

**2009-2010 Annual Report**  
**Department of Family and Consumer Sciences**

**Section 1. Introduction**

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences had a very productive year. We had the highest undergraduate enrollment in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and were second in extramural contracts and grants. We continued to be a campus leader in ePortfolio student assessment. We are proud of our Outreach and Extension efforts and impacts. Cooperative Extension programming was nationally recognized for its outcomes and publications in Cent\$ible Nutrition, WIN the Rockies, and AgrAbility. The USDA/CSREES HACCP trainings were conducted using the Training Guide (B-1200) and the facilitator's guide. All faculty contributed to increased refereed journal publications, poster and paper presentations, juried design submissions, and invited presentations. One faculty member, Kari Morgan, was nominated for a USDA national teaching award.

The Early Care and Education Center (ECEC) successfully operated in the black once again. Thanks to generous donors and the support of the Office of Academic and Student Programs, we began upgrading our outdated research and teaching equipment and environments. We have begun to address the items in our 2009-2014 Academic Plan with the following key accomplishments:

- Changes were made in the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Students will begin in the Human Nutrition and Food option. They must complete 59-60 credit hours of specified coursework and achieve specific GPA requirements before applying to the DPD.
- The Early Care and Education Center was re-accredited through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
- Our undergraduate enrollment was the highest in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the fourth straight year.
- Our extramural funding was second highest in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for the third straight year.
- A new faculty/course evaluation instrument was adopted for use in both on-campus and online courses.
- Students increased their presentations at national meetings, juried design submissions, and international travel experiences.
- Work continued on use of the six FCS core competencies in our curriculum.

**Section 2. Academic Planning Implementation**

Progress on the FCS Departmental Academic Plan is as follows.

Leadership Development:

**Action Item 1: Expand the use of development dollars to include staff development**

**opportunities, such as attending conferences or workshops.** Staff members attended or are scheduled to attend workshops and trainings such as “Power Hour”, “Gatekeepers Training” and “The Women’s Conference” (July 2010).

**Action Item 2: Explore reduced teaching load for research/creative intensive semesters on a regular rotation for all faculty members, utilizing donor funds to pay for course coverage by adjuncts.** Development dollars were identified from our existing endowment

accounts. The next stage for 2010 will be identifying individuals and courses to create a planned rotation.

**Action Item 3: Encourage student applications to the Beyond the Classroom and other programs for international opportunities.** Several students obtained Beyond the Classroom funding - four for their winter session study tour to Hong Kong and Thailand, one for her month-long food science-focused trip to Angers, France with ESA and four for their summer study tour to Italy. Additionally six students received Cheney Center funding for their summer study tour to Italy.

**Action Item 4a: Revise FCSC 4117/5117 Working with Non-Profits and Boards to include a heavier emphasis on student leadership and community leadership development by Fall 2009.** FCSC 4117/5117 – Working with Non-Profits and Boards – was revised to include heavier emphasis on student and community leadership. This course was re-titled Understanding Community Leadership.

Teaching:

- **Undergraduate**

**Action Item 4b: Revise and update departmental webpage; continue to revise recruitment materials and identify outlets; explore using entry requirements for high-demand program options.** Dr. Christine Wade and the web committee she chairs made changes to the web page, and additional changes are ongoing; undergraduate brochures were revised by Mona Gupton with input from each program unit. Changes were adopted for Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). Students now begin in the Human Nutrition and Food option. They must complete 59-60 credit hours of specified coursework and achieve specific GPA requirements before applying to the DPD. The Human Nutrition and Food minor was renamed Human Nutrition and adjustments were made in the minor's course requirements.

**Action Item 5: Continue curriculum mapping and course revisions with input from an alumni survey and ePortfolio student competency assessments.** The committee was co-chaired by Dr. Michael Liebman and Dr. Kari Morgan. Competency statements were added to departmental course syllabi; courses were examined and changes were made to prerequisites, course descriptions, and content on an ongoing basis.

**Action Item 6: Explore additional internship requirements, internship opportunities and internship funding for our undergraduate students.** Information on internships and concerns regarding funding for students who desire out-of-Laramie placements was shared with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Board committee. The Child and Family Studies program – who plan to rename their area Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) in the 2010-2011 academic year – is exploring criteria for internship placement. Textiles and Merchandising has been contacted by new companies requesting students for internships; HDFS has been contacted by the community of Wamsutter.

**Action Item 7: Institute regular articulation meetings with the community colleges related to all FCS degree options and articulated coursework.** Contacts have been initiated at Sheridan and Torrington. A meeting with all Wyoming community colleges will be organized during the 2010-2011 academic year.

