Name of Liaison: Linda Kirk Fox, lkfox@uga.edu, 706-542-4879
Date of Report: March 2017, BOHS CAFCS Joint Conference

I am serving my second three-year term on the Board on Human Sciences. A replacement liaison to ECOP should be considered by the nomination committee in anticipation of my term ending Nov-Dec.

What are the major programs and priorities of the organization you represent? How do they relate to the BoHS Strategic Plan and Goals?

NEW ECOP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Jane Schuchardt retired in December. Rick Klemme is the Executive Director, interim for 9 months or until a new ED is hired. He may be contacted at rickklemme@extension.org and 202-478-6029. Sandy Ruble continues as Staff Associate, sandyruble@extension.org, 202-478-6088.

CES DEEPENS THE COMMITMENT TO HEALTH:

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Partnership Webinar Series: CLICK HERE. A 2-part one-hour webinar series is scheduled for all of Extension to learn more about a new partnership between Cooperative Extension and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The purpose of the 10-year partnership is to build a Culture of Health in communities across America in 2017 and beyond. In March, Cooperative Extension Section institutions can apply. Five will be selected as pilots this summer to launch the program. All institutions will have the chance to engage in other ways, including professional development opportunities. The dates are:

- March 9 @ 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time: focus on the partnership and goals
- April 6 @ 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time: learn more about the process to be a pilot state

For more information about the partnership, CLICK HERE for a presentation recorded by Dr. Michelle Rodgers, University of Delaware.

HEALTHY FOOD SYSTEMS – HEALTHY PEOPLE INITIATIVE joint BOHS & BAA:

- The HFSHP Implementation Plan has been vetted in federal agencies to refine recommendations to 1) facilitate public-private partnerships, 2) support national microbiome
initiative, 3) encourage federal funding, and 4) federal policy proposals and final edits accepted in mid-February. This plan calls for collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach to research and education/outreach efforts across agriculture, food, nutrition and health care systems as noted in the HFSHP report the recent federal Interagency Committee on Human Nutrition Research’s *National Nutrition Research Roadmap* [https://fnic.nal.usda.gov/surveys-reports-and-research/interagency-committee-human-nutrition-research](https://fnic.nal.usda.gov/surveys-reports-and-research/interagency-committee-human-nutrition-research).

The following table is a Summary of recommended HFS/HP Federal Funding Proposals ($ in Millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>2016 Federal Baseline</th>
<th>Additional Annual Cost</th>
<th>Possible Legislation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Healthy Food Systems Research Program</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Healthy Food Systems Capacity Program Integration Initiative</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Federal Non-Federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 National Pilot Program for Delivery of Evidence-Based Prevention and Care</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Expand CDC’s High Obesity Rate Counties Program</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Federal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Microbiome Research (amount shown is FY 2016 and proposed FY 2017 funding)</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Federal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Given the fact CARET (Council on Agriculture, Research, Extension and Teaching) members will be presented the HFS/HP Implementation Plan the week of March 5-8, BOHS should consider discussing with Rick Mertens, Chair, Associate Director for Federal Relations for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Texas A&M University System at BOHS and CAFCs joint conference. We should ask how BOHS can partner or position ourselves to respond to the following implementation plan recommendations:
  a. Organize and lead briefings of government, private-sector and non-profit stakeholders to inform these stakeholder and potential partners of HFSHP goals, objectives, and proposals.
  b. To the extent possible, federal agency briefings should include the offices of:
     - US Department of Agriculture (NIFA, ARS, FNS, Chief Scientist)
     - Department of Health and Human Services (CDC, NIH, FDA, ODPHP)
     - National Science Foundation
     - White House: Office of Science and Technology Policy, Office of Management and Budget.
  c. Organize a national workshop and/or themed regional workshops for HFSHP thought-leaders and stakeholders/partners to provide strategic support and access to experts, brainstorm barriers to broader adoption and acceptance of HFSHP goals, exchange best practices, and discuss how to work together to achieve HFSHP goals.
2017 National Health Outreach Conference, May 2-4, www.nationalhealthoutreach.org will be held at Loews Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. The conference is designed to build a collaborative approach among organizations and agencies to achieve a healthier and safer America by promoting health and wellness, advancing health equity and reducing health disparities. A broad audience of health professionals is encouraged to attend.

