President’s Message
Welcome to a new year of the Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi! I’m incredibly honored to serve as your President for this year, and look forward to an opportunity to work with many of you as a Chair or member of a committee. I want to thank each of you who signed up for a committee, but in case you didn’t, there’s still time! Check out the information later in this newsletter and let the Chair of the committee or Dennis Kaan, President-Elect know of your interest to join!

This is an exciting year for the Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi as we host the 2019 National ESP Conference, October 14-17 at the Antlers Hotel in downtown Colorado Springs. Chair Mark Platten is working diligently to assure the Conference will be an unforgettable experience for all the attendees. Look for correspondence directly from him and his Executive Team of Rusty Collins, Jane Crayton and me representing all of you. There will be lots of opportunities to contribute to the effort. It will take all of us to pull off the best Conference yet!

And speaking of the conference, it would be GREAT, since it’s right here in our backyard, if many of you also contributed by providing a educational seminar, ignite session, or research project. This week you should have received the following information from the ESP National Office:

Conference Presentation Proposal Due March 15
ESP Members are encouraged to submit a proposal for a presentation at the 2019 ESP National Conference. ESP offers a variety of opportunities for presenting, including concurrent session, poster session, lightning session, and new this year, a 15 minute research presentation. This year, ESP has identified four tracts for concurrent session presentations. Proposals for the ESP National Conference are due March 15, 2019.

Visit the Conference Presentations Proposal Site for more details and to submit your proposal.

If you have any questions, please contact the ESP National Office or the ESP Professional Development Chair, Mark Platten at mark.platten@colostate.edu.

Consider Attending JCEP in 2019!
The Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) is sponsoring the Extension Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas on February 6 and 7, 2019. If you’re looking to attend a conference to benefit you both professionally and personally, this is a great option. Talks focus on various aspects of Extension work—volunteer management, leadership development, and conflict management and resolution. You also have the opportunity to network with Extension professionals nationally.

The keynote speaker this year is Grace Gorrell, former faculty member at the University of Kentucky, focusing now on leadership development and leading with grace.

Current members of the Zeta ESP chapter can apply for professional development funds to attend—up to $200. The application can be found at: http://esp.colostate.edu/docs/scholarship-mini-grant.pdf and submitted to Susan Carter, Chair of the scholarship committee: susan.carter@colostate.edu.
Zeta Chapter News

Did You Forget to Renew your ESP Membership?
Or have a friend or new colleague you want to invite to join?

This is going to be the best year yet for Zeta Chapter ESP! We have lots of activity planned. Most importantly our chapter is going to be hosting the 2019 National ESP Conference in Colorado Springs in October. This is a really exciting professional development experience and it is going to be right in our own backyard!

If you missed getting your dues in during Annual Forum, it’s not too late to join Zeta Chapter. And if you have a new colleague or friend who would be a great addition to our association, please invite them to join.

To join, just send your dues to:

**Gus Westerman**, ESP Treasurer
Colorado State University Extension
P.O. Box 527
Dove Creek, CO 81324

Dues for continuing members are $80. If you invite a new member to join, their dues are only $70. If you are about to retire and want to become a life member, dues are a one time payment of $200. Dues will be going up in 2020 so if you are considering a life membership, 2019 would be the perfect time to do it! You do need to be retired from Extension to be a life member.

As a member, you will find helpful resources from the ESP national web site at [https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/](https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/) where you can apply for scholarships, learn about webinars, sign up for national conferences and join national committees.

Minutes of Zeta Chapter meetings, scholarship information and other details about the Colorado Chapter of ESP can be found at [http://esp.colostate.edu](http://esp.colostate.edu).

Christy Fitzpatrick, Past President

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Members—Time to Update Your Member Profile

If you joined Zeta Chapter ESP for 2019, don’t forget to go into the ESP website and update your profile information, Executive Secretary **Luann Boyer** kindly entered your basic membership with your dues payment, but other information can also go into your profile.

