



## Central Region Update January, 2012

### 1. Transitions in the Central.....REGION???

- I want to officially welcome you to the **Central REGION**. If you listened to Dean Klemme's Wisline you'll know that the Central District is now the Central Region; the Central District Office is now the Central Regional Office; Jennifer is now the Central Regional Operations Program Associate and I am now the Central Regional Director. These title changes coincide with the announcement of recent hires in the Regional Director roles and an evolution of Regional Offices to focus on Human Resource Development, Fiscal Resource Management, External Relations and Support for Organizational Culture and Functions.
- We congratulate **Connie Eisch** on her upcoming retirement as the **Wood County Family Living Educator** effective January 25, 2012. An 80% interim position has been posted and closes on February 7. Please share this posting with everyone who you think might be a good candidate!!
- As a part of our efforts to collaborate with the College of Menominee Nation we have posted a **4-H Youth Development Educator** position in **Menominee County** using one time funds from the Dean's Office. Please share this posting with everyone who you think might be a good candidate!!
- We have completed interviews for the **Langlade County 4-H Youth Development Educator** and are in the process of offering the position. When a signed contract is received, we will make a public announcement.
- On the advice of the Resource Management Team, I forwarded the **Marathon County Dairy Educator** position to Dean Klemme for refilling as part of the managed staffing plan. Dean Klemme has approved this position be moved forward and it is scheduled for posting at the end of February.

### 2. Managed Staffing Plan

- As I work through the guidelines established by the Dean's Office for managed staffing, I continue to consult with the Resource Management Team for ways to meet the base reduction goal of 5% by January 1, 2013.
- Moving forward, I will be conducting brain storming sessions for each open position to explore ways to provide program coverage if we are unable to fill the position at its current staffing level. For these discussions I will invite the office department head, program colleagues and department heads from nearby and surrounding counties, the program area and the academic department. These discussions will help me identify alternative staffing options if we are not able to fill at the current level of staffing.

### 3. Witness to Values – As a way to recognize the work of our colleagues and reinforce our values of community, respect, relationships, inclusion and discovery, I ask for your help in recognizing our colleagues who demonstrate these values in their work. I had the opportunity to witness many colleagues engage model our values of **Discovery, Inclusion, Respect, Relationships and Community** as they made significant contributions to the success of the WACEC #3 meeting:

- **Debbie Moellendorf, Connie Creighton, Arlen Albrecht, Patrick Nehring, Theresa Wimann, Mary Ann Olson and Keith Vander Velde** for leading the roundtable discussions with our county partners.
  - **Michelle Grimm, Brenda Herrell, Jackie Carattini, Marilyn Herman, Sue Allen and Amanda Kostman** for sharing their work through the afternoon breakout sessions.
  - All the **Department Heads** and county colleagues who took their time to be a part of the day. Twelve counties participated and we were able to learn from each other and showcase our successes.
4. **ECRT** – The current effort certification period of January – June 2011 closes January 31, 2012. We still have a few cards that haven't been completed. Jennifer sent an email reminder out on January 3 and will follow up with another one this week. It's very important to take care of this so that the university's federal funding is not jeopardized.
  5. **Celebrating 100 Years – Your Trusted Partner Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow...** is the theme for Cooperative Extension's Centennial Celebration.
    - I am looking forward to the exciting ways your office teams are planning to celebrate this milestone and how those celebrations will be used to further your work of building awareness of niche.
    - Please visit <http://100.ces.uwex.edu/> for updates and information on the celebration! Also be looking for a resolution for your county board.
    - Finally, Jennifer has located and acquired a copy of "Fifty Years of Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin, 1912-1962". This resource has a directory of Extension Professionals by county which includes their name, position and years of service. This resource is rare and if you want to use it, let us know.
  6. **Innovative Grant Applications** are being accepted and the deadline for turning in applications to the Central Region Office is March 1, 2012. To be considered for funding, up to \$2,000 per grant, the application must meet all of the criteria specified in the Application Procedure. Announcement of the award(s) will be made after March 26, 2012. Visit <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/dist/central/drmp.html> for application materials or see the e-mail from Jennifer dated 1-12-12.
  7. The **February 2012 District All Colleague Meetings** will be replaced with a series of facilitated "legislative dialogues" around the state.
    - A draft agenda for these events is attached to this e-mail.
    - A website which is anticipated to include the agendas, updates on which legislators will attend which events and registration information will be on-line soon.
    - I'll be recruiting colleagues to facilitate round table discussions, help with registration and host our elected officials.
  8. **Strategic Planning Implementation Action Teams** have been meeting and I will look forward to updates from team members at our February Wisline. To learn more visit the Strategic Directions Website at: <http://blogs.ces.uwex.edu/strategicdirections/>
  9. **Thanks to all of you** for submitting your 2011 individual statistics, impact indicators, and success stories in the CE Planning & Results System. This information is critical for accountability to our funding partners at the state and federal level.
  10. **I look forward to seeing all of you** over the next couple of months as I visit county offices to conduct department head performance reviews and during the legislative dialogues. Thank you for all you do. I hope your new year is off to a great start.
  11. **Next Wisline** – Monday, February 13, 2012, 9:00-10:00am