



May

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Share your Family & Consumer Sciences Story/Journey:

Telling your own Family & Consumer Sciences Story

I have taught a course, “Career Management in Family & Consumer Sciences” that gives me the opportunity to put events in a historical context. I get to introduce noted individuals and events such as Ellen Swallow Richards, Catherine Beecher, and the Lake Placid Conferences to our students. If you don’t know of their history take a few minutes to watch the following:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEI_l61eOzY&list=PLCqmhIGBHWmIVCC1sTFNzaK5Scrgrikf5

Stories are the best way to connect with others. Share your own story with your students. Who were your mentors? How did you get involved? How can they become the leaders of tomorrow?

- 1841 - Catherine Beecher publishes Treatise on Domestic Economy. This is the first comprehensive book on managing a home without servants. It was deemed a suitable text for the public schools.
- 1862 - Morrill Act is passed. It provides support for the first agricultural and mechanical arts colleges.
- 1871 - First course in domestic economy at the college level offered at Iowa State University.
- 1873 - Kansas State University begins its domestic economy curriculum. Ellen Richards gets her bachelor’s degree from MIT. In the same year she received her masters from Vassar. She was the first American woman to receive an advanced degree in science.
- 1874 - Illinois Industrial University starts a domestic economy program.
- 1885 - Domestic Science is introduced into the public schools in Boston.
- 1890 - The New England Kitchen food demonstration center opens in Boston to persuade the poor of the advantage of low-priced, nutritious food. Others soon follow in other parts of the country. One location was Hull House in Chicago. A second Morrill Act is passed to support historically black land-grant colleges.
- 1894 - Ellen Richards is influential in developing the first nutritional school lunch program in Boston.
- 1899 - The First Lake Placid Conference on home economics is held. Eleven people attended the first conference. Meetings were held annually for ten years and culminated in the creation of the American Home Economics Association at the 1908-9 conference. (During the decade of the conferences, the natural sciences dominate the curriculum in an effort to fight disease and bacteria. Child care occupies a minor place in the curriculum because the behavioral sciences are so new, but an emphasis on promoting an enduring family life becomes a focus of home economics.)



- 1903 - Kansas State Teachers College Auxiliary opens in Pittsburg (later known as PSU). Sarah Preswick Chandler is the first female student at what will become Pittsburg State University.
- 1909 - The American Home Economics Association and the Journal of Home Economics are established.
- 1914 - The Smith-Lever Act is passed creating the Agricultural Extension Service.
- 1917 - The Smith-Hughes Act is passed, establishing federal support for vocational education (home economics).
- American Dietetics Association is founded and mandates the completion of a two-year home economics course to become a dietitian.
- 1919 - In South Carolina, black women are first hired in the home demonstration service.
- 1920 - Home economists seek to enlist men as well as women in parent education during the 20's and 30s. Some fathers are receptive to child study work, but others resent any effort to persuade them to help more with parenting. 19th Amendment – The Right of Women to vote.
- 1924 - AHEA creates its Home Economics in Business section to act as interpreter, translator, and mediator between consumers and producers.
- 1929 - Adoption of the Betty Lamp as the Symbol of the field
- 1936 - The George-Dean Act authorizes equitable funding for home economics in relation to other vocational education areas. However, the funds were not available because of the Depression.
- 1941 - Home economists participate in the war effort by operating canning kitchens and other emergency functions until 1945.
- 1945 - Future Homemakers of America (FHA) founded
- 1959 - AHEA publishes “Home Economics New Directions” which includes philosophy and objectives for the profession.
- 1961 - AHEA begins efforts to put in place an accreditation program for collegiate programs of home economics. In 1971 AHEA is accepted as an accrediting agency and begins to accredit programs.
- 1963 - Amendments to the Vocational Education Act are passed providing categorical funding for home economics, but it reduces funds for homemaking education or family life education. For the first time, the vocational education legislation spells out clearly that in addition to the regular program for unpaid useful employment in everyday life, home economists had to begin training students for gainful employment outside the home.
- 1968 - Amendments to the 1963 Vocational Education Act provide additional funding for handicapped and disadvantaged students, vocational counseling, vocational school construction to increase programs offered and program evaluation. Through the Act’s categorical funding for home economics education it strengthens the position of home economics education in the schools.
- 1972 - Title IX of Civil Rights Act is passed, prohibiting sex discrimination in all educational programs.
- 1973 - The Eleventh Lake Placid Conference is held to develop consensus among members concerning the future direction of the field.
- 1975 - AHEA publishes “Home Economics: New Directions II,” A statement of purpose and priorities for the home economics profession.



