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SRDC ITEMS OF INTEREST

SRDC Congratulates Dr. Lori Garkovich as the 2008 Bonnie Teater Community Development Educator Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

The Southern Rural Development Center is proud to honor Dr. Lori Garkovich as the 2008 recipient of the Bonnie Teater Community Development Educator Lifetime Achievement Award. Garkovich currently serves as a professor of Community and Leadership Development at the University of Kentucky. She has taught 14 different courses, published two books, chaired 11 PhD and 18 MA committees as well as served on 62 others, and advised 54 undergraduates just last spring. At the same time, she has also directed 15 visioning exercises, delivered 48 Extension presentations, 30 Extension workshops, managed 43 facilitated discussions since 2001, and garnered nearly \$1.5 million in research grants. To read more about Garkovich and the Bonnie Teater Award, visit

<http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/08bonnieteater.pdf>

New E-Commerce Webinar Series Kick-Off

As part of the National E-Commerce Extension Initiative, a new Webinar series, beginning October 27, 2008 with a one-hour session, will introduce participants to the *Connecting Rural Communities: A Guide to Community Information Technology* Web-based educational product. The Webinar will be presented by Rae Montgomery, Bill Shuffstall and Maxine A. Norman, the authors of this excellent program. This valuable series is hosted by the Southern Rural Development Center and is co-sponsored by the eXtension "Entrepreneurs and Their Communities" team.

Who should participate? The hour long Webinar is designed for Extension educators, economic development professionals and other interested parties who have a desire to work with local leaders, citizens, and organizations to build a strong, vibrant plan for introducing and effectively using broadband in their communities.

Future Webinars !! The next one-hour Webinar will feature Sarah Roth who will introduce her new curriculum, *Internet Strategies to Improve Farm Business Management*. The date for this second e-commerce Webinar will be finalized soon. More information about these Webinars and the National E-Commerce Extension Initiative can be found at

<http://srdc.msstate.edu/ecommerce>.

Request for E-Commerce Implementation Grant Proposals to be Released Soon

The Southern Rural Development Center will be releasing a “Request for Mini-Grant Proposals” (approximately \$3000 per grant) for Extension educators in United States who have interest and capacity to implement one of the three comprehensive e-commerce curriculum products that the SRDC will be showcasing as part of its e-commerce Webinar Series this fall. Successful grantees will be expected to train Extension educators in their state and help these individuals implement the e-commerce curriculum in their counties/parishes. The grantee will be asked to work closely with the SRDC in the monitoring of the short and mid-term impacts of the program in those communities in which the program is implemented. For more information about the upcoming RFP, contact Shannon Turner Lane, SRDC E-Commerce Extension Initiative Coordinator, at shannont@srcd.msstate.edu or visit the Web site <http://srcd.msstate.edu/ecommerce>.

Registration Now Open for SERA-37 “Bridging the Culture Divide: Inclusive Extension Programming for Latinos”

Registration and an agenda are available for the upcoming conference *Bridging the Culture Divide: Inclusive Extension Programming for Latinos* in Raleigh, NC. Land-grant Extension personnel are invited to learn about immigration trends in the Southern United States, implications for Extension educators, and promising strategies for delivering Extension programming to Latinos/Hispanics audiences. The training is slated for October 14-15, 2008. Extension personnel are encouraged to register early since the conference attendance will be open to non-Extension individuals after September 26. Non-Extension personnel are welcome to complete the online registration to be added to the waitlist. *Bridging the Culture Divide: Inclusive Extension Programming for Latinos* is sponsored by the New Hispanic South (SERA-37), the Southern Rural Development Center and North Carolina State University-Cooperative Extension. See more information and registration at <http://srcd.msstate.edu/>.

