



Bertoncino Joins FCS Faculty

In the midst of growth in the interior design program at Pitt State, southeast Kansas native Denise Bertoncino brings strong creativity, and design and teaching skills to the program. Her goal for the program is "to create visibility...across the U.S. to promote growth and to raise the standards within classes and on projects so that we may work towards FIDER accreditation."



Bertoncino began her academic career at Pittsburg State University. While on a national student exchange to Winthrop, S.C., she so enjoyed that part of the country she decided to transfer. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design and Master's of

Fine Arts in Interior Design from Winthrop University. While working on her master's degree, she had the opportunity to teach a course. In doing so, she decided this was her future. Upon graduation she applied for a teaching position at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., where she taught for ten years prior to coming to Pittsburg State this fall.

While at the University of Arkansas, faculty raised the standards of the program which became FIDER accredited. This, as well as her work with domestic and international travel to enhance student learning, were the two most meaningful aspects of her teaching career to date. She notes that "the difference in their (student) creativity for their projects was amazing" after such experiences. While in Arkansas she created an international faculty and student exchange program with Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland.

When asked about her specific interior design and art interests, Bertoncino acknowledges that "space planning is where my talents lie. Without good space planning, you won't have good design no matter how fantastic it looks." Having participated in juried exhibitions, Bertoncino's art medium is the development of wall hangings and floorcloths created using acrylics on canvas. She also enjoys doing small watercolors of places she's visited in Europe on study tours.

Bertoncino's interior design skills are invaluable as Chandler Hall faces major renovation in the near future. While at the University of Arkansas, she worked on the Classrooms of Tomorrow project, which consisted of selecting four prototypical rooms within the College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences and creating a series of designs with material boards, and specifications. Each one of these classrooms provided a different type of atmosphere; distance education, a

(see Bertoncino, pg. 3)

From the Chairperson

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I sit down to reflect and prepare this article twice a year, my mind seems to always come back to one word, CHANGE. CHANGE seems to be the essence of our life in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and Chandler Hall. We anticipate this as a continued theme for the near future.

This past June, I participated in the Kappa Omicron Nu preconference at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Meeting in Chicago. Prior to that meeting, we were encouraged to read an article entitled "Beep! Beep! Competing in the

Age of the Road Runner." This article was written by one of the co-authors of the book by the same title, Oren Harari. The illusion of the Roadrunner vs. the Coyote in our approach to solving problems made a strong impression on me. The coyote uses old models while the roadrunner is flexible and faster in approach. Higher education is often viewed as steeped with tradition and structure to the point of responding slowly to the need for change.

If the department is to be competitive in this rapidly changing world, we must function on the edge. This means CHANGE will perpetually remain in our vocabulary and everyday experience. This is difficult to do when commodities of personnel, time and money are limited. *(see Chair, pg. 2)*

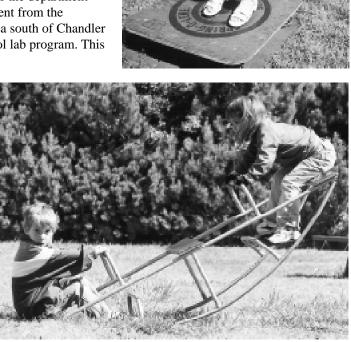


Playgrounds "R" Us

Visions for the future can become a reality. They may take time but we need to celebrate the milestones as they pass to recognize how far we have come. We have been working to increase the visibility of the early childhood program and construct a suitable playground space for the preschool laboratory program. Years of effort are moving toward success in the form of a playground to be constructed in the space just south of Chandler Hall, where for years university greenhouses were located.

Over the past year the department received a commitment from the university for the area south of Chandler Hall for the preschool lab program. This

area is ideally suited for a playground because of its proximity to the preschool's main entrance. This will allow high visibility for our program that for 35 years has been hidden behind greenhouses. Removal of the old greenhouses occured this fall upon the completion of



new larger greenhouse space on the east side of campus.