- **Graduate:**

**Action Item 8: Examine departmental graduate programs, curriculum and explore the feasibility of distance delivery methods; market our program through webpage changes, brochures, displays, professional meetings, and travel to identified**

**undergraduate institutions.** The HDFFS unit invited department heads from all distance graduate degree programs to share information. After a semester-long discussion, the decision was made not to pursue a departmental distance graduate program. A new graduate recruitment display and brochure were developed; recruitment trips were made to Chadron State College and to the Montana State University campuses at Billings and Bozeman. Our graduate recruitment committee (co-chaired by Dr. Christine Wade and Dr. Enette Larson-Meyer with leadership by Dr. Virginia Vincenti) brought a panel of experts to campus in November 2009 to review the department's graduate program. The expert panel consisted of Dr. Penny Ralston, Professor and Dean Emeritus, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University; Dr. Tahira Hira, Executive Assistant to the President, Iowa State University; and Anne Collins Chadwick, former Executive Director of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Faculty have been reviewing the written report provided by the panel, and are working towards implementing some of the suggested changes/improvements.

**Action Item 9: Support and participate in the Integrative Biomedical Sciences Ph.D.**

**program.** The Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. program was approved by the Board of Trustees in spring 2010. The first nutrition applicant (a master's graduate from Food Science and Human Nutrition) was accepted with an INBRE assistantship for fall entry into the program.

**Action Item 10: Explore funding for additional graduate student assistantships through development efforts, women and minority assistantship pool, and grant support dollars.**

Funding for two assistantships was requested through the competitive graduate student pool, but was unsuccessful. Faculty members are including assistantships in their grant proposals.

**Action Item 11: Keep abreast of potential changes in the American Dietetic Association requirements to require all Registered Dietitians to have a Master of Science degree and develop a recommendation.** Dr. Rhoda Schantz is monitoring all changes and potential changes to the dietetics program; as yet, CADE has not adopted the requirement for a master's degree for Registered Dietitians.

Research:

**Action Item 12: Increase grant submissions, juried creative submissions and refereed journal publications. Build dollars for additional staff support or student hourly help into grant budgets.** Faculty are being encouraged to submit in all areas. Staff and hourly student help are currently being requested in submitted grant proposals.

**Action Item 13: Explore funding for laboratory technicians/research associates.** All department heads in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources were contacted. In other departments, these are funded through grants and other soft money sources.

**Action Item 14: Review departmental tenure, promotion and yearly evaluation criteria.** A committee was formed, chaired by Dr. Rhoda Schantz, which explored changes to the current department annual evaluation criteria (possible changes using course evaluations, peer teaching evaluation, self reflection, teaching portfolio). No recommendations have been formalized as of this writing; anticipated draft to faculty for adoption in Fall 2010.

**Action Item 15: Target new faculty hires/CPM requests to strengthen our graduate programs.** New faculty requests for 2010-2011 were not successful, but were targeted toward strengthening teaching in adult aging and dietetics to benefit our graduate programs. The Academic Professional request for the DPD would have also assisted with balancing the teaching/advising load in that program area.

Outreach/Extension:

- Action Item 16: Strengthen our relationship with 4-H, FCCLA and other youth organizations through assistance with curricula, joint meetings, and participation in fairs and conferences.** Dr. Christine Wade is working with 4-H on program evaluation. The department provided awards and displays for the State Fair, and department members participated as judges at the county level. For the second year, the department served as the peer review group for state level 4-H/Youth Development Academic Professionals.
- Action Item 17: Continue offering nutrition education to low-income children and adults in Wyoming through the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program.** CNP's grant was funded; the program continues to have strong impact statements and provides continued programming.
- Action Item 18: Enhance visibility of the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program within Wyoming and across the United States.** Dr. Mary Kay Wardlaw continues to lead this nationally recognized model program. She has presented regionally and nationally on the Cent\$ible Nutrition program.
- Action Item 19: Obtain and utilize evaluation and impact data to understand and improve effectiveness of the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program.** Dr. Mary Kay Wardlaw conducted a longitudinal study looking at long term outcomes and client feedback. Results are being used in new programming.
- Action Item 20: Strengthen programming to help Wyoming children, youth and adults achieve healthy lifestyles.** A total of eight programs for Dining Diabetes were completed between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2009 by 72 participants. In September 2009, Wyoming had 30,398 SNAP recipients in 12,337 households. This represents an increase of 34.6% in recipients and 31% in household numbers from September 2008. 1,140 adults graduated from ten programs (8.8 average lessons) and 98 (5.2 average lessons) terminated. Total teaching contacts for graduating and terminating were 15,041. 4,225 adults and 3,165 youth participated in one-time educational lessons with 77% reporting intent to change behavior. 2,787 youth participated in a series of five lessons in school classrooms, afterschool programs and camps.
- Action Item 21: Complete development of publications associated with WIN the Rockies.** An article is currently in progress.
- Action Item 22: Continue to promote success in agriculture for people with disability and their families.** AgrAbility has been funded through April 2014.
- Action Item 23: Continue the USDA/CSREES Food Safety grant through completing the training of the small rural food processors and complete the extension bulletin and research publications already begun.** All trainings have been completed. The extension bulletin has been completed and published. Follow-up data is being collected as part of a thesis and will become a research publication.
- Action Item 24: Continue the Consumer Issues Conference as a teaching and outreach effort.** The 2009 Consumer Conference focused on Food Safety, Security and Sources; 330 individuals attended. The 2010 conference is titled Unlocking the Digital Marketplace: Legal and Ethical Issues.
- Action Item 25: Pursue service-related grants that appropriately fit with job descriptions, yield publications or presentations, and strengthen service.** A new grant "Wyoming Specialty Crops and Local Foods Project: Supporting Sustainable Lifestyles" was recently funded (Kentz Willis, Jennifer Jacobsen, and Suzy Pelican). "Development and Maintenance

