President’s Corner

Welcome to the Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (MAFCS), an affiliate of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)! Once again I am excited to serve as your President and look forward to the journey ahead.

My hope for this year is to continue the efforts that I began last year with the following: Membership AWARE, WORK with sister organizations, RECOGNITION of members and increase ENTHUSIASM. I believe there is a great deal of untapped potential among our members as well as those who are not currently members. As always, your active participation and encouragement to fellow FCS colleagues is needed to achieve these goals. One way you can become involved is by serving on the MAFCS Board of Directors. This is a great way to learn more about the organization and help lead us into the future. We currently have the positions of President-Elect, Treasurer and Local Arrangements open and would like to fill those positions as we move forward this year. Please let me know of your interest.

As we move forward, let’s all be committed to the vision of increasing membership and participation in MAFCS. Help others become AWARE—invite one FCS professional to join this year!

2014 MAFCS Annual Meeting a Success

The 2014 MAFCS Annual Meeting was a successful event. There were 64 professionals, FCS teachers and students who attended the meeting. Attendees were welcomed by Board members to the Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center in Raymond, MS. The theme of the conference was “Family and Consumer Sciences: Global Gateway to Healthy and Sustainable Families.”

Dr. Derek Greenfield, keynote speaker, energized attendees with his enthusiasm and encouragement to believe in ourselves and achieve greatness. The breakout sessions speakers focused on the theme and provided insight on how to implement sustainable interventions for obesity as well as leadership development, marketing, innovation in textiles and apparel and more.

During our luncheon we were fortunate to be entertained by the student fashion show which showcased the work of the textiles and apparel design competition participants from Delta State University and Mississippi State University. It was a wonderful event for our students to be recognized for their efforts in new innovations. Additionally, we honored our sponsors with the “Friend of the Family” award.

We greatly appreciate the support of our sponsors: Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association, Mississippi Pork Producers and silent auction contributors.

Highlights from the event can be found on page 2.
2014 MAFCS Annual Meeting Highlights

**Student Award Winners**

**Student Research** recipient (pictured to the right): First Place, Triena Billips, awarded $150

**Student Design** recipients (pictured below): First Place, Jordan Holley, awarded $150; Second Place, Sarah Bealor, awarded $100; and Third Place, Maurice Funderburg, awarded $50
MAFCS Executive Board

President
Julie Sims serves as a project director for the Mississippi Child Care Resource and Referral Network, a program of the Mississippi State University Extension Service. She served this past year as an inaugural member of the AAFCS Leadership Academy. It was a year-long journey during which she had the opportunity to interact with fellow “outliers” and a mentor who shared words of wisdom for growth in her leadership skills.

She is the proud aunt of two adorable girls, Jaden Claire (right) and Jasey LeAnn (left), who bring great joy to the family. For the past few years she has been working on a doctorate in Agriculture and Extension Education, which she plans to finish this fall.

Secretary
A career and technical educator for more than 16 years, Betsey Smith taught family and consumer science courses in Louisiana. She also helped create and implement a career center as the career counselor. She earned a bachelor’s degree in family and consumer science education from Louisiana State University and a master’s in counseling from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She is ProStart/-E, Pro-pulse, and Real Colors certified. As Associate Director, Smith provides leadership, overall management, direct support and supervision in all aspects of the Career and Technical Education related programs and activities. She develops and implement new CTE related projects, works closely with key Mississippi Department of Education officials; interfaces regularly with CTE directors across the state; and represents the Research and Curriculum Unit at regional and national conferences. She is an expert in school counseling education and family consumer science education, and she uses her expertise in writing and implementing curricula and assessment for the State of Mississippi.

Betsey is married to Trent Smith, professor of Animal and Dairy Science, and they have 3 children, Kade (10), Kaylie (5), and Addie (5). They reside in Starkville.

Treasurer (Interim)
Jan Taylor, Ph.D., is a longtime member of AAFCS, beginning in her undergraduate program at Murray State University. She retired from the School of Human Sciences at Mississippi State University in May 2012. She is currently enjoying the opportunity to travel and visit family and friends. She remains active in MAFCS, the Starkville Home Economists in Home and Community (HEHC), and Excel by Five.

External Relations Vice President
Michael Anthony is passionate about family and consumer sciences. He is especially interested in homemaking/home living, child development, and food and nutrition.

