



THE GAFCS NEWS

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*An Affiliate of the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
Dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families since 1908*

AAFCS Celebrates 100 Years: Shaping the Future for Individuals, Families and Communities

It is an honor to be serving as your president this year and to have the opportunity to get to know and collaborate with so many Family & Consumer Sciences professionals. Recently, President-Elect Jessica Hill and I attended the AAFCS Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. It is always energizing to share ideas with leaders from all over the country.

One of the main topics this year is the upcoming celebration of our profession's 100th anniversary. The centennial celebration kicks-off in Milwaukee, WI at this year's annual conference and continues on till the 2009 annual conference in Knoxville, TN. Each state is planning commemorative activities and products to sell as souvenirs of this historic event. The New York affiliate is even planning a conference in October 2008 at Lake Placid

– the site of the founding of our profession.

Many exciting events are planned for Georgia. We hope you will attend our annual conference March 27-29, 2008 to be held at Dolce Atlanta-Peachtree conference center in Peachtree City to hear about what is planned and get involved in celebrating our profession. Don't forget the March 1 deadline for FCCLA chapters to turn in their research projects about local FCS professionals to add to our history. The top two reports will earn the chapters \$500 for first place and \$250 for second place. Check our website: www.gafcs.org for more information. Above all, we invite you to join our organization - AAFCS is the only national professional association dedicated to Family & Consumer Sciences professionals across practice areas and content specializations. AAFCS strives to improve the quality



and standards of individual and family life by providing educational programs, by influencing public policy, and through communication.

Carol Watkins, President
GAFCS 2007-2008

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Task Force on Status of FCS Education in Georgia

A special task force, now chaired by Dr. Karen Jones (University of Georgia), was appointed in the Spring of 2007 by the Association to address a variety of family and consumer sciences issues in middle and high school classrooms that were raised by the Georgia Department of Education, such as, changes in the name of the profession, career pathways, programs of study, Carl Perkins IV, rigor and relevance, and FCCLA/youth organization.

Concerns were raised over these proposed changes, particularly a name change for the profession, without the input from practitioners. The scope of the family and consumer sciences profession is wide, encompassing a broad body of knowledge. It is integrative, looking at the person in the context of home and community, neither isolative nor narrow in aspect. The profession is not defined by only one subject matter or practice arena.

Short Term Goal: The task force has engaged in meaningful dialogue with the Georgia Department of Education to resolve the issues that have been raised; that there is consistency in the identification of the profession in elementary, secondary, post secondary and higher

education programs; and to clarify the role of, and membership in, the many professional associations to which family and consumer sciences professionals can belong.

You have heard by now that focus groups regarding the proposed name change were conducted by the Georgia Department of Education in several locations across the state. Based on the results of the focus groups, the Family & Consumer Sciences program area name will remain the same and two new program areas will be added: Culinary Arts and Education.

Thanks to all GAFCS members who contacted their legislators in support of maintaining the name of our profession!

Long Term Goal: The task force will review the number of higher education units in Georgia that offer family and consumer sciences degree programs and evaluate the need for more units.

[Submitted by Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS, Counselor, GAFCS Executive Board]

GAFCS Centennial Project Award

The GAFCS Centennial Project Award 2008 will recognize high school and college chapters that help the Family and Consumer Sciences profession and

professionals gain more visibility during the Centennial Celebration Year. Projects will be judged based on established criteria and awards will be presented at the 2008 GAFCS Annual Conference. See the GAFCS website for the project award form.

Communicating with the Membership

Please take some time to check out the GAFCS website at www.gafcs.org. The site has been updated with new links and information. Our goal for 2007-2008 is to fully populate the website with user-friendly information for members.

We have also created a listserv of GAFCS members to aide in timely distribution of news and association information. However, we do not have e-mail addresses for all members. If you are not receiving notices over the GAFCS listserv, please contact me at chapmans@uga.edu.

The GAFCS Executive Board meets monthly via conference call. If you have items needing the attention of the Executive Board, please contact our president, Carol Watkins, or another member of the Executive Board. A list of current Board members and contact information can be found on the GAFCS website at the link for Officers and Committees.

Sue Chapman, Vice President Communications

GAFCS Annual Conference: *America's Cultural Kaleidoscope: Challenges and Opportunities*

The Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Board invites you to attend our State Annual Conference in Peachtree City, Georgia at the Dolce Atlanta-Peachtree (formerly known as Aberdeen Woods Conference Center) on March 27-29, 2008.

The Annual Session theme is **"America's Cultural Kaleidoscope: Challenges and Opportunities"**. The State Annual Conference is a wonderful opportunity for Family and Consumer Sciences professionals and students from all subject matter areas and all parts of the state to network and learn together. We look forward to having you join us at the State Annual Conference.

Information regarding registration and lodging will be available soon.

SAVE THE DATE

March 27-29, 2008
GAFCS Annual Conference
Dolce Atlanta-Peachtree
(formerly Aberdeen Woods Conference Center)
Peachtree City, GA

AAFCS New Technology for Members

AAFCS has added new online features for members. Please visit the AAFCS website to verify that your membership information is accurate.

From www.aafcs.org, go to the "Access the New Technology" link and click "View/Update your Profile." Log in using your email address as your user name. Your password will initially be your member number. You can change it after logging in.

Once you've logged in, go to "View Profile" to see your personal information. You can make corrections by clicking "Edit" in the lower right of the screen.

If you have questions, please e-mail AAFCS at membership@aafcs.org.

AAFCS Website

The AAFCS website is filled with helpful information for FCS professionals. Be sure to visit the site regularly. Below is a sample of topics from the current homepage:

- December issue of *The FACS* newsletter
- Submission guidelines for the AAFCS Annual Conference

- Access the Guide to the AAFCS Archives at Cornell
- Photos from the Archives Grand Opening
- Official Centennial Celebration webpage
- Awards, Fellowships, Grants and Scholarships information
- Public Policy resources
- Directory of Online Resources for FCS Teachers

The homepage is available at www.aafcs.org.



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is the newsletter for members of the Georgia Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. Photos and articles from and about members are welcome.

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The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization with 10,000 members, dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families. AAFCS and its affiliates may accept charitable contributions, which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.