Go to [https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/](https://epsilonsigmaphi.wildapricot.org/)
Go to Log In in the upper right hand corner. If this is your first visit, you will be asked to set up a password.
When you are in, go to the bottom of the Become a Member page and it will say You are already a member.
News from the Zeta Chapter Global Relations Committee

If you are interested in international Extension work, please consider joining the Global Relations Committee. We’re really happy to announce that Abi Saeed has agreed to co-chair the committee with Christy Fitzpatrick and we look forward to all of the energy and enthusiasm she brings to our group.

One of the things we are planning to focus on this year is how our members can connect with other Extension folks who are doing international work and how we can demystify the process for how one would get to participate. There is a lot to learn about how this all works but we’re anxious to dive in and start learning. Christy is also on the national Global Relations Committee and they have lots of ideas and information that will be useful to us.

Speaking of international opportunities, I wanted to make you aware of our CSU Center in Todos Santos, Baja California Sur in case you are not familiar with it. I was able to attend the very first Spanish and Cultural Immersion Class held there Oct 28 to November 5. Through this class we had several hours a day of Spanish language instruction and many opportunities to learn about and participate in the culture and life of the area through such things as a visit to the Centro Cultural to learn about the history of the area, a chance to release baby sea turtles into the ocean, a field trip to a ranchero in the nearby mountains and full participation in the community’s Dia de Los Muertos celebration. All of these experiences were presented to us in Spanish and provided good practice in understanding Spanish as spoken by native speakers. Our group of 21 included Small Acreage Specialist Kara Harders from Extension and CSU staff and faculty from a number of departments and from the Office of International Programs. This was an eye-opening experience to see the kind of outreach being done by our campus departments. The Center plans to repeat this program in the future so if you are interested keep an eye out for an announcement about it.

Christy Fitzpatrick & Abi Saeed, Co-Chairs

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 Retiree Social - Friday, June 14

Mark your calendar now to be in Windsor, Colorado on Friday, June 14 for the 2019 Extension Retiree Annual Social. The best part is, you don’t have to be retired to attend. All Extension professionals are welcome to join in the fun - a great opportunity to re-connect with some of your former colleagues. There is plenty of time for catching up with others and sharing while enjoying an early summer evening by the golf course. The planning committee usually has some other things planned for the evening.

All Retirees and current Extension personnel will get details in April. The event starts with a no-host social hour around 4 pm with dinner about 6. We had rave reviews about the Fajita Bar menu last year so something similar is planned this year. We look forward to seeing many of you at this event. Watch for the mailing and for those we have emails for you’ll be getting additional reminders. Luann Boyer, Executive Secretary

2019 National ESP Conference

As we continue to move towards the 2019 National Conference, your Executive Team is beginning to fine-tune the details. We are busy working on the menu items at both the hotel and Olympic Training Center (OTC) to ensure we have meals that will work for everyone. We’ve split up the Conference committees so each member of the ET is a liaison to two or three. You’ll be hearing from us in the next few weeks to set up zoom or phone meetings to discuss the needs of each committee and the associated timelines. Finally, we’ve set up what we believe will be an amazing opening ceremony at the OTC and have moved to secure an Olympian as our keynote speaker on Wednesday of the conference. Stay tuned for more info on the Olympian in future updates!

Mark Platten, Chair
Committee Updates

Get Involved! Join a Committee!

Are you on a committee yet?? If you missed our Annual Meeting at Forum, or just missed the committee sign-up sheet, it appears that we have quite a few members who have not yet signed up for a committee. Not sure which committee you would like to be part of? The standing committees of Zeta Chapter and the people who have stepped up thus far (thank you very much!) are:

- **Bylaws:**
  - Chair: Carla Farrand
  - Jacki Paone
  - Chris Crouse
  - Bruce Ide
  - Judy Barth

- **Global Relations:**
  - Chairs: Christy Fitzpatrick & Abi Saeed
  - Sheila Gains
  - Mark Platten
  - Lisa Auer
  - Bill Nobles

- **Membership Recruitment/Retention:**
  - Chair: Christy Fitzpatrick (Past Pres.)
  - Laurel Kubin
  - Sue Schneider
  - Gus Westerman

- **Nominating:**
  - Chair: Christy Fitzpatrick (Past Pres.)