As of October 13, all that was left was a patch of bare earth. We now can imagine how the playground will look one day. Construction of the new playground will be delayed for about a year for major renovations on the entire building including the preschool space. When these renovations are completed the playground will be built.

The vision: the preschool playground will be a multi-purpose space including a multi-purpose climber, bike track, sand box, patio with a shelter and a grass area. A new shed will double our storage space and a fence constructed around the perimeter will provide safety. The preschool program will be accredited.

Funding needed: the new playground will cost approximately \$25,000 with funds being raised through donations, foundation support, fees from the preschool program, fund raisers by Early Childhood Student Organization and special projects. We hope students, alumni, and friends of the university will embrace this vision as we move toward becoming a model program for early childhood education and care in the region. We need to start now to reach our goal of beginning construction on the playground when Chandler Hall renovation is complete.

If you would like to be a part of this effort in a special way or have ideas for fund raising please contact Dr. Duane Whitbeck at dwhitbec@pittstate.edu or call 316/235-4459.

Chair (from pg. 1)

Over the past year, several new opportunities presented themselves. Below are new resources gained through these opportunities.

- New sewing machines were donated by the Wichita Home Economists in Business organization.
- An AAFCS Massachusetts Avenue Building Grant was received to launch FACSNet to link PSU faculty and community college and high school teachers.
- An additional computer was added to create the third station in our expanding computer lab.
- \$1.3 million has been dedicated to renovate Chandler Hall. Relocation of the Department for a year will take effect immediately following the spring 2001 semester.
- An internal grant through Axe Library has been obtained to upgrade library holdings in our area.

Still, additional resources are being sought. In this newsletter you will read about plans to enhance the interior design program, addition of a permanent outdoor playground, and a list of anticipated needs for Chandler Hall following renovation. As alumni and friends, we will appreciate the contributions you make as well as referrals for other funding sources.

-Lynette J. Olson, PhD, CFLE

Departmental needs

Office furniture for faculty Seminar room tables and chairs Drafting tables and chairs for interior design studios Tables and chairs for 2 classrooms Computer work stations for lab Built-in cabinets for sewing machines Small conference table and chairs Bookcases Lateral filing cabinets Flat file storage Work tables Marker boards for classrooms Bulletin boards for hallways Multi-media equipment for classrooms



Anna DePlue, Early Childhood 1999, visited campus as a recruiter for K-State Research & Extension. Also pictured are Area Extension Specialist Gayle Price and Crawford County FACS Agent, Anna Mae Brown. Anna Mae serves on the FCS Advisory Board.

Fall 2000 Phi Upsilon Omicron Initiates



Jessica Metcalfe, Karla Musser, Kimberly Smith and Kirsten Farabi.

CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE

www.pittstate.edu/fcs/ Please send us your comments, address updates, and information for our alumni news!

Bertoncino (*from pg. 1*) computer laboratory, a regular lecture

room, and an auditorium. These are currently being used as tools for receiving funding from donors.

Believing that students need real life projects, Bertoncino has already involved FCS students at Pittsburg State in these venues for learning. She recounts an interesting and challenging project while at the University of Arkansas. She and her students did a casino project in a commercial studio. They traveled to St. Louis and Las Vegas to meet with two of the largest casino design firms.

An important question asked by parents and students alike concerns the employment future for interior designers. Bertoncino believes the field is wide open with "a place for everyone in interior design from being a sales representative for a large manufacturer to hotel design to designing interiors of airlines. The choices are limitless." She does qualify her statement with the reality that "what a person does have to decide is where they are willing to live. Most commercial positions are located in a larger city."

We welcome Denise Bertoncino to the faculty at Pittsburg State!



Panayiuota (Penny) Partakki, FCS Education major from Cyprus, in the PSU Homecoming Parade with international students from various countries.

alumni spotlight

Lois Carlson & Mary Ann Shurtz

Two of our outstanding alumni share not only a professional bond, but also a family bond. Lois (O'Malley) Carlson (1964) and MaryAnn (O'Malley) Shurtz (1968) are sisters. Both Lois and Mary Ann have been remarkably successful in their careers, and serve well as role models to others in the profession of family and consumer sciences.