of the US Higher Education Family & Consumer Sciences Programs and Specializations Database” received ongoing funding (Dr. Virginia Vincenti).

#### Physical Space:

**Action Item 26: Create a space utilization committee and undertake an in-depth analysis of current space utilization.** Treva Sprout chairs the department’s space committee. The committee solicited input from all faculty members, staff, and administrators within the department regarding space needs and suggestions for renovations. Two students worked on independent study projects looking at redesigning AG 232 (graduate student offices) and the student lounge (across from AG 3031) to create an exhibit space. AG 237 is currently being remodeled: drop ceiling, new light fixtures, and new window coverings.

**Action Item 27: Identify funding sources based on the prioritized plan.** We have identified some development dollars from our departmental endowments; no grant sources have been identified as yet.

**Action Item 28: Develop case statements for cultivation of new donors through the departmental newsletter and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ individual departmental mailing brochure that target identified needs.** A donor statement is included in each year’s newsletter. The college no longer produces the individual department mailing brochure.

**Action Item 29: Explore the feasibility of implementing the Phase II expansion of the Early Care and Education Center as part of the University’s Capital Facilities Plan for 2009-2014.** The ECEC expansion is not currently on the Capital Facilities Plan. It has not been identified as a high priority. Instead UW has identified local childcare options and attempted to make them more visible to faculty, staff, and students with childcare needs.

**Action Item 30: Investigate the financial feasibility and impact on the teachers, teaching assistants and teacher aides of increasing calendar days of operation to better serve faculty and staff childcare needs.** Mark Bittner initiated a survey, distributed to parents and staff, to assess the demand for care and availability of staff during official university closures. After careful and considered deliberation, it was determined that there were too many barriers to extending the calendar: unavailability of food deliveries from Washakie Center, inability to store sack lunches at the facility, and lack of sufficient staffing for each age group/room.

### **Section 3. Teaching Activities**

Teaching faculty continued to meet two hours per month to address teaching, assessment, and curriculum issues. In addition, the graduate recruitment and retention committee and ePortfolio competency committee met in between, bringing reports of progress to our all-department monthly meetings. Key accomplishments included:

- The Evaluation Committee (Dr. Sonya Meyer, Mona Gupton, Treva Sprout, and Patricia Hysong) adjusted the new faculty evaluation instrument in response to feedback from the pilot study. The final version of the evaluation instrument was adopted.
- The ePortfolio Committee (Dr. Michael Liebman, Dr. Kari Morgan, and Treva Sprout) worked with the faculty to continue to identify which departmental competencies are being addressed in our courses. Faculty are currently examining how they are providing targeted feedback on the competencies in course assignments.

- Our graduate recruitment committee (Dr. Christine Wade, Dr. Enette Larson-Meyer, Dr. Virginia Vincenti, Dr. Bruce Cameron and Dr. Donna Brown) brought a panel of experts to campus Fall 2009 to review the Department’s Graduate Program. The expert panel consisted of Dr. Penny Ralston, Professor and Dean Emeritus, College of Human Sciences, Florida State University; Dr. Tahira Hira, Executive Assistant to the President, Iowa State University; and Anne Collins Chadwick, former Executive Director of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Faculty have been reviewing the written report provided by the panel, and are working towards implementing some of the suggested changes/improvements.
- Program units met regularly to examine curriculum, teaching loads, and graduate offerings. Course and curriculum changes were submitted and additional changes are planned. Changes were adopted for Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). [See Section 2, Action Item 4b]. The Human Nutrition and Food minor was renamed Human Nutrition and adjustments were made in this minor’s course requirements.
- Faculty members have continued to publish, present at national and international meetings, and conduct research in the scholarship of teaching and learning.
- Faculty have attended workshops through the ECTL and the Outreach School, and have utilized the department head and Dr. James K. Wangberg for teaching observations.
- Dr. Christine Wade, Dr. Kari Morgan, Mark Bittner and Dr. Karen Williams participated in the early childhood articulation meetings with members from the College of Education, Wyoming community colleges, the Department of Family Services, and the Department of Workforce Services.
- Faculty and staff received recognition:
  - Dr. Kari Morgan was selected for an Outstanding Advisor Award from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
  - Dr. Kari Morgan was nominated for both the Lawrence Meeboer Outstanding Teacher Award for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and also the United States Department of Agriculture Excellence in College and University Teaching Award.
  - Dr. Donna Brown – First Place Winner in the Wearable Art Category of the 2009 International Quilt Association “Quilts : A World of Beauty” Judged Show, and Second Place Professional Winner Professional Category of the 2009 American Quilter’s Society/Hobbs Bonded Fibers Fashion Show for “Autumn Breezes.”
  - Dr. Donna Brown – Second Place Winner Best Use of Sulky Category for “Paisley Shimmer” – Hoffman Challenge 2009.
  - Dr. Sonya Meyer – finalist for the Design Exhibition challenge of the 2009 American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences National Meeting for “The Story Jacket”.
  - Dr. Mike Liebman was presented with a Mortar Board Top Professor award.
  - Mona Gupton was presented with a Mortar Board Tip of the Cap staff award.
  - Trish Hysong was selected as one of three university employees to receive the Staff Incentive Award.
  - Dr. Randy Weigel and Rhonda Shipp won the Pearson CiTE Excellence in Online Teaching Award for their team efforts in FCSC 4117/5117 Understanding Community Leadership.
  - Dr. Shane Broughton was granted a sabbatical leave for Fall 2010.
  - Dr. Sonya Meyer was promoted to the rank of Professor.

