



Pittsburg State University • Fall 2014

Family & Consumer Sciences

TODAY

Making a difference in the world

Dr. Duane Whitbeck

This newsletter's theme is "Making a Difference in the World." Family and Consumer Sciences as a profession is interconnected and networked with aspects at every level of society. Recently Carol Werhan, Troy Anderson, and I along with nine of our students attended the AAFCS National Conference in St. Louis. Last year five students attended the conference in Houston Texas. Each year Pittsburg State has one of the largest groups of students that attend

the national conference and they come back energized about their profession and about the things they learned. Last year Holly Page and Denise Bertoncino engaged students from two interior design courses in addressing the issue of renovating a local school auditorium that was originally built in 1928 that was in need of major repair. Taking on such service learning opportunities helped to teach that a small group of interested, dedicated people

can make a difference.

FCS is a discipline where we both work on prevention of problems through education as well as help to address needs through networking, collaboration and specific knowledge that will make a difference. We challenge you to share with others weekly what you do and what opportunities there are for the next generation who can make a difference in their world with a FCS related degree.

Make a difference

*Dr. Duane Whitbeck,
chairperson*

A former faculty member Cris Elliott gave a charge to new initiates of Phi Upsilon Omicron. It was titled, "Do your best and then make it better." She stated that "each individual



Whitbeck

should take our profession forward to heights that it has never seen. Open new doors and when you enter, take a marching band with you. Make sure your message is heard loud and strong. Let everyone you encounter know how important and how vital Family and Consumer Sciences is to our world. Yes, Do your best and then make it better." Recently I developed a course on Advocacy where students each identified an issue they want to develop an advocacy plan around. During the semester I shared my own plan as we went through the steps of gaining the necessary support for making a difference. Nothing happens in isolation and through the efforts of Dr. Carol Werhan, FCS Teacher Educator, and others at the state level, and NASAFACS we have worked on a project to get Family & Consumer Sciences Education recognized as a teacher shortage area. Currently there are so many openings that graduates have

(see, Difference, pg. 7)



Family & Consumer Sciences is well represented at the AAFCS national conference in St. Louis in June 2014 with three faculty members and nine students. Three students co-presented a workshop with Dr. Duane Whitbeck. Dr. Carol Werhan and Troy Anderson each also gave presentations. Missing from the picture is faculty member Troy Anderson.



Fashion Merchandising

At a recent national conference for administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences programs an initiative was shared by the National Retail Federation (NRF) in a presentation titled “Cultivating the Next Generation of Retail Leaders.” The effort is designed at getting university programs such as our Fashion Merchandising and Interior Merchandising programs to help supply the next generation of business leaders that are needed for companies. It was stated that, “too often people associate retail as being the person working the cash register.” This effort is aimed at helping students understand what jobs are needed above the point of sale level. There are many more people that work behind the scene for every one retail person you do see when you buy something. Merchandising jobs provide long-term professional opportunities and financial potential. In looking at where our alumni are working it is easy to see that they are making a difference and getting those jobs. In a recent review of PSU and FCS alumni current job titles here is what was found: Marketing Coordinator, Internet Merchandiser, Fitting Consultant, Visual Merchandiser, Account Manager, Office Manager, Sales Representative, Design Associate, Account Services Coordinator, Store Manager, Assistant Manager, Buyer, Freelance Writer, Finance Department, Marketing and Sales. It is easy to see that most of these job titles are not what you might automatically think of when choosing a major in college but they are all destinations on the path to success.

Making a small difference in the world

Dr. Amber Tankersley

Early Childhood professionals make an attempt each day to make a difference in the world. Those who work with young children plan experiences for children to socialize and practice their developing academic skills. Perhaps the most important goal that we have for young children is the development of social competence—the ability to perceive, interpret, and respond in a variety of social situations. Social competence is the building block for children’s future learning and relationship building. To borrow a term from a favorite resource, we are “Starting Small.” If young children are given the opportunity to work and play with other children they will learn how to make friends, negotiate conflicts, and practice prosocial behavior. Early childhood settings allow children a chance to practice social skills that when perfected will allow them to function effectively in the social world outside of their home.

The quality social experiences that a child has in an early childhood program may later positively influence their interaction with others as an adult. What kind of opportunities do the children in the PSU preschool have in practicing social skills?

- Discovering similarities/differences between self and others
- Engaging in conversations with other children and adults
- Identifying and reacting to emotions in self and others
- Choosing a friend
- Making choices
- Problem solving
- Waiting a turn
- Helping a classmate
- Settling conflicts
- Self-regulation

These may not sound like major accomplishments to an adult, but for a child, these are monumental milestones in becoming socially competent. The more chances children are given to perfect their social skills with a warm, caring adult as a guide, the more likely these children will continue on in their lives to make their mark...a small difference in the world.



