

## Professional Development Opportunities

*In addition to the speakers that will be providing professional development opportunities, there will be four different sessions of presentations by our members who will be sharing their program successes as they worked with clientele. In Epsilon Sigma Phi we are about taking the knowledge that each individual possesses and moving it to our clientele to help them apply that knowledge to improve their lives.*

*The Planning Committee will be putting together professional development tours that are focused on the agricultural, cultural and social uniqueness of the region.*

## Transportation

***There are two airports that serve the area— Philadelphia International and Atlantic City.***

- Philadelphia International (Philadelphia, PA) 98.2 miles to Grand Hotel
- Atlantic City International Airport (Egg Harbor Township, NJ) Airport, 44.9 miles to Grand Hotel

***There will be shuttle information available soon that will provide transportation options from the airport to the conference in Cape May, New Jersey.***

## Meeting Facility

*Plan now to attend the 2016 ESP National Conference in beautiful Cape May, New Jersey October 24-27, 2016!*

*The site of the 2016 meeting is The Grand Hotel of Cape May. The hotel is located across the street from the Atlantic Ocean beach on the southern most part of New Jersey. The Grand Hotel of Cape May will be an excellent site to host our meeting.*

### **Hotel Amenities:**

- Rooms have microwaves, refrigerators, alarm clocks, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, work desk area, bath amenities, and safe deposit boxes. Most rooms have coffee makers. If not, they are available upon request.
- Free high-speed internet in the rooms and meeting space
- Two sun decks overlooking the Atlantic Ocean

### **Recreational Facilities:**

- Heated indoor pool and whirlpool
- Outdoor pool
- Fitness Center

### **Room Rates:**

- Single/Double - \$99.00 per night plus tax
- Triple - \$119.00 per night plus tax
- Quad - \$139.00 per night plus tax

*Early October should provide some beautiful weather to help make the conference special. There are many interesting sites to see and things to do in the quaint town of Cape May.*



*The Extension Professionals' Organization*

# 2016 Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference



*Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference  
October 24-27, 2016*



**Grand Hotel of Cape May  
Cape May, New Jersey  
October 24-27, 2016**

## Outstanding Keynote Speakers



### Matt Lohr

“A Lasting Legacy” – will draw on the history of Cooperative Extension as he inspires the audience to continue to identify current issues and make an impact as we address them.

Matt Lohr loves living life to the fullest. Some of his

many adventures include personally visiting with three U.S. Presidents, riding a bull, hiking the Grand Canyon, flying a plane, winning a new Dodge truck, teaching middle school, climbing Mt. Fuji and entertaining audiences in all 50 states and eight countries around the world.

Matt developed a passion for speaking as a young FFA member and went on to serve as both state FFA president and national FFA vice president before graduating from Virginia Tech in 1995. A fifth generation farmer, he continues to own a 250 acre beef, poultry, sweet corn and agritourism operation in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley.

In 2003, Matt was awarded the first ever American Farm Bureau “Excellence in Agriculture” award and went on to chair both his county planning commission and school board. He then served for five years in the Virginia state legislature representing the 26<sup>th</sup> district before serving four years as Virginia’s 14<sup>th</sup> Commissioner of Agriculture. After leaving political office in early 2014, he joined the Farm Credit family in his role as director of the Knowledge Center for Farm Credit of the Virginias. Matt and his wife Beth stay “young” raising their six beautiful children.



### Assemblyman Adam

**Taliaferro**, 3rd District; former Gloucester County Freeholder and Cooperative Extension Liaison

Adam will draw on his knowledge of Cooperative Extension as well as his personal and professional experience to focus his presentation on “overcoming the odds”

and continuing to meet the needs of the Extension clientele.

Adam Taliaferro was sworn in as a state legislator in 2015 and serves on the Education Committee and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. He has a variety of bills that focus on agriculture, from legislation that supports the wine industry to Jersey Fresh programs.

Adam holds a J.D. from Rutgers-Camden and serves as a patient advocate and lobbyist for Bristol Myers Squibb. He also holds a bachelor’s degree from Penn State in Labor and Industrial Relations.

In 2001, Taliaferro formed the Adam Taliaferro Foundation which focuses on helping athletes who have suffered spinal cord injuries. “The foundation provides emotional, financial and educational support to individuals who suffer catastrophic head or spinal injuries in New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Delaware. The foundation also provides educational and financial support related to the research, prevention and care of such injuries.”



### Dr. Jennifer Smith

A native of Illinois, Jennifer finished her undergraduate studies in Accounting magna cum laude at Grambling State University and graduated from **The Johns Hopkins Carey Business School** with a Master of Science in

Organization Development and Human Resources. She is a **Certified Professional Coach** and credentialed by the International Coach Federation. Driven by dedication to stay current on leadership, she is the **President of the New Jersey Charter Chapter** of the International Coach Federation. As a pioneering woman in the world of leadership, she is a **mentor** for a woman’s high potential program. Her **desire to be of service** motivates her to offer pro bono facilitation as well as coaching to people who have been out of work and are struggling to get their next job.

Jennifer attracts attention from the world’s leading companies because of her ability to share practical approaches that inform and inspire audiences. Some of her most popular topics include: **7 Key Strategies to Communicate with Influence and Impact**, **Game Changing Leadership** and **The Confidence Journey**.



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