- Undergraduate student recognition:
  - Halliday TM, Peterson NJ, Thomas JJ, Kleppinger K, Hollis BW, Larson-Meyer DE. Influence of vitamin D status on illness and injury in collegiate athletes. Myths, Mysteries & Realities of Eating and Metabolism – Research to Practice. SCAN’s 26th Annual Symposium, San Diego, CA, March 27<sup>th</sup>-30th, 2010.
  - Halliday TM, Peterson NJ, Thomas JJ, Kleppinger K, Hollis BW, Larson-Meyer DE. Vitamin D Status Relative to Diet, Lifestyle, Injury and Illness in College Athletes. Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise 2010 (in press).
  - Natalie Ferguson, “Midnight Galaxy”, Undergraduate Best of Show, 2010 American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences National Conference, Cleveland Ohio, June 2010.
  - Natalie Ferguson, “Midnight Galaxy”, 2010 American Quilter’s Society/Hobbs Bonded Fibers Fashion Show and Competition, First Place Amateur category, Paducah KY, April 2010.
  - Amanda J. Jenkins, “Vintage Vixen”, 2010 American Quilter’s Society/Hobbs Bonded Fiber Fashion Show and Competition finalist, Amateur category, Paducah KY, April 2010.
  - Miriam Cooper, “Blue Mermaid Breeze”, 2010 American Quilter’s Society/Hobbs Bonded Fibers Fashion Show and Competition finalist, Amateur category, Paducah KY, April 2010.
  - Four students presented their work at Undergraduate Research Day: Barbara Woontner, Tanya Halliday, Anna D’Hooge and Jamie Wilder.

#### Section 4. Research and/or Creative Activities

Family and Consumer Sciences was number two in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources in external contracts and grants. The total from July 1, 2009 through May, 2010 was \$ 2,327,441.79. This was due to another all-time high funding award to the Cent\$ible Nutrition program, continuing food safety and AgrAbility grant allocations, and research dollars to support efforts in oxalate, PYY and Ghrelin, natural sweeteners, rural family decisions and values related to acute respiratory infections, familial economic factors and belief systems as they relate to childhood obesity, diabetes prevention and control, and student online group processes.

For this report, a new policy was established. When there were multiple authors or presenters, papers and presentations were only counted once. Invited presentations were also not double counted as refereed presentations. Our research/creative endeavor productivity was as follows:

Refereed Journal Articles		Refereed Presentations	
Published	13	International	5
Accepted	5	National	8
In Review	3	State/Regional	2
Creative Endeavor Juried Submissions Accepted	5	Patent accepted for licensing	0
Published newsletter articles/bulletins	6	Invited Presentations	13
Refereed abstracts/proceedings	1	Books/Book Chapters	
Journal Editor/Assoc./Board	3	Published	8
Refereed Journal Reviewer	8	Accepted	0

## **Section 5. Service, Extension and Outreach Activities**

Family and Consumer Sciences faculty contributed in many ways to key college, university, state, and national organizations. In addition to serving on departmental committees, examples of other professional service include:

- Mark Bittner served on the Laramie Head Start Board of Directors as Vice President, is currently serving on the advisory council for a group advocating for schools of choice, and is serving on a state committee to develop Early Learning Guidelines for infants and toddlers.
- Dr. Randy Weigel served as a CES Competitive Grant reviewer, as a USDA/NIFA Proposal reviewer, and served on the University of Wyoming Higher Learning Self Study Commission.
- Dr. Bruce Cameron served as a member of the University Course and Curriculum Committee and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Curriculum Committee, and was co-advisor for Phi Upsilon Omicron.
- Dr. Shane Broughton served on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Tenure and Promotion and Scholarship Committees.
- Dr. Donna Brown was an advisor for Mortar Board, was a USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant Reviewer, was a member of an international coordinating committee, and was an invited judge for an international design challenge.
- Dr. Enette Larson-Meyer served as the Membership Service Director and Executive Committee member for the American Dietetic Association, Sports, Cardiovascular and Wellness Nutritionist Dietetic Practice Group.
- Dr. Michael Liebman served as co-advisor for Phi Upsilon Omicron, and as a member of the University Studies Committee.
- Mindy Meuli chaired the Wyoming State Nutrition Action Coalition (SNAC).
- Dr. Sonya Meyer was chair of the International Textile & Apparel Association's International Affairs Committee, and chaired the Queen Sirikit Institute of Sericulture Peacock Standards design competition coordinating committee.
- Dr. Kari Morgan served as a member of the Family Support Task Force for the Early Childhood Partnership, and was a member of the UW Student Interaction Committee.
- Suzy Pelican served on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Tenure and Promotion Committee as the Academic Professional representative.
- Dr. Rhoda Schantz continued to serve as the Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics and was the advisor for the Student Dietetics Association.
- Dr. Christine Wade served as liaison to 4-H.
- Treva Sprout served on Faculty Senate, and has continued working as a design consultant for the Kendall House project.
- Dr. Virginia Vincenti chaired the Database Development Project for FCS Higher Education Programs, serves as President of the Wyoming Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and co-chaired the regional Consumer Issues Conference.
- Dr. Karen Williams served on the Social Justice Research Center advisory board, the Athletic Planning Committee, the Diversity and Student Wellbeing subcommittee of the NCAA reaccreditation committee, and the SIS Banner Steering committee.
- Dr. Mary Kay Wardlaw served on the Extension Administrative Team for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Nutrition and Food Safety Initiative team, and was the membership chair and member of the steering committee for the Wyoming Action for

Healthy Kids. She also completed her doctorate, studying long-term impacts of the Cent\$ible Nutrition program.

Over half of the faculty taught in our distance degree program, making a significant contribution to outreach efforts. We continued to have an MOU with the Outreach School to provide the distance advisor for the FCS programs. In addition, there were major contributions to Extension programs resulting in important impacts. We participated in the yearly articulation meetings in early childhood education.

Cent\$ible Nutrition: 2,787 youth participated in *Grazin' with Marty Moose*, *Eating Your Way Through Wyoming History*, *Passports to Food Adventures*, and *WIN Kids* curricula. 1,140 adult participants reported the following outcomes through the pre- and post-assessments. 84% showed improvement in one or more food resource management practices. 46% reported planning meals ahead of time more often; 41% reported comparing prices before purchasing food more often; 37% reported shopping with a grocery list more often. Families reported saving an average of \$54.34 per month. 39% reported running out of food before the end of the month less often. 36% reported preparing foods without adding salt more often. 38% reported making food from scratch more often. 90% showed improvement in one or more nutrition practices. 98% reported a positive change in any food group. 45% reported thinking about healthy food choices more often when deciding what to feed their families. 57% reported using the "Nutrition Facts" labels to make food choices more often. 36% reported they or their children eat something in the morning within 2 hours of waking more often. 47% reported serving more than one kind of fruit to their families each day more often. Mean daily cups of fruits increased from 0.9 to 1.1, or .2 cup increase. 42% reported serving more than one kind of vegetable to their families each day more often. Mean daily cups of vegetables increased from 1.5 to 1.6, or .1 cup increase. 37% reported that when eating bread, they eat whole grain bread more often. Mean daily cups from the dairy group increased from 2.0 to 2.2, or .2 cup increase. 40% reported getting a "super-sized" portion less often (a "super-sized" portion of food or beverage is one that is much bigger but costs only a little more money).

State Nutrition Action Coalition (SNAC): USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is the source of SNAP-Ed funding (the major source of CNP dollars), and SNAC is FNS's national collaboration initiative. The SNAC partnership in Wyoming comprises CNP; Wyoming Departments of Education (including Team Nutrition), Family Services, and Health (including the Women, Infants and Children Program [WIC] and Diabetes Control and Prevention Program); and Indian Health Service. With leadership from CNP, Wyoming SNAC completed a major educational outreach project, with development of 8 bulletin board kits (i.e., electronic files with banners, graphics, handouts, evaluation tools, etc.) on distinct nutrition and physical activity topics for use in schools, community centers, public agencies, etc. All files are downloadable from national/state websites, and funding from Wyoming Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in College of Health Sciences supported CDs with the kit files being sent to all Wyoming schools, senior centers, and libraries, WIC offices, and Indian Health Service.