Send us students and we will send you teachers

Do you remember the old shampoo commercial that had the line, “If you tell two friends, then they’ll tell two friends, and so on and so on.” Nothing travels so well as a great message. We are making this the goal for this year to spread the word about Family & Consumer Sciences more than ever before. School districts need and are desperately searching for Family & Consumer Sciences teachers. The best way to get them is to send us students who will likely be interested in returning back to their general home area.

New Faculty Members

Two new faculty members joined the department in Fall 2013.

TROY ANDERSON

Troy Anderson will be advising for the Community and Family Services option while working closely with FACS Ed.

Troy joined the faculty after teaching in North Carolina. During his five years at Clayton High School, he was responsible for a variety of FACS content courses. He also served as FCCLA advisor, and as district advisor to the top FCCLA district in North Carolina. Troy mentored many students who participated in the National FCCLA STAR Events receiving top honors in several categories. In addition to his ability to make a difference in student's lives and his impressive classroom management, his North Carolina mentors commented on his successful planning and implementation of the 2012 Fall District Leadership meeting bringing over 800 students, faculty, and stakeholders together.

Besides a BSE in Technical Vocational Education, FCS Studies, Clothing, Textiles & Design emphasis from the University of Technology, Jamaica, and a Masters in Teaching degree from The Mico University, Jamaica, Troy is currently completing an Educational Specialist degree at PSU and a Doctorate from Grand Canyon University. His research interests include Career-Technical Student Organizations and their impact on student engagement/retention as well as student assessment.

When asked what excited him most about this position, he responded:

"Teaching is a gift. One of the most gratifying elements of teaching at PSU is the opportunity to make an impact, an impression and an indelible mark. Teaching truly affects the future generations. What you say, what you do, and how you do it will stay with students and they in turn may pass it along to their own children in some way, shape, or form. They say that teaching touches the lives of the future, which is true. But it also helps alter the course of the future as well.

CHRISTINA COOK

Christina Cook will be advising for the Fashion Merchandising option.

Chrissy returned to PSU after working as a FACS teacher in the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada. During her seven years in Clark County, she taught Fashion, Child Development, Independent Living and Culinary classes at two of the over 50 high schools in that district. Her references spoke to her commitment to the profession and her willingness to take on new and challenging opportunities.

Chrissy's educational background emphasizes, Once a Gorilla, Always a Gorilla, as all of her coursework was from PSU. Her credentials include a BS in Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Fashion Merchandizing, FCS teacher certification, and a Master degree in Teaching with an emphasis in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). Chrissy is currently enrolled in a second Masters through K-State.

When asked what excited her most about this new position, she responded:

I am very excited to again be living in Pittsburg, my hometown and to now be working at my alma mater! Leaving home and family to teach in Las Vegas was an exciting time in my life! The hard part was being away from my family. Then a great opportunity was before me, to teach Fashion Merchandising at PSU. I jumped at the opportunity! The FCS department at Pitt State is where I received my foundation, knowledge, and skills to go out and teach at the high school level to many future designers, models, child care workers, and chefs. It's my passion for fashion that drove me to return to Pitt State! I hope to have many successful years of teaching at PSU and also to achieve my educational goal of obtaining my doctorate.



Anderson



Cook

Interior design begins transition

Interior Design has been an important part of Family & Consumer Sciences at PSU for many years. Over the past eight years it has been the goal of having the program accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA). Accreditation is the stamp of quality provided by fellow professionals for programs that are at the top of professional preparation. Over those years the department has gone through both mock accreditations conducted by members of the Interior Design Advisory Board, a self-study by faculty and a yearly assessment by students using the CIDA professional standards. To become accredited was beyond the resources of the department. The students in the interior design program have generally completed a minor in Construction Technology through the PSU School of Construction.

A move of the program was proposed by the FCS department and by working in concert with the School of Construction to develop a stand-alone degree in Interior Design at PSU. In the Spring, 2014 semester the interior design faculty members were transitioned to the School of Construction as they initiate a new program. Current students in the interior design area have the option of completing the FCS-Interior Design degree or to transition to the School of Construction Interior Design degree after it is established (anticipated by Fall, 2015). This move was a result of reduced enrollments in interior design due to the program lacking accreditation and with the goal of program growth. Students graduating from this program have generally been successful within their field and this is expected to continue and increase.

50 YEARS AND GOING STRONG!

The PSU Little Gorilla's Preschool is excited to celebrate 50 years of serving Pittsburg area children and early childhood majors. A celebration is planned for Thursday, September 25. Watch for details on www.pittstate.edu/fcs and our Facebook site.

