



OFFICIAL CALL TO 2016 EPSILON SIGMA PHI NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

September 20, 2016

The 2016 Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference will be held at The Grand Hotel of Cape May in Cape May, New Jersey, October 24-27, 2016. The conference theme is “**Turning the Tide with ESP.**” The Annual Meeting of the National Council of Epsilon Sigma Phi will be held during the conference.

The ESP National Council Annual Meeting convenes at 8:00am on Thursday morning, October 27, 2016. Each chapter is entitled to one official voting delegate for each 150 members or fraction thereof based on membership as of February 1, 2016. The total membership includes members holding paid-up life memberships and members who paid 2016 annual dues by February 1st. Even though only those designated voting delegates are entitled to vote, this business meeting is open to everyone and members are encouraged to attend.

On Monday, October 24, there will be several tours including full day tours, morning tours or afternoon tours from which to choose: All Day Tours include Welcome to Cape May, Wines of New Jersey and New Jersey Ag Experiment Station; the morning tours include: Fisherman’s Wharf, and Victorian Cape May Walking Tour; the afternoon tours are: Explore Cape May Point, Winery Tour, Ghosts of Cape May and Emlen Physick and Trolley Tour. There will also be a tour for Life Members and Retirees on Tuesday, October 25.

New Jersey’s Alpha Xi Chapter plans for Tuesday to be a Retiree/Life Member Day featuring not only the Life Member tour but several other activities that will be of interest to retirees. They plan to provide some interesting activities for retirees and also encourage retirees who did not become Life Members to do so.

The 2016 National ESP Committees will meet on Monday, October 24, from 2:45pm–3:15pm to wrap up any work remaining from 2016, and the 2017 National Committees will meet on Wednesday, October 26, from 3:30–5:00pm, to review the ESP Strategic Plan and to begin the work of developing the committee Strategic Action Plans for their planned activities for 2017.

Also on Monday, October 24, from 3:15-4:15pm the Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee will be hosting the First-timers and Life Members’ Reception. There will be activities planned and an opportunity for 1st Timers to learn what to expect throughout the conference. It will also be a time to interact with those members who have retired.

The 2016 National Conference Opening Event on Monday, October 24, will be held from 5:00-8:00pm. Attendees will be given a choice for the opening event. For participants who would like to take a sunset cruise on the Atlantic Ocean they will board the Cape May Whale Watch & Research Center Boat where they will enjoy a light meal, enjoy the sunset and perhaps see some marine wildlife and costal birds. The other choice for those less adventurous will be a dinner at the hotel with several speakers from which to choose. The speakers will be presenting on a variety of topics that are related to the Cape May vicinity.

The 2016 ESP National Conference officially opens on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at 7:30am, with the Regional Meetings and Breakfast. Each region will have a meeting with their Regional Vice President presiding. This meeting provides an opportunity for sharing and networking with other members of your region and it will provide insight into issues of concern to the organization. The meeting will include the presentation of the chapter awards and the recognition of those who have met the Development Fund contribution milestones.

There are several items of importance that will be discussed and will be acted upon in the National Council Meeting. This year the regional meetings will be the place to kick off the implementation of the 2016-2018 ESP Strategic Plan.

The opening session on Tuesday morning, October 25, will include the first of four keynote addresses that will be presented at the conference. The first keynote speaker, Matt Lohr, is a fifth generation farmer who loves living life to the fullest. Matt, who in 2014 joined the Farm Credit family in his role as director of the Knowledge Center for Farm Credit of the Virginias, will be speaking on the topic, "A Lasting Legacy."

Following the opening session will be the poster session which will be on Tuesday from 11:45-1:00pm. The authors of the poster sessions will be on hand from 12:15–1:00pm to answer questions and to discuss the work they are sharing on their posters. There will be Ignite Sessions and Elevator Speech opportunities during this timeframe as well. Committee and special poster presentations are also being provided at the same time and location.

Tuesday afternoon will kick off with the first of four concurrent session presentations. This year Extension professionals have been selected to present 24, hour-long sessions focused on Leadership Development, Community Development, Administrative / Organizational Strategies, Volunteer Programs, the Changing Face of America, Collaboration and Alliances and Life Member and Retirees programs.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP: This year there will again be a chapter leadership training session. This year's session will be on Tuesday, October 25, from 3:00-4:00 during Concurrent Session II. The title of the session will be, "ESP Leadership 101." This session is designed to be a beginner's level program for ESP chapter leadership and will be led by Elizabeth Claypoole, ESP 2nd National Vice President, and Bob Ohlensehlen, ESP National Executive Director. It is a chance to get your questions answered and learn more about your responsibilities as a chapter leader.

