I hope this issue of *Contempo* finds you all in good health and enjoying the summer. It is my great pleasure to serve as the President of CA-AFCS for 2018-2020. I have been a member for many, many years and it’s time for me to give back to an association that has been very good to me over the years.

Please see our CA-AFCS website [https://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/](https://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/) which has been updated with new officers, new dates, etc. One exciting new feature is that our Twitter Feed (@CAAFCS) is on the home page so you can see what’s new on a continual basis; it will change with each new tweet. Thanks to Jody Roubanis very being active on our account. Please add your tweets if you like.

Something else new this year is that we will try to send out several mini-Contempos instead of quarterly issues so you will have more current info. We’ll see how that new format goes.

I had the pleasure of attending the AAFCS Conference & Expo in Atlanta the end of June with VP Programs, Jody Roubanis. There are a couple articles in this issue about the conference. It was a rewarding trip in the Atlanta Marriot Marquis, which happens to be 47 stories tall; they have quite an atrium!

We will be holding elections for the state board in the Spring and are looking for nominations for a Vice President of Communications, Treasurer, EEF Committee member, and Nominating Committee member. Do you have some time and talents to share with our professional organization? Or know a colleague who does? If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Nominating Committee Chair, Dolores Robles at Dolores.Robles@csulb.edu. Selecting strong candidates will help our professional association grow and strengthen our future.

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**Perkins Bill approved!**

President Trump signed the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* (H.R. 2353), as amended by the Senate, to reauthorize Perkins funding! The bill includes language for family and consumer sciences programs as follows: **SEC. 135 (b) (5)**

\*(L).LOCAL USES OF FUNDS: supporting the integration of employability skills into career and technical education programs and programs of study, including through family and consumer science programs.\*


Thanks goes to the many who worked to get family and consumer sciences mentioned in this important piece of legislation for career and technical education.

Peggy Wild, CFCS, AAFCS Public Policy Community Leader
109th Annual AAFCS Conference and Expo
Theme: Cultivating Social and Emotional Competence for Healthy Relationships

CA-AFCS President Nancy Rabolt and VP Programs Jody Roubanis attended the 2018 AAFCS Conference and Expo in Atlanta, GA on June 24-27 to represent CA-AFCS. Over 500 people attended the conference and Expo. Nancy and Jody attended the Leadership Council meeting prior to the conference where AAFCS leadership discussed major initiatives and values of the organization: Teamwork (FCS Day and “Dining In”), Positive Outlook (Say Yes to FCS), Emotional Self Awareness (FCSfit, Year Three: Emotional Health & Relationship Well-Being), Adaptability (conference changes), Influence (membership Find Your People Campaign), Coach and Mentor (Leadership Academy), Achievement Orientation (Credentialing), Inspirational Leadership (awards), Empathy (IFHE World Congress), and Organizational Awareness (new AAFCS website).

At the Leadership Council meeting our own Jody Roubanis introduced a resolution draft on keeping families together at the Mexican border. A spirited discussion ensued and a panel of editors worked on the draft that was submitted to the Board of Directors. Upon discussion during and after the conference, a final statement was approved by AAFCS leadership. See Jody’s article below. We hope everyone shares it with their government representatives and communities.

The keynote speaker at the opening session was Dena Simmons, Ed.D., assistant director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. She spoke on leveraging emotionally intelligent (EI) and culturally relevant (CR) practices for thriving families and youth and CR pedagogy. She opened many eyes to new ways of thinking about EI and imposter syndrome (erasing what you are to be accepted). She defined EI as the ability to monitor one’s own and other’s feelings, to discriminate among them, and to use this information to guide one’s thinking and actions as we interact with others. We have unconscious biases and we need to understand the emotions of others (know the cause, ask how they are feeling, and allow each person to tell their narrative). Steps to take to increase CR: 1. invite stories; 2. mine for assets (what they love, what they are good at); 3. map assets in the community/partner with them; 4. diversify your curriculum; 5. lift up others. An inspirational presentation!

