

IN THE KNOW

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AAFCS STUDENT UNIT



Being a AAFCS Student Member: Benefits and Significance

By Shannon Williams

For the past four years, I have been fortunate to be a Student Unit Member of AAFCS. As a member of this national organization, I have incurred numerous benefits professionally, relationally, and academically.

As a young professional, I have gained public speaking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills through my membership with AAFCS. I have given presentations at local, state, and national conferences for AAFCS. Though I do not plan to have a career that involves public speaking, AAFCS provided me with several opportunities to improve and practice those skills.

Working in a team does not come naturally to me; however, AAFCS has helped me practice the "There's no 'I' in team" motto. Locally, I participated on an officer team for two years and learned to work with and rely on others. As a college student, we have many obligations: academics, family, organizations, work, etc. By working as a team to accomplish one goal, I was not overwhelmed with all my duties as a college student. Those teamwork sessions also provided me with a social network of students. After two years, those students are still my confidants.

AAFCS has also enabled me to develop my problem-solving skills, not only at the local

but national level. AAFCS is not about helping their own but helping those in need. This is clearly evident as the organization is getting ready for the Annual Conference in Phoenix, AR. The southwest has been plagued by racism and cultural divisions. AAFCS's goal this year is to educate its members about the tension on the southwest and brainstorm effective methods to implement to reduce those tensions. The problem-solving skills I have gained have assisted me not only at the local but national levels of the organization.

The benefits mentioned above improve learned skills but also better my role as a citizen in America. It is my duty to serve others and improve my community. Participating in AAFCS has shown me numerous ways I can help my community or another local affiliate's community. These experiences and memories will continue to affect my professional career and lifestyle. I hope other students take advantage of the unforgettable opportunity to be a part of AAFCS.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

The AAFCS Student Unit will be highlighting State and/or University Student Units at the 102 AAFCS Annual Conference in Phoenix, AR. To do this, AAFCS needs your group photos for the Parade of States PowerPoint. Please send your photos to the First vice Chair, Shannon Williams, at willi223@purdue.edu.

STUDENT UNIT MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES



Financial Assistance for the National Conference

By Kyley Brooks

The National Conference is an amazing event that you do not want to miss. But, since money does not grow on trees, it may be hard to travel to Phoenix, Arizona. As college students, we already have numerous expenses, including bills textbooks. Listed are some ideas that will be beneficial in helping you travel to the national conference in Phoenix this summer.

1. **Start at the university level. Ask the department chair for any ideas or scholarship opportunities. You may**

learn that your school is willing to help with a portion of the cost, such as the registration fee.

2. **Check with your AAFCS Affiliate. Many affiliates are willing to financially assist a student in attending the national conference. Your affiliate may also be able to help you get in contact with organizations and/or businesses that would be willing to assist.**
3. **Ask for the registration fee or other travel costs as gifts from your family and friends. These monetary gifts are great for birthday, graduation, or other holiday gifts. Tell them what you are doing and why they should help you. If you want to do a typical fundraiser idea**

(bake sale, lemonade stand, etc.) – have it be related to Family and Consumer Sciences! When people see your passion for what you do and understand your fundraising goals, they are more willing to make generous contributions.

4. **Check the AAFCS website. The student page has the application to apply for many scholarships but hurry! The application deadlines are nearing.**

All the officers of the student unit are looking forward to your presence at the national conference. We know you will make a difference in our conference experience and look forward to seeing you in Phoenix this June!



Get in the Know with Parli Pro!

By Amanda Repp

Sometimes meetings get out of hand with numerous ideas being thrown about the room or people talking out of turn. It is amazing at times that decisions are made and tasks accomplished because more discussion can occur than actual implementation of the decisions.

If the above paragraph sounds like a past experience you have had working in an organization, then the AAFCS Student Unit Officer Team has a national conference session in Phoenix just for you! The officer team will be demonstrating how to properly run a meeting using parliamentary procedure. This procedure will help your organization become more productive and conducive to making decisions effectively.

Look for more information concerning this session in coming



What Keeps Your Betty Lamp Burning?