AgrAbility: During the third year of the project, efforts continued on marketing AgrAbility to increase referrals and direct assistance to producers and their families through displays at The Wyoming State Fair, Wyoming Stock Growers Association annual meeting, MEGA disability conference, UW CES annual conference, Wyoming Association of Social Workers, UW Consumer Issues Conference, and Wyoming Natural Resource conference. AgrAbility brochures continue to be distributed through Wyoming and the inter-mountain West. Over 900 brochures were distributed to: Wyoming primary care physicians, Wyoming Services for Independent Living, Farm Service Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Wyoming fire marshals, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, Wyoming weed and pest districts, Wyoming veterinarians, Veterans Administration Hospital, and Wyoming Saddle Makers. The publication, *Selected Resources from Wyoming AgrAbility*, was developed to inform agencies and organizations of Wyoming AgrAbility materials and information. Nine hundred fifty copies of this publication were distributed to occupational therapists, physical therapists, primary care physicians, Wyoming ag-business dealers, Wyoming veterinarians, Wyoming Saddle Makers, and Wyoming Independent Living (IL) specialists. In partnership with UWCES, educational news articles for farm safety and health week were distributed. Wyoming AgrAbility again partnered with UWCES' small acreage initiative to include articles on ranching and farming with disabilities in the newspaper insert, *Barnyards & Backyards*, with circulation estimates provided by the Wyoming Press Association for 19 rural newspapers totaling 76,213. An AgrAbility newspaper insert was included in 21 Wyoming newspaper outlets with an estimated 140,000+ readership. Also included were media efforts where exact numbers reached is difficult to define. Efforts included general media releases to 33 regional media outlets and targeted radio spots to 20 Cowboy State News Network stations for 360 spots. Educational presentations were delivered to approximately 184 ranchers/farmers, agricultural and health care professionals, and UW students. Fifty-six Independent Living specialists, DVR counselors and Occupational Therapists were trained on rehabilitating ranchers and farmers. Five hundred forty educational fact sheets and AgrAbility brochures were distributed at health care and Ag. conferences and awareness presentations. Wyoming AgrAbility provided consultative services to twenty-two individuals, including eight work-site visits. Consultative services included help in: managing chronic pain, low vision, work modifications, assistive technology modifications, back pain, and knee replacements. Additional research and technical assistance included infant ventilator, health insurance, autism, saddle adaptations, multiple sclerosis, stroke, post secondary education accommodations, and AT funding options.

Wyoming Food Safety Coalition: Extension coordinates state-wide team activities with numerous agencies and organizations, including Wyoming Department of Ag (Consumer Health Services), Wyoming Beef Council, Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association, and city/county health departments throughout Wyoming. In fiscal year 2009 (10/1/08 – 9/30/09), local environmental health specialists and Extension educators trained 1570 food handlers. Based on data from an evaluation project conducted by UW CES for WFSC, in a subset of these food handlers:

- 97% made at least one change related to cleanliness, e.g., washed their hands more often.
- 80% made at least one change related to cooling food, e.g., put food into shallow containers or cut meat into smaller pieces before putting it in the refrigerator.

Improved food handling behaviors such as these increase the likelihood that food served in Wyoming is safe and, therefore, that lives have been saved, illnesses avoided, health-care costs controlled, fewer work days missed, and local businesses and institutions made stronger.

Dining with Diabetes in Wyoming: In partnership with the Wyoming Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, Extension coordinated and conducted 8 five-session programs in fiscal year 2009 (10/1/08 – 9/30/09) state-wide. Of the 72 participants, 58 (80%) were female; average age was 59 years; and 67 (92%) self-identified as White, 3 (4%) as American Indian/Alaska Native, and 2 did not respond; 3 (4%) identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino. Based on completed questionnaires at pre/post-program and follow-up, the program helped people make statistically significant improvements in lifestyle attitudes and behaviors, including the following:

- *Feeling more strongly that . . .*
  - what people do can make a big difference in the control of their diabetes
  - healthy food can taste good
  - physical activity comes more easily to them
- *Better understanding of . . . the Plate Method for portioning their food*
- *Increasing the proportion of participants . . . who eat high-fiber cereal.*

WIN the Rockies: Although funding officially ended in 2004, project activities continue, e.g.,

- Dr. Mary Kay Wardlaw and Suzy Pelican developed and presented one of four invited sessions within a USDA/CSREES-funded workshop at Society for Nutrition Education's 2009 annual conference. Titled *Positive Programs for Preventing Obesity & Related Problems in Children, Tweens & Teens*, the workshop's other three presenters were national and international leaders in the areas of weight and well-being among youth.
- The project continues to provide resources for many other educators, e.g., plans by another state extension service to adapt a WIN the Rockies curriculum for on-line use by participants.
- The college-maintained website averages 10,000-20,000 hits and 1,300-1,800 visitors/month.

