 3rd and encouraged them to join ESP as an extension professional. It is a great organization that promotes professionalism, espouses knowledge, experience, and encourages high standards in the

profession. I also attended the ESP national meeting in Branson, MO in September, and would encourage members to attend the 2023 meeting in September in Billings, MT!

STATE COUNCIL DIRECTOR

Jan Steen

Participated in regular council meetings and retreat. Encouraged membership and benefits to new staff.

JCEP VICE PRESIDENT

Jill Martinson

Met with KS-JCEP and ESP executive committees throughout the year. Sought association feedback to guide the KS-JCEP meeting with the KSRE administrative team and met with new agents as an association representative.

JCEP BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPRESENTATIVES

Cassie Thiessen

JCEP put together a membership survey that was sent out to all the professional associations. They compiled the feedback for administration and met with Gregg Hadley and KSRE Administration. The JCEP annual conference business meeting materials summarize the Kansas JCEP Board of Directors and Officers Meeting with KSRE Administration on September 22, 2022.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Nora Rhoades

Upon appointment to this role, I attended the regular planning meetings of the Annual Conference Committee. I provided input into the planning process and helped the ESP Executive Team as needed with arranging the annual conference needs of our professional organization.

ANNUAL RECOGNITION BANQUET COMMITTEE

Michelle Beran

We look forward to honoring colleagues at the Recognition Celebration during KSRE's 2022 Annual Conference with a theme of "Grateful, Thankful, Blessed". Sharing the value of being an ESP member

and collaborating with outstanding Extension Professionals is a blessing for which to be thankful!

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Chuckie Hessong

The Bylaws Committee reviewed our current bylaws, provided a 30-day notice before the meeting and the complete text of the proposed amendments. The proposed changes are summarized below.

Article V – Duties of the Executive Board Section 3. Audits

Eliminate the portion of the statement as it pertains to copies of the audit report *“and a sufficient number of copies shall be made available in printed form so that each member of the Alpha Rho Chapter may have a copy.”*

Article VI – Committees

Section 2. Standing Committees

A good discussion was held at the ESP Council retreat earlier this year on the work of our committees. Below you will find the changes to the committees as recommended by the ESP Council and Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

- *Annual Conference Committee*
- *Constitution and Bylaws Committee*
- *Global Relations Committee*
- *Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee*
- *Nominating Committee*
- *Professional Development Committee*
- *Recognition Committee*
- *Resource Development and Management Committee*
- *Retiree Committee*
- *Marketing and Communications Committee*

ENDOWMENT AUCTION COMMITTEE

Karen Blakeslee

We encourage everyone to make donations to the ESP Endowment fund. There will not be an auction at KSRE annual conference.

GLOBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE

Erin Yelland

In September 2022, 40 new extension agents were sent invitations to join ESP. Additional efforts throughout September and October will work to recruit additional members from existing extension professionals (newsletters and emails) and ensure membership renewal through email reminders.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Teresa Hatfield

2021-2022-ESP MEMORIALS

Catherine Thorsell passed away on September 20, 2021. Catherine served as an Extension Home Economist in Clark and Gray County Kansas.

Marsha Weaver passed away on October 10, 2021. Marsha served as a Family and Consumer Sciences agent in Dickinson County from 1970-2008.

Jenell Smith passed away on November 2, 2021. Jenell served as a 4-H and Family and Consumer Sciences agent from 1971 to 2007.

Beverly Kindler passed away on January 2, 2022. Beverly began her service as a home economist in Decatur County. In 1960 she transferred to the Norton County Extension office. She retired in 1994 after 42 years of service.

William Hundley Jr. passed away on April 12, 2022, he served in the Douglas County Extension office.

Zoe Estes passed away on April 23, 2022. Zoe was a retired Cultural Arts Specialist and professor in the Department of Extension Home Economics.

Ray Hampton Mann passed away on September 15, 2022, he began with Kansas Extension in Norton County as the Assistant County Agricultural Agent in 1956. In 1957, he moved to the County Agricultural Agent in Wallace County. He became the Northwest District Agricultural Agent in 1966. From 1976 to 1969, Mr. Mann served as the Coordinator of Extension Studies. He was promoted to Southwest Area Extension Director in 1969 and remained in that position until his retirement in 1991.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No report.

RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Mary Sullivan

Award winners recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet during Annual Conference 2022 are listed below. Thank you to all who nominated and congratulations to our winners.

