

December 16, 2016

## Administration News from Glen:

**Congratulations** — I'll start by again congratulating all of our Extension award winners, both association and UW Extension awards. And I'll again congratulate the EPIC planning committee and our C&T group for a successful, virtual EPIC. I have reviewed the evaluations and it appears that most all participants judged the conference a success.

**Statewide Strategic Planning Listening Sessions** — As I write this, the first of the ten strategic planning listening sessions is underway in Jackson with the second this afternoon in Cody. There are eight to go over the next couple of weeks. I appreciate your efforts to inform and engage our clients and interested citizens in the strategic planning process. And thank you to our Teton and Sheridan offices for hosting the listening sessions.

**Western Extension Leadership Development** — Over the years we have sponsored a relatively large group of employees to participate in the WELD program. With our current budget pressure we will be sending a smaller group to WELD 2017/18. Based on their supervisor's recommendations, we have nominated Stacy Buchholz, Glenn Owings, and Mindy Meuli for the next class.

**FY18 Budget Planning** — As you may know, the trustees met and made some decisions regarding the FY18 budget reductions. I hate to admit ignorance, but I don't have anything to share beyond the information in the newspaper reports and UW News. As I have offered before, it is clear that our leadership's intent is to preserve employment for those currently employed.

**Two Thousand Sixteen** — This might be my last opportunity in 2016 to thank you for hard work and your contributions to the University of Wyoming and UW Extension. It has been a challenging year and our budget difficulties are not yet

behind us, but I am confident Extension's 100 plus years of success will continue. I have been delighted at your demonstrated commitment to serve our clients and to adjust and respond as positions are lost and support budgets are reduced. I personally feel your support and see your commitment to your co-workers. We have a great Extension team now and going into 2017. I wish you the best for what's left of 2016 and hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

Safe Travels, Glen

## Personnel News:

We welcome **Tycee Mohler** to the 4-H Youth Development Educator position in Park County. Tycee has been the Park County Interim 4-H Youth Educator for several months and it is great that she officially filled that position on November 7, 2016. Tycee has a wealth of 4-H experience in Wyoming beginning with her 10 year 4-H member status in Uinta County, a 4-H Youth Development intern in several Wyoming counties, and an office assistant in both the State 4-H Office and the State Extension Office. In 2014, she completed an Associate of Science in Agriculture from Laramie County Community College and graduated from the University of Wyoming with an Animal Science Bachelor of Sciences Degree in 2016.

**Joey Johnson** rejoined the Hot Springs County Extension Office as the 4-H Youth Development Educator on November 21, 2016. During the past 22 years, Joey was a county 4-H educator, a vocational agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, and a livestock judging coach.



• During his tenure with the Hot Springs County 4-H

## Personnel News (continued):

Program (2013 to 2015), the 4-H youth membership doubled. There was a substantial increase in the number of volunteer leaders, and he helped bring in over \$100,000 to the 4-H program through grant writing and fundraising. Joey studied general agriculture at Casper College and graduated with a B.S. from UW in Ag Education.

**Katlin Pittman**, began as the Teton County 4-H Youth Development Educator on November 21, 2016. Katlin brings a variety of Extension skills to the 4-H position. Growing up in Etna, Katlin was a 10 year 4-H member in Lincoln County. She participated in rabbit and market lamb projects with additional experience in many other animal related areas. During her college career, she completed several Extension related work experiences: 4-H



Youth Development Intern in Lincoln County; Agriculture Experiment Station on campus; and the College of Ag Business Office. In 2016, Katlin graduated from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor of Science degree in Equine and Animal Science. We are excited to have Katlin join the UW Extension Team in Teton County!

**Joleen Pantier** began working in the CoANR Administrative Business Office as an accounting associate, senior for UW Extension on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Previously, she worked as an office assistant, senior in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and accounting associate, senior in the Agricultural Experiment Station, where she was the contracts manager for the Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Professional Development Program. Having lived most of their lives in Laramie, Joleen and her husband Rick enjoy camping and fishing in the Snowy Range. Her e-mail address is [jpantier@uwyo.edu](mailto:jpantier@uwyo.edu).



