

GAFCS NEWSLETTER

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences



AAFCS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

GEORGIA AFFILIATE

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Greetings, GAFCS!

by Ashleigh Geurin, GAFCS President



Greetings!

My name is Ashleigh Geurin and I have the pleasure of serving as the 2023-2024 GAFCS President. It is hard to believe that we are in the year 2024.

This last year has brought with it many exciting accomplishments for our profession of family and consumer sciences and I am looking forward to what our future has to offer! Since inducted into the role of President, I have been so encouraged by the dedication and efforts made by our Executive Board of Directors to keep our membership abreast of issues involving public policy and providing opportunities for professional development.

This year, I would challenge you to be the face of FCS in your communities locally, advocating for the importance of our profession and to seek out opportunities for advocacy on the state and national level. Please don't hesitate to let me know how I can support you this year, and know that we hope to see you at our Annual Conference in Athens!

FACS DAY AT THE CAPITOL FEBRUARY 15, 2024

JOIN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS FROM THROUGHOUT GEORGIA ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024, FOR A DAY OF ADVOCACY, NETWORKING AND LEARNING IN ATLANTA. BEGIN WITH A PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR KEMP AND PHOTO ON THE NORTH STAIRWAY. CONTINUE WITH HOUSE AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS WITH LEGISLATOR SPONSORS REPRESENTATIVE HOUSTON GAINES AND SENATOR FRANK GINN AND OBSERVATIONS IN THE GALLERIES.

NETWORK WITH GEORGIA LEGISLATORS DURING LUNCH FROM 11:30 AM-1:30 PM AT THE SLOPPY FLOYD BUILDING (200 PIEDMONT AVENUE SE, ATLANTA). CELEBRATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FCS LEGISLATIVE AIDES LEADERSHIP FELLOWS PROGRAM.

MEET THE 2024 FCS LEGISLATIVE AIDES: GRACE HOLLIFIELD, HALEY FAIREL, LINDSEY LEE, SCOTT CAPLINGER AND QUASHADA JOHNSON WHO ARE ASSIGNED TO SENATORS FRANK GINN, BILL COWSERT AND NAN ORROCK AND REPRESENTATIVE MARCUS WIEDOWER

PRIOR THE FACS DAY AT THE CAPITOL, AN ADVOCACY LETTER ABOUT THE RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES TO THE PEOPLE OF GEORGIA IS DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE.

WE NEED YOUR PRESENCE ON FEBRUARY 15TH!!!



GAFCS Announces Sponsorship of AAFCS Professional Certification Exam

WHO: Professionals who have graduated from an accredited educational institution with a baccalaureate degree in any major, such as teachers, extension educators or agents, whether you are a new professional or seasoned veteran.

WHEN: April 11, 2024, 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

WHERE: Dawson Hall (Room 164), UGA College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Athens

REGISTRATION: Fee is \$95 for this paper-and-pencil exam. Registration opens February 1 and closes March 18, 2024 Link to Online Test Registration Form:

Click HERE to Register

(Individuals will be prompted to log into MyAAFCS to register – membership not required)

All four exams can be administered during one testing date and time, but participant can only take one of the exams at that time. The AAFCS offers four gold-standard, assessment-based certifications open to many related disciplines and practice settings.

CFCS- Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences

CFCS-HDFS- Certified in Human Development and Family Studies

CPFFE- Certified Personal and Family Finance Educator

CNWE-Certified Nutrition and Wellness Educator

HOW DOES A PROFESSIONAL EARN AND MAINTAIN AN AAFCS CREDENTIAL?

- Hold a baccalaureate degree in any major.
- Pass the competency exam associated with the credential (score at least 240 of 300).
- Meet fee and professional development requirements.
- Ascribe to the Professional Code of Ethics. Learn more about AAFCS professional credentials: www.aafcs.org/credentialing-center/professional-certifications

For more information about the April 11, 2024 GAFCS sponsored Exam contact: Joanne S. Cavis CFCS, at JSCavis@gmail.com



Public Policy

United Nations International Day of Families

Submitted by: Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS



The Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences announces that Wednesday, May 15, 2024, is International Day of Families, which promotes the importance of a healthy and well-balanced family. We are urged to remember the crucial role the family plays in our world's cultures and societies. Our most formative years are spent with our families and those people are most likely the most important people in our lives, so they should be celebrated!

