

GAFCS NEWSLETTER

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences



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Greetings, GAFCS!

by Dr. Cara Simmons, GAFCS President



Happy New Year! In my world, a new year usually starts in August as I prepare for fall semester in higher education and as my own children return to school. I am excited to serve as the 2021-2022 President. I've been a member of GAFCS for six years serving as the State Student Unit Advisor, President-Elect, and Chair of our new Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

As I take on this role, I appreciate the support and trust of the board to lead you. I want to extend a special thank you to Megan Presley, the 2020-2021 President. Last year, I was able to learn from her during our monthly meetings. She answered all my questions and provided great insight to lead our affiliate. I am grateful for the connection we share because of GAFCS.

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Since entering the family and consumer sciences world a little over seven years ago, my respect for what we do to build strong individuals, families, and communities increases every year. The way we do this may vary, but we are united by a discipline that adapts to the complexities of life.

This year's board is ready to create a vision for our future. This summer, we met twice to reflect on our vision for the future, the impact we can make as an affiliate, how we can leverage our strengths and relationships to execute this vision, create a pipeline for affiliate leadership, and create opportunities that have a long-term impact. We will share more as the year unfolds and hope you join us on this journey.

We serve on the board and do this work with you in mind. If you have any suggestions for the affiliate, don't hesitate to email us _georgiafacs@gmail.com.



GAFCS **Shines** the Spotlight



Dr. Cara Simmons

Selected to join the next class of LEAD Athens

President **Cara Simmons** was selected to the next class of **LEAD Athens**. The intensive year-long program of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is designed to develop effective leaders committed to building a vibrant community. Through Leadership, Education, Awareness, and Development, participants are heavily immersed in community issues including economic development, health and human services, education, the arts, local industry, and government. Cara was among the nominees submitted by the University of Georgia.



GAFCS 2021 CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS

Submitted by: Linsey Shockley

VP Awards and Recognition

Scholarship and award winners were recognized during the 2021 Annual GAFCS Conference held virtually on Friday, March 5, 2021.

Three student members were recognized by receiving scholarships to aid them in their pursuit of education in a Family and Consumer Sciences related program at a Georgia institution. These students are members of both AAFCS and the Georgia Affiliate, were highly recommended, and were selected by a panel of FACS professionals serving on an evaluation committee. The first scholarship, the **Spirit of Giving Undergraduate Scholarship** of \$1,000, was awarded to Kristen Hankins, a FACS Education major at the University of Georgia. Lauren Nix, a Pre-Dentistry major at the University of Georgia, was awarded \$1,500 for the **TC Transcontinental Scholarship**. Lastly, the **Graduate Scholarship** of \$1,000 was awarded to Jake Conner, who is pursuing a Master's Degree at the University of Georgia.

Affiliate members also received recognition during the conference. The **2021 Outstanding FACS Professional Award** was given to Dr. Elizabeth Andress. This award recognizes a professional who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to GAFCS and AAFCS on local, state, and/or national level. Dr. Andress has been a long-time member and generous supporter of AAFCS/GAFCS for 40 years!

Miss Ashleigh Childs was recognized as the **2021 New Achiever Award**. This award recognizes a Family and Consumer Sciences professional who has made significant contributions to the field through their involvement in AAFCS. Ashleigh is currently a FACS Extension Agent in Thomas County and has been described as always willing to try and learn as well as highly motivated.

Lastly, the **Friend of GAFCS Award** was presented to Ms. Sophy Mott, Director of Affiliate and Member Programs for AAFCS. She has always been a huge supporter of Georgia's affiliate members and has been extremely helpful to GAFCS over the last year.

Congratulations to our 2021 scholarship and award recipients!!

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2021 Friend of GAFCS

*Sophy Mott, Director of Affiliate and
Member Programs for AAFCS*
(Left)

.....



2021 Outstanding FACS Professional

Dr. Elizabeth Address
(Right)

.....



2021 New Achiever

Ashleigh Childs
(Left)

.....



Spirit of Giving
Kristen Hankins



Graduate
Jake Connor



TC Transcontinental
Lauren Nix

CONGRATULATIONS

**To our student
scholarship
winners!**



Membership Awards and Recognition

Bronze Circle Award Winners -10 Years of Membership



Terralon Chaney



Joan Koonce



Kena Torbert

15 Years of Membership



Wanda Renfroe

20 Years of Membership



Rhea Bentley

35 Years of Membership



Janet Valente

40 Years of Membership



Rosemary Maulden



Dr. Elizabeth Andress

55 Years of Membership



Joanne Cavis

65 Years of Membership



Betty Lane



GAFCS Members **TOOT** Their Own Horn!



Mitzi Parker

Healthy for Life Community Nutrition Program in Sumter County received \$2500 grant from AAFCS

Sandra Derrick

- UGA Alumni Association-Dalton Chapter - Board Member
- Dalton Whitfield Murray Retired Educators Association - President-Elect
- Daughters of the American Revolution Robert Loughridge Chapter - School Chair



GAFCS Members **TOOT** Their Own Horn!



Dr. Cara Simmons

2021 Sweaney Innovation
Fund Award Recipient of
\$5000

DJ Youngblood

- Advisor of the Year
- Georgia Association of Student Councils
- Master's Degree in FACS Education – University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- September Teacher of the Month



GAFCS Members **TOOT** Their Own Horn!