- Diversity Individual Award – Marlin Bates
Marlin Bates has demonstrated leadership in the development of cultural competence among Extension Professionals locally, across Kansas and throughout the country. Through his work, Marlin's colleagues are afforded opportunities to grow and develop along the intercultural continuum in safe and rewarding spaces. By introducing concepts like those presented in "Essential Strategies for Building Racial Justice and Inclusion," Marlin urges his colleagues to step out of their comfort zone to grow. His collaborative approach to incorporating DEI competencies is a model worthy of recognition.
- Retiree Service Award – Daryl Buchholz
Following a prestigious career, Dr. Buchholz has become a very engaged retired extension professional. He volunteers as the program coordinator for the Kansas Master Farmer and Master Homemaker program, in this position, he works with the elected officers of the guild the membership nomination process' two official functions per year, and all operating activities of the guild. Due to his impactful contributions to K-State Research and Extension as a retiree, I nominate Dr. Daryl Buchholz for official recognition of his retiree service.
- Mid-Career Award – Lindsey Muetting
Lindsey Muetting is currently the 4-H Youth Development Agent and County Director in McPherson County. In her eleven-year Extension Tenure, Lindsey has worked hard to be a leader in her professional associations as well as increase Educational Programming through collaborations with surrounding Extension Units. She is always

looking for new and innovative programs to provide in her county. By thinking outside the box and embracing new ideas she is keeping up with the times. She is very passionate about growing our youth to be the leaders of tomorrow.

- Continued Excellence Award – Sandra Wick
Sandra Wick is truly a mentor and Extension professional that shines in whatever she strives to achieve. In her 33 years as an Extension Crop Production Agent, currently in the Post Rock Extension District, she continues to make a difference in the lives of agricultural producers in north central Kansas. She is an outstanding professional who is energetic and always has a smile to share.
- Horizon Award (Local Unit) – Cassie Thiessen
Cassie collaborates with extension agents across program sectors and local units to expand horticulture education while also promoting healthy living, community growth, and personal/relationship development. She is an innovative educator, with great success utilizing in-person classes, YouTube videos, and virtual education to provide on-demand education and resources. Her fun, yet educational programming makes her stand out as an extension professional.
- Horizon Award (Area) – Rachael Clews
Rachael Clews first task, in her new career as Southwest Family Consumer Science Specialist, was to engage with all the FCS agents. Through monthly meetings, trainings on PEARS, and programming trainings, she offered support, needs assessments, and friendship. She has brought innovative, thoughtful, relevant ideas and programming to Southwest Kansas and beyond. She is a true Difference Maker.
- Friend of Extension Award – Kansas Masons
The Kansas Masons have built upon their long history of community involvement, philanthropy, and leadership development in their continued partnership with the Kansas PRIDE program and K-State Research and Extension’s community vitality work. Through the Kansas Masons’

generosity, additional personnel, education, funding, and volunteer resources have been made available to communities throughout Kansas. This support has resulted in increased successful efforts by participants to assess and address needs, secure funding for projects, and foster local and regional partnerships. The Kansas Masons’ involvement at state and local levels has resulted in a nearly 23% growth in communities served through the program – up from 66 in 2017 to 81 in 2022.

Award winner recognized during the 2022 ESP National Conference in Branson, Missouri was Friend of Extension – Kansas Leadership Center (the 2021 state winner).

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jenni Carr

The Resource Development and Management Committee met and developed the 2022-23 budget. We requested the executive board to cease giving away a free membership, discussed fundraising options if that is something we need to consider to meet our budget obligations and brainstormed ways to increase participation of agents that are not members.

RETIREE COMMITTEE

Jodi Besthorn

The Retiree Committee will be meeting on Tuesday afternoon of Annual Conference. In addition to catching up time, we will brainstorm how to get more retirees involved. We also look forward to an Extension Update from Gregg Hadley, Director of Extension.

TENURE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Aliesa Woods

The tenure recognition committee will recognize our thirteen deserving members during our 2022 business meeting during Annual Conference:

- 5 YEARS
Cassandra Thiessen
Wendy Hughes
Shad Marston

- 10 YEARS
Patsy Maddy
Candis Meerpohl
Jennifer Carr
Jan Steen

- 15 YEARS
Jill Martinson
Rebecca Reid

- 20 YEARS
Jason Griffin
Ross Mosteller
Gregg Hadley

- 30 YEARS
Susan Latta

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Jennifer Wilson is in the president rotation with National ESP. She has been serving for two years as the North Central Regional Vice-President, and at the National Annual Meeting in 2022 became the National 2nd Vice President. The 2022 National Meeting was in Branson, Missouri and KSRE was well represented. The 2023 National Meeting is in Billings Montana, September 24-28.

Marlin Bates continues to be an active member of the ESP Urban and Culturally Diverse Audiences Affinity Group, providing valuable professional development opportunities to the organization and helping National ESP address important diversity, equity, and inclusion issues.

The national-level has grant funds, scholarships, and recognition opportunities and members are encouraged to engage to be able to benefit most from the professional organization.

