OCES Conference—A Huge Success

Sessions are over, evaluations filled out and auction items purchased, making the 2010 OCES conference a big success.

Starting Wednesday January 20, approximately 300 Extension Educators, specialists and retirees gathered at Oklahoma State University for the Extension Conference 2010.

All Extension professionals had the opportunity to participate in a two day conference that featured over 50 concurrent sessions, various meetings, and of course friends and fellowship.

After a full day of sessions on Wednesday, the participants enjoyed a good meal, a silent and live auction. These funds, $1800. in total, will be used for the Agricultural Agents National Conference in Tulsa this July.

Thursday was an education filled day, with session topics ranging from fitness to retirement education and everything in between.

A huge thanks goes out to the planning committee for their dedication and service that made the event one of the best conferences yet. The planning committee was comprised of: Nancy Arnett, Brad Bain, Gayle Hiner, Bob LeValley, Joyce Martin, Leland McDaniel, Jim Rhodes, Mike Schnelle, Pamela Varner Chad Webb and Julie York.

Conference participants headed home on Thursday afternoon, filled with new ideas, but no doubt exhausted. It is safe to say, the conference was a success.

Also, a special thanks to the staff at Agricultural Communications Services, Agricultural Conferences Services, and the many others who helped behind the scenes.

We all survived the Conference!

From Joyce, Krista and Dianne
The Staff and Program Development Team
1. Attend conferences and in-services

Attending conferences and in-services can provide new light on job opportunities and ways to enhance your current job. Use these opportunities to discover new things about your job and new avenues to take.

2. Stop focusing on money, or a lack thereof

Will you ever have enough money? If not, stop focusing on how much you do or do not have. Find unique ways to conserve your funds instead.

3. Find significance in what you do

Every job has a purpose. If you have lost sight of why you do what you do, refocus. Talk to those you teach or interact with, and see how your job is impacting their lives for the better.

4. Love those you work with (or at least like)

If you have a job that you cannot seem to love, but do not want to leave, enjoy the company of those you work with. Building relationships can make the workplace a more inviting place to go 40 hours per week. Additionally, getting input on new project ideas can spark creativity and passion.

5. Bring tasty treats

Bringing home-made cakes or cookies (nutritional of course) is a good way to make the office feel more like home. Food brings co-workers together for a tasty treat and might allow you to find more in common than just the workplace.

6. Challenge yourself daily

By establishing goals and starting each day with a new perspective, it will create a sense of pride and excitement for each day’s work.

7. Be honest with yourself

Finding a job in this economy can be difficult. However, if you cannot seem to be happy and fall back in love with your job, butterflies and everything, it may be time to consider other options. In doing so you may find other opportunities, or realize you do not dislike your job that much after all.

Sources: Women Today
How Many Mistakes can You Find?

Can you find all of the mistakes in the paragraph below? Note: We’re not trying to trick you. Every error below is a common mistake by business people every day.

Nothing is more embarrassing than making a writing mistake. Of course, we all think its funny when we spot a misspelled word in magazine ads or on billboards. If one of your employee’s are making the mistakes, it can be disastrous. And if you have a typo in a memo to the boss, how do you think they will view your professionalism? These kind of mistakes can be prevented, irregardless of the persons job title. The people that make the mistakes can seriously effect how other’s view you’re company. That can cost any organization money and hurt it’s profits.

Okay, how did you do? If you found all of them, then you’re brilliant.

Send us the number of mistakes you find.

Your Exchanges

J J Jones- Southeast District, Area Extension Agricultural Economics Specialist

“In the newsletter it mentions that the deadline for submitting a portfolio for career ladder is March 4th, but on the Career Ladder Guidelines it states the deadline is April 19th. Which date is correct?”

Thanks for your question:

The “Intent to Apply for Promotion” form is due in the district office February 18 and the district directors will send them to me by March 4. April 19, the Career Ladder portfolios are due in Stillwater by 5 p.m.

Lisa Taylor- Extension Educator, FCS/4-H Youth Development

“Last week’s conference was packed with opportunities to gain great ideas to bring back to our home counties. As a lifelong learner, these sessions help me envision what’s possible. Your time and efforts to provide such a nice experience are truly appreciated.”

We received this greeting from Lisa Taylor, regarding the Extension Conference. We are glad to have made the experience worthwhile. We truly appreciate your feedback.
Conference at a Glance

To see more got to:
<http://139.78.58.1/netpub/server.np?quickfind=2010%20Extension%20Conference&catalog=catalog&site=Extension2&template=results.np&sorton=Cataloged&ascending=0>
“Love is just a word until someone or something comes along and gives it meaning.”

-Anonymous

Reminders...

◆ There will be a Career Ladder Training on February 11 via CENTRA for those who are interested in attending. This will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

◆ The deadline for submitting a Career Ladder Intent to Apply for Promotion Form is February 18, to your district director. Please let the Staff and Program Development office know if you are interested in submitting a portfolio. On March 4, District Directors should have all of the forms to the Staff and Program Development Office.

◆ The 2010 Career Ladder Guidelines have been posted on the Staff Development Intranet site at http://intranet.okstate.edu/staffdevelopment. If you would also like a copy, contact Joyce Martin for a PDF version via email.

◆ Career Ladder Portfolios are Due April 19

Send us Your Exchanges!

We’d love to hear from you! Please contact us with any feedback. All efforts will be made to include your ideas in The Extension Exchange.

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Until our next exchange!