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Smile and Listen ... (From Jeff)

Have you ever had those coincidental things remind you of something you were thinking? Two or three things happen that seem somehow connected. This weekend I was reminded of the importance of listening, mainly the part of being present.

I am half-way through visiting the counties and meeting all of you. One of my personal goals in these interactions is to approach each visit with an open mind and without any pre-conceived notions of whom I am meeting. I am there to get to know you. Over my career, I have had visits by administration where they had a list of questions and only wanted those answered and nothing more. Frankly, those interactions left me feeling frustrated.

Between all the activities my family did this weekend, I had a few moments while waiting for my children to finish their task. I reflected on how the visits were going. My strongest impression from those visits is you all are doing great work. The Southeast Region has excellent people in the counties. Honestly, some visits went better than others, and I still need to work on my listening skills. I understand meeting with your Region Director right before fair is less than ideal.

As I was reflecting, I also observed interactions of people around me. Interactions between fair officials and parents, parents and children, and a multitude of other interactions you see when watching people. Without hearing the conversations and just watching body language, it was easy to pick out the participants who engaged with the person approaching them and how those interactions went when they broke apart.
Watching those reminded me of one piece of advice I received from a retired 4-H educator. It was to start each interaction at the fair with a smile. When I have remembered to use that advice, even outside the context of the fair, I have found it helpful. I have found remembering to smile forced me to stop thinking about why the other person is approaching and think about my own body language. This then allows me to focus on what they are actually saying and not what I think they will say. It helps me to be present in the interaction.

“A smile is the shortest distance between two people.”

Reminder - OSU Extension Director Interviews . . . (Source: Dean McPheron)
Three individuals have been selected to participate in campus interviews and will present seminars as outlined below. A link to view live streaming of all seminars and candidate information will be provided at http://cfaes.osu.edu/about/from-the-vp/osu-extension-associate-dean-and-director-search one day prior to their presentation. We encourage you to attend the presentations and receptions at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center or view the streaming video.

Candidate A: August 12 - 9:00am with reception immediately following in the 4-H Center
Candidate B: August 12 – 2:00pm with reception immediately following in the 4-H Center
Candidate C: August 19 – 9:00am with reception immediately following in the 4-H Center

Happy Birthday . . .
- August 11 – Lee Ann Johnson, Office Admin. Associate, Southeast Region Office
- August 14 – Chris Bruynis, Extension Educator, ANR & CED, Ross County
- August 14 – Mary Jo Westfall, Office Associate, Monroe County

Staff Advisory Council Representative . . .
We are still looking for a volunteer to serve as our region’s representative on the College’s Staff Advisory Council. The term for this position is three years and consists of approximately six meetings per year. Meeting locations are rotated to different areas of the state. This is a tremendous service opportunity for staff members of CFAES. If you are interested in participating in the SAC or would like more information, please contact Lee Ann Johnson at johnson.82@osu.edu or Jeff McCutcheon at mccutcheon.30@osu.edu

Welcome . . .
to Glenda Strickland who joins the CFAES HR Department as a new HR Associate. She is replacing Laura Keesor who moved to the business center. To view the most recent contact information for the CFAES HR Team assigned to Extension, click here.
2015 County Highlights . . . (Source: Heather Gates)
I’ve received a number of inquiries regarding adding support staff to the Buckeye Box folder for the 2015 County Highlights. When the folder was set up, only county directors, regional directors and the necessary Marketing and Communications staff were added.

If you’d like me to add anyone else, please email me a list of names and email addresses and I will be certain to add those folks. If you are wondering if someone has already been added, you can scroll through the list of collaborators off to the right of the subfolders in Buckeye Box. Please send additions to Heather at gates.110@osu.edu

New Email Feature Launching 8/24 . . . (Source: Alden Swell, Information Security Officer, CFAES)
Please be aware of the following message which was received by Information Technology Services from the OCIO:

Preventing data loss and identity theft are critical. Email has become one of our most common methods of communication. Almost all staff use email daily to send university information, but email is never a secure way to send Restricted data.

On 8/24/2015, The Ohio State University’s Enterprise Security team will add a feature to email that will help enable the university to protect Social Security, credit card and BuckID numbers. We will use pattern matching software to determine if outgoing email might contain large quantities of this type of data.

Only approved, expert analysts will review emails identified by the software to determine if a significant loss of Restricted data has occurred, and whether this loss was accidental or malicious. This will provide insight into how we can prevent future data loss and guide training opportunities for faculty and staff.

We have communicated the need to evaluate email for data loss to both the President’s Cabinet and to the Security Advisory Board, and both groups have endorsed this approach.

Additional information is available at the OCIO blog: go.osu.edu/dlpemail. To contact us regarding the Data Loss Prevention service, please email dlpsecurity@osu.edu.

We are sensitive to concerns about privacy, and my team will be available to answer questions that individuals or groups may have. Thank you for your understanding as we work to secure sensitive university information.

