



## EPSILON SIGMA PHI

SPRING 2004

2004 ESP Alpha Omicron Chapter Committees

Amy Gregor, President  
Michelle Rodgers, Vice President

Ken Green, Secretary  
Debra Bryant, Treasurer  
Duane Stevenson, Past President

Annual Meeting

Nancy Wallace, Chair

Audit and Finance

Dwane Miller, Chair

Chapter & Career Awards

Joan Thomson, Chair

Constitution & By-Laws

Debra Gregory, Chair

Extension Relations& Leadership Awards

Martha Gregory, Chair

Global Relations

Nancy Kadwill, Chair

Historical (Ad Hoc)

Guy Temple, Chair

Membership & Initiation

Christy Bartley, Chair

National ESP Endowment Fund Campaign

Jim Welshans, Chair

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – AMY GREGOR

**Wow!** This has been a great start to Alpha Omicron's new year. Below are some of the projects and initiatives that have been taking place since the Annual Meeting as well as highlights of upcoming events and ESP resources. Your ESP colleagues have been working very hard in the last five months!

**New Members!** At the Annual Meeting in November, 12 new members were initiated and four transferred their membership. I would like to welcome those new members and also offer my appreciation for the Membership Committee's hard work in recruiting them.

**Goals!** The executive board has proposed four goals for our chapter for the year. They are:

- 1) To raise \$2,500.00 in new monies for the Endowment Campaign.
- 2) Membership recruitment and retention.
- 3) Sponsorship of a professional development program during Fall In-Service.

- 4) Launch and announce Alpha Omicron's state ESP web site.

We would like to ask all of our members to help in accomplishing these goals for 2004.

**JCEP Regional Meeting!** I am happy to report that four of our ESP members attended the JCEP meeting in January. They were Christy Bartley, Nancy Crago, Michelle Rodgers, and I. The topic of interest was *ESP Chapter Membership/Leadership Training*, presented by Linda Cook, Executive Director for ESP. Linda provided an excellent overview of the resources available to market ESP to potential new members. She also provided very helpful information on how to build a strong chapter through membership recruitment and retention.

**Web Site!** I am happy to announce that the Alpha Omicron chapter's web site has been launched! (Goal 4 accomplished!) Please visit us at: <http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/casprof/esp/>. Some highlights include information

about awards, calendar items for our state and national, current membership

list, minutes from the Annual Meeting and Executive Board meetings, and much, much more! I would like to thank all of the members who helped to make this happen; particularly the Web Site Committee. Please take a moment to browse our sight and bookmark it for future reference. We hope that this provides an avenue to disseminate information and provide resources to our members and the extension community as well.

**ESP National Conference!** Mark your calendars for the upcoming ESP National Conference, September 15-18, 2004. The theme is *ESP Marks the Way*. . . and will be hosted



President Amy Gregor

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

in Moline, Illinois. The conference objectives are:

- ~ To provide opportunities for personal and professional development for ALL extension professionals.
- ~ To provide opportunities for extension professionals to make scholarly presentations, reporting research and accomplishments of significant programs.
- ~ To encourage and promote interdisciplinary programming and diversity of extension programs.
- ~ To share strategies for enhancing the image of the Cooperative Extension System and to enhance communications of the value of extension both internally and externally.
- ~ To provide the opportunity to explore new tools and technologies that can be used to enhance the outcomes of extension programs.
- ~ To share methods of strengthening communities through extension programs.
- ~ To recognize members for excellence in programming that addresses diversity and critical issues.

Watch for registration in the spring issue of the *ESP Connection* newsletter or visit the ESP national web site: <http://espnational.org/>.

**ESP National Resources!** Please note that the ESP national web site (<http://espnational.org/>) has been updated. I would encourage you to visit the site occasionally and take advantage of the many resources posted there. A few of them are:

- ~ Current issue of *ESP Connection*
- ~ Information on National and Chapter Leadership
- ~ ESP Handbook (recently updated)
- ~ Information on the National Conference
- ~ Links to Chapter web sites, CSREES, and other helpful sites
- ~ ESP Forms
- ~ **New!** Resources button with information on ESP memorabilia
- ~ **New!** Membership button with help for chapter membership chairs and information on chapter awards

Again, this looks like a great year for our chapter and ESP nationally. Take time to participate and serve on a committee or feel free to put your talents to work in helping our association attain their goals for 2004!

