



# Zeta Chapter News & Notes

January 2020

## 2020 ESP Zeta Chapter Board

Judith Barth, *Past President*  
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Luann Boyer, *Executive Secretary*  
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### **Committee Chairs**

**Bylaws:** Carla Farrand

**Global Relations:** Christy Fitzpatrick & Abi Saeed

**Membership Recruitment & Retention:** Judy Barth  
(Past President)

**Nominating:** Judy Barth  
(Past President)

**Professional Development:**  
Gisele Jefferson

**Public Issues:** Alison O'Connor  
(President Elect)

**Resource Development & Management**  
Gus Westerman (Treasurer)

**Scholarships, Grants, & Recognition**  
Deryn Davidson

**Websites:**  
[esp.colostate.edu](http://esp.colostate.edu)  
<https://esnational.org>

## President's Message

Welcome to a new year of the Zeta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi! I'm honored to serve as your President for this year and look forward to an opportunity to work with many of you as a Committee 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, Dennis Kaan, Alison O'Connor or Judy Barth know of your interest to join!

2019 was an exciting year for Zeta Chapter as we hosted the 2019 National ESP Conference in Colorado Springs, CO. Mark Platten and Rusty Collins worked diligently to assure the Conference ran smoothly with plenty of Zeta Chapter members involved to carry the workload. It was an unforgettable experience for attendees, and we received many positive comments during and after the conference.

If you caught the bug to contribute time and effort at the national or regional and local level, there are many opportunities to do so and it is never too late to join Zeta Chapter and get involved. I will highlight some opportunities throughout this newsletter. You can always find more information at the national ESP and Zeta Chapter web sites (URLs are listed in the column to the left.)

Once again, welcome to a new year and a new decade. Myself, the officer team and committee chairs look forward to working with Zeta Chapter members to continue the excitement and comradery of the National Conference to strengthen Zeta Chapter.

Dennis Kaan, *President*

### 2019 National Conference Wrap Up

I just wanted to say thank you again to everyone who made the 2019 ESP National Conference such a success. We've received the results of the conference evaluation and the number of, "best conference ever," and "this will be hard to beat," and "amazing speakers and pre-conference events," was quite amazing to see. I've been a part of the national board and on the national professional development committee for the past four years and this evaluation is head and shoulders above any other that I've had the opportunity to look at! That is because of each of you who gave your time, energy, and talents to pull it off. I can tell you the national office just mentioned to me earlier this week that they are receiving emails

and calls about what an amazing conference it was.

It has truly been an honor to be one of the conference chairs and get to know several of you better along the way. I'm always so impressed with the talent and skills you all have and it makes me proud to be part of such an exceptional group of professionals. I hope these past three years of planning and implementation have brought our Zeta Chapter closer together and forged a comradery that will lead us into the 2020s.

Sincerely,  
Mark

### Numbers from the National Office

Total registration for the conference was 263 attendees. This included 33 guest attendees. Full and part time registrations for active ESP members was 230. For comparison, the table to the right shows the attendance numbers, not including guests going back to 2010.

The total income from registrations and sponsorships was \$123,539.00. The total expenses for the conference were \$108,487.83. The net income equals \$15,051.17. As we have discussed in the past, the national office and Zeta Chapter split the income evenly. Zeta Chapter will receive a check for \$7,575.59 from the national office. All of the hard work Zeta Chapter put into hosting the national conference has been good for the chapter.

#### Historical Registration Without Guests

KS2018	211
NC2017	193
NJ2016	180
ID2015	205
IN2014	210
Gax2013	500
AL2012	192
NY2011	155
WY2010	238

### Select Responses from Attendees

Q7. What were the three most valuable things you gained from the conference?

- \* Importance of getting out of our comfort zone.
- \* Importance of professional development and hearing from other Extension colleagues.
- \* Importance of giving back to the organization through the endowment so that others can benefit.
- \* Effort, Attitude, Energy

Q13. If you have any additional comments about the 2019 ESP National Conference and/or suggestions for future conferences, please share:

- \* Excellent professional development opportunity! Thank you to the ESP Board and the Colorado chapter for being such wonderful organizers and hosts for this conference.

