



Manitoba
Association of
Home Economists

February 2010

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FACETS

President's Message

It is such an exciting time for MAHE. We are well on our way to “climbing our mountain” with contract job opportunities, meetings with the Dean, membership cafes, IPHE updates, new liaisons, a sub-committee for Building Our Voice, a new Board member, discussions with our Saskatchewan counter-parts and so much more. It is impressive to see what we can accomplish when everyone takes part in moving our Association forward.

To find out more about all the various activities, I encourage you to grab a cup of your favorite beverage, sit and enjoy reading this entire, jam packed newsletter. I know you will be as inspired as I am.

I also encourage you to think about what part you'd like to play in all the exciting activities that are going on at MAHE. There are so many great options to choose from, all of which just require a few hours of your time to help the dedicated volunteers already committed to carrying out these projects. Would you like to...

- write an article targeted to students at the Faculty
- create a video on practical matters for home and family
- help plan a joint MAHE/MHETA conference for October
- become an IPHE mentor
- help plan our Anniversary or World Home Ec Day celebrations
- post a comment on our Facebook page
- send a quick note of appreciation to one of your local active MAHE volunteers

I have had such a great time working and getting to know MAHE members as I participate in these various activities. It reminds me of the importance of connecting and the fringe benefits of working side by side with people of similar interests.

To all of you, thank you for making MAHE great.

Getty Stewart, PHEc
MAHE Provincial President

Board Announcement

A big warm welcome to the latest addition to our Board of Directors – Lindsey Mazur. Lindsey joined us as the Director of Membership Recruitment in mid December. Already, Lindsey has had meetings with Dean Sevenhuysen of the Faculty and has developed a master plan of activities to greatly improve our communication and connection with students and faculty members of Human Ecology. Please support Lindsey in her efforts by helping to write articles for the students and by attending the various events she has planned.

Our current slate of officers:

Position	Name	Region	End of Term
President	Getty Stewart	Winnipeg	2011
President-Elect (starting Oct. 2010)	Debora Durnin-Richards	Winnipeg	2011
Past President	Myrna Grahn	Winnipeg	2010
Finance Director	Carla Falkevitch	Parkland	2011
Secretary	Debra Kaleta	Parkland	2010
Director of Public Relations	Diana Mager	Eastman	2011
Director of Internal Affairs	Joan Butcher	Winnipeg	2011
Director of Membership Recruitment	Lindsey Mazur	Winnipeg	2011
Director of Communications	Rosemarie Holtmann	Central	2010
Director of Member Relations	Thelma Blahey	Interlake	2010
Government Representative (2)			
Registrar (Ex Officio)	Linda Hogue	Winnipeg	2012

Self-directed, web-based IPHE Seminar

In response to requests for more flexibility, MAHE is working toward a self-directed, web-based seminar for Interim Professional Home Economists (IPHE) through the MAHE website, available any time of the year. After working through the IPHE seminar online, the Intern will be asked to meet and discuss key questions with their mentor. The mentor will sign off on completion of the web-based IPHE seminar.

At the moment, we have a MAHE member working with the Director of Internal Affairs Joan Butcher to draft the prototype, and a committee from the Winnipeg Branch reviewing. The goal is to replace the face-to-face seminar this April 2010 with a self-directed seminar on MAHE website.

Submitted by:
Joan Butcher

The Faculty of Human Ecology – Future Directions

On January 21, 2010, Dean Sevenhuysen presented a number of options to consider for the future direction of the Faculty of Human Ecology. He noted that small faculties are particularly at risk given the budget concerns within the University of Manitoba. While short-term budget issues are of considerable concern, the focus is continually changing making them difficult to address. Therefore, he outlined strategies that focused on the longer term and were designed to strengthen and increase the size of the faculty. He noted that a lack of understanding of the faculty and possible career paths for its graduates remains an obstacle to increasing student enrollment.

The dean outlined three possible strategies for discussion and feedback:

- a) Name Change – Although the faculty does have credibility within the university system and with granting agencies, the name Human Ecology is not understood and not credible with potential students and their parents. A more readily understood name that clearly indicates the focus of the faculty would be beneficial. One suggestion was the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences.
- b) Change in Core Courses – The current set of core courses is general in nature including courses such as Communications and Research Methods, rather than being reflective of the goals of the faculty. The suggestion was to change the core courses to those that reflect a more interdisciplinary health approach.
- c) Join with Another Faculty – This would yield a larger and thus stronger faculty, which could produce synergies in research and greater industry support. It would also be seen by the university administration as being proactive, provide more capacity and provide greater career awareness. The Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management, which has a similar health promotion orientation, is community oriented and could provide research synergies, was suggested as a possible partner. In fact, a similar discussion to this one is being undertaken in that faculty.

The comments from many faculty members present were quite positive overall on all of the strategies. Although there was some concern about the possible risks, particularly of partnering with another faculty, the opportunities appeared to outweigh them. The potential structure of a joint faculty would need to be determined. It could take the form of two schools within one faculty, or it could become totally integrated with the formation of a number of new departments. The dean noted that the university administration was aware of the initial discussions that were taking place about a joint faculty and appeared to be in support. Although no decisions were made at the meeting, it was clear that this was just the initial step towards some major changes in the faculty.