Everyone Needs A

NUTRITION CLASS



Become a FACS Teacher



Family & Consumer Sciences
Pittsburg State University

www.pittstate.edu/departments/family/

Money Management!



Become a FACS Teacher

It's more
complicated
than it
looks.



Family & Consumer Sciences
Pittsburg State University

www.pittstate.edu/department/family/

A lifetime of giving

Cris Elliott, emeritus faculty member from the Family & Consumer Sciences department at PSU retired at the end of the spring 2013 academic year. Her professional commitment as a mentor of students and the profession included 17 years teaching at the Grandview High School, Raytown Middle School and Raytown High School, and 15 years on the faculty at Pittsburg State University. During her time as a faculty member at PSU she served on numerous committees at the department, college and university level. She grew the FCS Teacher Education program from less than five students to a high of forty-two students. Her leadership was recognized by the Kansas Association of Family & Consumer Sciences as an outstanding leader and she served in a variety of positions including as the KAFCS President. Cris exemplified what is best about the FCS professional.

Development of strong future leaders was a critical element in Cris's vision of her role as a teacher educator and because of that she helped to get both students and alumni involved in professional organizations. Cris regularly took students to the Kansas United Associations Conference each year. She also took students to the national AAFCS Conference and helped to prepare students for giving presentations at four national conferences. As Cris moved into retirement we have worked with her to set up the Cristine Elliott FCS Student Professional Development Fund to assist future students in being able to attend professional development opportunities at state, regional and national conferences. Her legacy will continue to influence future teachers and FCS professionals.

Within the FCS department we currently have three funds that were established in the name of or by former

FCS Faculty. PSU Provost and former FCS Chair Lynette Olson established a scholarship for FCS students who show exemplary leadership. To make donations to this fund indicate The Lynette Olson FCS leadership Scholarship on your donation form, Doris Bradley established the Doris Bradley FCS Faculty Professional Development Fund to help support faculty professional development opportunities. Other donations are encouraged to be made to the FCS Alumni Fund which are used for scholarships, promotional purposes and other needs within the department. We encourage your support of the department through one or more of these established accounts. Individuals who would like to set up any additional scholarships should contact Dr. Duane Whitbeck, FCS Chair, or Becky May, Office of Development.

Family & Consumer Sciences Department Contribution

name _____

address _____

phone _____ year graduated _____

I would like to make a contribution or pledge to FCS in the amount of:

\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Please direct my gift to:

FCS Scholarships \$ _____

FCS Unrestricted Fund \$ _____

Doris Bradley FCS Faculty Development Fund \$ _____

Lynette Olson FCS Leadership Fund \$ _____

Cristine Elliott FCS Student Travel Fund \$ _____

Other \$ _____

FCS is included in my estate plans: yes no

Please send information about including FCS in my estate plans: yes no

I would like information about naming opportunities regarding a scholarship, the building or a room within the FCS building to leave a family legacy.

Please make checks payable to the **PSU Foundation**.

Send to: Ellen Carter, Pittsburg State University Foundation, Inc.,
P.O. Box 4005, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Thank you for your continued support!

Lois Carlson establishes a new scholarship in the FCS department

Lois Carlson (Class of 1964) and her husband Jim have established a scholarship in the FCS Department to be given out every other year. The scholarship will go to students in the FCS Teacher Education program as the first priority followed by Community and Family Services and Early Childhood Development. Students must be from Neosho, Cherokee, or Crawford counties. Lois was a FCS Extension Agent and Educator for over 40 years with the Kansas State University Extension in Neosho County. Her career involved a weekly radio program, a weekly newspaper column, hundreds of leader trainings for adults and youth. Lois has a strong commitment to the Family & Consumer Sciences field and what it means for addressing the major challenges and issues of society.

RJ Taylor Memorial Professional Development Scholarship

AUGUST 23, 1922 - FEBRUARY 11, 2013

PSU Teacher Education Students benefited from the memorial gifts of Ruth Jean Taylor. The RJ Taylor Memorial Professional Development Scholarship for FACS Teacher Education students was donated to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences to help students gain professional development through the attendance of professional conferences. This scholarship helped students attend events such as the annual Kansas United Conference and the annual conference of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences this past summer.

RJ Taylor, received her Teaching Degree from Kansas State Teacher's College, now Pittsburg State University, and taught Home Economics/FACS in the Pittsburg School District. She was a member of the Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority and a PittState cheerleader. She was a thoughtful and supportive educator her entire life. If you would like to make additional donations to fund student professional development in RJ's memory, please contact the Family & Consumer Sciences Department at PSU.