Since 1964, Lois has served Southeast Kansas in

many capacities through her role as Neosho County Extension Agent, FACS. She and her husband, Jim, are active in the Erie, Kan. community and highly respected for the contributions they make. Lois was recognized as the Outstanding PSU Alumnus in 1974 and as Outstanding PSU Alumnus of the FACS Department in 1992. In October she was elected Presidentelect of the Kansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Her work has enhanced the lives of many families in Neosho County.

Mary Ann also began her career in extension work and has worked in both Kansas and Virginia. She then served in the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs for 14 years where she was responsible for consumer education, working with consumer complaints, legislative matters and working with the Attorney General. Mary Ann and her husband Richard currently serve as President and Executive Vice President of Stratford College, a private educational institution dedicated to preparing students for challenging and rewarding careers in high demand fields, such as information technology, hospitality, culinary arts, and business administration. The college is located just outside Washington, D.C., in the Virginia suburbs. The web site is www.stratford.edu.

Our department is proud to recognize outstanding alumni such as Lois and Mary Ann. Their professional endeavors support Family and Consumer Sciences and encourage others to seek careers in the FCS profession. Most importantly, they have made a difference in people's lives.

Gina Kimble

Gina Kimble, a 1999 PSU graduate in Fashion Merchandising, is pursuing her master's in Counseling and Student Personnel Services at Kansas State University. Her first interest in graduate work was an area of family and consumer sciences. Then, she visited with Dr. Mike Dannells of K-State about student



personnel services. Gina is a strong believer "that out of class experience is essential to the success of college students." She feels that "working with student leaders is extremely rewarding" and "their triumphs and failures become my own." Gina feels she provides positive assistance to students on the path of maturity and growth to become more independent and better prepared for the real world.

While at PSU, Gina was very active in extracurricular activities. Leadership roles on the PSU dance team and as President of Phi Upsilon Omicron aided in building her confidence enough to accept the challenges of graduate school. Gina feels she was completely prepared to take on the rigors of graduate school and believes she was ready because education was her priority. Gina says, "I had an amazing undergraduate experience and I found that many of my undergraduate courses provided a foundation of knowledge that often assists in graduate coursework."

Gina has set exciting long term goals. In five years, Gina would like to be an Assistant Coordinator of Student Activities at a large residential college or university. In that role she would act as advisor to Student Government members, work with the program board, and register campus organizations. In ten years, Gina plans to be Director of Student Activities and Services and/or Program Manager at a large residential college or university. Her responsibilities would include managing and supervising support staff while working more directly with the executive members of the programming board and student government. During those years, Gina plans to have an active leadership role in professional associations and to complete a doctoral degree.

Working in the student services office, Gina recently was promoted to serve as the Student Union's Interim Program Advisor. Gina's responsibilities include: advising Feature Films, Kaleidoscope Films, Eclectic Entertainment, and Multicultural student committees; developing student leaders; coordinating Family Day activities and summer programs; attending executive council, program staff, and union staff meetings; coordinating union in-house committees; maintaining budgets for 6 areas within the program board; and providing continual support in the linkage between class work and out-of-class experiences. Other roles include that of a cheerleader, a voice of reason, and a shoulder for students to cry on.

Gina offers this advice to current Pittsburg State FCS students, "It is amazing what you can accomplish and how rewarding it can be when you truly love your job. Find your passion and pursue a career that warms your heart and makes you smile." She also recommends graduate school. "The knowledge, maturity, and focus obtained in grad school is indescribable. Opportunities to network with other professionals and the information learned in classes is always applicable to your career."

We are proud of recent graduates such as Gina who find success through employment or graduate study.

2000-2001 Scholarships

The following students received a total of \$14,010 in various scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year:

ALUMNI INCOMING

- STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP
- Chelsea Delaney, *Fashion Merchandising*, Garland, Kan.

Anne Endecott, *Early Childhood Development,* Derby, Kan.

