



# Get the FACS

New York State Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Education  
Vol. 5 Issue 9

May 3, 2010

I have just returned from the May board meeting in Albany where Kelly Lang passed the gavel to me. I will officially begin as your state president on July 1 and I am looking forward to continuing the work of so many amazing presidents who have gone before me. We had some very productive work sessions during this board meeting. We spent some time planning for the NYS AFCSE professional development days in Oneonta on July 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> for NYS AFCSE professional development, held in conjunction with FCCLA summer leadership training, where you can look forward to some “product-ive” days! Some of you may opt for the track where you will spend your time learning, networking and having some “make it-take it” time so you can go back to your school in the fall with some fresh ideas and new things in hand. Others of you will choose to learn, network, grow and influence the future of our profession as you work on state curriculum-writing projects. And all of us will be able to see the young FCCLA leaders in our midst and be encouraged about our future! Other work sessions at the May board meeting led to the development of some public relations tools; new teacher tips for next year; and some important talking points to make when interfacing with our school district and state leaders in education. Stay tuned to future e-news and e-mails for ways to further strengthen your programs.

**Special thanks and recognition to three very special, strongly dedicated colleagues** who are stepping off the state board of NYS AFCSE after collectively serving us all for almost 100 years! **Enid Carter**, who was the first (and only!) chair of the scholarship committee which began in 1978 has decided it's time for someone else to take over. This has been a task she has lovingly done for so many years as one of our scholarships is in honor of our association founding member, Ruth Ritter, who was Enid's high school home economics teacher. We have some board members who will be acting co-chairs for now. If any of you are interested in serving on this committee, you would be following a very competent chair who will be a wonderful source of information and advice. **Linda Dworetzky** has been the teacher recruitment chair and has done a fine job of keeping track of what's happening at the colleges with the numbers of upcoming FACS teachers, as well as encouraging many to consider FACS as their profession. This task will now be carried on by our college teacher educators, and member Mary Long will join them as chair for our newest committee of Teacher Mentoring. And finally, **Grace Wendland** has served with heart for so many years as

Chair of the Regional Conferences as well as on the Nominations Committee. Mary-Jo Budd is coming on board for Regional Conferences and Marie Elliott will be joining the Nominations committee. I cannot imagine beginning my tenure as state president without Grace at our board meetings -- does it seem to you that she has nominated and run?!?! ☺ -- and I look forward to still seeing her, as well as Linda and Enid, at other functions in the state in the future.

We have wonderful role models to follow in Enid, Linda and Grace. Each of us can honor them and the others who have influenced and mentored us when we all continue to grow professionally and strengthen our organization and teach with passion as Family & Consumer Science Educators.

Barb Mikler-Crandon, President-Elect  
Bmiklercrandon@newark.k12.ny.us

---

## Ask a Pro

*Dear Pro: Between warmer weather, more daylight and spring break, my students seem interested in everything except schoolwork. How can I keep them focused enough to make the rest of the year worthwhile? Frustrated Teacher*

**Dear Teacher:** This time of the year is a challenge to all of us. Many experienced teachers will arrange their curriculum so that they're teaching units the kids are most excited about now. A foods lab will compete with the best weather. It's also a good time to do culminating activities such as child development labs, nutrition fairs, community outreach as these are also motivating to students and provides them opportunities to use what they have learned in class. Whenever students see a real-world need for what they are learning, they will be more engaged.

As always, send me your questions and frustrations and we'll see if we can help you find answers. We're all in this together. [phillip3@twcny.rr.com](mailto:phillip3@twcny.rr.com)

---

**Celiac Disease & the Gluten-Free Diet: What Everyone Needs to Know** - conference at Paul Smith's College, June 19, 2010. Nutrition experts will present current

research. There will be a hands-on component. Elizabeth Barbon, author of Easy Gluten Free Baking, will present Gluten-Free Baking 101.

Here is the brochure/registration link:

[www.glutenfreediet.ca/img/Paul\\_Smiths\\_Celiac\\_Conference.pdf](http://www.glutenfreediet.ca/img/Paul_Smiths_Celiac_Conference.pdf)

This information was sent in by Mary MacNaught, Roxbury Central School

---

Greetings from Cornell Nutrition Works, the online professional development program at [www.nutritionworks.cornell.edu](http://www.nutritionworks.cornell.edu).