OSU OHR/USAC Professional Development Grants Application . . . (Source: Amy Burns)
Professional Development Grant Applications Accepted August 3-31
The Ohio State University is committed to the professional and career development of all staff. Professional development grants are a great way for individuals and groups to identify areas of interest for professional development and have the opportunity to apply for funding.

The Office of Human Resources, in partnership with USAC, have two opportunities for staff and managers to apply for professional development grants.
The Staff Career Development Grant provides staff with an opportunity to further their growth and development. Eligible staff can apply for a grant of up to $1,000 for individuals and $1,500 for groups to use for professional development, education or training costs related to job and/or career goals. Applications can be submitted to the Office of Human Resources via email at hr-staffgrant@osu.edu.

The Staff Manager Development Grant provides managers with an opportunity to enhance their management and leadership skills. Eligible staff can apply for a grant to fund participation in management workshops, programs or conferences held at The Ohio State University. Applications can be submitted to the Office of Human Resources via email at hr-managergrant@osu.edu.

For more information, click here.

EdgeU Tech Info . . . (Source: EdgeU Tech Blog)

Want to Ditch the Clickers? Office of Distance Education and eLearning is offering a hands-on Top Hat workshop August 12 from 10-12. Top Hat is a clicker-free live polling software that the university now has available for faculty and staff use. You can get more information and register on the ODEE website here.

You can also learn more about Top Hat on the ODEE Resource Page here.

Another option for free live polling is PollEverywhere.com. This web-based tool is user-friendly and includes handy options such as PPT slide embed tools. However, only the first 40 participant responses are recorded for free accounts.

Meet Your New Ed Tech – Danae Wolfe

Danae is our new full-time Educational Technology Specialist and began with the Ed Tech Unit on August 3. Contact Danae with educational technology-related questions, meetings requests, and training information. You can also utilize our Ask an Ed Tech comment thread for tech-related questions 24/7. Heather Gottke will remain involved in the Educational Technology unit via special projects and assignments.

Want Up-to-Date Extension Tech Info? Follow us on Twitter

Are you following your Ed Techs on Twitter yet? You should be! Follow Jamie and Danae for relevant tech information as well as updates on available trainings, workshops, and other happenings in Extension Ed Tech!

New to Twitter? We’ve got you covered! You can find a primer on Twitter here. Once you’re up and running it’s best to begin expanding your personal learning network. Here’s how.

CFAES e-Learning Needs Survey

Deana Namuth-Covert, the Director of e-Learning for CFAES, and her team have created a needs assessment to survey CFAES faculty and staff. The results of this survey will determine future workshops and trainings college-wide on topics such as online course design, as well as specific tools such as Carmen, Moodle, etc.

Because of the ongoing partnership between the the CFAES e-Learning team and the OSUE Ed Tech unit, Extension professionals are encouraged to participate in the survey. This way, we can identify areas of collaboration in our college, as well as across the University. Take the survey here.

Questions? Contact Jamie.
Ohio State Arts and Crafts Exhibit Call for Entries . . . (Source: onCampus Today)

Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit entries for the Staff Arts and Crafts Exhibit. Entries will be received in 105 Bricker Hall Wednesday (8/12)-Friday (8/14) 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The exhibit will be open Thursday (8/20)-Thursday (9/24) in Bricker Hall. For entry requirements and other instructions, visit hr.osu.edu/special/artscrafts or call 614.292.4341.

Important Dates and Deadlines . . .
If there are dates that apply to many that you would like to see included in this section of the newsletter, please send them to Lee Ann at johnson.82@osu.edu.

AUGUST:
27 – Beef and Forage Field Night, Ohio Valley EERA

SEPTEMBER:
18 – Ohio Valley EERA 4H Meeting
22-24 – Farm Science Review
28-29 – Action Leadership Retreat

OCTOBER:
4-7 – ESP National Conference, Coeurd’Alene, ID
7 – BH all program area meeting (tentative)
13-14 – FCS All Programs Conference
21 – CED F2F Meeting
22 – OSUE Employee Welcome Festival
23 – Research in View Training
25-29 – NAE4HA Conference, Portland, OR

NOVEMBER:
2-5 – NAEFCS Conference, Greenbrier (WV)
9 – Animal Science Program, Columbus
10 – State 4-H Professionals Update
13 – OV EERA Meeting

DECEMBER:
8-9 – Annual Conference
16 – BH 4H Meeting
18 – BH ANR Meeting @ EARS

As always, there are a multitude of training and professional development opportunities for Extension personnel. Please check with program areas for specific opportunities and visit http://extensionhr.osu.edu/profdev/profdev.html.

The OSU Leadership Center also offers other opportunities at http://leadershipcenter.osu.edu. Many links to Events are also listed on our webpage at http://southeast.osu.edu/events

If any of the above links do not work or if you have questions about the dates or deadlines, please contact Lee Ann at johnson.82@osu.edu

Schedule (week of August 10, 2015)

Jeff (419.560.8645 cell)

M – Vacation
T – Columbus
W – Columbus
T – Hocking
F – Belle Valley Washington