

WAFCS E-NEWSLETTER

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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The mission of WAFCS is to provide leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life.

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Wisconsin Celebrates at AAFCS in Atlanta



Once again, Wisconsin was well represented at the AAFCS annual conference in Atlanta. Carolyn Barnhart's presence was greatly missed and she greatly missed being there so pictures were texted to her with Care Bear sitting in for her. We all enjoyed keeping her in the loop! The conference theme, assortment of engaging sessions, included Carol Turgeson, Leona Schoonaert, Mary Kay Merwin the Leadership course, we celebrated with Marilyn Swiontek, AAFCS Leader, Sarah Jill Puddy, AAFCS New Achiever, and Kennedy Navis, Jewel L. Taylor National Undergraduate Scholarship.

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
109TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO



CULTIVATING
Social and Emotional Competence for
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
June 24 - 27 | Atlanta Marriott Marquis | Atlanta, Georgia

provided a rich information and Wisconsin presenters Anderson, Susan Johnson, and Kelly Deborah Gagnon and represented WI on Council. And, of

Message from New WAFCS President, Deborah Gangnon

Greetings, WAFCS members!

I hope you are finding opportunities for rest, relaxation, travel and time for family this summer! My summer has provided those things as well as professional development and time to reflect on what lies ahead both in my classroom as well as with WAFCS. The WAFCS council had a very productive meeting in July, giving us opportunity to discuss AAFCS initiatives and how they will translate to our affiliate. It allowed us to set goals and directions for this coming year. As we do that, consider what is it you want to gain from AAFCS/WAFCS. Your membership is valued, whether you are a seasoned professional, new to the profession, a student or retired professional. AAFCS provides many professional development resources for you. How can WAFCS assist with your professional support, or might you consider a leadership role in WAFCS? As your president, my goals are to focus on how we can better serve you. We will place high emphasis on AAFCS signature initiatives ... “FCS Day and Dining In for Healthy Families” December 3, “FCS Fit” and “Say Yes to FCS Educator Day” February 13, 2019 as well as enhancing the diversity and inclusion of all FCS career professionals. More information is to come! It is an honor to serve you as WAFCS president. Enjoy the rest of your summer.



Conference Highlights!!

Dr. Dena Simmons, first keynote speaker:

“Leveraging Emotionally Intelligent and Culturally Relevant Practices for Thriving Families and Youth”. **Dr. Simmons’** research and examples from her youth and educational experiences as a person of color gave us much to think about. Some quotations from her presentation follow:

“Engrave this upon your heart: There isn’t anyone you couldn’t love once you heard their story.” Mary Lou Kownacki

“Everyone is a genius but if you judge a fish on it’s ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid.”
Unknown

“You can’t be emotionally intelligent without being culturally responsive.” Dr. Dena Simmons

Emotional Intelligence: *“Emotional Intelligence is the ability to monitor one’s own and others’ feelings, to discriminate among them, and to use this information to guide one’s thinking and action.* Salovey and Mayer, 1990

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: *“... a pedagogy that empowers students intellectually, socially, emotionally, and politically by using cultural referents to impart knowledge, skills, and attitudes”* - Gloria Ladson-Billings

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Greetings from a first time AAFCS national conference attendee.

by Charlene Kelley

I have to admit, “I am a little late to the dance.” Attending a national AAFCS conference has been on my bucket list for quite some time. Over 20 years in fact! At this point many of my students would scratch their heads thinking, but wait she’s only 28, how does that work? No need to do the math, we don’t need to know Mrs. Kelley’s real age. I have wanted to attend an AAFCS conference since college. I literally have 20 excuses, one for each year, why I haven’t gone. My easy go to excuse has always been the cost, followed by my family needs me. So this year when I finagled a “free to me” conference and a “therefore we can afford to bring the family,” I was finally fresh out of excuses.