Contributions

These generous donors have given back to the department over the last two years. We truly appreciate their continued support during FY13 and FY14.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary G. Alford
Mr. and Mrs. Louise Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Barnes
Ms. Sylvia Barta
Mr. and Mrs. John F. Bass
Mr. and Mrs. Domenic C. Bertoncino
Mr. and Mrs. Larry E. Biles
Mrs. Karolyn Blaylock
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Blevins
Ms. Marjorie F. Booher
Mr. and Mrs. Jim D. Bracken
Mrs. Doris M. Bradley
Mrs. Marie C. Brinkman
Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Broyles
James M. and Lois O. Carlson
Revocable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Jim M. Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. William Christopher
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Collins
Mr. Phillip P. Cook
Joseph D. and Rosemary Cromer Trust
Ms. Lois E. Dickey
Mr. & Mrs. Harold D. Dunning
Ms. Linda L. Fadely
Mr. and Mrs. Marlen Frankenbery
Ms. Mandi J. Gash
Mr. and Mrs. Don R. Harryman
Mr. and Mrs. Alan L. Hauser
Ms. Jamie M. Hembrough
Home and Community Group of
Greater Kansas City Area

Ms. Samantha N. Horner-Cosper
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Ideker
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Jenkins
Kansas Association of Family and
Consumer Sciences
Mr. Carl Koffler
Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. Kumer
Ms. Virginia L. Lawrence
Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Marrone, Jr
Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Williams
Ms. Carolyn K. McClaskey
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Miller
Ms. Carolyn K. Moore
Dr. Lynette J. Olson
PEO Chapter CJ
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pugh
Ms. Margaret M. Radlund
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel T. Roberson
Mr. and Mrs. Kip C. Sagehorn
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sharp
Ms. Sherry R. Staton
Ms. Marla K. Sterling
Ms. Cassy A. Temaat
Ms. Susan L. Temaat Thorco
Holly A. Viets
Mr. Mark and Dr. Carol Werhan
Dr. and Mrs. Duane A. Whitbeck
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Willis

DIFFERENCE

(continued from pg. 1)

the pick of multiple positions and some are signing contracts even before student teaching. In Kansas there are two FCS Teacher Education preparation programs and both are operating significantly under capacity especially given the demand for new teachers. Additionally, current students within FCS are encouraged to consider taking some of the FCS Teacher Education preparation coursework. This will help prepare them for employment post-graduation should they return to school to complete certification to teach. By fitting in a few courses now while they are in school they can use the courses as electives toward graduation and significantly decrease additional time later.

The basics of Advocacy can be found in an outstanding book by Dr. John Daly. Among the critical elements of being a successful advocate is an ability to communicate your idea with impact. This is also known as "having a good story to tell." Developing a network of individuals to work with and through to get your message out and understanding the politics involved were other critical elements. Getting FCS Education recognized as a teacher shortage area nationwide means having a team of committed individuals involved in every state and building a network of support and communication to get the message out. Everyone can play a part. Share the need for FCS at the middle and high school level and the career opportunities that are available nationally for teachers of essential life skills as well as career preparation in all of the FCS career areas.

ALUMNI

PLEASE UPDATE US ABOUT "YOU!"

*We are very interested
in what our alumni are doing.*

**Please update us today by
RETURNING THIS FORM**

name _____

maiden name _____

degree _____

yr. grad from PSU _____

address _____

city _____

state _____ zip _____

phone(_____) _____

e-mail _____

your occupation(s) _____

spouse's name _____

PSU grad? _____

year _____

spouse's occupation _____

children _____

news _____

attach a separate sheet if necessary

PLEASE MAIL TO:

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

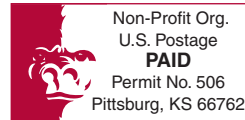
Family & Consumer Sciences

Pittsburg State University

1701 S. Broadway • Pittsburg, KS 66762-7556

or email to hviets@pittstate.edu

Pittsburg State University
Department of Family & Consumer Sciences
1701 S. Broadway
Pittsburg, KS 66762-7556



phone: 620/235-4457
www.pittstate.edu/fcs

HOW TO REACH US

Duane Whitbeck, Chairperson,
620-235-4456, dwhitbeck@pittstate.edu

Troy Anderson, Community & Family Services
620-235-4512, taanderson@pittstate.edu

Chrissy Cook, Fashion Merchandising
620-235-4016, ccook@pittstate.edu

Kari Cronister, FCS Preschool,
620-235-4461, kcronister@pittstate.edu

Carol Werhan, FCS Teacher Education,
620-235-4573, cwerhan@pittstate.edu

Amber Tankersley, Early Childhood Development
620-235-4460, atankersley@pittstate.edu



21st Century Skills
in Family and Consumer Sciences

CAREER DAY - OCTOBER 24, 2014

Check our website for more information and to register:

www.pittstate.edu/fcs