**To: All Hands @ FCH and SNAP-Ed**

**From: Allison**

**Date: Monday March 18, 2024**

**Subject: March updates from Allison**

Team,

Spring and sunshine are top of mind for me. Here is the news from where I sit:

Division of Extension and Engagement Leadership

See email from Provost Feser on March 7th. That’s the best available information. Applications for the interim position were due March 1st. I expect an update very soon. “Planning steps for the national search for the permanent position are underway, including formation of a search advisory committee, selection of an executive search firm, and development of a leadership profile and search workplan/timeline. You will receive updates as we make progress. If you have questions regarding the search process, recommendations for the search advisory committee, or would like to submit a nomination, email Chief Assistant to the Provost Gigi Bruce.”

2024 Spring Conference

Registration for the 2024 Spring Conference is due on April 1st. See Rocci Taylor’s email from today, 3/18/2024, with subject: 2024 FCH Spring Conference Registration DUE Monday April 1st!

2024 National Health Outreach Conference

Registration is open for the conference, May 13 to 15 in Greenville, SC. [https://t.uga.edu/9FF](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ft.uga.edu%2F9FF&data=05%7C02%7Callison.myers%40oregonstate.edu%7C1956e821c9be44570f4a08dc474302f0%7Cce6d05e13c5e4d6287a84c4a2713c113%7C0%7C0%7C638463600361109019%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jUp%2B78x8nJZQkYOqRqPytK1YY7ODgyIWUkb7n9xrJA4%3D&reserved=0)

I would love to collect information about who is going, and who is presenting a poster or giving a talk. Please send that information to Lucia Lind or to Allison Myers if you haven’t already.

Transition for OSU Center for Health Innovation

During 2024, the OSU Center for Health Innovation (OCHI) will transition from a separate entity to a focus within OSU Extension’s health portfolio. This change is based on discussions with College and Division leadership, the OCHI team, and collaborators. The spirit and work of OCHI will continue—innovation, partnerships, student development and community-engaged work to address local health needs. The health innovation team will benefit from direct connection to the Extension network to enhance collaboration, professional development and program dissemination. The division will gain an innovative team with a track record of impact, which will help advance strategic goals and priorities. OCHI team members (who are professional faculty) will, formally, become Extension employees (soft-funded).

Some of you know OCHI very well. Professional faculty members are Nicole Breuner, Kaycee Headley (part time) Abbey Martin, Oralia Mendez, Araceli Mendez, Sandi Phibbs, Steve Spurgeon. Felicity Ratway, Ryan Popma, Heather Stewart and Daniella Aguilar are graduate students/part time staff. OCHI teammates have been primary partners on Coast to Forest and our behavioral health work with funding from NIFA, SAMHSA, and others. They also are leading two non-credit credentialed workforce development programs, our Community Health Worker training and Health Care Interpreter Spanish and (coming soon) language-neutral training. They also contribute to large grants: Pandemic Resilient Cities from NSF, ASPIRE Children’s Environmental Health Research Translation Center and others.

We are so pleased to grow our team and our impact in this way.

As part of this transition, we are also beginning to explore renaming of OSU Extension’s “Family and Community Health” program area to “health Extension.” This would follow the recent name change for College of Health and Cooperative Extension’s National Framework for Health Equity and Well-being.

We look forward to welcoming the OCHI team to our Spring Conference and you will see them in these meetings, as well. Should you have questions or input about this set of transitions, I’m happy to talk with you.

Human Development and Family Sciences School Head

Thanks to Marc Braverman on our FCH team for serving as interim School Head in HDFS. Three candidates are visiting campus in April – for the permanent Human Development and Family Sciences School Head position on April 1, April 4, and April 8. See emails from Keri Fisher or Dean Primack to join candidate talks and give feedback. Note that some of our FCH academic faculty and many 4-H academic faculty have academic homes in HDFS.

Strategic Plan Highlights

* OSU is implementing [Prosperity Widely Shared: The Oregon State Plan](https://leadership.oregonstate.edu/sites/leadership.oregonstate.edu/files/2023-10/OSU%20Strategic%20Plan%20Accepted%20by%20BOT%2010-20-2023.pdf)
* The Division of Extension and Engagement is working on a strategic plan. Katie Ahern is our FCH representative. Natalie Kinion is leading the plan team.
* The College of Health is working on a strategic plan. Katie Ahern is our FCH representative. Timeline is now through mid-June 2024 for a near-final draft.
* As these other layers become clearer, we will ensure we are aligned as a program.

Reporting and PROF season

THANK YOU for spending your valuable time and energy on reporting. With thanks to Sandi Phibbs and Nicole Breuner, we have submitted Critical Issues reporting to USDA NIFA, relating to our work in (1) Food Innovation and Market Access: Develop healthy eating habits and reduce the impact of lack of access to healthy foods; (2) Resilient Communities and Economies: Increase resilience by promoting safe, connected and strengths-based individuals, families, caregivers and communities; and, (3) Thriving Youth, Individuals, and Families: Promote health and prevent disease and injury prevention to improve quality of life, health, and well-being.

As always, reach out if you’d like to visit. Text messages (919 593 5822) and Teams are a great way to get me if I’m behind on my emails, and Lucia always knows where I am and when I will have a chance to visit with you.

Thank you for all you do!

Allison