Q1. Which of the following comments comes closest to stating your general experience at the ESP Conference

1	Positive Experience	92.47%	86
2	Somewhat Positive Experience	6.45%	6
3	Neither Negative or Positive	1.08%	1
4	Somewhat Negative Experience	0.00%	0
5	Negative Experience	0.00%	0

## LIFE MEMBER SECTION

### **Luann Boyer, Executive Secretary**

Have you ever thought - why is there an Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) organization and when did it begin. Here is historical information about ESP thanks to Gail Shellberg, Zeta Chapter Life Member who also had served as National ESP Exec. Director at one time. ESP published National Newsletters beginning April 1930 which recorded the activities of the organization of the organization and Gail recently shared his archives with Zeta Chapter.

Epsilon Sigma Phi was organized in Bozeman, Montana January 11, 1927 so Montana is the Alpha Chapter. Members met at the home of Dr. M. L. Wilson, one of the first county agents in Montana who was head of the Agricultural Economics Department and active in Extension work when ESP was formed. Chapters in many of the Western States began to organize in 1927. Chapters in Eastern states began organization in 1928. The 1929 membership report had 40 chapters organized with a membership total of 990 members. Hawaii had a chapter and one was organized in Canada. According to the April 1930 ESP Newsletter, there were only 10 state Extension programs which did not have an ESP chapter.

Dues paid for 1928/1929 were \$2.00 per member. The 1929 Financial Report showed income of \$1164.50 and expenses of \$1066.06. Total assets were \$585.80 in checking and \$1604.13 in savings. In the listing of Chapters, Colorado Zeta is sixth with the secretary being R.H. Felts of Fort Collins.

Our plans are to have a brief historical article in each newsletter from the archived files from Gail. More in the next newsletter.

### **Mark Your Calendars 2020 Extension Retiree Social**

It's not too early to update your calendar and mark Friday, June 12 to be at the 2020 Extension Retiree Social. at Pelican Lakes Golf Course in Windsor. The mid-day format held in 2019 was a positive change from feedback by attendees and we plan is to continue it in 2020. Watch for registration details in April 2020.



### **Epsilon Sigma Phi The Extension Professionals' Organization 2020 National Conference**

**Rochester, New York,  
October 5-8, 2020**

The New York Lambda Chapter is looking forward to hosting the 2020 National Conference in Rochester, NY. The Rochester area boasts many outdoor activities including sporting activities, amusement parks and museums. Visitors can also enjoy shopping, the arts and a wide range of culinary experiences. You can find more information at <https://espnational.org/2020-ESP-National-Conference>. Check back often as more information is loaded to the site throughout the year.

### **2020 Call for Proposals**

The ESP Professional Development Committee is seeking proposals for scholarly presentations for the 2020 ESP National Conference hosted by the New York Lambda Chapter in Rochester, New York, October 5-8, 2020. The theme for the conference is "Cooperative Extension...Focus on the Future".

We request members to submit proposals on current and emerging Extension topics that will engage all members with a variety of interests and experience. We also encourage proposals that highlight successful programs and strategies for reaching diverse and/or new audiences, such as urban, Latino, Millennials, etc.

The lead presenter must be a current member of ESP (either a new member this year, or a returning member who paid dues last year as well as this year) to submit a proposal.

An individual may be the lead presenter on only one concurrent session, research session or ignite session proposal submission. A person may be included as a co-presenter on one additional concurrent, research or ignite session proposal.

### **National Conference Proposals: Due by March 13, 2020**

Lead presenters will be notified of their selection by  
June 1, 2020.

More details can be found at <https://espnational.org/Presentation-Proposal-2020>.

## 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! After an extremely successful **2019 National ESP Conference in Colorado Springs in October**, it's time to reorganize and get back to local issues including outstanding professional development opportunities offered through ESP National.

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 \$275. 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://espnational.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>.

## ESP Zeta Professional Development

**ROLE OF THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:** to promote professional excellence, personal development and leadership development among Extension personnel.

