



April

### Inspiration

*“The brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. Because the brick walls are there to stop the people who don’t want it badly enough. They’re there to stop the other people.”*

— Randy Pausch, *The Last Lecture*

**“Luck is where preparation meets opportunity.”**

— Randy Pausch, *The Last Lecture*

### **PSU Family & Consumer Sciences Day**

There are many opportunities for prospective students to visit campus and learn more about the programs of study and career opportunities available at Pittsburg State University. If you are interested in an event, bringing students to campus or having a faculty member and or students come to your school or connect via Zoom contact the department.

### **Need more FCS Content Knowledge?**

We have been approached by numerous teachers both those with FCS degrees and those that have their content in other fields but are now teaching Family & Consumer Sciences about upgrading their knowledge. By seeking opportunities to enhance their information they can incorporate new things in their teaching, especially if they are teaching content that is new or newer to them. This will have the effect to continue to grow the field of Family & Consumer Sciences. One way is to take courses offered at community colleges and four-year institutions over the summer months. The following are the classes that we are teaching that might be of interest if someone wants to grow their knowledge base. **All of these courses are typically taught online in the summer. There are some taught during the Others**

FCS 203: Nutrition & Health

FCS 230: Consumer Education & Personal Finance

FCS 285: Lifespan Human Development

FCS 480: Dynamics of Family Relationships

Others based on need and situation.

These would be for the undergraduate tuition level. In some cases, you might be able to get support from your school district. If you were needing graduate level please talk with Dr. Shawnee Hendershot, [shendershot@pittstate.edu](mailto:shendershot@pittstate.edu)



## What is happening in recruiting the next generation of professionals?

### ***The State University of New York - Oneonta is Leading a USDA Grant Promoting Family and Consumer Sciences***

SUNY Oneonta has received a three-year federal grant from the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA) *to facilitate the National Partnership to Recruit, Prepare and Support Family and Consumer Science Educators*, a collaboration with the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) and the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The \$747,525 award and matching funds from the three partner institutions provides a total of \$936,572 to address the shortage of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educators nationwide.

“A closure of over 150 of Family and Consumer Sciences educator preparation programs across the country has disadvantaged college students who want to become teachers and employers seeking to fill vacant positions,” said Jan Bowers, dean of education and human ecology, who will take the lead as the principal investigator for the partnership. “It is estimated that 55 percent of educators across the United States is eligible for retirement in the next five years, and this is a trend that has also been seen across New York State.”

## Project Goals

The goal of the project is to increase the number of qualified FCS educators in secondary, post-secondary and extension programs. To achieve this, the project is designed to:

- Produce and distribute resources and information related to educator preparation and certification, professional development, and curriculum and instruction;
- Promote workforce opportunities to wide audiences to recruit diverse candidates;
- Share resources on a national level to provide online content needed for educator licensure; and
- Provide targeted support in regions with limited educator programs.

## Project Partners

This national partnership facilitates collaborative interaction with education institutions, state departments of education, extension, K-12 educators and students, professional associations, student organizations, and industry partners. In fact, 14 organizations and industry partners have agreed to participate in the project:

- Alliance for Family and Consumer Sciences
- Association for Career and Technical Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Division
- Board on Human Sciences (BOHS) - Association of Public and Land Grant Universities
- Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS)
- Goodheart-Wilcox Publisher
- Nasco Family and Consumer Sciences
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education Association (FCSEA)
- National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS)
- National Association of Teacher Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NATEFACS)
- National Coalition for Black Development in Family and Consumer Sciences (NCBDFCS)
- National Coalition for Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)
- SUNY Oneonta
- United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture



“By combining our efforts and sharing our expertise and resources, we create a synergy among colleges and universities, industries, professional and student associations,” said Dean Bowers. “This is a cost-effective, collaborative and holistic approach that will sustain the FCS profession over time.”

