



Community Focus



Extension Educator Receives "Distinguished Educator" Award for Year 2000

LaDeane Jha received the "Distinguished Educator" award at the Annual Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association's annual conference held November 14-16 in Kearney.

Cooperative Extension Dean and Director, Elbert Dickey presented the award and a check for \$500. He noted her 30th year with UNL Cooperative Extension, her continued work as a program innovator, a tireless advocate for equal opportunity, a respected community collaborator and a superb teacher and scholar.

Since 1998, Extension Educator Jha has taken leadership for Character Counts! education in Lancaster County. Since the programs introduction, more than 15,700 youth and 1,800 adults have received Character Counts! training.

LaDeane provided positive educational and program leadership through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program from 1970-1993. She became a "community legend" during this tenure with recognized compassion and respect by clients and community professionals.

LaDeane is presently completing a PhD program at the University of Nebraska. (GB)

Lancaster County Extension Staff Recognized

Lancaster County Extension staff were recognized for services to Cooperative Extension at the annual Nebraska Cooperative Extension Conference held in Kearney.

Staff recognized were:

Don Janssen, Extension Educator - 25 years
Tom Dorn, Extension Educator - 20 years
Alice Henneman, Extension Educator - 20 years
Arlene Hanna, Extension Associate - 10 years
Mary Jane McReynolds, Extension Associate - 10 years
Gary Bergman, Extension Educator - 5 years
Darren Binder, Extension Assistant - 5 years (LB)

Free Speech—From the University of Nebraska

There may be no such thing as a free lunch, but the University of Nebraska—Lincoln's Speakers Bureau can offer you a Free Speech. Topics range from jazz to global warming, E-Business to nutrition, and motivation to cosmic rays.

The Speakers Bureau is a free service and an important way for the University to share campus expertise with our community. When your organization or group seeks an entertaining, informative, and intriguing topic presented, this becomes your opportunity. To secure a speaker, call 472-8396 or e-mail speakers2@unl.edu. The University Speakers Bureau will do their very best to accommodate your needs.

Speakers are available through April 26, 2001. Availability of speakers is limited during December and early January. Listed below are sample presentations. Other topics are also available through the Speakers Bureau. Please inquire for a complete listing.

Daniel Bernstein, Professor of Psychology

Best Practices in Teaching

College teachers usually prepare course content based on their background, tradition, and past practices. In classroom teaching, as in other areas of life, best practices are often not "doing it the way we always have." Bernstein's presentation focuses on teachers who consider each course to be an opportunity to find out what kind of teaching works best as measured by how well the students learn.

Thomas Elmo Clemente, Assistant Professor of Agronomy

Genetically Enhanced Crops

Biotechnology is providing a useful set of tools for plant breeders to draw upon in crop improvement. One such tool is plan genetic engineering, the ability to introduce a gene from an unrelated organism into a plant cell for expression of a novel trait. Clemente will provide an overview of plant genetic engineering methods, a discussion on breeding and safety assessment of plan genetic engineering, and a look at what products are in the pipeline.

Kenneth Dewey, Professor of Climatology

Global Warming and Climate Change

The topic of global warming and its potential impact on our lives has been in the news quite often lately. Here is your opportunity to unravel the mystery of how our global climate is currently changing and how it has changed over time. Evidence also will be examined that argues the case that human activity is responsible for much of the recent change in our climate.

Judy A. Driskell, Professor of Nutritional Science and

Dietetics

Nutrition Recommendations for Adults

Adequate nutrition is a component of good health. Good nutrition also improves one's quality of life. Yet many men and women in the U.S. do not eat sufficient amounts of nutrients necessary for good health. Poor nutrition has been shown to be a risk factor for many chronic diseases. How much of which

nutrients are essential for adults? Driskell also will discuss dietary guidelines and recommendations.

Deanna Baxter Eversoll, Director of Part-Time Student Services and Degree Options and UNL Sage Program.

Education for a Lifetime

Technology has allowed neuroscientists to explore the human brain in new ways, and exciting new possibilities are being revealed. Lifelong involvement with the learning process is essential for individual potential to be reached, and education for a lifetime is indeed a wellness issue. Eversoll will explore the learning possibilities that can influence your day-to-day life.

Mohamed Fayad J.D. Edwards, Professor of Computer Science and Engineering

E-Business—Big Business

Electronic commerce is essential in allowing any entity to easily reach customers, reduce sales overhead, and learn about their customers. Most experts agree about the "dawning of e-commerce predominance." This presentation will discuss the growing importance of the Internet on global economics as proven by impressive global statistics and projections.

Michael Jess, Senior Lecturer of the Conservation and Survey Division

Nebraska: World-Class Water

Oil gives the countries in the Middle East world-class status; water in the Ogallala aquifer gives Nebraska world-class status. Jess discusses water issues in Nebraska including the aquifer, the diversion of flows from the state's streams and rivers, the supplies consumed by production agriculture, and the effects of irrigation on river flows and wildlife habitat.

Charles Lamphear, Director of the Bureau of Business Research

Where Have All the People Gone

A historical perspective on population change shows that many rural counties in the nation's heartland have been losing population since the early 1900s. Are people being pushed or pulled from rural communi-

ties? Where are they going? Who remains? Who returns? How long will the depopulation trend continue and does it matter? Lamphear's presentation will tell the story of population change, with an emphasis on Nebraska.

Kay Logan-Peters, Associate Professor of University Libraries

The University of Nebraska in the 19th Century

What became of the old 'U' Hall and the famous iron fence that surrounded the original University of Nebraska campus? This slide presentation focuses on the earliest building on the Nebraska campus, and on the faculty members, administrators, and architects responsible for its growth and development—

some of whom were well-known individuals such as JJ "Black-jack" Pershing, Willa Cather, and Roscoe Pound.

Linda Major, Project Director of NU Directions and Tom Workman, Communications Coordinator of NU Directions

Binge Drinking

Binge drinking has been depicted by the media as the #1 problem among college students. This presentation defines high-risk drinking, shows the first- and second-hand effects of high-risk drinking, and discusses attempts to reduce high-risk drinking at the University of Nebraska through NU Directions, a great project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and administered through the American Medical Association.

Gary Meers, Professor of Special Education and Communication Disorders

Strains, Pains, and Migraines or How to Survive Until Tomorrow

Frustration is created in many ways in our day-to-day lives—family, pets, kids, shopping, education, and other general areas of life that can easily overwhelm us. One of the best ways to deal with frustration is humor, and this presentation takes a humorous look at the various frustrations we face and how we can best cope with them.

Linda L. Price, E.J. Faulkner, Professor of Agribusiness and Marketing

Cherished Possessions and Family Heirlooms

How do older Americans think about their possessions and the transfer of their special possessions to their kin? Price presents the results of almost 200 personal interviews that provide insight on how family heirlooms reflect and produce the meaning of family, why some possessions become family heirlooms, and the meaning of heirlooms passing between generations.

Larry Routh, Director of Career Services

Nebraska Brain Drain

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