



# THE GAFCS NEWS

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Dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families since 1908*



GEORGIA AFFILIATE

**By: Katie Gilbert**  
**GAFCS President**

Dear GAFCS Members,

As the leaves fall and weather tries to get cooler it reminds me that this is my favorite time of year. There is something that just makes me so nostalgic inside and with the holiday starting next week it gets me excited. Usually after the holidays there is a boring calm again and life goes on and everyone looks forward to school being out and it being summer. This year there is something much more exciting to look

forward to after holidays and I am very excited about it. What is it you ask? Well the annual GAFCS Conference of course. As I am sure some of you do, I always look forward to the conference and being able to learn and converse with my friends and college about what else but FCS.

**This year the 2011 GAFCS annual conference will be held in beautiful Columbus, Georgia on January 27-29, 2011. The theme for the conference is “New Challenges, New Solutions, New Century for FCS”.**

The conference will be held at the Columbus convention and trade center. Members pay just \$170 registration fee if it is post marked by December 15, 2010. There are a variety of hotels to choose from in Columbus, and they are all in close proximity to the convention center. There are excursions and workshops

on the move to get involved with also. You can find all of the information online in the registration packet at [www.gafcs.org](http://www.gafcs.org), click on annual state conference you and you will find the packet. So I hope all of you are already packing you bags like I am and heading to Columbus in January. Bring those Christmas photos and share some hot chocolate with your friends all while we discuss “New Challenges, New Solutions, New Century for FCS”.

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# *GAFCS Membership Update*

***By: Barbara Grogan  
VP, Membership***

As a new board member to GAFCS, I have been brainstorming ideas to not only sustain but to also increase our membership participation, as well as methods of conveying what makes GAFCS a beneficial organization to Family and Consumer Sciences professionals.

There are many FACS professionals across the state working in just about any industry or job imaginable. We have professionals who are community and family leaders, CEOs, policy makers, educators, nutritionists, interior designers, economic developers, and the list goes on and on. I have been working to connect with the recent graduates and alums of all the FACS programs in Georgia, which include The University of Georgia, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Fort Valley State University, and Georgia Southern University. For those of us who have

maintained connections with our classmates, I ask that you join me in recruiting fellow alums to our organization.

Along with reaching out to graduates, I am also reaching out to FACS professionals who currently teach in our Georgia schools. With assistance from the Georgia Department of

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Education, recruitment information will be shared with current educators in the near future. If you are a FACS professional in the education field, please encourage your colleagues to be on the lookout for this information and encourage their participation.

In an effort to increase the membership of GAFCS, I would like to share with FACS professionals the reasons why we choose to be members of our great organization. Please forward to me statements,

phrases, or testimonials of why you are a member of GAFCS, and the benefit that you find to be the most rewarding. I will then use this information on recruiting tools for groups such as FACS educators.

Together with recruitment, I would also like to work towards ensuring our members are receiving the GAFCS newsletter, updates, annual meeting and webinar information as it becomes available. I encourage you to logon to [www.AAFCS.org](http://www.AAFCS.org) and update your contact information. By updating your information with the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, you are also updating your information with GAFCS. Once you are on the AAFCS site, click on membership and login by using the e-mail address on file and your membership ID number. Should you not have this information, you can contact AAFCS at 1-800-424-8080.

*By updating your  
information with the  
American Association  
of Family and  
Consumer Sciences, you  
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information with  
GAFCS.*

If you have any problems, please feel free to e-mail or call me and I will be glad to assist you.

I look forward to serving you all throughout my term by sharing the many benefits with our members through recruitment efforts. I invite you all to share ideas you may have about recruitment and to join me in these efforts. Please do pass along your testimonials or stories about why you are a member of GAFCS, and I will share them with others.

For additional information regarding membership activities, please contact Barbara Grogan, VP for membership, at [bdgrogan@uga.edu](mailto:bdgrogan@uga.edu).



# Student Unit Update

**By: Savannah Smith**  
*President, Student Unit*

The Student Unit of GAFCS pioneered the world of technology this past month as they held their first ever state-wide teleconference October 21. Participating colleges were Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Southern, and the University of Georgia. Each of the student groups from these colleges was present in their own establishment while using equipment to unite the four colleges into one meeting. This enabled interaction between the units, and made for a great time to share events and ideas among the four locations.

During this conference, it was clear that each club has been very busy during this semester. For example, **ABAC** had been helping with the FCCLA state

conference, making visits to their local animal shelter, hosting a fall social and carnival, selling t-shirts, helping with a camp out for the homeless, and –of course they would be – decorating hay bales!

**FVSU** leaves no room for slack as they have been hosting a FACS mixer for freshmen, went to the Georgia National Fair, had a Halloween Carnival, planned to make Thanksgiving baskets for the needy, and even named Jasmine Butch as “Ms. SAFCS”.

**GSU** has been helping with the Boys and Girls club, Ronald McDonald house, making prom dresses for lower income students, have hosting a sex education seminar before a local high school’s prom night.

*The Student Unit of GAFCS pioneered the world of technology this past month as they held their first ever state-wide teleconference*

**UGA** has also been effective as they have held various service projects

throughout the semester. These include collecting school supplies for the local high school, and also donating Halloween costumes to kids in a local kindergarten class. They also have begun their Relay fundraising early with a bake sale and Mary Kay night. Homecoming week was a very exciting time for UGA SAFCS as they came together to enter the banner competition, and supported an SAFCS member during her journey on the Homecoming Court. The very positive results of that work let to a 3<sup>rd</sup> place banner, and a Homecoming Queen (Madison Asef, Foods and Nutrition)! They felt that this helped in raising an awareness of the college of FACS throughout the UGA campus.