### Nomination

Marilyn Corbin, Chair

### Professional Development

Natalie Ferry, Chair

### Recognition on Retirement

Nina Redding, Chair

### Scholarships & Loans

Sandra Hall, Chair

### Sympathy & Memorial

Andrea Bressler, Chair

### Web Site (Ad Hoc)

Peg Shuffstall, Chair



## ESP National Meeting

**Where: Moline, IL**

**When: Sept. 15-18**

**Web site: <http://espnational.org/2004NationalMeeting/04conf04.htm>**

## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS UPDATE—DEBRA GREGORY

Every organization needs to continue to revise and **update their Constitution and Bylaws** (C & B) to help the organization function smoothly.

Our Alpha Omicron Chapter C & B can be **amended by a two-thirds majority vote** of members present at a regular meeting of the Association. The next regular meeting is

the Annual Meeting in Fall 2004.

**The following items will be presented for amending in the C & B:**

- 1) Change wording of "active member" to "annual member", as this is the wording being used by National ESP.
- 2) Change Article III Section 5. Recognition on Retirement to "A replica of PSU Nittany Lion statue, or contribution of equal amount toward their Epsilon Sigma Phi Life Membership, shall be presented ..... (continue same).
- 3) Change Article VI Section 2 Standing Committees and Sub-Committees - K. Extension Relations and Leadership Award -- Change wording of the "Extension Secretary Award"

to "Extension Staff Assistant Award".

If anyone has additional items for consideration or questions, **please contact me - Debra Gregory**, Constitution and Bylaws Chair.



## NEW MEMBERS — CHRISTY BARTLEY

All current members of Epsilon Sigma Phi can **assist the membership committee by talking with their co-workers about ESP membership.**

Information about the benefits of ESP membership can be reviewed at the national web site: <http://espnational.org>. A

member enrollment form is on-line or can be obtained from Christy Bartley at [cek4@psu.edu](mailto:cek4@psu.edu).

Christy also has brochures on ESP membership that you may request to help build your case. There are a significant number of extension professionals who have been em-

ployed in extension for two years or more and exhibit excellence in education and programming leadership.

The seven membership committee representatives could not possibly reach them all without your help.

If you have questions, you may contact any of

the committee members: Christy Bartley, chair; Cathy Bowen, co-chair; Diane Brown, Daney Jackson, Fay Strickler, Richard Stup, and Nancy Wiker.

**Together we can help our professional organization grow!**

## CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

**Has your address, phone number or e-mail changed recently?**

Let us know about that change—we want to

make sure that you will continue to receive the Alpha Omicron Chapter newsletter and other important messages.

Contact Ken Green (see picture to the right) at 610-378-4362 or e-mail Ken at [keg12@psu.edu](mailto:keg12@psu.edu).



## VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—MICHELLE RODGERS



I am pleased that we have prepared and provided each committee chair with a notebook related

to their committee work responsibilities. The plan is that each committee chair will have the notebook to utilize and track committee work and then pass on to the incoming chair, thus helping to sustain our committee work from year to year. We also have chairs and co-chairs in place for most committees.

Every member of ESP has been placed on a committee. Please see the web site

[www.cas.psu.edu/docs/casprof/esp](http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/casprof/esp) to see

where you are to be involved in this year's ESP efforts if you do not already know!

There are several new awards available from National ESP including a Diversity Recognition award, International

Service recognition as well as a new scholarship-the Richard R. Angus Professional Development Scholarship-a \$2000 scholarship for professional development.

Below is a listing of which committee to contact for various awards. Committee chairs will be notifying you in various articles about opportunities to apply and to nominate deserving colleagues. For more detail on the awards criteria check our website and click on the awards button.

**Chapter and Career Awards Committee - Joan Thompson-Chair, Patricia Powley-Co-Chair**

Responsible for the following awards:

- Keystone Award (Chapter)
- Distinguished Service (Chapter and Regional Award)
- Visionary Leadership Recognition (Chapter Award)

- Team Award (Chapter and Regional)
- Mid-Career (Chapter and Regional)
- Early-Career (Chapter and Regional)
- Rookie (Chapter)
- Continued Excellence Recognition (Chapter and Regional)

**Scholarships and Loans Committee - Sandy Hall-Chair, Jane Landis-Co-Chair**

Responsible for the following awards:

- National ESP Administrative Leadership Recognition
- National ESP Professional Development Mini-Grant
- National ESP Professionalism Scholarship
- National ESP Public Issues/Leadership Development Conference Scholarship
- National ESP Retire/Life Member Registration Reduction Program

- National Richard R. Angus Professional Development Scholarship - \$2000
- Pennsylvania Loans and Scholarships
- PA Alpha Omicron Chapter Forgivable Loan - \$500 (Chapter)
- PA Joint Council of Epsilon Sigma Phi (JCEP) - \$400 (Chapter)

**Extension Relations and Leadership Awards - Martha Gregory-Chair, Stacie Bird-Co-Chair**

- Responsible for the following awards:
- Friends of Extension (Chapter and National)
- Distinguished Service Ruby Recognition (National)
- Extension Staff Assistant (Chapter)
- Diversity Recognition (Chapter and Regional).



