

December 2014



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Educators, specialists, and administrators gather for a photograph during extension training in Laramie as the organization enters its second century of service to Wyoming residents.

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UW Extension honors excellence

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UW Extension's top awards were presented during Indepth, the organization's annual training session in Laramie November 3-6.

Cole Ehmke, an agriculture entrepreneurship and personal financial management specialist, received the Jim DeBree Excellence in Education Award - extension's highest honor.

Ehmke is in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

The award, named in honor of the retired extension administrator, is given to those who demonstrate a high level of professionalism, performance, and leadership within their program areas and communities.

Ehmke is involved with several extension teams, including community development and financial literacy, and provides support to the Agriculture and Horticulture State Initiative Team.

His many programming efforts include:

- * A nine-week series for new and beginning farmers in the Big Horn Basin,
- * Publishing a series of 11 estate planning bulletins,
- * Coordinating the Annie's Project program in Wyoming (a six-part class for women in agriculture that helps increase participants' abilities to work in and manage agricultural operations),
- * Organizing the Living and Working on the Land conferences,
- * Co-editing the quarterly newsletter Health and Wealth,
- * Creating a manual for new managers of CSAs (community supported agriculture ventures).

Ehmke also collaborates on extension's Barnyards and Backyards small-acreage issue team, helps plan the annual Consumer Issues Conference at the University of Wyoming, leads the Wyoming JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, coordinates local foods classes, and provides presentations across the state on financial management, marketing, succession planning, estate planning, and money management

Ehmke joined extension in 2005.

Newer Employee



Specialist Cole Ehmke, center, receives the Jim DeBree Excellence in Extension Award from dean Frank Galey, left, and UW President Richard McGinity. The award is the highest an educator can receive in UW Extension.

Hannah Swanbom, the community development educator based in Natrona County and also serving Converse and Niobrara counties, received the Newer Employee Recognition Award.

“This is a great honor, and I would like to thank my peers and colleagues who nominated me for this award,” she notes.

Swanbom has leveraged her knowledge of rural Wyoming to create community development education programs that address community needs, her nomination information states. “Her vibrant personality and her desire to work with the people within extension shows in her successful educational programming and her respect from clientele and collaborators,” according to her nomination.

She joined extension in 2012.

Diversity Enhancement

Tina Russell, who serves the Wind River Reservation and Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties, was presented the Diversity Enhancement Recognition Award.

Russell, also a 4-H educator, is based in Ethete.

Russell’s specialties include agriculture and natural resources, forestry, energy efficiency, and conservation and recycling education.

Her demeanor and persistence drew praise.

“She responds to the needs of her audience and collaborates well with community organizers and colleagues with quiet persistence, friendly professionalism, and cultural understanding,” wrote one nominator.

She has many accomplishments. Russell assembled a committee of members of the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes to generate the first Wind River Reservation Leadership Program.

She initiated the Cultural Synergy Workshop that served as a launching point for better understanding of tribal citizens and their cultures and facilitating methods in which area educators can better understand the American Indian way of life.

Russell collaborates with Cent\$ible Nutrition Program educators in presenting workshops and initiated planning for a tribal farmers market. Russell offers in-school programs for youth, and works with 4-H youth of the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes encompassing an array of projects and transcending cultures. In addition, Russell offers programs to ranch women to supplement practical skills with modern methods and technology to raise business skills.

Russell joined extension in 2008.



Educator Hannah Swanbom receives the Newer Employee Recognition Award from dean Frank Galey, left, and UW President Richard McGinity.



Educator Tina Russell was presented the Diversity Enhancement Recognition Award by dean Frank Galey, left, and UW President Richard McGinity.

Creative Excellence

Innovative avenues in information delivery and professional expertise led to the manager of the Office of Communications and Technology receiving the Creative Excellence Recognition Award.

Nominators cited Tana Stith's professionalism of the office reflected in numerous interdisciplinary and cross-campus projects. Her collaboration is friendly, energetic and goal-oriented producing a professional presence at the University of Wyoming and across Wyoming, nominators stated.

Stith, whose specialty is graphic design, was the driving force behind the 100 Years of Extension traveling display. Through photographs, articles, and interactive computer displays, the presentation shows how UW Extension has responded to Wyoming citizen needs since 1914.

Stith's expertise is reflected in her work with extension's quarterly magazine *Barnyards & Backyards*, extension's yearly publication *CONNECT*, and the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment station's annual research magazine *Reflections* and *Field Days Bulletin*. The UW Extension Office of Communications and Technology team has received many state and national awards for publications and video work.