Find ways to protect the family unit in society by starting at home with your own. Begin by celebrating all the eccentric traditions that you and your family share. Every family is unique and there are countless stories, memories and adventures we all have shared with our families that are significant only to us.

It's also easy to take our family for granted, so take this day as an opportunity to share with your family how you feel about them and how grateful you are to your parents, siblings and even extended family for providing you with the necessities of life and a whole lot of TLC!

Observe International Day of Families by volunteering with your family; building your family tree; or by organizing a family outdoor activity, event, and/or picnic.

The United Nations declared 1994 as the International Year of Families and, The International Day of Families began in 1995. In 1993, the General Assembly decided in a resolution that 15 May every year should be observed as The International Day of Families to honor families. Families – both traditional and non-traditional – are the foundation of society.

WORLD HOME ECONOMICS DAY

March 21, 2024

Home Economics 3.0: A Critical Update

Submitted by: Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS

Join the International Federation for Home Economics as we celebrate how home economics (known in the United States as Family and Consumer Sciences) around the world have provided a “critical update” in the way they teach, update and serve to make homes, families and consumers of the future safe, happy and healthy.

Use this event to highlight how you, your students, clients and professional associations are engaging with the most advanced theories, tools and technologies to keep Home Economics/Family and Consumer Sciences on the leading edge of 21st Century life.

IFHE-US has scheduled a webinar on Saturday, March 23, 2024, to celebrate this event. Look for registration information in the GAFCS monthly update for members email.



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IFHE XXV WORLD CONGRESS

Galway, Ireland June 23-28, 2024



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!! GO TO WWW.IFHE2024.COM FOR DETAILED INFORMATION. THIS IS A GREAT DESTINATION FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND NETWORK WITH COLLEAGUES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION PRICE OF ABOUT \$700 US DOLLARS. BE SURE YOU HAVE A CURRENT PASSPORT!

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GAFCS JULIUS BENTON PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Submitted by: Virginia Rolling

This improvement project was geared towards promoting student interest to Say Yes to Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) by hosting an educational event highlighting famous FCS textile and apparel educator Frankie Welch's life work through an exhibition, guest speaker event, and interactive scarf design station. The University of Georgia's exhibit of "Frankie Welch's Americana" was showcased at Georgia Southern University's Henderson library from January 9, 2023 until March 31, 2023 so visitors could learn more about the importance of textiles and apparel as part of FCS and our national history ([see website on this event](#)). This exhibition of Frankie Welch's scarves, photos, and other artifacts was accompanied by guest speaker talks on President's Day 2023 with authors Ashley Callahan and Kimberly Chrisman-Campbell who both wrote in their recently published books about Frankie Welch and her life's work as an FCS educator and prominent fashion & textile designer.

A unique feature of this exhibition was a Zine-Making Station where students created their own Frankie-inspired "Americana" or "American style" scarf designs after learning about Welch and her impact through her use of FCS skills. With the help of the Julius Benton Professional Improvement award, fashion student Alexandria Hunter received the 2023 Georgia Southern University Fashion Merchandising and Apparel Design "Say Yes To FCS" Digital Textile Print Contest due to her outstanding work on her Frankie Welch inspired textile design. Her work was printed on cotton fabric and made into a Frankie Wrap dress, scarf, and tote bag to help publicly communicate the importance of FCS. This "Frankie Welch Inspired Look" was then accepted for exhibition at the 2024 International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) textile exhibition.

This professional development award helped to inspire contestant winner Alexandria Hunter's "Say Yes To FCS" Digital Textile Print to become a reality. From a mere computer aided design to being digitally printed into fabric, this student realized her dream to become a textile designer. Her impressive scarf design created during a Zine-Making Station Workshop was selected from this unique event celebrating a famous designer and now documents the impact this event had on this student's life. This student-focused FCS learning event truly has inspired others to join the FCS movement by saying "Yes to FCS!" Furthermore, these funds will be used towards showcasing this beautiful design in Galway Ireland at the 2024 IFHE Conference.



FIGURE 1. FCS TEXTILE DESIGN PRINT.



FIGURE 2. ALEXANDRIA HUNTER, 2023 "SAY YES TO FCS" DIGITAL TEXTILE PRINT CONTEST WINNER MODELS HER TEXTILE DESIGN AS A FRANKIE WRAP DRESS, SCARF, AND TOTE BAG CHOSEN FOR EXHIBITION AT THE 2024 IFHE CONFERENCE IN GALWAY, IRELAND.

