

# ESP COLORADO

Zeta Chapter  
Epsilon Sigma Phi | Your Key to Professional Excellence

## *Zeta Executive Committee*

**Todd Hagenbuch, President**  
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**Alison O'Connor, Past-President**  
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**Gisele Jefferson, President-Elect**  
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**Amy Lentz, Secretary**  
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**Gus Westerman, Treasurer**  
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**Luann Boyer, Executive Secretary**  
luann.boyer@colostate.edu

### *Committee Chairs*

Bylaws: Carla Farrand

Global Relations: Christy Fitzpatrick

Membership Recruitment and Retention:  
Alison O'Connor (Past President)

Nominating: Alison O'Connor (Past  
President)

Professional Development: Kurt Jones

Public Issues: Gisele Jefferson (President-  
Elect)

Scholarships, Grants and Recognition:  
Deryn Davidson

Resource Development and Management:  
Gus Westerman (Treasurer)

## **President's Message**

*Todd Hagenbuch*

"How are you?" is a phrase often uttered when greetings are taking place. Typically following a salutation, the phrase is common enough that we almost pay it no attention and answer with a standard, "Fine, how are you?" to which we get the same reply.

I remember back to my first year of college when Mr. Bud Christensen, a wonderful speech teacher at NJC, challenged our class NOT to ask the question. His point was that if we don't really listen for the answer, and it's a disingenuous question, why ask it? I've tried since then to really listen to people's answers to the question, and while I sometimes don't dig deeper, I often challenge someone to 'justify' their answer.

And lately, with some of my Extension colleagues, the conversations about how people are REALLY doing has brought me concern.

That brings me to my question of you now: how are you? As one of your representatives to the Joint Board, which hopes to meet in the near future, I really want to know how you are, how your office mates are, and how you think Extension is doing. Let me, Alison or Gisele know what you'd like us to bring up for the meeting. Tell us what you're excited about, concerned about, or questioning. We will do our best to represent YOU, our member, as we contribute to the conversation.

Email me at [thagenbuch@co.routt.co.us](mailto:thagenbuch@co.routt.co.us) with your thoughts.

**ESP Websites:**

Zeta Chapter: [CLICK HERE](#)

National: [ESPnational.org](http://ESPnational.org)

# WHOO-HOO!

## 2021 Zeta Award Winners

### VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

Mark Platten, Teller County Director

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Joy Akey

### RETIREE AWARD

Christy Fitzpatrick, Chaffee County FCS Agent

### DISTINGUISHED TEAM

After the Disaster Guidebook

Susan Carter, Todd Hagenbuch, Doug Dean, Ragan Adams, Gloria Edwards, Carolina Manriquez, and Channing Bice

### DIVERSITY: INDIVIDUAL

Lisa Auer, Larimer County FLTI

### DIVERSITY: TEAM

Carla Farland and Dani Wesoloski

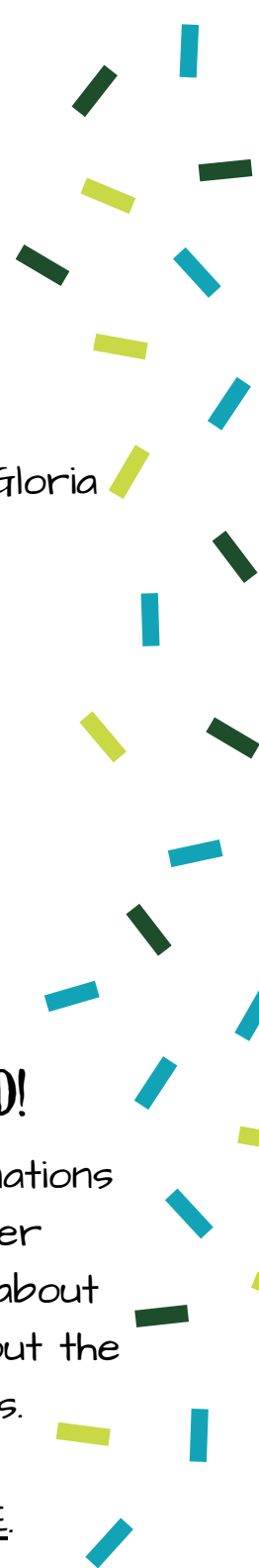
### FRIEND OF EXTENSION

Jim Fricke, Colorado Garden Foundation

## PLEASE NOMINATE A MEMBER FOR AN AWARD!

Awards Chair Deryn Davidson will put out the call for nominations in August and they be announced during Forum. State chapter winners are then advanced to the national level. Be thinking about the great work you and your colleagues are doing throughout the year and get ready to nominate yourself and/or coworkers.