The annual **Recognition Banquet** will be held Tuesday evening, October 25, from 6:00 to 8:00pm. There will be a no host social hour from 4:45–5:45pm. The recognition banquet is an opportunity to recognize our members who have excelled in their profession. Thirty-five members and eight teams will be recognized for their excellent Extension program work. We will also be honoring our three Friends of Extension. This year's Friends of Extension honorees are: Representative Terry England who was nominated by the Georgia/Alpha Beta Chapter, Anne Turkos, nominated by the Maryland/Tau Chapter, and Cliff & Judy Bracher who were nominated by the Oregon/Gamma Chapter.

To finish Tuesday off with some fun, the Resource Development and Management Committee, along with the Tau Chapter from Maryland, will be sponsoring the Silent Auction and Live Auction to raise funds for the ESP Development Fund which supports ESP members through funding of scholarships and grants and by providing professional development training opportunities. Silent Auction bidding begins at 4:45pm and closes when the Live Auction begins at about 8:00pm. We need each of the chapters to provide the items for auction and for your chapter delegates to join in the fun and buy the items being auctioned. Credit cards, cash and checks are gladly accepted. If you wish to ship items to the auction rather than bringing them with you please mail or send them to: ESP Auction, c/o Jeannette Rea Keywood, 1636 Delaware Avenue, Cape May, New Jersey 08204.

Wednesday, October 26, will begin with the Chapter President's Breakfast at 7:00am. The breakfast will feature recognition of chapters for their accomplishments during the past year and discussion of issues affecting the chapters. If your chapter president is unable to attend, we would like to have a chapter member in attendance represent them at this breakfast.

Following the Chapter President's Breakfast, General Session II will begin at 8:30 am with our 2nd keynote speaker. Our speaker for this session will be Bob Andrezejczak who is an assemblyman from District I which includes Cape May. He has served as an assemblyman since 2013. He is the chair of the Agriculture and Resources Committee.

In recent years, "**A Dialogue with Administrators**" has become a popular part of the conference. This year a special "dialogue" program is being planned on Wednesday morning, October 26, from 11:15am until 12:15pm. We have a group of select administrators that will be discussing "*The Future of Extension.*" The program will include Extension administrators who have been working on identifying leadership needs for Extension in the future. This topic has been of regional and national importance in upper level Extension discussions.

The **ESP Distinguished Ruby Lecture** is one of the keynote sessions and will be given by this year's Ruby Award recipient, Dr. Pennie Crinion of the Alpha Nu Chapter of Illinois. Dr. Crinion's address "*Do We Make a Difference?*" will immediately follow the Ruby Luncheon that will be held on Wednesday, October 26, beginning at 12:30pm.

Thursday morning, October 27, begins with continental breakfast at 7:00. The **National Council Meeting** will be held from 8:00-9:45 am. The National Council Meeting is the annual business meeting of Epsilon Sigma Phi. Each state is entitled to delegates; however, the delegates are required to register as delegates prior to the meeting (substitutions are allowed for registered delegates).

Following the National Council Meeting on Thursday morning, General Session III will begin at 10:00 am. The Capstone speaker for the session will be Jennifer Smith, Growth Potential Consulting & Leadership Institute, speaking on "*Game Changing Leadership for the 21st Century & Beyond.*"

If you have any questions email the National Epsilon Sigma Phi Office at espoffice@espnational.org or call (208) 736-4495.

Following are the 2016 National Council Meeting Agenda and additional information regarding the conference.

