



AFFILIATE FACS

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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)! I am excited to serve you as your President for the upcoming year. I have enjoyed my journey in the As-

sociation and look forward to the wonderful opportunities for us to grow as an organization.

I recently attended the AAFCS 104th Annual Conference and Expo in Houston, Texas, as President of MAFCS and an inaugural member of the AAFCS Leadership Academy. During my time in the Academy, I had the opportunity to meet some wonderful fellow professionals, as well as learn about how to become a better leader. Each of us was charged with developing ideas for our affiliates. My focus was on growing our membership and gaining participation by members.

For the upcoming year, I will be working on a membership initiative, Membership AWARE. I hope to focus on keeping our current membership AWARE of the Association activities as well as updates in the

field of Family and Consumer Sciences. Secondly, I hope to WORK with sister organizations to build a stronger body of professionals in the State and increase membership and participation. RECOGNITION is important to showcase the success of our members and the phenomenal work they do each day. Finding new ways to recognize our members is one goal of the initiative. At our July board meeting, members regained enthusiasm about implementation of awards at the annual meeting. Last but not least, ENTHUSIASM is vital to the ability of the organization to retain membership and to encourage others to join. My hope is that members can become more enthusiastic about the organization and the field in which they work.

The initiative not only requires the commitment of the Board but active participation by members. I would like to invite YOU to become more active in YOUR organization and to provide the Board with feedback about new ways to enhance our programs and annual meeting to fit the needs of the members.

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!

Julie A. Sims

Mark your calendars...

2014 MAFCS Annual Meeting

February 28, 2014

Raymond, MS

2013 MAFCS Annual Meeting a Success

The 2013 MAFCS Annual Meeting was a success with the participation of professionals and students. Registration chair Raygene Paige welcomed attendees to the meeting held at Alcorn State University.

Mississippi Kids Count was featured in the opening session followed by two blocks of educational sessions. We were fortunate to have Linda Barnett, program analyst with the U.S. Department of Health and



Pictured left to right: Joe Wilmoth, Raygene Paige and Shannon Griffin.

Human Services Division of Head Start, highlight Head Start accomplishments and future goals during our luncheon. There was a final block of educational sessions and closing remarks in the afternoon.

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

Student Award Winners



Student Design recipients (pictured above, left to right): First Place, Ashli Gorton; Second Place, Molly Sloneker; Third Place, Kristen Price

Student Research recipients (pictured below, left to right): First Place, Tiffany Thompson; Second Place, Monnett Pittman; Third Place (co-recipients) Staresha Hopkins and Sierra Kattentidt



MAFCS Executive Board

President

Julie Sims serves as the Assessment Coordinator Supervisor of the Mississippi Child Care Resource and Referral Network, a program of the Mississippi State University Extension Service. She was recently selected to serve as an inaugural member of the AAFCS Leadership Academy. It is a year-long journey during which she will have the opportunity to interact with fellow “outliers” and a mentor who has years of involvement in AAFCS. She hopes to lead our affiliate into a period of growth and enthusiasm.



She is the proud aunt of two adorable girls, Jaden Claire (3 years) and Jasey LeAnn (2.5 months). They bring a lot of joy to her family. For the past few years she has been working on a doctorate in Agriculture and Extension Education, which she plans to finish in the coming year.



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Counselor

Paula I. Threadgill, Ph.D., Associate Director of the Mississippi State University Extension Service, provides leadership for the Family and Consumer Sciences Department (FCS), the 4-H Youth Development program, and the Center for Continuing Education. She oversees programs across the state of Mississippi in the areas of nutrition and food safety, health, financial management, child development, leadership development, and youth development. She is also a full professor and a member of the graduate faculty at Mississippi State University in the School of Human Sciences. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama, her master’s from the University of Montevallo, and her doctorate from Mississippi State University. Her research interests are nutrition and health, leadership development, youth development, and women in agriculture.



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Dr. Threadgill is a member of the Mississippi Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Mississippi Association of 4-H Agents, Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and American Evaluation Association.

Secretary

A career and technical educator for more than 13 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 ProStartÆ and Propulse certified. As curriculum manager, Smith oversees both secondary and postsecondary curriculum processes. She is an expert in school counseling education and family consumer science education, and she uses her expertise in writing and implementing curricula for the State of Mississippi.