### **About the Field of Family and Consumer Sciences**

Family and consumer sciences (FCS) draws from broad and diverse disciplines to develop and provide content and programs that help individuals become more effective critical thinkers and problem solvers. Through discovery and delivery of research-based knowledge, FCS professionals help individuals and families develop essential skills to successfully live and work in a complex world. Professionals in the field are uniquely qualified to speak on many critical issues affecting individuals and families, such as maintaining a healthy lifestyle, wisely managing personal and family finances, and creating supportive relationships with family members, friends, and co-workers. They are located nationwide in a variety of practice settings, including secondary schools, universities, government agencies, and businesses.

### **What is available on the PSU – Family & Consumer Sciences website?**

<https://www.pittstate.edu/fcs/career-planning.html> - This website has a variety of link to searchable information on jobs associated with the Family & Consumer Sciences fields. Additionally, within each of the program areas we have provided a list of job titles that have attracted the most interest.

### **Teacher Curriculum Resources**

- Spring is in the air and with spring comes gardening! SNAP-Ed agencies across the country are involved in community and school gardening. Check out the SNAP-Ed Gardening Resources! [https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/nutrition-education/nutrition-education-materials/gardening?utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=SpringGardenButton](https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/nutrition-education/nutrition-education-materials/gardening?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=SpringGardenButton)
  - Family Resource Management: <http://download.nos.org/srsec321newE/321-E-Lesson-10.pdf>
  - 72- Hour Emergency Kit Checklist: <https://www.utah.gov/beready/business/documents/72-hourchecklistpdf.pdf>
  - **Needing a guest speaker for your classes?** Consider asking your Family & Consumer Sciences Area Extension agent to visit. They have a wide range of topics that they can address and will be great resources for both teachers and students. It will also expose your students to another career opportunity within the Family & Consumer Sciences Fields.
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## Selected resources from Family & Consumer Sciences Extension

### University of Kentucky - School of Humans Environmental Sciences, Family & Consumer Sciences

Extension: <http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/publications-master-list>

This includes publications on the following areas:

- Clothing and Textiles
- Family Resource Management
- Food and Nutrition
- Health Safety and Wellness
- Housing and the Environment
- Human Development and Family Relations Publications
- Home Based and Micro Business Publications
- Leadership and Development
- Cultural Arts and Miscellaneous Publications
- Heritage Skills and Crafts

There are also reports that can be found at: [https://uknowledge.uky.edu/fcs\\_reports/](https://uknowledge.uky.edu/fcs_reports/)

### Kansas State University – Family & Consumer Sciences Extension

"The mission of K-State Research and Extension Family and Consumer Sciences is to link education with life experiences to help people improve their lives, their families, and their communities."

#### FCS Essential Living Skills:

- Healthy Relationships
- Healthy Living Choices
- Financial Well Being
- Strong Leaders
- Strong Communities

#### The benefit of the work by FCS agents to individuals, families, and communities is:

- Improved or enhanced quality of life
- Personal growth
- Improved or strengthened families
- Healthy Communities
- Being prepared for the future
- Successful and sustainable society
- Help individuals and families be the best they can be
- Help individuals and families reach or realize their potential
- Help people create the best life for themselves, their families, and their communities.
- Empowering individuals and families across the life span to live and work in a diverse society



**Oklahoma State University Family & Consumer Sciences Extension:**

Helpful Publications: <https://humansciences.okstate.edu/fcs/publications-resources/helpful-publications.html>

Publications and Resources for Schools: <https://humansciences.okstate.edu/fcs/publications-resources/for-schools.html>

Publications for Financial Educators: <https://humansciences.okstate.edu/fcs/publications-resources/for-financial-educators.html>

**University of Missouri Extension Publications:** <https://extension2.missouri.edu/publications>

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**Did you know?**

You do not need to be a member of AAFCS to receive the Fast FACS monthly or bi-monthly newsletter sent to your email: Go to - <https://www.aafcs.org/about/about-us/newsroom> and use the link Sign up to receive the Fast FACS emails.

Research briefs available through AAFCS: <https://www.aafcs.org/resources/research/research-briefs>

FCS Logos are able to be used with any group associated with Family & Consumer Sciences. We encourage students to include the logo on FCCLA projects and for it to be in obvious places for visibility of the profession. It represents all of us.