## Staff Dev/Fed Rel. News from Kim:

### Civil Rights Tips – Grassroots Organizations:

Can employees in your office identify grassroots organizations in your county? Grassroots organizations are local groups that could be in a position to help us target or reach some underserved audiences. Grassroots organizations will vary from county to county, because they are locally based. For example in agriculture, groups like Farm Bureau, Stock Growers, Wool Growers, Wheat Growers and other commodity groups could be considered a grassroots organization. Even though they may have state and national ties, they form a local organization. Why is it important to identify grassroots organizations? If a new educator is hired, not familiar with clientele and want to target or promote educational activities in a county, knowing where to find groups of potential clientele is important. If you are new to a county or area and don't know what grassroots organizations exist, a good place to start is the local chamber of commerce because they may have a list of organizations and contact information.

### Stakeholder Input Sessions

Thanks to members of the CDE team for providing training on focus group techniques which will be a great refresher for the upcoming Stakeholder Input Sessions! If you missed the training offered by Kimberly Chapman on November 30<sup>th</sup>, you can still participate in any of the trainings offered below:

December 7, 1:30 pm, <https://zoom.us/j/947814106>  
Mary Martin

December 21, 2 pm, <https://zoom.us/j/624801244>  
Julie Daniels

January 23, time and zoom connection to be determined later – Hannah Swambom

Transcription templates for focus groups – if you have been assigned the role of taking notes during an initiative team focus group, please remember to use the transcription template to submit your report to the State Extension Office. There is a specific transcription template for each initiative team and they can all be found on the Extension Employee Resource web site, along with the Scribe and Note Taker Instructions – Guide. Your role, in recording the discussion, is one of the most important roles in the process so thanks for taking it on!

## Staff Devp/Fed Rel (continued)

### 2016 Virtual EPIC

Thank you for participating in the 2016 Virtual EPIC and completing the evaluation. The responses were very positive with a lot of great suggestions and comments. The format for 2017 EPIC will be discussed soon and we will communicate the dates and suggested format as soon as possible.

### CNP News from Mindy Meuli:

Congratulations to our CNP award winners: Mary Evans, CNP Rookie of the Year; Sandra Biller, CNP Educator of the Year; Kristy Michaels, Community Impact award; and Krista Brown, Linda Melcher award! We have had a lot of changes this year and I appreciate everyone's hard work and contributions to making CNP a dynamic and successful program.

I am happy to announce that CNP programming is again being provided in Crook and Weston Counties. Beth Chapell will be covering Crook County in addition to Campbell County and Tammy Ware will be providing CNP outreach to Weston County while continuing to cover Converse and Niobrara Counties. Thank you to both Tammy and Beth for being willing to extend their areas and provide CNP programming to those two counties.

Megan, Kali, Jessica, and I have been working diligently on getting the SNAP-Ed year-end report compiled. With transitioning to PEARS mid-year, plus the Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) changes reporting and evaluation, the process has taken a lot more time. The exciting thing when pulling together the reports is to see all of the partnerships and collaboration that are going on around the state. The impacts of our PSE efforts are gaining momentum with multiple nutrition and physical activity supports being adopted. The report shows that we are truly making a difference in Wyoming communities.

In forming community partnerships and identifying community PSEs, the Stakeholder Input meetings

are a perfect opportunity to identify people with common interests in community issues. CNP participation is important in Stakeholder Input meetings to invite our partners and use this as an opportunity to form collaborations around community needs identified related to our audience.

Dean Galey, Glen, Megan, and I met with Steve Corsi, the Director of DFS and discussed how being part of Extension helps leverage the SNAP-Ed dollars and that UW is uniquely positioned to serve the entire state. This was a positive meeting and strengthened our connection with the Department of Family Services.

I hope everyone has a great winter break.

### University of Wyoming Holiday Closures:

December 23 & 26	Christmas Holiday
December 27-29	Winter Closure
Dec. 30 & Jan. 2	New Year's Holiday