## 2003-2004 ALPHA OMICRON CHAPTER BUDGET-DEBRA BRYANT

<u>Income</u>	Budget
Dues	3,200.00
Extension Extended	700.00
Banquet	1,000.00
Initiation	30.00
Donations	100.00
Forgivable Loan	300.00
*Reserves	5330.00
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>	<b>\$ 7755.00</b>
<u>Expenses</u>	
National Dues	1,920.00
Banquet	1,000.00
Extension Extended	500.00
President Expenses	500.00
Forgivable Loan (JCEP)	400.00
ESP Scholarship	500.00
*Extension Relations (Sec. Award, Friend of Ext)	30.00
Chapter Awards (Rookie, Mid-Career, Ruby/DSA)	60.00
Regional Meeting	0.00
National Education Foundation	50.00
PILD	500.00
Treasurer expenses	20.00
Newsletter expenses	200.00
Retirement Gifts	300.00
*Membership & Initiation	200.00
Sympathy & Memorial	25.00
*Professional Development (Speaker Expenses)	1500.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	<b>\$ 7755.00</b>



Debra Bryant  
Chapter Treasurer

## PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

January 1 through April 20, 2004

<u>Income</u>	
75th Anniversary Donations	380.00
Dues	4,241.00
Extension Extended	685.00
JCEP Regional Mtg Reimburse	300.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,606.00</b>
<u>Expense</u>	
75th Anniversary Contributions	610.75
Extension Extended Expenses	512.77
National Dues	2,885.00
President Expenses	200.00
Professional Development	615.80
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4,824.32</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>781.68</b>

## ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN — JIM WELSHANS

Pennsylvania has always been a **strong leader** within Epsilon Sigma Phi and this leadership continued to show during the 2003 Endowment Campaign \$75 N 75.

Alpha Omicron chapter members

will soon be receiving a letter requesting your support for '04.

We hope you will join us in keeping our leadership strong but more important **keeping Epsilon Sigma Phi, our voice** of the Extension Professional stronger.

If you have any questions, please call Guy or me.

Jim Welshans, 717-921-8803,  
jew2@psu.edu

Guy Temple, 570-524-4877,  
ght1@psu.edu.

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL ESP — NANCY CRAGO

### Greetings my fellow ESP colleagues!

I just returned from the National ESP Mid Year Board Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. But, don't be too envious. It was raining buckets of water there, too. That made it easier for board members to focus on accomplishing its goals. We know that most state Extension programs have experienced budget cuts, downsizing, and retirements. These circumstances have impacted ESP membership. We now have more life members than paid annual members. Since 2000, we have 600 annual members who are not current with their dues. To insure that Epsilon Sigma Phi can remain a viable organization for Cooperative Extension professionals and continue to meet the needs of its members, several strategies are being planned.

One strategy is the establishment of a Future Task Force in January 2004. The membership is three persons

from each region. As second vice-president, I am chairing this task force. The goal of this task force is to take a look at who we are as an organization and what we want and need to be in the future. This task force will be seeking input from a representative cross section of our membership.

The first group surveyed were the participants attending the ESP meetings conducted at the Regional JCEP Leadership Workshops. Points from discussion in the Northeast Region included better use of technology in carrying out ESP activities, finding a niche for ESP, better marketing, and adding value to ESP. The information gathered from the four meetings is now being summarized and the task force will next make decisions on how to survey a larger cross section of ESP annual and life members, as well as non-members. The task force plans to present a final report at the National ESP conference

in Moline, IL, in September 2004.

A second strategy that began in 2003 is the \$500,000 Endowment Campaign to support Cooperative Extension Professionals. ESP received over \$100,000 in pledges in 2003 which is a great start to its five year plan. The moneys raised through this endowment will provide the resources for ESP to continue to provide scholarships, professional development opportunities and recognition programs for ESP members. In 2004, the following five new regional recognitions were initiated: Regional Administrative Leadership Recognition, Regional Distinguished Early Career Recognition, Regional Diversity Recognition (Individual), Regional Diversity Recognition (Team) and Regional Continued Excellence Recognition.

Information about these recognition programs is available on the ESP website: <http://espnational.org>.

These are two strategies taking place at the national level to help insure the future of ESP. However, the strength of our national organization depends on the health of our state chapters. There are steps we can take to help ESP be the leading organization for Extension professionals. Our national organization provides many resources to help us with membership recruitment and retention. One highlight of the JCEP regional meetings was a training on membership and recruitment conducted by Linda Cook, Executive Director of the ESP National Office. The membership brochure has been revised this year. A new brochure for life membership has been created. I challenge you to introduce a colleague to the benefits of ESP membership and invite them to join this year. Just imagine the possibilities for our Alpha Omicron Chapter!