For more information and to see past winners [CLICK HERE](#).



# Life Member News

Luann Boyer, Executive Secretary

## 2022 Extension Retiree Social

Extension Retirees will be emailed in February a short survey requesting feedback on options for a possible 2022 Extension Retiree Social. Currently, options are to hold it the traditional time of mid-June on a Friday or Saturday; OR look at a late summer or early fall date which might coordinate with Ag Day events at CSU. From the past 2 years when the Social was cancelled, we've learned Extension Retirees are on the "GO" a lot so whatever is decided, we will let you know ASAP.

— HAPPY —  
Retirement

### ◆ ◆ ◆ **Hey Recent Retirees: Become an ESP Life Member!**

◆ ESP Members who have retired are encouraged to become a Life Member. The one-time Life Membership payment is \$275 and provides a wealth of opportunities to stay connected with ESP members in Colorado and nationally. Life Members have full membership privileges, including:

- ◆ ·Receive chapter and national newsletters
- ◆ ·Attend chapter and national conferences and special functions
- ◆ ·Serve on chapter and national committees and other leadership opportunities
- ◆ ·Support professional improvement for all ESP members
- ◆ ·Are eligible for chapter and national scholarships and awards

◆ Life Members receive a \$200 rebate for any ESP National Conference Meeting. Just attending one meeting will return a great portion of your Life Member Dues. The National Conferences for upcoming years are Branson, Missouri September 26-29, 2022 and Billings, Montana September 2023. National Conferences not only provide the opportunity to see former colleagues from other states, but the host state provides a special and unique event or tour for Life Members.

◆ To become a Life Member, send your payment to Zeta Chapter Treasurer Gus Westerman, Dolores County Extension, 409 N. Main, Dove Creek, CO 81324

# REMINDERS

## 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](#). Send your completed application to Kurt Jones, chair of the Professional Development Committee: [kurt.jones@colostate.edu](mailto:kurt.jones@colostate.edu)

### Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Conference

Scheduled February 9-10, 2022 in  
Kansas City, MO; [Click here](#) for more  
information and to register

### Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference

Scheduled for April 3-6, 2022 in  
Washington D.C.; [Click here](#) for more  
information

### Save these dates, too!

2022 ESP National Conference September 26-29, Branson, Missouri  
2023 ESP National Conference September 24-28, Billings, Montana

### Join an ESP Committee

Are you a bylaws boss? Pumped for public issues? A guru in global relations? Then consider joining an ESP committee to share your expertise. See why you need to sign up on the last page of this newsletter or [sign up here](#) if you just want to get on it!





Editor's Note: If you're getting this newsletter, you're already a member. But this piece is GOOD and it can help convince your coworker who has been considering becoming a member to become one. Please share this article far-and-wide!

Many thanks to Gisele for this contribution.

## WHY JOIN ESP?

By Gisele Jefferson,  
Newly retired agent and ESP Life Member

What have been my reasons for membership? Well, there are many; but let me just expound on a few.

Back in the olden days, we had to be an Extension professional for at least 10 years before we were eligible for membership into this fraternity for Extension veterans. It was a rich environment of men and women from all levels of Extension -- from county, regional and state including people in various roles of county programming, regional and state specialists, as well as state administrators. Wow, I looked up to these experienced and successful mentors! I wanted to learn from them.

Even though the membership requirements have been adjusted to allow and encourage people to join at any stage in their Extension career, the same rich and diverse environment is there to help develop the Extension professionals of today. Aside from the specific programmatic knowledge and skills, ESP continues to focus on the universal skills and development underlying the success of all Extension.