USDA/CREES "Applying HACCP to Small Rural Food Processors through Interagency Cooperation" grant:

- First Bulletin published (B-1200) *Step by Step Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point HACCP Guide for Non-Meat Processors*;
- Revision of B-1200 *Building your Food Safety Plan Step by Step Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point HACCP Guide for Non-Meat Food Processors*;
- Training sessions with 10 food processors;
- Second bulletin in review/editing (*Facilitator's Guide for Building your Food Safety Plan Step by Step Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point HACCP Guide for Non-Meat Food Processors*).

Consumer Issues Conference: This year's Consumer Conference (co-chaired by Dr. Virginia Vincenti and Dr. Dee Pridgen), Food Safety, Security and Sources, was the ninth annual. Plenary sessions were *Food, Molecules and Law: An Overview of National Trends in Legal*

*Issues Affecting Food*, Donna Byrne, Professor of Law, William Mitchell College of Law; and *The Law and Politics of Food Safety*, Sandra Eskin, J.D., Deputy Director of Policy and Research, Produce Safety Project, An Initiative of the Pew Charitable Trusts at Georgetown University. Session topics included: Local Foods: Safety, Freedom, and Other Values in Conflict (invited panelists represent epidemiology, food production, food science, policy making, regulation, and retail); Community Supported Agriculture Efforts; Labeling & Safety; Food or Fuel? An Analysis of Systems in Conflict; Sustainable Practices in Modern Life; Food Fight: Balancing Nutrition and Health Choices; a screening of the movie Food Inc. and discussion following (the movie was free and open to the public). Information can be accessed at <http://www.uwyo.edu/consumerconference>.

## Section 6. Student Recruitment and Retention Activities and Enrollment Trends

After review of the department’s enrollment figures for the past five years, the following trends were noted:

- Spring semester enrollments are often higher than fall, implying as suspected that many students transfer into the department during late fall or early spring semester after they become aware of the programs.
- Graduate student numbers have remained reasonably consistent over the five year period, with some minor flux in the middle period.
- There has been some slight decrease in the number of students pursuing dual degrees. The reason for the decrease at this time is unclear.

Family and Consumer Sciences had the highest number of undergraduate majors in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for 2009/2010. Using our departmental advising report, our distribution was as follows:

	Fall 2009	Spring 2010
On-Campus Undergraduates	155	150
Active Distance Undergraduates	37	36
Dual degree – FCS as 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2	2
Graduate Students	13	16
Awarded Masters Degrees	3	2
Awarded Bachelor’s Degrees	13	Pending
Undergraduate Minors	33	29
Total Undergraduate Majors	192	186
Total Students Advised by FCS Faculty	240	233

Recruitment and retention of undergraduate and graduate students were a high priority, and something that included participation by the faculty, academic professionals, staff, extension personnel and many current and former students. Activities included AAFCS’s sponsorship of the university-wide presentation “Shattering the Glass Ceiling: Stories of Successful Women Professionals” (Dr. Tahira Hira, Professor and Executive Assistant to the President at Iowa State University; Anne Chadwick, former Executive Director of the AAFCS; and Dr. Penny Ralston, Director of the Center on Better Health and Life for Underserved Populations at Florida State University); Earth Week fashion show on sustainable fashions independently organized and produced by undergraduate students Kati Stoll, Miriam Cooper and Molly Janak; our yearly

newsletter; exam week “goody bags” for each major and snacks in the student lounge area; a booth at all Discover Days; web page updates; Coat Couture XI displayed in the Loggia of the American Heritage Center; creation of exhibits at the Laramie Plains Museum; conducting fashion shows open to the public; producing food safety videos; designing brochures for the Wellness Center; co-chairing the Consumer Issues Conference; conducting a study tour to Thailand; hosting members of the Wyoming chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences for day-long workshops; hosting tours for Laramie High School and McCormick Junior High students; conducting tours of the Early Care and Education Center; meeting with all prospective and incoming students (freshmen, transfer students and change-of-majors); answering email requests for information; and attending statewide articulation meetings.

The graduate committee created recruitment materials, a display board, participated in recruitment trips to Montana State University (Billings and Bozeman) and Chadron State College, and are working to make recommendations on targeted recruitment site visits. The department also began a data collection system to track accomplishments of our graduate students: paper and poster presentations, juried design competition entries and awards, and publications.

### **Section 7. Development Activities**

We are fortunate to have generous donors. Development dollars were used for such purposes as to assist with summer graduate student stipends, fund student travel to professional meetings, provide support for student banquets and other recognition events, supplement sabbatical leave travel and research needs, maintain equipment, and provide tuition reduction for single parents whose children attend the Early Care and Education Center.

We have continued to include a donor section to our annual newsletter as a way to recognize gifts made to the department to honor individuals and to recognize those donors who have donated at the endowment/matching funds level. The department head met with current and potential donors, wrote personal notes for any monetary or equipment donations, wrote personal notes in holiday cards, and implemented a project to work on child and family issues in energy impacted communities. Our website has a “Giving” tab, and use of our departmental website averaged over 20,000 hits per month (Part of publicity, recruitment and retention....more details can be found in Section 6).