Stith joined the University of Wyoming in 1988 and UW Extension in 1990.



Tana Stith, manager of the Office of Communications and Technology, receives the Creative Excellence Recognition Award from dean Frank Galey, left, and UW President Richard McGinity.

Seminars

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics Seminars:

Fridays, 3:10 p.m., Ag C building, room 223

December 5: To be announced (TBA), Heidi Jo Albers, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources

Department of Molecular Biology Seminars:

Fridays, 2:10 p.m., Berry Center Auditorium, room 138

December 5: "Signaling by Free Mannose-6-Phosphate," Mark Lehrman, University of Texas Southwestern

December 12: "Worming Our Way through the Endosomal System: *C. elegans* as a Model for Membrane Traffic," Barth Grant, Rutgers University

Research across Disciplines Seminars:

Fridays, 2 p.m., Ag C building, room 1030

December 5: "Alternative Approaches to Delineating Seed Transfer Zones," Taylor Crow, Ph.D. student, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management

Associations, chapters honor extension personnel

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National and chapter recognitions were awarded to University of Wyoming Extension educators, specialists, and supporters during November's Indepth training in Laramie.



"100 Years of Excellence - UW Extension" was the theme of the weeklong conference, focusing on topics pertinent to Wyoming's residents. Attendees delved into topics such as effective impact evaluation, cooking myths and science, new trends in grain, volunteer management, and Franklin Covey's The 7 Habits for Managers. There were also chances for networking, idea sharing, and opportunities to recognize outstanding colleagues.

Wyoming Association of Extension 4-H Agents

All state awards are based on five categories: professional attitude, professional improvement, professional accomplishments, personal, and special honors.

The Achievement in Service Award (ASA) nominees serve more than three years but less than seven in extension youth programs and exemplify the above five categories. Goshen County 4-H/youth development educator Megan Brittingham was recognized as the winner while Amanda Zamudio, assistant educator in Teton County, was named Rookie ASA.

The Distinguished Service Award (DSA) and the Meritorious Service Award (MSA) recognize outstanding members who have served seven or more years but less than 15 while demonstrating the above categories. Sublette County 4-H/ youth educator Robin Schamber earned this year's DSA, and Johnathan Despain, state 4-H director, was awarded the MSA.

A number of communication awards recognized achievements of the following 4-H educators for their multi-media products:

Educational piece - Rachel Vardiman, Johnson County; News Story - Stacy Buchholz, Weston County; Published Photo and Individual Periodic Publication - Alex Malcom, Fremont County; Team Periodical Publication - Shar Perry; Individual Promotional Piece - Kim Bell, Campbell County; Team Promotional Piece and Radio Program - Buchholz.

Specialty awards distinguish educators' outstanding programming:

Excellence in Camping: Amanda Zamudio, Shar Perry, and Miriam Feeley - Lincoln County.

Excellence in Urban 4-H Programming: Kim Bell.

Excellence in Animal Science: Shar Perry.

Buchholz earned a regional award for her radio program, and Bell won regional and national recognition for her promotional communication piece.

National Association of County Agriculture Agents

The 2014 NACAA Outstanding Ag Educator title was awarded to Converse County's sustainable management of rangeland resources (SMRR) educator Barton Stam. Ashley Garrelts of Converse County, also a SRMM educator, earned the association's remaining three honors - The Achievement Award, Communications Award, and the Poster Award.

Cent\$ible Nutrition Program

Rookie Educator of the Year: Sandra Biller, Albany County CNP assistant educator.

Rookie Coordinator of the Year: Debra Russell, Laramie County CNP coordinator.

Educator of the Year: Jill Person, Laramie County CNP assistant.

Coordinator of the Year: Wendy Nielson, Sweetwater County CNP associate.

Mary Kay Wardlaw received the 2014 Linda Melcher Award, which recognizes the overall outstanding educator who embodies the spirit and mission of the CNP program. Wardlaw took over as director of the program from the awards namesake and CNP founder.

Epsilon Sigma Phi Chapter and National Extension Recognition

Administrative Leadership: Glen Whipple, UW Extension director.

Distinguished Service: Chris Pasley, Platte County nutrition and food safety educator.

Diversity and Multicultural: Kim Reaman, 4-H volunteer development specialist, and Warren Crawford, youth development specialist.

Early Career Service: Milt Geiger, energy extension coordinator.

Mid-Career Distinguished Service: Duane Williams, former associate extension director.

