Welcome to Extension This Month! In an effort to keep the organization well informed, the Executive Team will be sending out a monthly electronic newsletter. Watch for us each month to hear updates and information happening throughout the organization.

FROM THE DESK OF THE VICE PROVOST AND DIRECTOR
EXTENSION’S BUDGET ENVIRONMENT
In a word, our budget environment is uncertain.

CURRENT BIENNium (ending June 30, 2009)
The State Board of Higher Education meets this week to review prescribed reductions to the Oregon University system, Extension included. We expect to reduce current budgets by another approximately 4.5 percent (in addition to a 1% reduction already taken in December). The challenging reality is that there are few ways except fund balances to make such reductions with only four months left in the fiscal year. Fortunately, through conservative budget management, every Extension Program Area has sufficient current reserves to accomplish this expected reduction. For the organization, this will leave a projected fund balance overall of 2.6 %, substantially less that OUS Board policy that suggests fund balances in the 5-15% of operating revenue range with a targeted level of 10%. Another State revenue forecast in May 2009 could call for further reductions. However, many politicos observe the likelihood that the Legislature will meet any additional reductions by using the State’s rainy day funds.

2009-2011 BIENNium
The current estimate indicates a revenue shortfall of $3 billion, about 20% of the state general fund budget. There are federal stimulus and rainy day funds that may be applied. Another forecast in May 2009 could indicate additional shortfalls. What does this mean for Extension? As a public service, Extension has been identified as a lower priority than instruction, research, student support and facilities operation and maintenance. In this situation, the word “service” disguises Extension’s true educational role and support to all state residents—a point I will strongly make at every opportunity. As true for the entire University, we are planning for significant reductions in state revenues in the range of 10-30%. Whatever the ultimate outcome, the overall effect on Extension’s budget is buffered somewhat by our funding partnership with the federal government. For example, a 20% reduction in our state appropriation translates to 16.7% for state and federal funds combined. In fact, we expect a slight uptick in our federal funds as a result of congressional action for FY09.

At the Extension Leadership Conference last week, Staff Chairs, Department Heads and Cabinet members went to work on principles and decision processes to manage Extension’s budget beginning July 1, 2009, or whenever we learn our funding outcome. At next week’s Cabinet meeting, I will announce the membership of an Extension Budget Work Group which will be asked to:

1. Develop and prioritize guiding principles to implement budget reductions across the Extension Service.
2. Suggest an inclusive and transparent process to determine and implement any reductions.
3. Consider how reduction decisions should vary with different budget scenarios i.e. should we adopt a different strategy with 10% vs. 20% vs. 30%?

Watch for opportunities to interact as this group does their work. For the immediate future, we observe actions of University to freeze salaries except those contractually obligated, slow hiring decisions, and restrict travel, especially out-of-state, to essential levels only (separate communication forthcoming).

LOOKING AHEAD
In spite of uncertainties, the mission of Extension continues to make us vital to the recovery and performance of Oregon’s economy and communities. The newly-appointed “Tough Times Task Force” is developing additional resources of value to all program areas. Please continue to demonstrate our value through active Extension programs. I will provide ongoing information as our environment evolves.

Scott Reed
Vice Provost for University Outreach and Engagement
Director, OSU Extension Service

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spring Training Registration
It’s time to register for Spring Training sessions! Popular sessions fill quickly, particularly the technology classes, so don’t delay. The registration site is open through close of business April 1. Updates can be made to your selections any time before April 1.
Dates: TUESDAY, APRIL 14 – FRIDAY, APRIL 17
Place: CH2M Hill Alumni Center (or computer labs throughout campus if noted)

Click on the link below to view descriptions of sessions, the annual Bowling Tournament, New Extension Orientation and other opportunities these four days. You will need your ONID login and must enter a department index number to proceed through registration. [http://extension.oregonstate.edu/internal/spring_training/](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/internal/spring_training/)

Moodle Training Offered in May
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and eXtension are sponsoring a one-day Moodle training in May. The 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. workshop will be offered in Las Vegas on Tuesday, May 26th, 2009 and Reno on Thursday, May 28th. Since this is a hands-on workshop held in a computer lab, space is limited and will fill up fast. Seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested, please contact Kat Kantor at [kantork@unce.unr.edu](mailto:kantork@unce.unr.edu) to register for the workshop.

