



### **AAFCS DSA Honoree Joanne Bankston, Ph.D.**

Alexandria, Va. – July 13, 2021 – Joanne Bankston, Ph.D. (Professor [Ret.], Kentucky State University) was honored at the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) Virtual Conference, held June 16-18.

The [DSA](#) was established by the American Home Economics Association (AHEA) Foundation in 1979 as a living tribute to members to recognize superior achievements in family and consumer sciences, outstanding contributions to the family and consumer sciences profession, and sustained association leadership at both state and national levels.

Dr. Bankston is a 32-year member of AAFCS and a member of the Kentucky Affiliate. She was nominated by AAFCS members of the National Coalition of Black Development in FCS. Dr. Bankston has conducted her life's work with distinction in the field of family and consumer sciences. She has served in several roles including: home economics teacher, extension specialist, Director of the Cooperative Extension System National Center for Diversity, college professor, coordinator of family and consumer sciences, and interim co-extension administrator for over 50 years. As a tireless advocate for family and consumer sciences, she is passionate about the field of study, its grounding in science and social science, its importance, continued development and expansion.

*"She has enhanced and improved the lives of many through her work in FCS.  
Her passion has inspired many who work in FCS as well as others who will enter the field."  
~ Linda Brown-Price, Family & Consumer Sciences Area Specialist and AAFCS member*

Dr. Bankston has held numerous leadership roles including: the 2010-11 president of the KY chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the Extension professional organization; and served as 2012 chairperson of the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP). She was also president of the Association of Home Equipment Educators (AHEE) from 2011-13. She was vice president of the Council of Administrators in Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) 2017-18. She served several terms on the Kentucky Attorney General's Consumer Advisory Council.

Dr. Bankston also received numerous awards. She was honored as a "Legend in Family and Consumer Sciences" at the AAFCS Annual Conference and Expo in 2016. She received the 2016 Award for Excellence in Extension from the Association of Extension Administrators for her outstanding contributions to Cooperative Extension at 1890 Historically Black Universities. AAFCS is honored to celebrate her achievements with the [Distinguished Service Award!](#)

**About the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS)** Based in the Washington, D.C., area, AAFCS was founded in 1909 as the American Home Economics Association and is the only association for family and consumer sciences students and professionals across multiple practice settings and content areas. For 112 years, AAFCS has focused its mission on providing leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making more informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life. Through research, experiential education, and technology, our members help people develop the essential knowledge and skills to lead better lives, be work and career ready, build strong families, and make meaningful contributions to our communities.

**About Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)** Family and consumer sciences or FCS is the field of study focused on the science and the art of living and working well in our complex world. The field represents many areas, including human development, personal and family finance, housing and interior design, food science, nutrition, and wellness, textiles and apparel, and consumer issues.