Continued Excellence: Mary Martin, Teton County community development educator.

Distinguished Team Award: Nutrition and food safety educators Phyllis Lewis, Washakie County, and Vicki Hayman, Weston County.

Visionary Leadership: Cole Ehmke, agricultural entrepreneurship and personal financial management specialist.

Meritorious Support Services: UW Extension Communication and Technology Department.

25-Year Tenure of Service: Mary Martin and Chris Pasley.

Friend of Extension: Western Dairy for continued support of, and educational materials for, Nutrition and Food Safety programs.

National ESP Recognition and Western Region Distinguished Service: Retired Weston County community

development educator Bill Taylor.

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) is a national society dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in extension and among extension professionals.

Wyoming Association of Community Development Professionals

Friend of Community Development Award: Two members of Governor Matt Mead's staff, natural resource policy director Jeremiah Rieman and policy adviser Nephi Cole, were recognized for their contribution to the state. Their contributions helped create a community-oriented process to develop and adopt a comprehensive water strategy for Wyoming.

Monies Awarded

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Adamovicz, Jeffrey: \$218,000 from Wyoming Livestock Board for “Brucellosis Diagnostic Testing 2014-2016.”

Cook, Craig: \$5,000 from Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for “Carbon and Nitrogen Stable Isotope Ratios on Hair or Tissue Samples.”

Despain, Johnathan, and Brittany Johnson: \$3,726 from Kansas State University for “2015 Military Connected Youth Local/Regional Program Support.”

Edwards, Jeffrey: \$8,100 from National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation for “Pesticide Safety Education Program 2014-2015.”

Hewlett, John: \$293,000 from Risk Management Agency for “2014 Targeted States Program: Risk Management Education Addressing Beginning/Retiring/Transitioning, and Other Farmers and Ranchers and Interested Individuals in Wyoming.”

Islam, Anowar: \$12,047 from Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education for “Economic and Environmental Sustainability of Irrigated Grass-Legume Mixtures.”

Mealor, Brian: \$21,500 from Wyoming Weed and Pest Council for “Weed Science Research and Extension.”

Murphy, Melanie, and Charlotte Gabrielsen: \$1,000 from the Wildlife Society for “Effects of Climate Change on Prairie Wetland Ecosystem Services and Amphibian Persistence.”

Peck, Dannele, and Chris Bastian: \$17,500 from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for “Small Ruminant Movements during Production and Marketing Activities in the Intermountain West.”

Schell, Scott: \$66,850 from USDA NIFA for “Crop Protection and Pest Management Extension Implementation Area.”

Tanaka, John, David Keto, Rachel Mealor, George Ruyle, and Matt Rahr: \$200,000 from USDA NIFA for “Discovering our Nation’s Rangelands.”

Taylor, David, and Jessica Clement: \$50,000 from Bureau of Land Management for “Socioeconomic Reports for BLM Casper Field Office and BLM Arizona Colorado River District.”

Ceremony recognizes faculty, staff

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources 14th annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Ceremony is 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 17, in the Wyoming Union Center Ballroom.

Refreshments will be provided.

Among honors presented are the Lawrence Meeboer Agricultural Classroom Teaching Award, the Outstanding Adviser Award, and the Outstanding Educator Award. Also presented will be the Dean's Outstanding Staff Award.

Students nominate four for Mortar Board's Top Prof

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Kristin McTigue



Kumaran Mani



Peter Thorsness



Rachel Watson

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources boasts four Top Profs for the 2014 academic year.

Family and consumer science's assistant lecturer Kristin McTigue was nominated by Courtney Nordhus. McTigue is also director of the Didactic Program in nutrition and dietetics.

The molecular biology department hosts the remaining Top Profs. Senior lecturer Rachel Watson was acknowledged by Julia Popish, and Heidi Hanekamp nominated Professor Peter Thorsness. Associate research scientist Kumaran Mani was recognized by Harrison Johnson and Douglas Jordan.

Top Prof recipients attended a function hosted by UW President Richard McGinity November 19 during which they were notified of their selection.

Publications

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

Phillips, O.R., **A.M. Nagler, D.J. Menkhaus**, S. Huang, and **C.T. Bastian**. "Trading Partner Choice and Bargaining Culture in Negotiations." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 105 (2014): 178-190.

Lee, B., J. Ritten, A. Kniss, and C. Bastian. "Profitability Comparison for Glyphosate-Resistant and Conventional Sugarbeet Production Systems." *Journal of Sugarbeet Research*, Vol. 51, Nos. 1 & 2, 2014: 2-13.