Conference Recaps

University of Georgia Extension Conference 2024 Recap

Submitted by: Ashleigh Childs, President

UGA Extension held its 2024 Extension Conference at Rock Eagle 4-H Center January 17-19 and hosted 444 attendees. The theme for the conference was “All for One” with an emphasis on serving clients with the same goal: promote a healthy and prosperous Georgia. The keynote speaker, Mansfield Pete Key, had prepared a riveting and motivational presentation to kick-start the conference, but was unfortunately snowed in and unable to attend. It was definitely a cold week at the Rock! Georgia Extension of Family and Consumer Sciences (GEAFCS) agents were recognized for their program accomplishments during a special luncheon, while 4-H agents and Agriculture and Natural Resources agents and specialist hosted their own content area sessions. With so many exciting session topics to choose from for the week, it was a packed agenda! Specialists, faculty, and staff from UGA presented on

a variety of topics from managing millennials, first aid training, livestock, group facilitation, food safety, nutrition, and more! Family and Consumer Sciences agents were also given the opportunity to sit for their choice of AAFCS credentialing exams (Certified Nutrition and Wellness Educator (CNWE), Composite Family and Consumer Sciences (CFCS), Certified Personal and Family Finance Educator (CPFFE) as a sponsored event by GAFCFS and proctored by our Executive Board of Director member, Dr. Don Bower. The three-day conference culminated with a closing assembly featuring an address from Dean Nick Place of the UGA College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and a farewell to the UGA Associate Dean for Extension. We wish Dr. Laura Perry-Johnson well on her retirement and thank her for her continued support of our profession! The next Extension Conference will be held in 2026.



Conference Recaps

Georgia Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Conference

Submitted by: DJ Youngblood

The Georgia Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences (GATFACS) Annual Winter Conference, held from January 24-26, 2024, marked a significant milestone as the largest conference to date, with over 380 attendees. This conference was held at the Great Wolf Lodge in LaGrange, Georgia, the event was a hub of learning, networking, and professional development for Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educators.

The conference featured a diverse array of workshops and presentations led by esteemed professionals in the field. Attendees had the opportunity to gain insights and strategies to elevate their teaching methods and enrich the learning experiences of the next generation of students. From innovative classroom techniques to cutting-edge curriculum ideas, the conference offered a comprehensive platform for FCS educators to enhance their skills and knowledge.

Some of the attendees included our GATFACS Board Members including Jenna Black, Sara Catherine Fowler, Kristen Hankins, Dr. Carmen Pedersen, Vickie Rundbaken, and DJ Youngblood (all pictured below).

A highlight of the conference was the recognition of excellence within the community, with President-Elect Tracey Brigman being honored as the GATFACS Post-Secondary Teacher of the Year. This prestigious accolade not only celebrates Brigman's outstanding contributions to FCS education but also positions her to represent GATFACS at the Georgia Association of Career and Technical Education (GACTE) Conference in June 2024.

Overall, the GATFACS Annual Winter Conference served as a dynamic platform for professional growth, collaboration, and celebration within the FCS community. With its record attendance and impactful programming, the conference reaffirmed the dedication of educators to foster excellence in Family and Consumer Sciences education across Georgia.



Georgia FCCLA Update

Submitted by: Dr. Carmen Pedersen, CFCS



GEORGIA
STATE ASSOCIATION

Georgia FCCLA is the Career and Technical Student Organization associated with Family and Consumer Sciences. Take a look at the active involvement Georgia FCCLA provides to our middle and high school members, alumni, and advisers.

FCCLA encourages FACS participation during secondary school and beyond.

2023-2024 Numbers:

- Affiliated Chapter Members- 23,264
- Affiliated Chapters- 269
- Affiliated Chapter Advisers- 393
- National Leadership Conference (July in Denver, Colorado)
 - Attendees- 464
 - Chapters in Attendance- 76
 - Competitive Events Awards
 - Gold Medals- 90
 - Silver Medals- 97
 - Bronze Medals- 24
- DISCOVER Training (August)
 - Attendees at FFA-FCCLA Center in Covington- 350
 - Attendees at Camp John Hope in Ft. Valley- 470
- Fall Leadership Rally (October at Georgia National Fair in Perry, Ga)
 - Attendees- 3,420
- Fall Leadership Conference (November at the FFA-FCCLA Center)
 - Attendees- 1,784

SAVE *the* DATE

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY
AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 12, 2024
ATHENS, GA

www.fcs.uga.edu/gafcs/conference



ELEVATE
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