eXtension, along with many other institutions, is using Moodle as its online course system of choice. It is especially useful in reaching public audiences with in-depth learning content, and eXtension is providing Moodle space for anyone in the Cooperative Extension System who needs it. The sessions in May are targeted to Extension professionals who may find themselves in the position of creating such courses, or providing support services for course developers. Participants will have their own course shells in which to work, and will learn how to create various resources and activities supporting a course topic of their choosing. Courses begun during this
workshop will be available for participants to complete and actually release for enrollment as desired to support their respective Extension education efforts. The only pre-requisite is to have an eXtension ID and an idea about a course to be developed. Additionally, it will be helpful to bring a flash drive with supporting files (graphic images, word processing files, etc.) to be uploaded or copied into Moodle.

A Tsunami of Retirements
During the Outreach and Engagement Spring Training Conference April 13-17, don’t miss a rare opportunity to participate in Search Committee - Search Advocacy. Here is why you do not want to miss this professional development opportunity.

In 2008, Extension faculty who were born in 1946 turned 62 and became eligible for social security. In the next five years, we are facing a Tsunami of baby boom retirements. Prepare now to thoughtfully manage the succession of generations in Extension.

History has taught us that the most effective way to reach and serve new audiences is to hire faculty and staff that have the skills, experience, and motivation to work with those audiences. Despite long-standing efforts to advance diversity in hiring, Extension still struggles to overcome shortfalls in the employment of members of historically under-represented groups.

As human beings, we naturally are more comfortable with people who are familiar. As human beings, we naturally are less comfortable with people who are different. Search Advocacy training will help you to address common and mostly unconscious patterns of human interaction during all phases of the search committee process. It is a fabulous training. Don’t miss this opportunity. For more information, contact Anne Gillies, OSU Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity 541-737-0865.

EDEN Presentation & Poster Proposals
You are invited to submit a proposal for a presentation and/or a poster at the 2009 Extension Disaster Education Network Annual Meeting October 6-9 in Indianapolis. The proposal should add to the professional development and educational programming at the meeting.

Submissions are encouraged in areas such as:
- Curriculum/Programs
- Network/Capacity Building
- Training, both External and Internal
- Resources / Materials
- EDEN Programming

Proposals must be submitted in Journal of Extension abstract format. The abstract should describe in 100 words or less:
1. the presentation topic (in one sentence, if possible);
2. the associated Extension program area(s), if applicable;
3. the purpose, thesis, or organizing concept and the scope of the presentation;
4. the sources of data used, if appropriate; and
5. conclusions, recommendations, and implications.

Please identify if your proposal is for a presentation or a poster. In addition, include the title, presenter name(s) and contact information.
Proposals are due via email by March 31, 2008, to:
Abigail Borron, EDEN Communications Specialist (aborron@purdue.edu)

Authors will be notified no later than April 30.

Details on Presentations
Selected presentations will be limited to 30 minutes in length. Individuals who are selected to present will be encouraged to submit their complete presentation materials to EDEN. These materials may be organized and posted for the EDEN delegation to use as reference material. The individuals who submit the proposal are expected to be the presenter at the meeting.

No travel expenses or stipend will be provided when selected for presentation.

Details on Posters
If your educational material is better shared as a poster presentation, we invite you to submit a proposal for consideration to be included at the annual meeting. In addition, if you would like to provide an update to a project or program that you previously presented on at an EDEN Annual Meeting, you are encouraged to submit a proposal for a poster.

Poster presentations should focus on a disaster education program or educational event that you provided. The emphasis should include the EDEN connection. We will provide a time on the annual meeting agenda for informal sharing of poster displays. Poster presenters should plan to be present with their poster during the scheduled poster session.

Visit www.EDEN.lsu.edu/2009AM for more annual meeting information.