**2016 National Council Meeting Agenda
October 27, 2016
Cape May, New Jersey**

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| 1. Call to Order | Patricia Dawson |
| 2. Introduction of Parliamentarian | Patricia Dawson |
| 3. Appointment of Tellers and Reviewers of Minutes | Rusty Collins/Beth Raney |
| 4. Proof of Distribution of Notice | Bob Ohlensehlen |
| 5. Roll Call of Voting Delegates - 48 delegates registered | Bob Ohlensehlen |
| 6. Reading of 2015 National Council Minutes | Bob Ohlensehlen |
| 7. Introduction of the newly elected Regional Vice Presidents, National Second Vice President and President-Elect | Ann Berry |
| 8. Annual Report of the National President | Patricia Dawson |
| 9. National Committee Reports | |
| <i>Chapter Relations</i> | Elizabeth Claypoole |
| <i>Global Relations</i> | Elizabeth Claypoole |
| <i>Marketing</i> | Rusty Collins |
| <i>Member Recruitment & Retention</i> | Peggy Compton |
| <i>Professional Development</i> | Beth Raney |
| <i>Public Issues</i> | Ann Berry |
| <i>Scholarships, Grants and Recognition</i> | Dan Culbert |
| <i>Resource Development & Management</i> | Cindy Barnett |
| 10. Report from the National Office | Bob Ohlensehlen |
| 11. Endowment Campaign | Cindy Barnett |
| 12. 2017 JCEP Leadership Conference Report/PILD Update | Patricia Dawson |
| 13. Journal of Extension Report | Stephen Brown |
| 14. Unfinished Business | Patricia Dawson |
| 15. New Business | |
| <i>ByLaw Proposal</i> | Patricia Dawson |
| <i>Financial Report and 2017 Annual Budget</i> | Cindy Barnett |
| <i>2017 Plan of Work</i> | Kathy Tweeten |
| <i>Other items to consider</i> | |
| 16. Adjournment | |
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The ESP National Board has passed a motion to be presented to the delegates at the National Council Meeting for their consideration. The motion concerns a change in the term for national committee members. The modification proposed would change Article VIII National Committees, Section 2, from one-year terms with possible reappointment for two successive terms (or a total of three years) to a two-year term with a maximum of two successive two-year terms.

Article VIII

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Current Section 2

Section 2. **NATIONAL COMMITTEES.** National committee appointments are for one year. A committee member may be reappointed for each of two successive years. National committees shall report to the National ESP Board and make recommendations for National ESP Board and National ESP Council action.

Proposed Section 2

Section 2. **NATIONAL COMMITTEES.** National committee appointments are for a two-year term. A member may apply for a second two-year term to a respective committee. National committees shall report to the National ESP Board and make recommendations for National ESP Board and National ESP Council action.

Rational for proposed change: The current language in the by-laws requires that a member apply to be on a committee and then to reapply each year for up to a total of three one-year terms; the proposed modification would change the term for a committee position from a one-year term with a total of three years maximum to a two-year term with a total of four years maximum. This reduces the number of times a person must apply for the same committee position to two times in order to serve a total of four years. Ultimately, it increases the number of years a member may serve on a given committee by one year and reduces the number of times they must apply by one. Each application will be treated as a new application rather than simply a re-appointment to the committee position.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration information was published in the April / May 2016 edition issue of the *ESP Connection* that was published on May 1st and the link to the registration was posted on the National Website at <http://espnational.org> on June 1st with Early Bird Registration ending on August 15th. Regular Registration rate runs through September 24th.

INSTALLATION OF 2017 BOARD MEMBERS: This year installation of new 2017 Board members will be held and the new officers will be initiated and will take their place on the National ESP Board at the closing session. There were two regional vice presidents elected. This year the election was for the Regional Vice Presidents from the Southern Region and from the North Central Region. Jennifer Grogan from the Georgia Alpha Beta Chapter, and Doug Jardine from the Kansas Alpha Rho Chapter, were elected to represent their respective regions for a two-year term. A National 2nd Vice President from the Southern Region was also elected to replace the outgoing Past President Ann Berry of the Tennessee Omega Chapter. Mark Blevins of the North Carolina XI Chapter was elected to the National 2nd Vice President position. Thanks to Ann Berry, Peggy Compton and Dan Culbert for their years of service on the ESP National Board.

VOTING DELEGATES: The packet of materials for voting delegates is being posted on the ESP Conference website at the [Delegate Materials](#) link. An e-mail announcement is being sent to each Chapter President, President Elect and voting delegate on record at the National Office as of September 3, 2016. If there has been a change in the chapter's designated voting delegate since the designation was made on registration forms, please send those changes to the National Office immediately. To check to see who has been registered as a delegate for your chapter, check the Delegate section of the National Council information found at the [Delegate Materials](#) link.

CONFERENCE REIMBURSEMENTS: Each chapter is entitled to claim a \$200 reimbursement per voting delegate attending the National Council Meeting. A similar reimbursement is available to members of national standing committees. This reimbursement can be used to cover any expenses involved in attending the conference. Individuals **cannot** collect more than one reimbursement. You can be reimbursed as a voting delegate, **or** as a member of a national standing committee, **or** as a presenter, **or** as a Life Member (\$100) but no more than one reimbursement will be paid to an individual. ***To collect the reimbursement, delegates, presenters and/or committee members must be full-time registrants of the conference and participate in their regional meetings, in addition to making their presentation or attending the National Council or their committee meetings (two are required depending on the stipend being claimed).***

Reimbursement will be paid to qualifying individuals based on registration for the conference and attendance records for the National Council Meeting, committee meetings and regional meetings. The online claim will be available after the conference from the top menu of the ESP homepage under the "Reimbursement Tab" on the far right, then by clicking on the "Conference Reimbursement Form."