The four areas that keep my Betty Lamp burning are passion, friends, satisfaction, and the ones who were here before me. My passion for Family and Consumer Sciences started when I was in high school. I became a member of the student organization Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). I became very involved in FCCLA by participating in several projects and even was a state officer for two years. Through all of my participation my passion for Family and Consumer Sciences grew and still continues to grow today with my role in AAFCS. Along with my passion, my friends help to keep my Betty Lamp burning. During the past two years, I have met so many friends through AAFCS. My new friends are from all over the country and are in FACS related careers. We are able to attend meetings and a year later start conversations like we talk to each other everyday. I am able to gain so much satisfaction through my participation in AAFCS. I am so happy that I am a part of association that is bigger than myself. It is an association that I love, have a passion for, and that I care to see continue. The last and final thing that keeps my Betty Lamp burning are the members that were here before me. The hardwork they put into this organization and profession makes me want to continue the hardwork they started: to expand it and to continuously update it. These women were and are strong and continue to give me the motivation to be just as strong. My Betty Lamp started burning bright in 2007 and is continuing to burn bright today.

SU Chair Linsey Johnson

In The Know articles and on the Student Unit page of the AAFCS website.

STUDENT UNIT MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

Coming to National Conference?

By Linsey Johnson

You may be thinking why would I want to take a week out of my summer to go to a CONFERENCE?? But it's NOT just a conference; it's the *AAFCS ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO!!!* This year's annual conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on June 23-25, 2011. The location of the conference should be one of the reasons why YOU come to the annual conference—Phoenix is such a beautiful and exciting place!

Other reasons why YOU should come to annual conference: keynote speakers, educational sessions, and networking! There are two wonderful keynote speakers who will be in Phoenix. A wide variety of topics will help to include all members of

AAFCS in many disciplines. When a person hears the word educational sessions, they may think, “Ew, educational? It's the summer!” Unlike what you may think, the educational sessions are NOT just educational but exciting and fun! The National Student Unit Officers are in the process of compiling a list of educational sessions that would be appropriate and beneficial for student unit members to attend while at annual conference.

Lastly, networking will occur during your entire time at annual conference. “If you're NOT networking, you're NOT working!” YOU will be able to network with professionals and other students. AAFCS members from all across the country, even Puerto Rico, will be attending

the conference with YOU! The members are from all areas of Family and Consumer Sciences.

For more reasons to attend annual conference, check out the annual conference website <http://www.aafcs.org/meetings/11/index.html>. I hope to see YOU there!! Don't forget to hit the early bird registration which ends April 15th, 2011!! Early bird student rates are only \$99!



Early Bird Catches the Worm! 1

To highlight your student unit's chapter in the "Chapter Spotlight", please email Shannon Williams, the First Vice Chair, @ willi223@purdue.edu.

Send the following information:

Chapter Title

Chapter Activities

And how many members are planning to attend the annual conference in Phoenix.

Chapter Spotlight:

Ball State University

FCSEA: Ball State style

The Family and Consumer Sciences Education Association (FCSEA) unit at Ball State University is an organization that is committed to helping others, professionalism, and togetherness. FCSEA at Ball State is currently working on their service project, which involves making neck coolers for soldiers overseas. We are also planning a fundraiser for this semester, which is still in the planning process.

Several of FCSEA members attended the FCCLA conference in Indianapolis in early March and volunteered during the Pro Start culinary competition.

FCSEA is a goal-oriented group; we are planning on preparing round table discussions for the FACS Professional Development Teacher's Conference in April. FCSEA wants to be seen as a professional organization. To help being seen as young

professionals we have designed polo's to wear at conferences, during observations, practicum and student teaching. FCSEA enjoys the company of all members, which is evident in their togetherness events, for example, going to dinner at the restaurant which is run by the students involved in the FCS department on campus. We are looking forward to a 'Girls Night Out', in which we are attending "Legally Blonde-The Musical" in May. We are also planning a cook-out at our Sponsor's house before the semester ends.

FCSEA at Ball State University is sad to say that the wonderful Doctor Nancy Thompson will be retiring after this year. The FCS Education department at Ball State will miss her immensely. On a positive note, we are both excited and nervous to welcome the person who will be taking the position. The organization of the club is going under reconstruction, and we are looking forward to a new start. We are preparing for elections and are excited to

see new faces in leadership!



Written by Emily Hagan
AAFCS Indiana Affiliate
Parliamentarian

Ball State University is located in
Muncie, Indiana.

In The Know (ITK)

The *ITK* is the newsletter for members of the Student Unit of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS). Photos and articles from and about student members, advisors and chapters are welcome.

Editor

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AAFCS is the only professional association that provides leadership and support to family and consumer sciences students and professionals from both multiple practice settings and content areas.