## WHAT CAN THE GLOBAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE DO FOR YOU?

By Mary Alice Gettings,  
National Committee  
Chair

The National ESP Global Relations Committee is here to help you enhance your professional and personal development through experiences in foreign countries and at home.

If you have an interest in international opportunities, the [Go Global](#) button on the ESP website is a place you want to visit. (<http://www.espnational.org/>)

Put your expertise to work by checking out the more than 10 links under the International Opportunities button. For example, the link to Land 'O Lakes Interna-

tional Development provides a list of current projects. To name a few, there are dairy projects in Columbia, Honduras, and Kenya and school nutrition programs in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam.

The Agricultural Cooperative Development International/ Volunteers In Overseas Cooperative Assistance Offices (ACDI/VOCA) link lists many opportunities, including Agribusiness Development Projects in Romania and Rwanda.

In addition, you can link to USDA's CSREES International Programs

Site. With the click of a button, the International Travel Information will help you with information on obtaining insurance and immunizations you may need.

Another important area of emphasis for the Global Relations Committee is to promote cultural awareness and appreciation and respect for diversity. The link to the National Extension Diversity website provides information on staff development, reaching audiences, and organizational change. In addition, a mini-grant program through the National Initiative to Internationalize Extension can be found through

ESP's Go Global website.

At the state level, we encourage an active Global Relations Committee. Epsilon Sigma Phi's 2004 Chapter Handbook, Section D provides a fact sheet listing program ideas that can be carried out at the state level.

A brochure is also included detailing how you as an extension professional can become involved in Extension International Programs.

For questions concerning the National ESP Global Relations Committee, contact Ellen Burton at 217-333-5588 or [eburton@uiuc.edu](mailto:eburton@uiuc.edu).

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE – MARILYN CORBIN

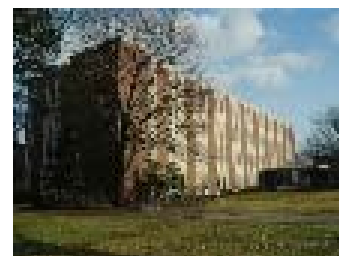
SEEKING CANDIDATES  
FOR SECRETARY and  
TREASURER POSITIONS

The Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for the Secretary and Treasurer positions of Epsilon Sigma Phi. The Secretary candidate needs to

come from the state level this year to be in accordance with the by-laws. These leadership positions will serve on the Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee would like to encourage you to consider

one of these positions. If you are interested in your name being on the ballot, please contact Marilyn Corbin, Nominating Committee chairperson, at [MCorbin@psu.edu](mailto:MCorbin@psu.edu) (phone: 814-863-6109)



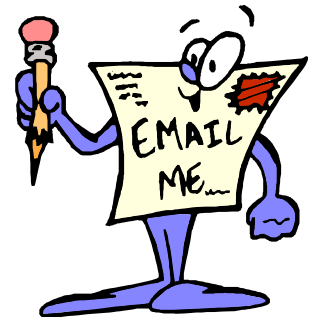
<http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/casprof/esp/>

## Listserv now available for ESP member use

### CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Send an e-mail to your fellow Alpha Omicron Chapter members by addressing the e-mail to:  
**esp-membership@lists.cas.psu.edu.**

All current members (including Lifetime members) with an e-mail address on file with the local chapter will receive your message.



**NATIONAL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
PROFESSIONAL'S ASSOCIATION**

## MEMORIES FROM THE 20TH CENTURY

**All retirees and present staff are reminded of the need for letters for "Memories from the 20th Century"**

Letters are coming in, but slowly. The committee needs many more if the project is ever to be a reality. Why not take a few minutes this coming weekend and prepare a brief article about the greatest, or the worse day, you

ever had in your Extension career. Or better still, what project/program gave you the most satisfaction in your career?

Every Extension agent has a story to tell about some phase of their years in Extension. Tell us yours!! Or, you've heard a departed Extension friend tell a story, you will never forget. Why not honor he/

she and put it down on paper so all your other friends will also know the story. If you have questions, ask any committee member. They will be glad to help. Your stories are to go to the following address:

Elizabeth Matthiesen,  
217 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA.  
16802, or  
[exc3@psu.edu](mailto:exc3@psu.edu)

The Committee - Helen Bell, Jack Bergstrom, Tom King, Jack MacMillan, Jane Marhefka, Betty Strutin, Elton Tait, Guy Temple, Eunice Tibbott, Bernie Wingert, Frank Zettle.