Submitted by:
Linda Hogue

Director of Member Recruitment Update

Human Ecology Nutrition Career Day is Feb. 25th. Myrna Grahn has volunteered to speak about her career and promote MAHE as well. I am also looking for a volunteer to staff a display area. Please contact me if you are interested and available from 2:30 to 4:30pm on Feb. 25th. Parking will be paid for and it would be a good opportunity to promote volunteering or student jobs within your specific workplace as well as MAHE membership.

The 2010 Ringing Ceremony is fast approaching and I will be meeting with members of the Human Ecology Students' Organization (HESO) in the next few weeks to discuss how the Ringing Ceremony will look this year.

The HESO website is going to be updated to include information about MAHE, how to become a member and a link to our website.

The "MAHE Minute" is a new initiative to connect with the Faculty of Human Ecology Students. This brief monthly virtual mail out will promote topics of interest to students, written by a Professional Home Economist. These topics may include eating on a student budget, job searching information, networking, etc. This would be another venue to highlight a PHEc's specific job area and promote volunteering or student jobs within their organization. I will be contacting members in February to request articles for the MAHE Minute.

In summary, please contact me at lindsey_mazur@hotmail.com if you are able to volunteer to:

represent MAHE at the Human Ecology Career Day on Feb. 25th from 2:30 to 4:30, and/or write an article to connect with students for the new "MAHE Minute".

Kind Regards,
Lindsey Mazur, PHEc
Director of Member Recruitment

Alliances, Partnerships and Connectedness

MAHE's goal in this priority area is to build alliances and partnerships with other organizations both within and outside of our profession in order to raise the profile of MAHE, the profession and its members.

Wow...having just participated in the Provincial Board conference call... we are accomplishing this in so many innovative ways all across the Association!

One of these innovations is the "Farm to School Vegetable Fundraising Program". MAHE has moved into the role of general contractor! We have partnered primarily with the Department of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors and secondarily with the Department of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives to develop this program. MAHE will administer this project through the contracting of a Professional Home Economist to be the project manager. This is a unique initiative that leads us into many other alliance building scenarios with not only industry but other stakeholder associations involved in the advisory group.

We are excited to announce the successful candidate of this six month contract is Kathie Fedora, PHEc. She will be developing the operational framework for a pilot Farm-to-School veggie fundraising program in urban, rural and northern Manitoba.

Thank you to all of the MAHE members involved in getting this project off the ground. Bravo!

Myrna Grahn, PHEc
Past-President

Upcoming Events & Announcements

- World Home Economics Day. Watch for upcoming information about events happening around World Home Economics Day March 21
- Homecoming 2010 – One Hundred Years of the Faculty of Human Ecology. As part of the special centennial celebrations, members of MAHE are organizing a coffee party event during the home coming weekend activities at the University of Manitoba. Closer to the date we will be sharing with you all the special events happening and how you can take part. Be sure to schedule us in – September 23-26, 2010.
- **Wanted:** Six to ten members who would like to help plan the upcoming MAHE provincial conference (possibly combining speakers with MHETA) for October 22 and 23, 2010. If you are interested in joining in on this fabulous opportunity, please email me and let me know your interest. I can be reached at Thelma.blahey@gov.mb.ca or give me a call at 204-641-4133. The sooner the better so we can get right to work!
- The MAHE-Interlake branch would like to congratulate Kathy Fedora for reaching active practicing status within the organization.
- The Canadian Home Economics Foundation announces a call for proposals for the **Engberg-Fewster International Development Grant**. Canadian home economists and professionals in related fields are invited to apply for grants to support projects carried out in the developing world. Awards totalling up to \$3,000 will be granted annually. For application details and/or questions contact CHEF Trustee Nancy Schneider, PHEc. at nancy_schneider@umanitoba.ca
Deadline is March 21
- Volunteer Manitoba presents the 27th Annual Volunteer Awards on Tuesday, April 20 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. **The nomination deadline is February 26.** Nomination forms are available at <http://www.volunteermanitoba.ca/awards2010>

Four Manitoba “quilter” Home Economists on IFHE Quilt

Winner of the quilt at IFHE Congress in Lucerne, Switzerland was Glenda Molgat (nee Butcher) and sister of Joan Butcher who brought it to the MAHE Conference in Russell to display the 4 quilt squares from Manitoba Home Economists and many other countries around the world. Glenda had the challenge of carrying a very heavy quilt home.

The four quilters from Manitoba were Carolyn Nickel, Janice Skene, Gail Tretiak and unknown from SouthWest branch.

The US home economist Carolyn Blount from Seattle was on the IFHE board and initiated the quilt raffle as a fundraiser for International Development Projects. The involvement of her husband was significant because she had so many squares submitted from different parts of the world that she made a second smaller one for the IFHE office located in Germany. While Carolyn Blount was attending all the IFHE meetings and conference, her husband sold all the raffle tickets in 5 days.

Submitted by:
Joan Butcher

**Upcoming issues of Facets will feature descriptions and pictures of the four Manitoba squares on the IFHE quilt.

Thank-you to Lindsay
LeBoutillier for joining the
MAHE newsletter team!



Questions or comments ?

Please contact MAHE office at 885-0718 or toll free 1-866-261-0707, or email mahe@mahe.ca
Submission for the next Facets Provincial Newsletter can be sent to: Charlene Vandenbosch at cvandenbosch@pwsd.ca or Lindsay LeBoutillier at lindsay.leboutillier@yahoo.com