Registration is now open!  
Preventing Childhood Obesity: An Ecological Approach  
April 28 through June 8, 2010

Go to [www.ecornell.com/cnw](http://www.ecornell.com/cnw) to register and for more information. There is a link to a course outline under the More Information section on this page. Note you can take the course as an individual or as part of a team. Please contact me for more details.

Here are some comments from those who have already taken this course:

I found the course to be thought provoking and it encouraged me to look at issues from multiple perspectives. I would recommend to anyone who has an interest in childhood obesity. Overall, I felt the course was easy to use and well done. Thank you!

This ecological approach has been extremely useful... It is empowering!

A brief summary of the course is below. Note, space in the course is limited, so register now!

Please feel free to forward this message to interested colleagues.

Christina

Childhood obesity is of concern to many members of the community. Faculty in the Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell have developed an in-depth online course to help guide you in taking an ecological approach to preventing childhood obesity in a local community. An ecological approach leads you through a series of assessments (of behavior, of the environment, and then of specific local factors) to help you diagnose the underlying causes of excessive weight gain in children. An intervention based on this approach is more likely to be effective because it focuses on changes needed at the local level to support healthy eating and active living.

In this 6-week long course, you will be applying this approach, while focusing on a community where you work, via a four-part project that runs through the course. A facilitator will interact with you and other participants throughout the course. The format provides structured flexibility, which allows you to work on your own time and at your own pace, but within structured deadlines. The course is expected to take approximately 2 to 3 hours of time per week over the 6 weeks for a total of 12-18 hours. Class size is limited to about 25. The cost is \$150 and the course provides 15 CPEUs.

If you have questions, contact [nutritionworks@cornell.edu](mailto:nutritionworks@cornell.edu).

**Fall Best Practices Conference October 22-23, 2010 Holiday Inn Kingston 12401.** This conference will provide all FACS teachers with Best Practices from all areas for both Middle and High school courses. The tentative costs will be \$175 conference fee for members and the room is \$109 each night. Information on how to register will come later. There will be only 130 participants.

**Do you want to be one of the presenters? Send your best practices to Debbie Hall at [dfacs01@yahoo.com](mailto:dfacs01@yahoo.com)** Twenty PB's are needed in each area. We know you have some great lessons....take the time to present it to your peers during the October meeting! **DEADLINE FOR Best Practices is coming up soon, contact Debbie for details.**

---

Due to the current budget crisis in NYS it appears many schools are looking at reducing their teaching staff. In some cases, this means reducing programs such as FACS. If your district is suggesting your FACS department to be reduced, please contact [dodi.cechnicki@gmail.com](mailto:dodi.cechnicki@gmail.com). We will keep a running list of schools where cuts have been proposed to help us keep abreast of this issue.

Additionally on a very positive note, many schools are looking for FACS teachers to fill current positions, please be sure to sign up for our employment service for daily updates to the list of job opportunities. See our webpage for Employment service details.

---

Test Development Workshop - CETE/OSU

July 12-14, 2010

Developing valid, reliable assessments (tests) of job specific knowledge and skills is critical to effective defensible practice in workforce development and human resources.

The Center on Education and Training for Employment at The Ohio State University will be conducting a Test Development Workshop July 12-14, 2010. For more information about the workshop please click on the following link:

[http://www.cete.org/\\_documents/TDW/TDW0710.pdf](http://www.cete.org/_documents/TDW/TDW0710.pdf)

The Center on Education and Training for Employment  
The Ohio State University  
1900 Kenny Road  
Columbus, OH 43210  
[www.cete.org](http://www.cete.org)

---

Get the FACS is sent monthly to our paid membership. If you know of a teacher who could benefit from our organization ask them to visit [www.NYSFACSE.org](http://www.NYSFACSE.org) for membership details.

E-news editor: [Dodi.cechnicki@gmail.com](mailto:Dodi.cechnicki@gmail.com) Distribution: [SWare@nscsd.org](mailto:SWare@nscsd.org)