



EPSILON SIGMA PHI
National Honorary
Extension Fraternity



LAMBDA CHAPTER - NY

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The Lambda Briefs
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Newsletter

Mission Statement:

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) is dedicated to fostering The Cooperative Extension Professionals' Organization standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional.

Vision Statement:

Epsilon Sigma Phi leads the Extension System in promoting and supporting professionalism in Extension

Message from the President

Marilyn J. Smith

I feel a little inadequate and unprepared to be writing this message. I appreciate the confidence that has been placed in me to serve as the president for the next year. I will do my best to serve you and the chapter during my term. Thanks to Paul for his willingness to coach me along the way.

Following the Annual meeting on September 13, Paul and I had a chance to visit with Glenn Applebee. We discussed the future of the chapter, particularly in terms of the "makeover" Nancy Crago spoke about.

We have several ideas and three modest goals. However, I'm not quite prepared to share those goals just yet, simply because I have not had an opportunity to discuss them with the other officers and committee chairs.

So you'll just have to be patient, and look forward to more details in the next issue of Lambda Briefs!

I am looking forward to a productive year, with growth for the chapter, and individual growth and development for the members.

DEALINE EXTENDED FOR ESP AWARD NOMINATIONS!!!

Hello everyone! Fall is upon us and it is now time to "catch someone doing something right!" **We have extended the deadline for nominations until October 13, 2006.**

Your Lambda Chapter is seeking award nominations in thirteen (13) categories. If you don't have a form on hand, please contact me directly at skb11@cornell.edu and I will email you one immediately.

It's easy to do and only takes a few minutes to fill out. Many of last year's winners were so surprised and pleased that their colleagues thought their work merited an award nomination.

The expectation is that award recipients will be members of Epsilon Sigma Phi by the date that awards are presented.

You don't need to provide every single detail about a nominee's work - just enough to give the review committee a flavor of what the nominee (or nominees) have accomplished. Feel free to contact me if you have questions. After nominations are returned, the review committee will do the rest.

So please take a few moments to nominate a colleague you think has done the right thing this past year. You'll be glad you did.

Thank you,
Sue Beebe, ESP Awards Chair

BUILDING YOUR FUTURE – A LAMBDA CHAPTER MAKEOVER

Comments taken from the presentation given by Nancy Crago, ESP National President, at the Lambda Chapter Annual Meeting on September 13, 2006

What are the characteristics of a Chapter of Merit? Organization and Leadership, Member Services, Member Recruitment and Retention, Professional Development, Public Issues, Resource Development, and Global Issues.

Which of these characteristics are particularly desirable to Lambda Chapter?

What is the plan to get there?

There are four cornerstones to success as a chapter works toward its makeover goals: Honesty, Commitment, Responsibility, and Inner Strength. Trying to institute change without these four cornerstones is like building a house on an unstable foundation. A successful makeover demands resolve and will power.

A makeover also takes planning, compression planning.

First, decide on the topic. What is the issue to be addressed?

Second, gather some background. What is the role of each person involved? What support is needed? What are the key factors each person involved needs to know?

Third, determine the overall purpose. What is the larger picture of this project?

Fourth, determine the purpose of each work session. When the session is over, what does each person want to have available to them? How can the session leaders assure

the session is productive for each participant?

Fifth, clearly state and agree to the non-purposes of the session. What could derail the efforts? What should not be talked about?

Important note: Each participant needs to be given permission to be creative. The desired level of creativity needs to be understood. On a scale of 1 – 10, 10 is 100% creativity, and 1 is totally and specifically analytical.

Conclusion: What tasks are necessary to complete the topics to be addressed? Who will complete these tasks? When will these tasks be completed?

Additional information relative to Nancy Crago's presentation can be found on the National ESP website at <http://www.espnational.org/handbook/index.htm>

2006 DISTINGUISHED RUBY LECTURE AVAILABLE VIA THE WEB

ESP, Tau Chapter of Maryland and hosts of the 2006 National ESP Meeting, are proud to announce that the 2006 Distinguished Ruby Lecture given by Bonnie D. McGee, TX, will be offer to all chapters as a web-based connection on Thursday, November 16, 2006 from approximately 12:45 to 1:30 PM (would like you to connect by 12:30). McGee has chosen The Extension Leadership Challenge of a Changing America."

If you are interested in participating, please register using the enrollment form posted on the ESP Website at <http://espnational.org>. There is a \$15.00 charge per connection site which can be paid by check, purchase order or credit card. Registrations are needed by October 16th so there is time for

University of Maryland technical personnel to work with you to make sure your computer is set up for the web-conference and address any questions or issues you have.

This is an exciting opportunity, the first for a National ESP Meeting, to hear what our Distinguished Ruby recipient has to say. Be a part of the 2006 National ESP Conference, even if you can't travel to Annapolis, MD in November! Many thanks to Debbie Ross, Maryland ESP Member, for making these arrangements.