Skrabut, S. Review of E.C. Sheninger's *Digital Leadership: Changing Paradigms for Changing Times*. *Journal of Adult Education*, Vol. 43, No. 2, 2014: 26-27.

Proposals Submitted

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

Bisha, Bledar: \$20,000 to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for “A Low-Cost Pathogen Detection System for Food Safety.”

Bisha, Bledar, and Jeffrey Chandler: \$24,948 to Centers for Disease Control for “Technological Advancement in LAMP for STECs: Novel Probe Chemistries.”

Hild, Angela, and Tim Collier: \$4,000 to state of Wyoming for “Shrub Seedlings for Restoration of Russian Olive Removal Sites.”

Jarvis, Donald, and Jason Gigley: \$2,174,908 to National Institutes of Health for “Impact of Antibody Glycosylation Profiles on Immune Protection against HIV.”

Levy, Daniel: \$240,000 to Pew Charitable Trusts for “A Microfluidics Approach to Investigating the Function of Nuclear Size.”

Scasta, John, Rachel Mealor, Eric Thacker, and Amanda Gearhart: \$74,946 to Utah State University for “Why isn’t Rangeland Monitoring Being Used More? Overcoming Barriers and Equipping Educators.”

Stahl, Peter, and Michael Curran: \$4,179 to Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust for “Reclamation Monitoring Improvement Study.”

Stam, Barton: \$19,592 to Wyoming Department of Agriculture for “Hay Creek Land and Cattle RHAP,” and \$20,000 for “Arapahoe Creek Allotment RHAP.”

Changing Faces, Changing Places

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

Welcome:

Griffith, Coleman: Wind River Indian Reservation, 4-H educator (10/28)

Indepth 2014 Slideshow

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

No slides are available in this gallery

John P. Ellbogen Foundation Fund fuels UW Extension special projects

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

Representatives of the [John P. Ellbogen Foundation](#) hope an endowment for use by [University of Wyoming Extension](#) educators will energize and extend the vision of the foundation and University of Wyoming across the state.

Mary (Ellbogen) Garland, president and chair of the foundation, announced the endowment - expected to generate \$35,000 a year - during extension's annual training in Laramie in November. The fund will total \$700,000 when matched by the state, notes Glen Whipple, UW Extension director. A committee will determine project recipients through a competitive process.

The endowment will fuel "The John P. Ellbogen Foundation Wyoming Communities, Agriculture, and Rural Living Project Fund." The foundation seeks to cause or create change to benefit the people of Wyoming in support of science, education, and charity.

Extension has offices in every county and the Wind River Reservation.

"We're excited to see how the people of Wyoming can be served and how the quality of life will just be a little bit better," Garland says. "It will be fun as this moves forward to see how the work done in the extension offices in each community in each county will extend the vision of the foundation as well as that of the university."

John Ellbogen was born and raised in Worland and was the first in his family to receive a college degree. He received a degree in history and later a juris doctorate from UW. His philanthropy focus was education.

The foundation seeks to make a statewide impact, says Garland, who had discussed with Frank Galey, dean of the [College of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#), ways to assist Wyoming citizens.

A story about UW Extension in the university publication [UWyo Magazine](#) sparked the idea.

The article described the diverse ways extension offices in each county support communities through 4-H and youth development, nutrition and food safety, profitable and sustainable agriculture, sustainable management of rangeland resources, and community development education.



Glen Whipple, UW Extension director, and Mary Garland, president and chair of the John P. Ellbogen Foundation

“The light came on for me,” says Garland. “It is such a great opportunity with the infrastructure already built statewide, and so it is a perfect opportunity for us to enhance the resources available to communities in areas already identified as needs and for communities to prioritize their needs at the local level.”

This may be the first such funding of its kind for UW Extension.

“It’s not often you get a gift like this providing substantial funding for new and innovative projects in extension and be told to just go and do the things you normally do,” says Whipple.

Combined fall graduation December 12

By Bernadette Van der Vliet | December 2014

The combined fall commencement for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and College of Arts And Sciences is 4 p.m. Friday, December 12, in the Arts and Sciences Auditorium.

An anticipated 32 agriculture undergraduates and two graduate students are expected to walk in the ceremony. Dean Frank Galey and Paula Lutz, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will give the welcome and introductory remarks and the recognition of high academic achievement.

Donna Brown, associate dean and director of the Office of Academic and Student Programs, will also represent the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The Snow Scene from The Nutcracker is the featured performance.