The University of Minnesota will host the 2017 National Urban Extension Conference at the Radisson Blu located at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota, May 8 – 11, 2017. Please use the following conference web link to register by March 17 to receive Early Bird pricing at https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/urbanextensionconference2017/index.

More than 40 teams representing 28 institutions have been selected for eXtension Foundation’s newly formed Diversity and Inclusion Issue Corps. The teams will meet in February for a Designathon workshop in which they will develop an issue response strategy through concept mapping and one-on-one mentoring from key informants. eXtension is recruiting key informants in areas of expertise specific to the needs of the Corps. https://extension.org/2017/01/05/diversity-inclusion-issue-corps-designathon-planned-for-february/

Addressing Behavioral Health at the Community Level – The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD) is spearheading the $6.2 million national project “Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation” (CAPE). In a cooperative effort between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency (SAMHSA), USDA NIFA, the Regional Rural Development Centers and a set of Land Grant universities, CAPE is developing programs designed to empower communities to address behavioral health challenges such as the opioid epidemic at the community level. The CAPE project is offering a train-the-trainer program for Extension educators and their partners to use community development organizational capacity building tools to help communities tackle these difficult challenges. Upcoming sessions are scheduled for Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Colorado. Learn more at www.healthbench.info or contact Mark Skidmore at mskidmor@msu.edu.

OTHER ECOP UPDATES:

The 2017 Goals of ECOP presented by Fred Schlutt, ECOP Chair (Alaska) include the following EMPHASIS AREAS:

- **Capacity Funding** – Investigate and apply new advocacy approaches for federal capacity funding.
- **National System** – Finalize Extension’s core values, describe learner engagement (e.g. Extension’s value proposition) and develop a national logo and/or tagline for optional use by Extension Services.
- **Private Resource Mobilization** – Implement strategies for private funding as a complement to public funding as a national system and not in competition with state, university and local efforts.
- **Urban Programming** – Continue alliance with the National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL) while maintaining Extension educational strength in rural America.
• Innovation – Launch system-wide innovation strategies on learner engagement, environmental factors that support innovation and employment.

• Internal Communications – Strengthen communications and engagement in decision-making with Extension directors and administrators.

**ECOP ONGOING PRIORITIES:** Advance efforts with health and water security education.

**Joint COPS (Committees on Organization and Policy) summer meeting is July 17-19, 2017**
at Delta Lodge (Marriott) at Kananaskis, 1 ½ drive hour west of Calgary, Alberta,  

The **National Extension Directors and Administrators (NEDA) Meeting October 2-4, 2017**
will be at The Essex near Burlington, VT.

What are the implications of the organizational priorities for the level of engagement recommended to the BoHS?

**Secure new and more funding. Influence policy.**

**Enhance reputation of BOHS.** The BOHS has the opportunity to shape the partnership with RWJ Foundation and offer expertise of faculty (extension, research and teaching,), research and evidence informed curricula and trainings as models for RWJ to consider moving forward. As the reservoir of knowledge regarding youth development, BOHS could join the dialogue between National 4-H Council, Cooperative Extension and RWJ about the ways in which BOHS professionals and member institutions could lead efforts for a positive culture of health through two thematic focus areas: healthy communities [http://www.rwjf.org/en/our-focus-areas/focus-areas/healthy-communities.html](http://www.rwjf.org/en/our-focus-areas/focus-areas/healthy-communities.html) and healthy children, healthy weight [http://www.rwjf.org/en/our-focus-areas/focus-areas/healthy-kids-healthy-weight.html](http://www.rwjf.org/en/our-focus-areas/focus-areas/healthy-kids-healthy-weight.html).