- **Professional Development:**
  - Chair: Gisele Jefferson
  - Anne Zander
  - Jane Crayton

- **Public Issues:**
  - Chair: Dennis Kaan (President-Elect)
  - Patti Schmitt
  - Heather Meyer
  - Jan Carroll

- **Resource Development & Management:**
  - Chair: Gus Westerman (Treasurer)
  - Kurt Jones
  - Dennis Kaan

- **Scholarships, Grants and Recognition:**
  - Chairs: Susan Carter & Deryn Davidson
  - Kurt Jones
  - Ruth Willson
  - Deryn Davidson
  - Ron Meyer
  - Glenda Wentworth

Whether you have been in ESP for a while or you are a brand new member, we hope you will join at least one committee and give your support to ESP in 2019! If you need more information on what each of these committees do, please review the updated Operational Guidelines at: [http://esp.colostate.edu/docs/operational-guidelines.pdf](http://esp.colostate.edu/docs/operational-guidelines.pdf). If your name is not on the list above, please let Dennis Kaan, President Elect know which committee you’d like to join!

**Dennis Kaan, President-Elect**

A BIG Thank You!

We had a successful fundraiser during Annual Forum and thanks are due to those who made it all possible. First, a huge thanks Jane Crayton and Mark Platten for organizing the Silent Auction. Thanks also to everyone who brought items for the Auction and to everyone who bid on and won the items. We raised a total of $323. The money raised supports our professional development scholarships!
Life Member News
Retiring this Year? Consider Joining as a Life Member

2019 ESP National Conference - Colorado Springs

Mark your calendar NOW and be in the know about the 2019 National ESP Conference October 14-17 in Colorado Springs.

Life Members are an important part of ESP and can serve on National Committees and also be National Officers. As planning goes into full swing this year, Colorado Life Members are encouraged to be part of the planning, and help with hosting onsite. There will be information about the 2019 Conference in each of the Zeta Chapter newsletters during the next year, as well as the national ESP Newsletter.

Laurel Kubin and I are co-chairing the Life Member Activities Committee so we would appreciate you sharing suggestions on a local tour or event which Life Members might enjoy. My email is luann.boyer@colotate.edu or call me (970-768-0322). Mark Platten from Teller County is the overall 2019 Conference Chair. Call him (719-686-7961) or email (plattenm@co.teller.co.us) and he would welcome volunteers for other conference committees such as hospitality, registration, entertainment, fundraising, or pre/post tours.

National ESP has been in the process of changing websites and membership management for the past year and during that time, Life Member files were not available so you may not have been receiving the national Newsletter. Effective in January 2019, all Life Members with email should be receiving communication from National ESP and the few who have only postal mail should be receiving information by mail. If you are not getting information from National ESP, please let me know so we can get that corrected. Email me at luann.boyer@colostate.edu or call 970-768-0322.

Luann Boyer, Executive Secretary

Apply for ESP Zeta Professional Development Funds

There is money budgeted annually for ESP Zeta members who need financial support for upcoming professional development opportunities.

These funds don’t necessarily have to be used for conferences but can be used for textbooks, curriculum, etc. for helping you in your professional development path.

Awards of up to $200 are available through a simple one-page application process. The application is on the ESP Zeta web site: http:// esp.colostate.edu/docs/scholarshipesp.pdf in the left column under State: Scholarship Application. After completing the application, e-mail to Susan Carter: Susan.carter@colostate.edu. Go for it—it is there for YOU!