Erica Fletcher, Interior Design, Riverton, Kan. Arneka Franklin, Early Childhood Development,

Pittsburg, Kan. Sunshine Menefee, *Interior Design*, Fort Scott, Kan.

Melissa Roberson, *Fashion Merchandising*, Olathe, Kan.

- Shelly Smith, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences*, Riverton, Kan.
- Renee Steinlage, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences*, Corning, Kan.

E. LOUISE GIBSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Billy Campbell, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences,* Council Bluffs, Iowa

Kacey Clarke, Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences, Yates Center, Kan.

- Pam Hartman, *Early Childhood Development,* Blue Mound, Kan.
- Falisha Kyser, Early Childhood Development, Walnut, Kan.

Fawn Mace, F*ashion Merchandising,* Ottawa, Kan.

Jessica Metcalfe, *Interior Design,* Cummings, Kan.

Amanda Wilson, *Early Childhood Development*, Coffeyville, Kan.

E. LOUISE GIBSON PHI UPSILON OMICRON SCHOLARSHIP

Emily Mahan, *Interior Design,* Deerfield, Kan. Holly Page, *Interior Design,* Girard, Kan.

Margaret Ross, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences,* Scammon, Kan.

Brandy Shere, Interior Design, Galena, Kan. Jill VanSlyke, Interior Design, Webb City, Mo.

MARY KERN MARTIN SCHOLARSHIP

Jessica Carrier, *Early Childhood Development,* Carthage, Mo.

Tracy Edwards, Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences, Altoona, Kan.

Lesley Jackson, *Early Childhood Development,* Havanna, Kan.

SUE HIPPENSTEEL MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP

Ann Altenhofen, *Early Childhood Development,* Linwood, Kan.

VIOLA LACHER ROE HOLMES SCHOLARSHIP

Tina Camper, *Early Childhood Development,* Arma, Kan.

PSU STUDENT SECTION OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Ann Altenhofen, *Early Childhood Development,* Linwood, Kan.

Billy Campbell, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences,* Council Bluffs, Iowa

Amber Kirkland, *Early Childhood Development,* Pittsburg, Kan.

GREATER KANSAS CITY AREA FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES SCHOLARSHIP Margaret Ross, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences*, Scammon, Kan.

ANITA K. LAURENT SCHOLARSHIP Holly Page, Interior Design, Girard, Kan.

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS TEACHERS SCHOLARSHIP Margaret Ross, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences,* Scammon, Kan.

KANSAS FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES DISTRICT J SCHOLARSHIP Billy Campbell, *Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences*, Council Bluff, Iowa

GINA SHARP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP Amber Kirkland, *Early Childhood Development*, Pittsburg, Kan.

CARRIE ARLENE WILLIAMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Tami Gillespie, *Fashion Merchandising,* Mulvane, Kan.

Jennifer Lord, *Fashion Merchandising,* Stilwell, Kan.

2000 Student Organizations and Faculty Leadership Awards

2000 GOLDEN GORILLA RECIPIENTS Andrea Jordan and Jenny Lord

MOST IMPROVED STUDENT ORGANIZATION Kansas Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR Dr. Duane Whitbeck

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS AWARD Joyce Rose

FINALIST FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR Andrea Jordan



Holly Page receives a scholarship certificate and plaque from Olive Ubel on behalf of the Anita K. Laurent Foundation in Topeka.

Spring and Summer 2000 Graduates

Valarie Barnes, interior design and fashion merchandising from Topeka, Kan., is buyer for Payless Shoe Source in Topeka. Valerie is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society.

Carri Cole, interior design from Olathe, Kan., is interior designer for new construction with Weber Carpet in Lenexa, Kan.

Jaclyn Couch, early childhood development from Baxter Springs, Kan., is working with young children in Wichita and coaching gymnastics.

Tami Gregory, fashion merchandising from Coldwater, Kan., is with Rhodes Furniture Store in Olathe, Kan.

Lori Haun, interior design from Joplin, Mo., is an interior designer with Lang & Company in Joplin. Lori is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society.