### **Section 8. Classified and Professional Staffing**

No one in the department is under a professional staff category. Classified staff members are integral members of our department and all contribute to our department’s success. We are currently fully staffed in our departmental offices and have had no vacancies or turnover this year. Mona Gupton is to be recognized for her writing and graphic arts skills. Tracy Bennett continues to do an excellent job with all of our external contracts and grants and the management of the Early Care and Education Center accounts. Patricia Hysong was selected as one of three university employees to receive the Staff Incentive Award. Tracy Goodspeed continues to do an excellent job at the Early Care and Education Center.

While the teachers at the Early Care and Education Center are temporary assistant lecturers who have year-to-year contracts, it is appropriate to discuss them in this section. We continue to have turnover in assistant and lead teachers, dietary aides, and classroom aides. We have yet to be able to fully address the full issue of compression, or the difference in the public school and ECEC salary schedule. We are seeing a difference in the quality of our applicant pool and in the

number of teachers we are able to retain, but are not as competitive as we should be given our accreditation status.

### Section 9. Diversity

We did not have any faculty searches during this academic year. Most of our minority graduate student recruitment has come through email inquiries and unsolicited applications initiated by the students after they have visited our web page. Of our sixteen graduate students, fifteen were female and one was male; one student was from Kenya, one from Serbia, one from Nepal, two from China, and one is Native American. We also had one undergraduate McNair Scholar.

### Section 10. Assessment of Student Learning

#### 1-A. Undergraduate Programs: Tier 1

This year we focused on the use of our department’s six competencies. During additional discussions in our teaching faculty meetings (two hours per month during the academic year), we continued to examine whether or not we were giving students specific feedback on the competencies, and how. Each faculty member put a competency statement in their course syllabi. We also had discussions related to whether or not the ePortfolio system was giving us the curriculum feedback we needed to create the full feedback loop. We voted to adopt the Foliotek ePortfolio platform through Pearson eCollege. It was decided that we would continue using the ePortfolios, monitoring the data and increasing the use of internal and external reviewers. We continued to focus our data and feedback on our Written Communication and Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving competencies.

We were able to run reports showing how the students self-evaluated in each course. We were also able to run reports showing how the outside evaluators rated the students, as well as a report to show the ratings by individuals to look at the variability in their scoring. The system, however, still will not run a report that would allow us to look at growth in individual students from FCSC 1010 to 4010. We have brought that flaw to the attention of Pearson eCollege/Foliotek and will work with them to modify how reports can be run in 2010-2011.

We were able to compare students in FCSC 4010 in 2009 with those in 2008:

	2008 (n=37)	2009 (n=105)
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving		
Basic	18.9%	12.4%
Proficient	64.9%	83.8%
Advanced	16.2%	3.8%
Written Communication		
Basic	13.5%	19.0%
Proficient	64.9%	70.5%
Advanced	21.6%	10.5%

1-B. Graduate Programs: Tier 3

In our FCSC 5103/5104 Graduate Seminar in Family and Consumer Sciences, students did preliminary pre-prospectus and thesis defense presentations. We used parts of the Computer and Information Literacy and Professional Behaviors competency rubrics to provide feedback to the students and to gauge their usefulness. We are also tracking graduate student presentations at national meetings, submissions to juried exhibits, and acceptance to Ph.D. and professional programs.

General graduate student outcomes can be found at [www.uwyo.edu/FAMILY/Graduate.asp](http://www.uwyo.edu/FAMILY/Graduate.asp) and state - Graduate curricula prepare a student for a career, citizenship, and personal living who:

- is competent in the content studied;
- is competent in oral and written communication;
- understands role in a global and multicultural context;
- demonstrates professional behavior;
- is an independent, reflective learner; and
- integrates theory, research, and practice.

This year we continued to collect data on our graduate student outputs: paper and poster presentations, juried design competition entries and awards, and publications. We also record students who have been accepted into doctoral or professional degree programs. We have encouraged our students to provide contact information following program completion so that we can continue to track their accomplishments. Outputs during 2009-2010 are as follows:

- 3 refereed journal articles;
- 3 refereed presentations at national conferences;
- 1 design accepted for a juried competition;
- 1 published abstract; and
- 3 students entered PhD or professional programs.

No additional tracking was done of graduate students since our Alumni Survey was conducted in the 2006-2007 academic year. The plan is to conduct the survey every five years.

2. The assistance that is most needed for this department in terms of assessment over the next two years would be primarily in the area of graduate student assessment. What would likely be of most benefit would be some one-on-one consultation and mentoring in the area of graduate student assessment. As such, it is likely that the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences would be interested in participating in the first UW Assessment Academy, beginning fall 2010, particularly as participants will receive mentoring and financial assistance to work on program-level assessment projects.