Deadline Approaching for the Sustainable Community Innovation Grants Program Proposals

Proposals are due on October 1, 2008 for the Southern SARE Program and the Southern Rural Development Center’s *2008 Sustainable Community Innovation Grants* program. The *Sustainable Community Innovations Grant (SCIG)* Program is designed to invest in projects that pursue local strategies to link sound farm and non-farm economic development with agricultural and natural resource management. The program’s intent is to blend sustainable agriculture practices, including the growth of local food systems, with new community development strategies to help build resilient farms, businesses, families and communities in the South. Potential applicants are encouraged to access the full request for proposals to determine the variety of topics that are being given major priority. To access the full Request for Proposals, visit <http://srcd.msstate.edu/>.

eXtension “Entrepreneurship and Their Communities” Team Receives Award by NACDEP

In hopes of expanding the economic development strategies available to local communities, a team of more than 20 Extension educators from across the nation have played a vital role in understanding and developing programs that build on the economic assets of local places. The

key approach they have been addressing is entrepreneurship and the complimentary activities that are crucial for seeding the growth of entrepreneurial activities in local areas.

Coordinated by the SRDC in partnership with its sister Regional Rural Development Centers, the eXtension team was recently honored by the Southern region of NACDEP (National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals) at its recent meeting in Indianapolis for the team's innovative work delivering information and educational programs through the use of technology. To access the work of the eXtension entrepreneurship group, check the following Web site: www.eXtension.org/entrepreneurs.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Professional Agricultural Workers Conference Approaches

The Professional Agricultural Workers Conference (PAWC) is meeting for the 66th session on December 7-9, 2008 at Tuskegee University. The PAWC serves as a forum where participants review and discuss relevant topics on improving the quality of rural life for people in the South and the nation in general. This year's theme is "Facing Global Crises: Local Solutions to Energy, Food and Persistent Poverty." The PAWC is hosted by Tuskegee University and supported by the Farm Foundation, USDA agencies (ERS, NRCS, CSREES, FSA, FS, FAS, APHIS), USDI/NPS, USAID, the Southern Rural Development Center, USDI, COSBAE/AAEA, 1890. For more information including registration, visit <http://www.pawc.info>.

National Poverty Center Offers 2009 Visiting Scholars Program and Postdoctoral Fellowships

The National Poverty Center (NPC) hosts a Visiting Scholars Program for faculty, researchers, and policy analysts. Although the NPC does not provide funds to support the travel, research expenses or salary of visiting scholars, they can provide one or two visitors at a time with office space, access to computers, and opportunities to interact with NPC affiliates and attend seminars and lectures on the University of Michigan campus. October 31, 2008 is the deadline for the program. Find out more information at http://www.npc.umich.edu/opportunities/visiting/2009_Visitors_RFA.php. The NPC also offers the Research and Training Program on Poverty and Public Policy which provides underrepresented scholars in the social sciences the opportunity to spend one to two years conducting research and pursuing extensive training at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. During the fellowship period, scholars will receive stipends of \$50,000 per calendar year. Applications are due January 9, 2009. To read more about the requirements, visit <http://www.npc.umich.edu/opportunities/papers/fellowship/>.

No One-Size-Fits-All Option for Policies for Rural America

In a nation whose urban needs influence federal policy and whose rural policy is dominated by agriculture, rural areas that have urban-style woes can fall through the cracks. "There is no rural policy for the kind of rural we are," says Cathy McDowell, executive director of the Family Resource Center. Built on the premise that only 4 percent of rural residents in the United States make their living farming, this article discusses the current plight of at least four distinct

rural regions such as the amenity-rich, declining resource-dependent, chronically poor, and in transition. To read the full article, visit http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-08-05-rural_N.htm.

Southern Growth Seeks Student Applicants for the Southern Research Fellow Program

Southern Growth Policies Board seeks student applicants for its Southern Research Fellow Program. The Southern Research Fellow Program promotes student research relating to economic development and quality of life in 13 Southern states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Eligible applicants include current full-time undergraduate and graduate students aged 18-25 at colleges and universities in the 13 Southern Growth member states. The 2009 Southern Research Fellow Program is focused on regional economic opportunities relating to bio-products, alternative energy, and/or energy efficiency. The Fellow will develop a research question and prepare an original report that will be incorporated into Southern Growth's 2009 Report on the Future of the South and distributed at Southern Growth's annual conference. The Fellow will also receive a cash award of \$1,000. Applications are due November 14, 2008. Learn more at <http://www.southern.org/research/fellowship.shtml>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

SRDC's Grant Connections: Rural Development Funding Opportunities

Volume 10, Number 6, August 2008.

http://srdc.msstate.edu/funding/gc_aug08.html

The SRDC staff compiles Grant Connections primarily for the faculty of land-grant colleges and universities in the South to provide funding information in support of activities in agricultural economics, education, human sciences, rural sociology, youth development and other related disciplines.