Lettie Henson, fashion merchandising from McCune, Kan., is employed at Sharp's Department Store in Checotah, Okla.

Amiee (Jackson) Moore, fashion merchandising from Independence, Kan, is manager of the retail section of the Kringle Company in Chicago, Ill.

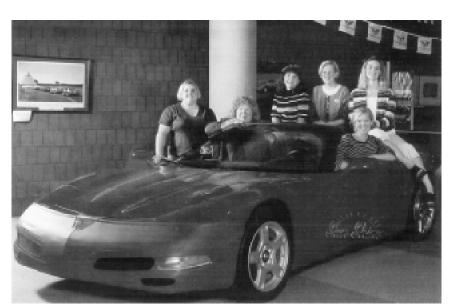
Charla Jenney, fashion merchandising from Columbus, Kan., is in the visual merchandising department at The Jones Store in Overland Park, Kan.

Andrea Jordan, early childhood development from Pittsburg, Kan., is lead preschool teacher at the Family Resource Center in Pittsburg. Andrea is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society. Andrea and husband, Brent, had a daughter, Kayln Nicol on December 20, 1999.

Andrea Patton, fashion merchandising from Bartlesville, Okla., is with Sun and Ski in Tulsa, Okla.

Jamie Rasmussen, vocational education from Olathe, Kan., is teaching family & consumer sciences at DeSoto High School in DeSoto, Kan.

Karla Rausch, vocational education from Belle Plaine, Kan., is teaching family & consumer sciences at Derby High School in Derby, Kan. Karla is a



Heather Pyle, Lynette Olson, Jill Vanslyke, Karol Blaylock, Emily Mahan and Brandy Shere enjoy the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky., while attending Phi Upsilon Omicron Biennial Conclave, October 2000.

MARK YOUR GALENDAR

PSU Family & Consumer Sciences CAREER DAY Monday, February 26, 2001

Plan to visit campus and bring students interested in pursuing degrees in Family & Consumer Sciences. For more information contact: Ms. Cris Elliott at celliott@pittstate.edu or call 316/235-4512

member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society and graduated with Summa Cum Laude scholastic honors.

Courtney Rector, early childhood development from Baxter Springs, Kan., is the center director for a childcare program in Columbus, Kan. Courtney graduated with Cum Laude scholastic honors.

Abby Rink, fashion merchandising from Humboldt, Kan., is assistant buyer at Shepler's Western Wear in Wichita, Kan. Abby is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society. Abby married Patrick Wilhite on July 8, 2000 in Humboldt, Kan. **Josette Schnaufer**, early childhood development from Lamar, Mo., has moved to Nevada until her husband finishes officer training school and they are relocated.

Angela Thomas, vocational education from Golden City, Mo., is teaching family & consumer sciences at Carthage Middle School in Carthage, Mo. Angela is a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron Honor Society.

Christina Vaughan, interior design from Pittsburg, Kan., is a graphic designer with Names and Numbers in Pittsburg, Kan.

ALUMNI NEWS

Danielle (Lythgoe) Beitzinger, '99, married Brian Beitzinger on May 29, 1999. The couple reside in Kansas City.

Joel Emerson, '99, is manager-intraining at The Buckle in Lawrence, Kan.

Jayme Ernst, '99, is assistant manager of Claire's Accessories on Meadowbrook Mall in Pittsburg.

Chuckie Hessong, '99, and husband Ted became parents to Grant in August, 2000. Chuckie is family and consumer sciences teacher at Frontenac High School, Frontenac, Kan.

Cynthia Leniton, '99, is Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent in Chautauqua County in Sedan, Kan. This is a half-time position. She is also coordinator for STOP the Violence Grant (Students Taking on Prevention). The grant is for a national program with Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

Amy Spigarelli, '99, is manager of Claire's Accessories on Meadowbrook Mall in Pittsburg.

SaeHee (Kang) Kim, '98, is working toward a doctoral degree in Social Work at the University of Texas in Austin. **Betsy (Rhodes) Knowles**, '98, and her husband became parents in March to Ty Hunter. Betsy is with Training Plus in Pittsburg.