He received a master’s degree in family and consumer sciences education from the University of Alabama and is a former Extension agent with Mississippi State University. He is a proud resident of Clarksdale, where he lives with his wife and two adorable daughters.
**Professional Development Vice President**

Dr. Martha Ravola is an associate professor in the Department of Human Sciences at Alcorn State University. She has a doctorate in human development and family studies and is also pursuing her second doctorate in clinical psychology. Ravola has over 12 years of work experience with eight years of her experience being at the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped in India where she served as a faculty for graduate and post graduate students pursuing careers in early intervention, master’s degree in disability administration and master’s in rehabilitation psychology. She has also carried out extensive research projects on early intervention, families of persons with intellectual disabilities and child rearing practices in India.

Currently Ravola serves as the project director for an Evans Allen Project aimed at reducing childhood obesity among preschool children in southwestern Mississippi called “My Body Matters” and a federal, SAMHSA funded Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide prevention Grant titled, “ASU SPARK” (Suicide Prevention Awareness and Reach through Kognito/Knowledge). Additionally, she is a three-time award recipient of the HBCU mini-grant on Mental Health “Journey of Understanding” and has published three books.

Ravola’s research interests include multiculturalism, integrative learning, mental health and obesity prevention. She successfully organized events on child abuse prevention awareness, multiculturalism, bullying, suicide prevention and has recently organized the 2014 SAMSHA sponsored Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking. Ravola is actively involved in various campus committees and believes in preparing students to be successful professionals to meet the demands of the 21st century.

**AAFCS Annual Conference & Expo Paper Presentation**
**Topic:** “Infusing Multiculturalism into Family and Consumer Sciences Curriculum”.
**Category:** Putting Research into Practice session on Friday, June 27th, 2014, from 3:45pm-5:45pm.

**Teacher Liaison Vice President**

Janie Leach is the family and consumer sciences program supervisor at the Mississippi Department of Education. She has been a public educator for over 25 years, having served in various early childhood education positions before teaching in a public high school. Her bachelor’s degree is in family and consumer sciences from Delta State University. She also has a master’s in education early childhood and one in education administration from the University of Phoenix.

Her husband is a teacher of ICT I and other subjects. They have three amazing children which they are very proud of the pathways they have taken as young adults. Her passion about the FCS classes is what drives her. She believes the classes provide the students with the ability to strengthen their own domestic needs and point the way for some to a future in the field. She also believes it provides the foundation for students to become better citizens, consumers, husbands, wives, parents, workers and co-workers.
Registration Chair

Janice B. Haynes, Ph.D., is the chair of the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences at Delta State University, where she is also Professor of Fashion Merchandising. She received her bachelor of arts degree in home economics from Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana.

Her master of science degree is from Kansas State University in clothing and textiles, with emphasis in fashion merchandising. She received a doctor of philosophy degree from Texas Woman’s University in clothing and textiles, with emphasis in fashion merchandising.

The first five years of her professional career were spent as a merchandising manager for the J.C. Penney Co. in Kansas City. She taught for five years at Texas Christian University, six years at Louisiana State, and this is her twenty-first year at Delta State University.

Professional Advisor

Joe D. Wilmoth, Ph.D., has been on faculty since 2006 at Mississippi State University, where he is an associate professor of human development and family studies in the School of Human Sciences, is a research fellow at the National Strategic Planning and Analysis Research Center, and has an appointment with the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station. He teaches courses in family relations and adult development, and his current research focuses on the relationships among aging, religion, and families.

Prior to his academic career, he served in capacities including pastor, daycare director, editor, elementary principal, and police chaplain. He has been married for over 39 years to Zelda, a kindergarten teacher, and they have three married children and five grandchildren.

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
105th Annual Conference & Expo
June 25-28, 2014 Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch St. Louis, Missouri

AAFCS Leadership Academy

Coming in June 2015!
If you’re a professional in your first 1-5 years of AAFCS membership who wishes to develop leadership skills and learn about leadership opportunities in AAFCS, please watch your email for information on how to apply for the next AAFCS Leadership Academy. The goal of the Leadership Academy is to Build Leadership Capacity in AAFCS.

Source: AAFCS August 23 Fast FACS

“As an inaugural member of the AAFCS Leadership Academy and young professional in FCS, I strongly encourage all qualifying members to participate. I’ve learned a great deal through my experience and had lots of wisdom bestowed upon me by my mentor, who I hope to remain in contact with for a lifetime. I’ve also had the pleasure of getting to know other young professionals in the field who are a great resource as I move forward in FCS.” Julie Sims
Executive Committee
President
Julie Sims, jsims@humansci.msstate.edu
Secretary
Betsey Smith, betsey.smith@rcu.msstate.edu
Treasurer (Interim)
Jan Taylor, jtaylor2go2012@gmail.com

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