THIS ‘N THAT

DATES TO REMEMBER
2009
March 10-11  Staff Chair Mid-Valley Cluster Meeting
March 17-18  Staff Chair Southwest Cluster Meeting
March 31-April 1  Staff Chair Metro Cluster Meeting
March 31-April 1  Staff Chair Eastern Cluster Meeting
April 7-8  Staff Chair North Coast Cluster Meeting
April 14-17  Spring Training Days
April 15  OSU Extension Southern Oregon Recertification Workshop, Medford
April 21  OSU Day at the State Capitol, Salem
April 22-23  Staff Chair Mid-Columbia Cluster Meeting
April 27–30  2009 National Extension Volunteerism Conference, Carrollton, KY
April 27-29  Public Issues Leadership Development Conference, Arlington VA
May 12-14  2009 Spring 4-H Staff Development Conference, KahNeeTa
June 30  Centennial Celebration of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center.
August 5-8  Master Gardener Mini-College
September 13-16  ESP National Conference, Fargo, ND
September 15-18  Fifth National Small Farm Conference, Springfield, Illinois
September 15—18  NEAFCS Conference, Birmingham AL
September 20-24  NACAA, Portland OR
September 24  OSU University Day
October 25-29  NAE4HA, Rochester NY
December 1-3  Outreach & Engagement Strategic Conference

2010
March 16-20  National Camping Institute Conference, 4-H Center, Salem
July 11-15  NACAA, Tulsa OK
October 12-15  ESP National Conference, Jackson Hole, WY

2011
October 9-13  National ESP Conference, Syracuse, NY

PERSONNEL UPDATES
New Hires
Mark Anderson-Wilk, Publishing Leader/Asst Professor, EESC, 1/29/2009
Chris LaBelle, Instructional Design Specialist, EESC, 12/1/2008
Tanya Wehage, Education Program Assistant, Tillamook Co. 2/18/09
Nicole Anderson, Assistant Professor (Extension), Washington Co. 2/23/09
Heather Lilienthal, Education Program Assistant, Coos Co. 2/23/09
Luisa Santamaria, Assistant Professor, NWREC 2/28/09

Recruitment Updates
Unclassified
#0002296 Assistant Professor, Bio & Eco Engr Ext. (1.0) FTE Campus – Corvallis
Committee Chair: John Selker
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Interviews to be held

#0003020 Assistant Professor, FCD, Clackamas County (1.0) FTE
Committee Chair: Kathy Gunter
Candidate Selected: Pending
Status: Offer Extended

#0003425 Assistant Professor, Ag Crop & Soil Sci, Washington County (1.0) FTE
Committee Chair: Mike Flowers
Candidate Selected: Nicole Anderson
Status: Offer Accepted

#0003448 Professional Faculty, Oregon Master Naturalist Program Coord, Forestry Extension, Corvallis Campus (1.0) FTE
Committee Chair: Robert Emanuel
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Interviews to be held

#0003486 Assistant Professor 4-H, Malheur County (1.0) FTE
Committee Chair: Roger Rennekamp
Candidate Selected: Barbara Bromley-Brody
Status: Offer Accepted
#0003523 Associate Provost – Outreach & Engagement (1.0) FTE, Corvallis Campus, VP Outreach & Engagement
Committee Chair: Sam Stern
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Interviews held February 23rd, 24th and 25th

#0003551 Assistant/Associate Professor, Family and Comm Dev (1.0) FTE, Corvallis Campus
Committee Chair: Carmen Steggell
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Recruitment Cancelled

#0003569 Professional Faculty, Education Coordinator, FCD (0.60) FTE, Multnomah
Committee Chair: Renee Carr
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Recruitment Cancelled

#0003572 Professional Faculty, Education Coordinator, FCD (0.60) FTE, Multnomah
Committee Chair: Renee Carr
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Interviews were held January 27th & 30th

#0003696 Professional Faculty, 4-H Program Coordinator (0.75) FTE, Multnomah
Committee Chair: Roger Rennekamp
Candidate Selected: Pending
Status: Offer Extended

#0003698 Natural Resource Instructor (1.0) FTE, Klamath County Extension
Committee Chair: Willie Riggs
Candidate Selected: None
Status: Interviews held

Classified (.5 FTE or >)
#0003651 Education Program Assistant (1.0) FTE, Coos County Extension
Committee Chair: Elisa Wells
Candidate Selected: Heather Lilienthal
Status: Offer Accepted

#0003749 Research Analyst 1 (1.0) FTE, NWREC
Committee Chair: Nick Andrews
Candidate Selected: Kristin Pool
Status: Offer Accepted
Do you know of something happening in your office that you’d like to share? Perhaps a birth of a son or daughter or grandchild? Recognitions received? Has someone in your office experienced a loss of a loved one? We’d like to hear from you. Although we are spread across the miles, it’s important that we stay connected. Please help us do that.

Send any information you would like shared with the organization, to Janet Drollinger janet.drollinger@oregonstate.edu by the 25th of each month.