We are tasked with helping to plan and secure concurrent sessions for the annual national conference; and to plan and promote other professional development or improvement opportunities throughout the year. Mark your calendars for 2020 National ESP Conference for October 5-8 in Rochester, New York. There are archived webinars available on the national ESP website

<https://espnational.org/Webinars> with more being planned for 2020. Keep this in mind; and let us know if you are interested in applying for a concurrent session or poster session; or if you have a topic of interest for a webinar.

On the national level, the Extension Leadership Conference, sponsored by Joint Council of Extension, is coming up February 12-13, 2020 in San Antonio, Texas. This is usually attended by Chapter Presidents and President-elect. However, it is open to all interested members. Most of the program is usually focused on a joint professional and/or leadership development session in conjunction with the JCEP member organizations. The remaining time is devoted to ESP professional and leadership development for those attending. This JCEP workshop is a cooperative effort of NACAA, NAE4-HA, NEAFCS, ESP, NACDEP, NAEPSDP and ANREP. The seven associations will have joint as well as separate meetings during the workshop. The other professional development opportunity coming up in early 2020 is the Public Issues Leadership Development Conference for April 5-8 in Arlington, Virginia. Details can be found at <https://www.jcep.org/>.



## Professional Development Opportunity for Extension Professionals

The conference is sponsored by the Joint Council of Extension Professionals whose member organizations include: Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP), Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP), National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP), National Association of 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP), National Association Extension Program and Staff Development Professionals (NAEPSDP) and National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Science (NEAFCS).

**Registration is now open for the 2020 Extension Leadership Conference**, that will be held February 12 & 13, 2020 at the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk. Cost of early bird registration will be \$375 which will be available until January 20th, after that date the registration will increase to \$425. Registration will include breakfast and lunch meals. The hotel room rate will be \$149 per night for single or doubles. Our room block will be held until January 20th so get registered early save some money and insure that you get a room at the conference rate.

**Our keynote presentation on Monday is titled, "Collaborative Leadership: Expanding the Definition of Extension,"** presented by the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute.

Five concurrent sessions will provide thirty presentations that were chosen from nearly 80 submissions that were received for consideration. There are a variety of topics being presented that participants can choose from. The member organizations will also have meeting time during the conference for their members or others who are interested in these organizations.

Finally, the conference will conclude with our **capnote speaker Dr. A. Scott Reed, Oregon State Vice Provost for University Outreach and Engagement, Emeritus**. Dr. Reed has led an innovative transformation of the Extension and Outreach of the Oregon State University. His thoughts on where Extension should go in the future will be an inspiration to all Extension Professionals.

## Register Now

*We hope all Interested Extension Professionals will be able to take advantage of this Professional Development opportunity.*

*The Extension Leadership Planning Committee*

## There's an ESP committee for everyone!

If you're looking for ways to get involved with ESP, then join a committee! It's a great way to work with colleagues and benefit the Zeta chapter in accomplishing goals. The best part is that it's not too late to join for 2020—it's encouraged that every member join a committee; contact Alison O'Connor ([astoven@larimer.org](mailto:astoven@larimer.org)) if you're interested. Not sure what the committees do? Review the [Operational Guidelines](#) for our chapter for more information.

### By-laws:

Carla Farrand (Chair)  
Tony Koski  
Judy Barth

### Global Relations:

Christy Fitzpatrick and Abi Saeed (Co-Chairs)  
Sarah Schweig  
Denyse Schrenker

### Membership Recruitment and Retention:

Judy Barth (Chair, Past-President)  
Patti O'Neal  
Kaycee Manuppella

### Nominating:

Judy Barth (Chair, Past-president)  
Alison O'Connor

### Professional Development:

Gisele Jefferson (Chair, Secretary)  
Sheila Gains

### Public Issues:

Alison O'Connor (Chair, President-Elect)  
Jacki Paone

### Resource Development and Management:

Gus Westerman (Chair, Treasurer)  
Carla Farrand

### Scholarships, Grants, and Recognition:

Deryn Davidson (Chair)  
Sue Schneider  
Glenda Wentworth  
Amy Lentz  
Brenda Kwang  
Susan Carter  
Ruth Willson  
Judy Barth