I left the Minneapolis airport in the wee hours of the morning that weekend with little expectation ahead. I have attended many UW-Stout and WAFCS conferences and have always had great takeaways, insights, and camaraderie. But this felt like the big leagues. And I have to admit, I was a little intimidated. You know the saying, “40 is the new 30?” Sometimes teaching for 20 years feels like the new teaching for 10. My brain developed throughout a childhood without smartphones and internet so technology and educational initiatives feel like being trapped in that wind tunnel money machine. Catch this literacy initiative! Catch the google classroom! Catch all 800 threads on the Family and Consumer Education Facebook page! Don’t get me wrong, catching them feels good. But it’s still overwhelming. And just when I grab a few, I inevitably drop a few too. And some of y’all make this teaching gig look perfectly flawless. So walking into that opening session was nerve racking.

And then something amazing happened! I sat down, got comfortable, and looked around and literally thought, “these are my people!” This is where I belonged. I didn’t know more than 10 people in that room and it didn’t matter. I felt incredible to be a part of an energetic force that shared my same passions. And this was only the beginning.

I spent a lot of my conference time looking for sessions that would enhance work I am currently doing for my school district. In other words, I flew my family to Atlanta to learn more about assessment. Not the most inspiring teaching topic, let me tell you. But the sessions were fresh and unique. This past year there has been a war going on in my head surrounding standards based assessment. Even as I type this, I don’t know which side is winning. I am so grateful for attending these sessions as it helped me dig deeper into my personal philosophy. I don’t like grading, but assessing for knowledge is a big deal. If you teach, this should be on your radar. Even when I attended other sessions, I tried hard to find a way to mold it around assessment.

Another conference “aha” moment for me was learning about the body of knowledge model. Where has this been my last “28 years” of life? If you don’t know what this is get on the AAFCS website and search it. This literally is our DaVinci or Botticelli masterpiece! I never left a session so proud to teach what I teach. Our body of knowledge is exquisite!

I am not going to tell you about the regional cuisine I ate and tours I took because all I did was hustle from one session to the next, wink, wink! But I can say that I can’t believe I missed out on this 20 times

already! I promise it was not all fun and games though. It took me 3 days to not get vertigo on the all glass elevator ride 30 floors up to my hotel room. It was all glass or all 30 flights of stairs. Time is money people! And the in-house Starbucks line had its share of caffeinated anarchy. One barista just doesn't cut it at 7 am in Wisconsin, same is true in Georgia. It's really hard to be polite and friendly at that hour while trying to obtain caffeine. But I met a wonderful Special Ed. teacher in that line and we split a watermelon water while she told me how she goes to our AAFCS conferences because they are just that good. She was hooked after AAFCS Florida. I wonder what my 2015 excuse was because it sounded like I missed a good one.



Char waiting with other WI attendees for first general session

So here I am at my computer tonight reminiscing about this conference and trip and I have no regrets. I won't lie that the only consistent thing in my world is being inconsistent. At times I have let my membership lapse. And yes, I feel guilty when I do it. AAFCS is always in my heart because it is made up of some of the most amazing people I have ever met. And some I have yet to meet. I am hoping to keep my 2019 excuses at bay because I really hope there is St. Louis Arch in my future. And if you have excuses too, I hope this is the year they run out. You are truly missing an incredible experience.

Char Kelley

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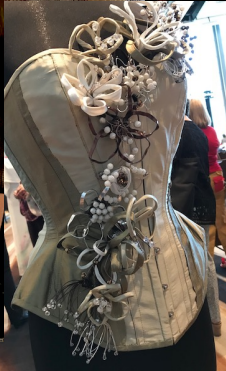
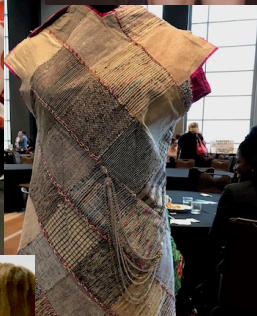
Celebrating after the Awards Banquet



**Award Winners with AAFCS
president, Jacqueline Holland**



Conference Candid Pics:





International Federation for Home Economics World Congress 2020 will be held in Atlanta, August 2-8, 2020. Information was distributed during the AAFCS Atlanta conference. Carol Anderson, past IFHE US president, is liaison on the WAFCS Board to share information with us as it develops.