Dr. Tracey Brigman

- Program Director of the FACS Education Degree Program
- Interim FACS Coordinator of Food Safety and Preservation

June Thomas

- Member of Honor Award
 - Garden Club of Georgia
- Member of the Year Award
 - Oleander District Garden Club of Georgia
- Wayne County Retired Educators Association --- President
- Odum Garden Club --- Advisor



GAFCS Members **TOOT** Their Own Horn!



Marissa Johnson

2021 GATFACS New
Teacher of the Year

Harrileen Conner

Manages the volunteer
group, Action Ministries-
Smart Lunch, Smart Kid
program



GAFCS Members **TOOT** Their Own Horn!



Nancy Bock

Newly appointed Executive
Director of AAFCS



Congratulations to all!

Let us celebrate you! Complete the form [here](#) to be featured in the newsletter.



Public Policy Updates

Submitted by: Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS

Dates to Save:

December 3, 2021: Dining In Day Celebration of Ellen Swallow Richards Birthday

February 10, 2022: FCS Day at the Capitol

March 21, 2022: World Home Economics Day

May 15, 2022: International Day of the Family

GAFCS Public Policy Activities

February 10, 2022 – FCS Day at the Capitol and National FCS Educator Day

- Proclamation, Resolutions, group photo, educational sessions
- Annual GAFCS letter to Georgia Legislators

Stay tuned to www.fcs.uga.edu/GAFCS for the agenda, times, and more.

Did you know that GAFCS financially helps the UGA/FCS student Legislative Aide program each year? They work with members of the Georgia Legislature, House and Senate, when it convenes in January and ends 40-working days later, and learn about the legislative process and public policy issues. Annually, one of the Legislative Aides gives a report at the GAFCS Annual Conference.

AAFCS Signature Initiatives

GAFCS members, under the leadership of the Board of Directors, participate in these signature initiatives of AAFCS. Read more about them and the multitude of resources that are available on the AAFCS website. (www.AAFCS.org)

1. Say YES to FCS Campaign: Did you know that there is a documented shortage of FCS educators across the nation? To address the shortage, an innovative and collaborative approach to recruit, prepare and support FCS educators is critically important. Use monthly social media posts to recruit students to fill the FCS Educator Pipeline and more. Join the Georgia Action Team by going to the AAFCS.org website. We need more FCS educators in classrooms and Extension. We recognize our educators at FCS Day at the Capitol which takes place annually during FCCLA week in Atlanta. **Local Support** is critical to maintaining FCS classes in middle and high school. We must NEVER take them for granted. Share their life-long importance with your school board. There is Perkins money from the reauthorization legislation passed in July, 2018, for FCS. Don't lose it to another program. FCS is STEAM/STEM!!!! Write a letter to the editor of your local paper, present a report at your school board meeting about the difference FCS makes in your community, elicit the support of your FCCLA parents. Need supporting documentation? Contact JSCavis@gmail.com.

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2. FCS Success: Raising Voices, Visibility and Value of Family and Consumer Sciences. AAFCS has a special website with a Tool Box and strategies.

Find out how you can answer the question: What happened to Home Ec? Five interactive zoom meetings were held from December 2020 through April 2021. GAFCS is developing an action plan for Georgia. Join this group by contacting JSCavis@gmail.com.

3. Dining In Day celebrates Family and Consumer Sciences nationally: AAFCS provides information, tools and research on the benefits of families preparing and eating healthy meals together.

Celebrate Ellen Swallow Richards Birthday-December 3rd

The founder of the family and consumer sciences profession, Ellen Swallow Richards, was the first female graduate of and first female faculty member at MIT. We celebrate our profession on her birthday, December 3rd, as “Dining In Day”. Help GAFCS achieve recognition for the most participation in Dining In Day again this year. Advocate for our profession with your participation and by encouraging others to do so, too.

4. FCS Fit is focused on setting small realistic goals and delivering resources and community support to AAFCS members and our supporters as they model the mission of AAFCS and make informed decisions about their own well-being, relationships and resources with the goal of achieving an optimal quality of life. Check out the AAFCS website for more information that you can use to set goals for yourself, your family and community. . . health, finances, relationships. .

International Federation for Home Economics

XXIV World Congress-Destination Atlanta Hyatt Regency Hotel

Change the Date: September 4 – 10, 2022

Every four years IFHE hosts a World Congress. The theme for 2022 is: “Home Economics: Soaring Towards Sustainable Development”. The program includes educators’ pre congress, plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, Expo and poster sessions, university reunions, Learning Day on the Move.

Abstract submissions are accepted from June 1 through August 31, 2021, in areas of Research, Best Practices and Textile Exhibitions. Go to www.ifhe.org for more details.

GAFCS World Congress committee members are leading three educational excursions on Friday, September 9, 2022, as part of Learning Day on the Move. They are the Atlanta Area Community Food Bank, Atlanta History Center and Fernbank Museum of Natural Science. The World Congress program focuses on five UN sustainable development goals identified by IFHE: no poverty, good health and well-being, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, responsible consumption and production. Science and technology will be integrated throughout the systems model approach examining sustainability, civil and human rights, human impact and systemic actions. Visit www.ifhe.org to access the World Congress 2022 website.