Betsey is married to Trent Smith, and they have three children, Kade (9), Kaylie (4), and Addie (4). They reside in Starkville.

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Treasurer

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.

Professional Development Vice President

Ouida Smith Pittman retired June 30, 2013, from Alcorn State University. She had a previous lengthy career with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. She has three daughters, two of whom have graduated with bachelor's degrees in Child Development and Family Studies.



She looks forward to planning the MAFCS Annual Meeting with the 2014 theme: Family and Consumer Sciences Global Gateway to Healthy, Sustainable Families.

Local Arrangements Vice President



Cassandra Kirkland, Ph.D., serves as a Family Life Specialist and Assistant Extension Professor in the School of Human Sciences at Mississippi State University. She joined the MSU faculty in August of 2012. She is currently serving as a co-investigator on the Sleep

Hygiene and Parental Engagement – Children's Academic Readiness Enhancement (SHAPE-CARE) project, which provides sleep education for parents of preschoolers. She also serves as a co-investigator for the eBaby project at Mississippi State University, which utilizes social media to improve infant feeding practices among low-resource teen mothers. And lastly, in an effort to reduce sexual risk-taking behaviors among youth in Mississippi, she is currently training Extension agents in the "Love U2: Relationship Smarts" evidence-based program.

Her research interests include the following: the influence of paternal engagement on children's socio-emotional and academic functioning; the effects of poverty on family formation, parenting, and marital stability in diverse populations; and program evaluation for Extension programs. Cassandra

is excited about serving as the officer for local arrangements, and she is looking forward to a successful conference this upcoming year.

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.

Extension Liaison Vice President

Judith Breland is a longtime member of AAFCS/MAFCS. She resides in Stone County, where she serves as the MSU Extension Family and Consumer Science/4-H Agent and County Coordinator. She is a Past President of MAFCS and is active in the AAFCS Extension Community of Practice. June, her mother (92 in September), and Angel, her niece (age 10), along with Buttons (dog) and Mittens (cat), live in Wiggins in a historic home (which means it is over 100 years old and always needs something fixed).



In the coming year with MAFCS, she would like to see more Extension agents and specialists participate in both MAFCS and MEAFCS activities, combining some activities where possible. She believes the profession of family and consumer sciences needs the strength of the efforts everyone in the discipline regardless of specializations and organization affiliations.

Registration Chair



Janice B. Haynes, Ph.D., has been Chair of the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences at Delta State University since 2003, where she is also Professor of Fashion Merchandising. She is married with three grown children, Cody, 28, and twin daughters Abigail and Andrea, 24.

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 almost 39 years to Zelda, a kindergarten teacher, and they have three married children and five grandchildren.



Silent Auction/Exhibits Chair

Wanda Cheek, Ph.D., is a longtime member of the MAFCS and has served in many capacities for the organization. She recently retired from Mississippi State University School of Human Sciences, where she served as a professor.

Let's Recognize the FACES of MAFCS....

The AAFCS Leadership Academy is seeking individuals who have been living examples of the impact of family and consumer sciences on the lives of individuals. The group hopes to recognize professionals, individuals, students, Extension educators, consumer affairs professionals and anyone who has been impacted by family and consumer sciences.

President Julie Sims was an inaugural participant in the Leadership Academy. She will be collecting profiles of these individuals via video, personal interview, phone, email, or other means.

Please nominate yourself or someone today who would be willing to be a FACE of family and consumer sciences. This can be a group of students who have recently completed a community project or individuals within the field of family and consumer sciences.

Send in your nominations to jsims@humansci.msstate.edu.

FCS in the News

*Interview with AAFCS member Dr. Mary Ann Campbell, "Stretching Your Dollar: Preparing For College/Boarding School"

Visit: <http://tinyurl.com/mzybhpa>

*Sewing camps grow across Portland area, get kids sew excited!

Visit: http://www.oregonlive.com/living/index.ssf/2013/08/camps_get_kids_sew_excited.html

*Cool ideas for the budget conscious educator!

Visit: <http://www.buzzfeed.com/peggy/money-saving-diys-for-the-classroom>

Executive Committee

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Treasurer

Jan Taylor, jtaylor2go2012@gmail.com

Counselor

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**Mississippi Association of
Family and Consumer Sciences**

www.msafcs.org