*Each club was asked to bring can openers to the GAFCS state conference in January.*

What a great few months it has been! Each club was also actively participating in Walk GA in hopes to help increase physical activity and stay in line with GAFCS' outreach program for the year. The teleconference meeting also presented a time for there to

be a challenge for each club to participate in the GAFCS can opener outreach project. Each club was asked to bring 75 can openers by the end of November to bring to the state conference in January. Students are looking forward to that weekend in January, and will continue to work hard into next year. Happy Holidays!



## GAFCS Annual Conference

Don't forget to visit [gafcs.org](http://gafcs.org) for all of your conference queries. The conference link on our website includes:

- ✓ Registration Form
- ✓ Conference Schedule
- ✓ Hotel Information
- ✓ Convention Location
- ✓ Excursion Information
- ✓ And more!

# Public Policy Update

*By: Janet Valente  
Co-Chair, Public Policy*

**United States Department of Agriculture announces a new organizational structure for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) beginning October 1, 2010**

Recent changes within the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) have resulted in exciting news for Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Professionals. After stakeholder meetings and strategic planning, the profession has gone through some "branding" within USDA. According to Dr. Elizabeth Andress, Interim FCS Extension Program Leader, there now is an official definition of FCS within

NIFA-USDA; the tagline will be "advancing the human dimensions of food and agriculture." The definition within USDA is "Family and Consumer Sciences (founded as Home Economics) is the integrative, multidisciplinary field of science that studies relationships among humans and their environments to foster quality of life, strengthen communities, and achieve a healthy and sustainable world."

Furthermore, according to Dr. Address, under the NIFA Institute of Youth, Family and Community will be a Division of Family and Consumer Sciences. Some of our leadership for Extension FCS programs at USDA will be in another Institute, Food Safety and Nutrition, but the interrelatedness with FCS is clearly understood by our current leadership. National program priority areas for family and consumer sciences within NIFA are stated as child and family development, family and consumer economics, nutrition, food safety and food

preservation education, health and wellness, housing and community living, and, rural and economic development.

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In a recent announcement from USDA, you will find additional information about the background, mission, reorganization goals, and the new organization structure. Listed below are some highlights from this announcement found: [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/about/offices/nifa\\_transition.htm](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/about/offices/nifa_transition.htm)

### **NIFA Mission**

This mission statement of NIFA is "Leading Food and Agricultural Sciences to Create a Better Future for the nation and the World." The broad expectation is that NIFA will enhance and elevate the stature of agricultural science and ultimately grow support for agricultural research, education and extension.

### **Reorganization Goals**

The goal in establishing NIFA is to enhance the structure and impact of food, agricultural and natural resource sciences. The new organizational structure allows for the creation of a system to integrate basic and applied research, education and extension/technology transfer to address important issues facing agricultural production, the global food supply, the environment, and rural communities, among others.

If you should have additional questions about the reorganization or would like to be added to the Family Economics News Publication contact Susan Shockey, National Program Leader for NEFA [sshockey@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:sshockey@nifa.usda.gov)



## 2011-2012 Officer Ballot

*By: Jackie Ogden  
Nominating Chair*

Cast Your Vote for GAFCS  
2011-2012 Leaders  
It is a pleasure for the  
GAFCS Nominating  
Committee to announce the  
proposed slate of officers  
for 2011-2012 to serve our  
state association.

The ballot is enclosed in this publication for your review. Please take a moment and respond by email, US mail or fax before December 15, 2010. The ballot will also be posted on the GAFCS website for easy reference. Many thanks go to the GAFCS members, who said 'YES' with enthusiasm, to serve our profession. With the state and local government elections just completed, let us not forget that we need to remember to share the many successes of the Family and Consumer Sciences profession to our newly elected leaders on the local and state levels.

With each election comes the opportunity to tell the Family and Consumer Sciences story about our successes whether you are in the Classroom, County Extension, Business and Industry, or a Family and Consumer Sciences retiree! Our society has never needed the profession of Family and Consumer Sciences more than today to address the issues impacting families and communities.

Happy Holidays!

## Attention All Conference Attendees...

The GAFCS Bylaws have several proposed revisions. Approval of these revisions will be voted on at our annual conference. Please visit the [GAFCS.ORG](http://GAFCS.ORG) homepage and familiarize yourself with the revisions prior to the vote.

*Thanks!*



BALLOT  
GAFCS State Officer Nominated Slate for 2011-2012  
Year of Service July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

Please respond via mail, e-mail or fax to:

Jackie Ogden  
414 Gordonston Avenue  
Savannah, GA 31404  
Email: [jogden@uga.edu](mailto:jogden@uga.edu)      Fax: 912-652-7989

President  
President-Elect  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Darby Sewell  
Connie Rash  
Mary Brewer  
Don Bower

Vice President - Program/Professional Development  
Co-Chair

Helen Carter  
Melissa Wilmarth  
Barbara Grogan  
Traci Jarrett Bryant  
Zandra Overstreet  
Karen Jones

Vice President – Membership  
Co-Chair

Vice President – Resource Development  
Co-Chair

Vice President – Awards / Recognition  
Co-Chair

Vice President – Communications  
Co-Chair

Vice President – Public Policy

Carmen Tarbush  
Lindsey Johnson  
Theresa Glasheen  
Joanne Cavis  
Megan Whitworth Palmer

Counselor

Katie Gilbert

Nominating Committee  
Returning Committee Members

Rhea Bentley  
Jackie Ogden  
Kay Powell

Proposed Committee Members

Sue Chapman  
Vivian Fluellen  
Janet Valente

Student Unit President (TBA after Student Unit Elections)  
Student Unit Advisor (TBA after Student Unit Elections)

Yes, I accept this slate of offices for the 2011-2012 GAFCS Year \_\_\_\_\_.  
Ballot is to be post marked by December 15, 2010