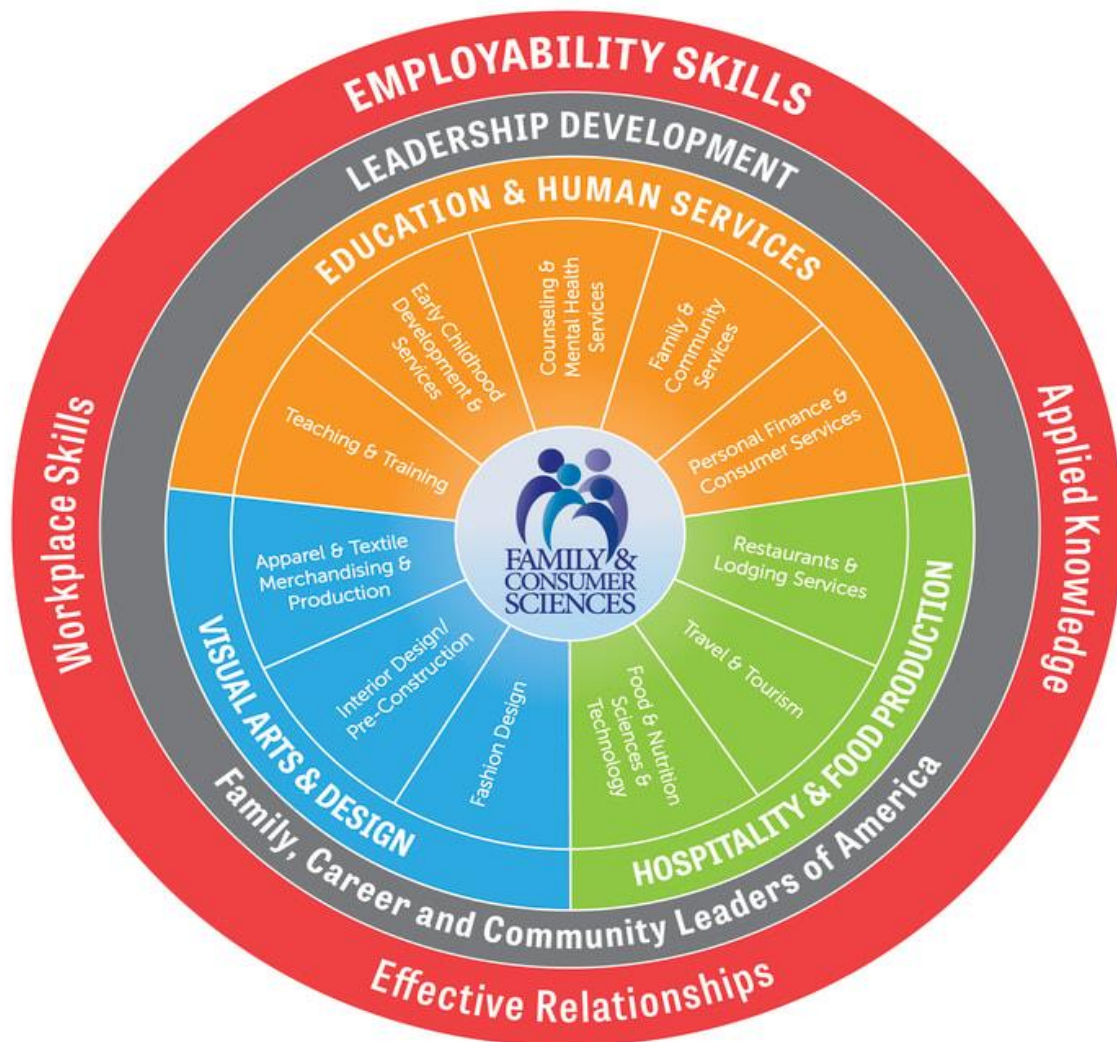
- 1976 - Following the Vocational Education Act amendment that is passed this year, the home economics profession begins to gear its work seriously toward males.
- 1979 - AHEA uses Home Economics: A Definition by Marjorie Brown and Beatrice Paolucci as a focus of a series of dialectic discussions to clarify the basic mission and philosophy of the field.
- 1980 - A group of mostly African American AHEA home economists establishes The Coalition for Black Development in Home Economics, open to anyone interested promoting black participation in all aspects of the profession.
- 1984 – Perkins Act
- 1989 - AHEA launches project 2000 to enhance academic programs to meet the needs of diverse ethnic groups.
- 1990 – Perkins II
- 1993 - “Positioning the Profession for the 21st Century” conference is held to examine the unity and identify of the profession. Attendees at this meeting held in Scottsdale, Arizona develop a new conceptual framework describing the field’s purpose, focus and mode of operation. The group recommends a name change to Family and Consumer Sciences.
- 1994 - American Home Economics Association, Home Economics Education Division of the American Vocational Association, National Association of Extension Home Economists and National Council of Administrators of Home Economics change their names to the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, The Family and Consumer Sciences Education Division of AVA, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences respectively, to include the new name recommended at the 1993 Scottsdale Conference.
- 1998 - The National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences Education publishes Family and Consumer Sciences National Standards; Perkins III.
- 1999 - FHA-HERO officially changed its name to Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
- 2006 Perkins IV.
- Perkins V was reauthorized in 2018 and it includes: **“(L) supporting the integration of employability skills into career and technical education programs and programs of study, including through family and consumer science programs;”** - the language in a bill is very important as it gives direction for funds.

Where to find more information on the timeline of significant events in Family & Consumer Sciences:

<https://www.timetoast.com/timelines/history-of-family-and-consumer-sciences--3>



Framework for Family & Consumer Sciences in CTE



Career-Specific Training for Many, Employability Skills for All!

Curriculum Corner:

<https://www.lessonplanet.com/lesson-plans/family-and-consumer-science/> - Family and Consumer Science Teacher Resources. Family and Consumer Science lesson plans and worksheets



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