Kathy (Moulds) Sullivan, '98, is preschool teacher and director at Zion Lutheran Preschool in Independence, Kan.

Jill Arck, '97, is project coordinator at Gear for Sports in Lenexa, Kan.

Merike (Kolts) Jacobs, '97, is visual coordinator at Banana Republic in Conway, Ark. Merike and husband Brett had a baby boy, Brady Connor, on September 3, 2000.

Christa (Finley) Jahay, '97, is office manager for Regier Construction in Newton, Kan. Construction duties include looking at job sights, front work on bid information and bidding jobs.

Tammie Neppl, '97, is a dental receptionist and waitress in Minneapolis, Kan. Tammie is current president of Family & Community Educators of the Ottawa County "New Generation."

Kathy (Osburn) Woods, '97, is employed in sales and interior design for Woods Lumber Company in Independence, Kan. Kathy and husband, Mark, have two sons.



Jean Jack, Construction Techniques instructor, is shown with student Brooke Dunlap, working on one of three new Elna 3005 sewing machines. The machines were donated by the Wichita HEIB organization. Donation was organized by Bev Seyfert, Marilyn Fitzsimmons, Shirley Voran and Karen Blair. Donations such as this make a significant improvement in the quality of education our students receive and are very much appreciated.

Nilla Madden, '96, and husband Allen had a daughter, Miranda SueZann on January 12, 2000.

Dana Robinson, '96, is assistant property manager at Pinnacle Highland Apartments for BRE Properties in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Rick Blancett, '95, is employed in the accounting department of Wal-Mart in Carthage, Mo.

Charlotte Clark, '94, is a cook at Willowcrest Hospital in Miami, Okla.

Julie (Christine) Redd, '91, and husband Mark, had a daughter, Taylor Christine, October 24, 1999.

Kimberly Clark, '90, and husband John became parents of a daughter, Kayla Lou-Ann, June 25, 1999. They reside in Pittsburg.

Julie Dainty '89, and husband Tim had a daughter on April 22, Abigail Faith.

Myrna (Dringenberg) Robinson, '84, has been a 15-year associate with Wal-Mart in the fabric department. Myrna and husband, Hugh, have three children and reside in Sikeston, Mo.

Kimberly (Rector) Morgan-Easter, '83, is a Family & Consumer Sciences teacher and FCCLA advisor at Carl Junction High School in Missouri. She and husband Doug have a daughter, Chelsey.

Melissa (Gibson) Arbuckle, '80, is a Family & Consumer Sciences teacher at Pittsburg Middle School. She and husband, Bob, had a son Chase, born July 19, 1999.

Rosemary (Warren) Cromer, '68, is in her 18th year as family & consumer sciences teacher at Shawnee Mission Middle School. Her husband, Joe, is math teacher. They have three children and reside in Overland Park, Kan.

Mary Lee (Justice) Edwards, '61, was awarded the Kansas Distinguished Service Award by the Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at the annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., in conjunction with the Missouri affiliate. Mary Lee spent six weeks last summer working for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She was a trainer of assessors for Career and Technical Education Teachers. Mary Lee participated in the benchmarking process in San Antonio for two weeks in June.

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We are very interested in what our alumni are doing these days. We have not heard from some of you for years! Please update us today by RETURNING THIS FORM

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attach a separate sheet if necessary

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Department of Family & Consumer Sciences Pittsburg State University 1701 S. Broadway



Contributions

Pittsburg, KS 66762-7556

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences would like to thank all those who have been so generous with their contributions from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000:

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Dr. Lynette Olson

We sincerely apologize if any names were inadvertently left off the above list. If your name was omitted, please let us know so that it can be corrected in the future.

Our spring 2001 class schedule may be found on the PSU web page www.pittstate.edu

New courses offered for spring: FCS 740-01 Special Events Planning FCS 740-81 Personal & Family Wellness on February 10 & 17, 2001 in Chanute, Kan.