

Administrative News from Glen:

The Wyoming Legislature finished its session, adopting the Governor's recommendation of a six percent budget cut for UW. It is less clear how the cuts will impact UW Extension and the College. UW Extension has already lost faculty and staff positions in preparation for this budget cut. We will likely lose additional resources to accommodate the declining appropriation. President Buchanan has been clear that these cuts will be accommodated through attrition rather than lay-offs, so current employees need not be concerned about their jobs as a result of the UW budget cuts.

The federal budget sequestration will likely go into effect today. The picture here is more uncertain, but as I understand, the sequestration will reduce our Smith Lever and other federal funds by five percent for FY 13, the current fiscal year. That said the federal government is currently operating under a continuing resolution that expires in late March, allowing Congress to renegotiate the FY 13 budget. I have been struggling to understand all of this, but my best assessment is that the five percent cut to federal funds is the most likely for the remainder of this fiscal year. Next fiscal year is more uncertain. This sounds a little scary, but I am confident in our continued success and that we will have funding to do our work.

As you know, the trustees selected a new UW President, Dr. Robert Sternberg. It is great to have that process behind us. With new leadership at the helm of the University, the next year should be interesting and filled with opportunity. I look forward to working with Dr. Sternberg to build UW Extension and the College.

I really like these late winter afternoons. Longer days bring the optimism of Spring.
Safe Travels, Glen

Personnel News:

SE Area Extension Educator, PSAS – Position #0601, based in Goshen County. This is an extended term track position. Interviews will be held in late March.

Hot Springs County, 4-H and Youth Development Educator – Position #4188, based in Thermopolis. This is a non-extended term position. Screening is underway.

Lincoln County, 4-H and Youth Development Educator – Position #4205, based in Kemmerer. This is a non-extended term position. Screening will begin March 8, 2013.

NE Area Extension Educator, PSAS – Position #0568, based in Campbell County. This is an extended term track position. Screening will begin March 20, 2013.

Staff Development/Federal Relations News from Susan:

Professional Development News

November 4 – 7, 2013 - EPIC (Extension Professional Improvement Conference). The bi-annual

conference will be held in Casper. The Ramada Plaza Riverside will serve as the conference hotel and meeting site. Planning will begin soon, watch for details in coming months. Members of the 2013 planning committee include: Karla Case, Hannah Swanbom, Brian Sebade, Jossy Ibarra, Chris Hilgert, Brittany Johnson, Mindy Meuli, Kelly Crane, Jessica Gladson, and Alex Malcolm. If you have suggestions for topics, please share with Susan or one of the committee members.

Extension New Employee Training – All employees hired after September 15, 2012 should reserve September 9 – 12, 2013 for training in Laramie.

ESCAPE – Extension Secretary Conference, a Professional Event, will be held October 1 – 4, 2013 in Evanston. Save the date!

Reporting Tip

Annual and ET&P templates ask for circulation or potential contacts. Your local paper can provide this, or click on the following link for details Wyoming newspapers.

[Wyoming-newspaper-circulation.](#)

Civil Rights Tip

The State Civil Rights Advisors will soon be scheduling the 2013 county reviews. Each County and the Wind River Indian Reservation have a training review every four years. Counties scheduled for review in 2013 include: Albany, Carbon, Crook, Fremont, Natrona, and Niobrara Counties. State Civil Rights Advisors include: Ashley Garrelts, Mary Louise Wood, Julie Daniels, Scott Hininger, Bridger Feuz; and Dallen Smith has joined the team this year. Tina Russell completed four years as an advisor. Many thanks to her for her service on the committee.

Customer Service Tip

A mission statement is a brief description of a company or organization's fundamental purpose. It answers the question, "Why do we exist?" The mission statement articulates our purpose both for those in the organization and for the public. The following is the mission statement for UW Extension; a good reminder as we work with clientele throughout the state.

"The University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service provides lifelong learning opportunities for the people of Wyoming and empowers them to make choices that enhance their quality of life."

Cent\$ible Nutrition Program News from Mary Kay:

The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 was passed by Congress on January 1, 2013. The Act addressed some of the agricultural programs that were in jeopardy due to a lack of a Farm Bill. One of the cuts in that Act was \$109 million or 27.6% to SNAP-Ed funding for the current federal fiscal year. CNP is funded primarily through SNAP-Ed. We are working on a revised plan to utilize carry-over funds to mitigate the cut this year. In the long-term, SNAP-Ed dollars to Wyoming are scheduled to decrease from 2014 to 2018 based on the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

Bottom Line: As a low-income nutrition education program for Wyoming, CNP has to look at alternative funding sources and ways to provide services more cost-effectively over the next five years. We have time to plan and we welcome any ideas or input.