New AAFCS President: At the capstone plenary session current President Jacqueline Holland handed over the reigns to the 2018-2019 President, Cindy Miller, CFCS. See bios of AAFCS leadership at https://www.aafcs.org/about/about-us/leadership

At the conference there was something for everyone: workshops on accreditation and credentialing, student and professional research reports and posters, vendor demonstrations, round table discussions, AAFCS community meetings and discussions, showcase of apparel/textiles/design, the awards dinner (congratulations to Mary Gilliland who received 50-year membership recognition), and of course the Expo, and more.

Several CA-AFCS members joined us at the conference: Mary Gilliland, Diane Lewis Goldstein, Sandy Carpenter, and Doris Baela-Fossen. We met up with former CA-AFCS member Kay Wilder who has moved from San Diego and is now AAFCS Director-at-large. It’s good to have California folk in leadership positions!
Advocacy: The Spark that Initiated the 2018 AAFCS Resolution

Support Humane Policies & Treatment of Families Crossing Borders into the United States

Jody Roubanis, CFCS

With AAFCS as the strong professional association support system, it takes just one spark to get a resolution in place. Prior to the AAFCS Annual Conference, members of the AAFCS Global Perspectives Community regularly discussed issues occurring at the southern border that affect families. In 2014, this community initiated the 2015 AAFCS Resolution that targeted the wellness of children who cross the border into the United States unaccompanied by an adult. Several weeks before the 2018 AAFCS Annual Conference, community members shared news stories and links to websites explaining the conditions in place separating children from their families. But in terms of a resolution, no one was getting anything on paper.

One week prior to the conference, I received a statement from the California PTA calling for all members to advocate for the basic human rights of all people regardless of their immigration status. I made the decision then, that if a 100% volunteer-based organization can craft a statement, then AAFCS needed to get a research-based statement out and I needed to be the spark to get it started. I sent a draft statement to all members of the AAFCS Global Perspectives Community and then brought it to the AAFCS Leadership Council during its meeting at Annual Conference. After Leadership Council members reviewed the statement they decided to form an editing committee to revise the draft. This revision committee removed all the research-based language supporting keeping families together and drastically shifted the focus from a call for advocacy to a statement of support to other organizations that had taken a stand on the issue. Firmly rejecting this revised statement, the AAFCS Global Perspectives Community met a couple of days later and decided to strengthen the original statement and bring it to the AAFCS Board of Directors for adoption as a resolution.

Virginia Vincenti, Carole Makela, and I formed the new AAFCS Global Perspectives Community resolution team and co-authored the resolution that was submitted to the AAFCS Board of Directors for adoption. Further editing ensued and the major authors of the resolution were pleased that it was adopted and thankful for all the input from AAFCS members including the AAFCS communities of Public Policy and Family Relations. Several state affiliates have used the resolution to advocate with their legislators about humane treatment of immigrants. Of the six-page document, the following gives the three general resolution statements:

Support Humane Policies & Treatment of Families Crossing Borders into the United States

(https://www.aafcs.org/resources/advocacy/resolutions)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

• AAFCS members, affiliates, and communities support the humane treatment of all individuals, families, and groups of people.

• AAFCS members, affiliates, and communities actively support policies and practices that consider and uphold the best interests of families.

• AAFCS members, affiliates, and communities actively collaborate with other organizations through the promotion of awareness, education, analysis, and action to support the rights and well-being of families who have entered or are entering the United States.

For the contact information for California officials go to:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html
Students

Facebook

Keep up-to-date with the latest CA-AFCS happenings by friending us “AAFCS—California Affiliate”

Scholarships

Scholarship applications and information are available online. If you have any questions, contact the district scholarship representative.

Professional & Students on LinkedIn

Just search for CA-AFCS to join. If you are not yet networked on LinkedIn, go to www.linkedin.com.

https://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/