



TESA May 2015 Newsletter—Highlights of May 2015 Board Meeting

The Professional Association Board Meetings (PABM) were held May 5-6, 2015 at the 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood. The Texas Extension Association board meeting was held in conjunction with those of the other association groups. Following are highlights:

TESA Board Meeting:

- The **Promotion Task Force** led by Nancy Granovsky presented the recommended changes to the proposed *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Professional Career Ladder System for Extension Program Specialists*. Additional input was provided by the TESA Board in attendance. A “marked” copy of the document had already been sent to Extension administration prior to the PABM/TESA meetings. The recommended changes were again discussed with the administrators. A final version will be sent to Extension administration for review and consideration. TESA will continue to work with Administration and offered to be involved in Extension trainings at all levels. Additionally, we will have a session on mentoring and the promotion guidelines at the annual meeting this summer.
- **2015 TESA annual meeting** will be July 20-22, 2015, at T Bar M in New Braunfels. This is a family-oriented resort and should be great for the kids. Mark your calendars. President-Elect DeDe Jones has finalized arrangements and the program. Look for more details soon.
- The 2016 TESA annual meeting will be at the La Torretta Resort at Montgomery, TX. Mark your calendar and plan to attend; the dates are 7/11-7/13, 2016. We will let you know when arrangements are finalized.
- The 4-H Foundation has up to \$750 grants available for agents and specialists who have programs or activities that support 4-H. Awards are given three times a year.

PEAC and TESA Meetings with Administrators:

- TESA recommended that special email list(s) for specialists, program specialists, associates, and assistants be created. And, that a new, revised “**green sheet**” **be created to keep track of staff changes, etc.** Administration is very interested in reviving or creating the lists and “green sheet” and has asked for TESA input.
- It was recommended that a two-day course be offered for IRB training in College Station.
- It was recommended that a mentoring program be initiated where new agents, program specialists, and specialists could “shadow” an experienced specialist or program specialist for a couple of days at their work place.

Administrator Comments:

- **Drs. Travis Miller, Susan Ballabina, Jeff Ripley,** and Chris Boleman were in attendance. Specific, administrator-reviewed/approved comments made during the PABM general session, the PEAC

meeting with association Presidents and President-Elects, and with the TESA board will be forthcoming with the TESA May board minutes.

Just a reminder:

- **2014-2015 Officers:**
President—Diann Mitchell-Linger
President-Elect—DeDe Jones
Secretary—Helen White
Treasurer—Steven Klose
Historian—Emmy Williams
Past-President—Mac Young
- At the July 2014 board meeting, the board approved **waiving the first year annual meeting registration fee for new members** starting with the 2014 annual meeting.
- It's time for **2015 membership renewal** and payment of dues. A renewal form is on the TESA web-site (see below).
- Check out the **TESA website** to find out more about your association:

<https://tesa.tamu.edu/>

Mac Young
TESA Past President