I personally have benefited from several professional development scholarships, chapter and national recognition programs, and participation/presentations at national ESP conferences. Membership in ESP in addition to NEAFCS and NAE4-HA allowed more opportunities -- more learning, more sharing, more leadership, more recognition and more friends!!

Some of my most memorable and beneficial national experiences have been at National ESP conferences because there are just a few hundred participants. I also enjoyed the JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) Leadership Development and Public Issues Leadership Development conferences, which involves all Extension professional development organizations.

And the really cool thing is... this is all still available to me as a Life Member!



# Global Relations Update

Christy Fitzpatrick, Global Relations Chair

Your Zeta Global Relations Committee is excited about the 2022 ESP year and sharing with our chapter ideas, learning and opportunities related to international Extension work. Watch for a short email each month highlighting something of interest in the world of international work! For January you should have received information about the CSU International symposium February 15-17. [CLICK HERE](#) more information.

During the year we will be searching out resources about international trends, making connections with colleagues in other states who have been able to maintain connections to other countries during the pandemic and sharing multicultural and international work done by CSU colleagues. Our committee thoroughly enjoys this work and we would love to have more members. Please consider joining us! It's not a big time commitment and it's really rewarding.

To join the committee, you can use the committee sign up Google form attached to the article on Committee membership or you can contact one of the committee members who are Lisa Auer, Christy Fitzpatrick, Amber Webb and Dani Wesolowski.

We would also love input from our chapter members. If you have done international or multicultural work, if you know of someone who has or if you have an interest in or connection to a particular country, please contact one of us and share your knowledge. After all, that is what ESP is all about!

**THERE'S STILL TIME  
TO SUBMIT NATIONAL PROPOSALS!**

**National Conference Proposals due  
by March 7, 2022**

**Find out more here.**

**The National Conference will be held  
September 26-29, 2022**

**Branson Convention Center Hilton Hotel  
Branson, Missouri**

## Call for ESP Webinar Proposals

The ESP Professional Development Committee is seeking webinar proposals that will assist Extension educators with programming focusing on emerging issues and/or reaching new audiences. These webinars will be offered in Spring and Summer 2022.

The lead presenter of the webinar must be an active ESP member. Proposals may be a presentation, panel discussion or other methodology appropriate for a webinar. Topics could include but are not limited to innovative program ideas, management techniques, community issues, new technology or tools, and methods to reach diverse audiences. All proposals will go through a blind review process. Webinars must be a maximum of 60 minutes.

The Webinar Proposal Submission Deadline is February 15, 2022. Lead presenters will be notified by March 19, 2022. Dates and times for webinars will be scheduled directly with presenters once webinar proposals are selected.

If you have questions, please contact Travis West, ESP Professional Development Committee Chair at [west.222@osu.edu](mailto:west.222@osu.edu).

## The Final Word

by Alison O'Connor

Don't skip over this article! This is important stuff. Did you know that ESP Zeta has eight committees you can join to become more involved in areas that you're passionate about? It's true, and all committees are looking for additional participation. Whether you're new, returning, or a Life Member, you can still serve on these committees. [Sign up here!](#)

1. Global Relations: Work to promote awareness and enthusiasm for international Extension programs among Zeta Chapter members.
2. Scholarships, Grants, and Recognition: Consider and encourage nominations for chapter, regional, and national awards; select the best awards applications; and submit entries to the National Executive Director and arrange for presentation of award(s).
3. Membership Recruitment and Retention: Work to recruit members for new, active, and life membership.
4. Professional Development: Solicit proposals for concurrent presentations and/or workshops at the National Meeting and the Chapter level. Approve the distribution of professional development funds that Zeta Chapter has available for its members.
5. Public Issues: Keep membership informed as to public issues and legislation affecting Extension.
6. Bylaws: Review and update (as needed) the National constitution and bylaws, National Council minutes, and Zeta Chapter bylaws for consistency.
7. Nominating: Solicit nominations for potential officers from membership.
8. Resource Development and Management: Monitor ESP funds and make recommendations regarding use of funds. Review all accounts for accuracy and completeness prior to the annual business meeting.