CONFERENCES AND TRAININGS

Biomass South 2008: Charting a Course for Biofuels, Biopower, and Bioproducts

September 21-23, 2008

Raleigh Convention Center

Raleigh, North Carolina

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/nreos/forest/feop/biomass-south/2008.html>

A New Beginning-Expanding Beyond Charity

September 24-26, 2008

Shreveport, Louisiana

<http://www.suagcenter.com/leadershipconference2008/index.html>

**Preparing the Caregiver to Give: Issues, Challenges, Solutions
Caring for the Caregivers Conference**

October 1-3, 2008

Chattanooga, Tennessee

http://www.clemson.edu/fyd/Assets/Adobe_Acrobat_files/caregiver_flyer.pdf

Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Understanding Food Deserts

October 8, 2008

Washington, DC

<http://www.ers.usda.gov>

Bridging the Culture Divide: Inclusive Extension Programming for Latinos

SERA-37

October 14-15, 2008

Raleigh, North Carolina

http://srdc.msstate.edu/opportunities/hispanic_south.htm

Transition to a Bioeconomy: Environmental and Rural Development Impacts

October 15-16, 2008

St. Louis, Missouri

View Call for Papers:

<http://i-cares.wustl.edu/Callforpapers5-12-08.pdf>

Tomorrow's Workforce: Strategies for Appalachia's Future

October 22-23, 2008

Tupelo, Mississippi

<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=c7ff9b3f-1a0e-4c0e-8058-cf866d38fa1c>

Esperanza: A Conference for Uniting, Dreaming and Making It Happen

October 22-24, 2008

Georgetown, Kentucky

<http://srdc.msstate.edu/trainings/esperanza.pdf>

Making Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Count for Planners and Resource Managers

October 23-24, 2008

Arlington, Virginia

<http://www.socialimpactassessment.net/WashingtonDCSIACourse.htm>

Entrepreneurship: Where Practice & Theory Meet

Nov. 6-7, 2008

St. Louis, Missouri

<http://mcquinn.missouri.edu/>

Creating Entrepreneurial Communities

November 19, 2008

Lansing, Michigan

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/econ_ipa_announcement.doc

Facing Global Crises: Local Solutions to Energy, Food and Persistent Poverty

Professional Agricultural Workers Conference

December 7-9, 2008

Tuskegee, Alabama

<http://www.pawc.info>.

2009 National Jeanne Priester Extension Health Conference

April 6-8, 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana

<http://continuingeducation.ncsu.edu/PNEHC/>

NACDEP 2009: Creating Sustainable Communities in a Changing America

April 20-22, 2009

San Diego, California

<http://www.nacdep.net/>

National Extension Tourism Conference

June 14-17, 2009

Park City, Utah

<http://www.rpts.tamu.edu/tce/NET/Conference.htm>

Analyzing Poverty and Socioeconomic Trends Using the American Community Survey

June 22-26, 2009

Ann Arbor, Michigan

<http://www.npc.umich.edu/opportunities/papers/analyzingpoverty>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Agricultural Economist, Economic Research Service/USDA

View announcement:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AboutERS/Employment/OpportunitiesPage.htm>

Assistant Professor, Agriculture and Extension Education, North Carolina State University

View announcement:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/ncsu_extension_%20leadership_position_announcement.doc

Director of Workforce Development, Regional Technology Strategies

View announcement:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/work_director.doc

Economics, CSREES Economic and Community Systems Unit Intergovernmental Personal Act(IPA)

View announcement:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/econ_ipa_announcement.doc

Professor and Assistant Dean, Agriculture and Natural Resources and Resource Development, the University of Tennessee Extension

View announcement:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/professor_and_assistantdeanut.pdf

Project Manager, Industrial Outreach Service, Mississippi State University

View announcement:

http://srdc.msstate.edu/newsletters/documents/project_manager_%20%20job_announcement.pdf

Strategic Initiatives Director, Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED)

View announcement:

<http://www.maced.org/SID-ad.html>