Update from FCCLA and Wisconsin FCCLA Foundation

Marilyn Swiontek, CFCS, V-P of External Relations

Congratulations to all of the Wisconsin FCCLA STAR Event participants at the FCCLA 2018 National Leadership Conference in Atlanta! There were 126 participants representing Wisconsin and they earned 69 Gold, 49 Silver, and 8 Bronze medals. Wisconsin FCCLA Foundation supports national STAR Event participants from Wisconsin by offering their chapters a \$35 per individual grant to help defray the cost of STAR Event registration.

Nationally, over 4,200 students competed in 32 different national STAR Events.

Also at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference, 25 seniors attended the signing ceremony to 'Say YES to FCS' and pledge their future as an FCS educator. FCCLA is doing its part to encourage a new generation of FCS teachers!

(The FCCLA National Leadership Conference took place at a nearby hotel immediately following the AAFCS conference)

The 2019 AAFCS Leadership Academy

June 22-23, 2019

St. Louis, Missouri

(Two Days prior to AAFCS Annual Conference)

Are you an AAFCS professional who wants to be a Mentor for an Emerging AAFCS Leader participating in the 2019 Leadership Academy?

(Application Deadline February 15, 2019)

Are you a “New” AAFCS Member, wanting to gain Leadership Skills and make a difference in AAFCS?

(Application Deadline October 1, 2018)

Mentor Requirements:

- Must have had National and/or Affiliate leadership experience in AAFCS;
- Have a minimum of 5 years of membership;
- Desire to develop AAFCS leaders;
- Attend the 2019 AAFCS Annual Conference to meet your mentee;
- Commit to a minimum of one year beginning June 2019

As a mentor you will:

- Spend time connecting with your mentee to gain insight as to his/her needs;
- Work with the mentee to develop goals for the mentee/mentor relationship;
- Identify and use multiple venues of communications with your mentee;
- Commit to one year beginning June 2019 to a mentor/mentee relationship;
- Partner with a mentee to enhance leadership abilities.

Participants will:

- Gain knowledge and skills which facilitate the development of their leadership skills;
- Become knowledgeable of AAFCS and leadership opportunities;
- Assume leadership roles in AAFCS and other professional arenas;
- Develop a supporting network of colleagues who will link them with resources throughout their professional and volunteer experiences;
- Partner with a mentor to enhance leadership abilities.

Participant Requirements:

- AAFCS Professional Member for 7 years or less (as of Oct. 1, 2018);
- B.S. degree or greater (by August 21, 2018);
- Must attend the 2019 Leadership Academy and AAFCS Annual Conference;
- Commit to work individually, with a mentor, and with a cohort June 2019-June, 2020 on further development of leadership skills through completing an Affiliate project and AAFCS Project;
- Participate and be involved in networking and ongoing learning and interacting online;
- Attendance at 2020 Annual Conference strongly encouraged.

Please consider this great opportunity. WI has had several mentors but not a “Participant” though we have many quality individuals. Watch for further information at www.aafcs.org under “Who Are We”

SAVE THESE DATES!!!

March 7, 8, 9, 2019

WAFCS Annual Conference

The Wintergreen Resort and Conference Center
Wisconsin Dells, WI

June 23 - 26, 2019

AAFCS Annual Conference

St. Louis, MO

Has Your Membership Lapsed?

It is easy to slip by and not renew in a timely manner. Now is a good time to play “catch up”. It is easy to renew right on the AAFCS website.

WAFCS Board of Directors 2018–2019

Executive Committee

President	Deborah Gangnon
President Elect	Mary Kaye Merwin
Immediate Past President	Carol Subera
Secretary	Virginia Hall
Treasurer	Susan Turgeson, Ed.D, CFCS

Ex-Officio

Executive Director	Janet Powell, CFCS
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Vice Presidents

VP Membership	Stephanie Love
VP Awards and Recognition	Carolyn Barnhart, CFCS
VP Technology/Communication	Kayla Correll, CFCS
VP External Relations	Marilyn Swiontek, CFCS
VP Public Policy	Charmaine Rimple, CFCS
VP Professional Development	Sarah Jill Puddy
Foundation Designee	Karen Goebel, CFCS

We are here to serve you. Contact information can be found on the WAFCS website at: www.wafcs.org.
Let us know your desires and concerns.

Stay Connected:

www.wafcs.org



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