2022-2023 NOMINATIONS SLATE

- President-Elect: Rachael Clews
- Secretary: Nora Rhoades
- Editor: Jenni Carr
- Council Directors
 - East: Gary Fike
 - Retiree: Daryl Buchholz
- JCEP Board of Directors Representatives:
 - Cassie Thiessen
 - Jamie Menon
- Extension Endowment Board of Directors: Stacey Warner

SEE FINAL PAGES FOR MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY.

NOTE: Annual Report was revised with updates with additional information shared at the Annual Meeting and it is considered final on October 19, 2022. Respectfully submitted by Nora Rhoades, Secretary.



K-STATE
Research and Extension

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment
Station and Cooperative Extension Service
K-State Research and Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER (year initiated)

State	Eastern Kansas	Central Kansas	Western Kansas
Jonathan Aguilar (2014)	Marlin Bates (2017)	Deb Andres (2013)	Rachael Clews (2019)
Karen Blakeslee (2007)	Jessie Carr (2021)	Michelle Beran (2017)	Sharon Erickson-Fryback (2016)
Carolyn Blocksome (2009)	Denise Dias (2002)	Jennifer Brantley (2019)	Janet Harkness (2021)
Cheryl Boyer (2014)	Gary Fike (2019)	Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena (2013)	Jeanne Jones (2011)
Will Boyer (2005)	Frances Graves (2020)	Jennifer Carr (2016)	Patsy Maddy (2016)
Laurie Chandler (1997)	Chuckie Hessong (2015)	Teresa Hatfield (2015)	Anna Muir (2005)
Ignacio Ciampitti (2015)	Beth Hinshaw (1998)	Cassie Homan (2018)	Jared Petersilie (2016)
Nancy Daniels (2015)	Susan Latta (1998)	Wendy Hughes (2017)	Ethel Schneweis (2004)
Martin Draper (1996)	Tara Markley (2017)	Ginger Kopfer (2007)	Mary Sullivan (2005)
Sharolyn Flaming-Jackson (1989)	Lisa Martin (2017)	Sarah Maass (2010)	
Jason Griffin (2017)	Greg McClure (2018)	Shad Marston	
Gregg Hadley (2012)	Rebecca McFarland (2009)	Jill Martinson (2013)	
Elizabeth Kiss (2009)	Candis Meerpohl (2015)	Lindsey Mueting (2011)	
Jaime Menon (2017)	Bruno Pedreira (2021)	Charles Otte (1987)	
Christen Onstad (2000)	Chelsea Richmond (2015)	Renaë Riedy (2015)	
Shane Potter (2018)		Nora Rhoades (2015)	
Trudy Rice (1996)		Sara Sawer	
Jan Steen (2016)		Monica Thayer (2017)	
Bradford Wiles (2018)		Blaire Todd (2021)	
Jennifer Wilson (2001)		Sandra Wick (1994)	
Erin Yelland (2015)		Debra Wood (2014)	
		Aliesa Woods (2009)	

2022 ESP LIFE MEMBERS

A-F	G-N	O-Z
James Adams	Nancy Gafford	Charlotte Shoup Olsen
Mary P. (Clarke) Barkley	Gary Gerhard	Juanita Payne-Johnson
Doug Beech	Ralph Germann	Margaret Phillips
Linda Beech	Mary Lou Gibbs	Morgan Powell
Jodi Besthorn	Evon Goettel	Gayle Price
Marie Blythe	Clarene Goodheart	Lisa Ramsey Lauxmann
Nozella Brown	Darrel Hosie	Mary Richmond
Daryl Buchholz	Douglas Jardine	Danny Rogers
Herbert W Bulk	Robert L. Johnson	Jean Rowland
Lois Carlson	Gary Kilgore	David Schafer
Crystal Coffman	Beverly Kindler	James A. Schaffer
Bill D. Collins	Jim Lindquist	John R. Schlender
Larry R. Corah	Lindy R. Lindquist	Mark Schwarzentraub
Marilyn Corbin	Sally Lindquist	Nadine Sigle
Jeanice A. Cress	Ray H. Mann	Ensley J. Sisk
Donald D. Dauber	Emily Mark	Phil Sloderbeck
Robert Davis	Donna Martinson	Ann Sparke
Fred DeLano	Wayne Moore	Janet Stephens
William M. Dickson	Mary Kay Munson	Earl L. VanMeter
Beth Drescher	Pat Murphy	Stacey Warner
Beverly Dunning	Bob Neier	Steven A. Westfahl
Valeria Edwards	Ocie Neuschwander	Dick Wootton
Naomi England	Sy Nyhart	
Steven D. Fisher		
Dale Fjell		
Alice L. Frey		

KANSAS-ONLY LIFE MEMBERS

Donald L. Faidley