President’s Message

Happy Summer (such as it is)!

This is my last president’s message as we have a new CA-AFCS President this month. Congratulations Gus!

It’s been a privilege to work with so many dedicated professionals. Thank you to my Executive Committee and Board of Directors. And also to the new 2020 new CA-AFCS officers listed in this issue. Your service is appreciated in our continued effort to further healthy families and communities and living and working well in our complex world.

I know this is a difficult time for so many of us, first with the Covid-19 pandemic and now the protests against police brutality, social injustice, and the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. The newly established AAFCS Community on Diversity and Inclusion has developed a statement on racial equality and social justice to be communicated to our members; it is presented in this issue. Those interested are encouraged to join the community by going to https://www.aafcs.org/about/groups/communities/prof-community

As AAFCS members we join one of ours who just said: We say that as Family and Consumer Sciences professionals we are creating healthy and sustainable families. We need to hear the cries of those who are most affected by COVID-19 and those of our black and brown sisters and brothers killed in our cities with impunity and/or crushed in body and spirit. We also need to work together to live lives of love, non-violence, and radical acceptance of every member of the human race.

Sadly the AAFCS Annual conference in Baltimore was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but it was successfully delivered virtually on June 25 and 26. See noted comments of some of our CA participants.

I hope you all are having a good year. Have a happy, healthy, and safe summer.

Nancy Rabolt,
2018-2020 CA-AFCS President

aafcs-ca.org
Take-aways from Conference Attendees at the first-ever AAFCS Virtual Conference...

This virtual conference exceeded expectations. I am so happy to see and hear how much our profession is addressing the salient issues/challenge/barriers to diversity, inclusion, and equity. Hearing our common goal of improving the lives of all individuals has lifted my spirits immensely. I am truly excited and re-energized to continue pushing this work in the field of Special Education.

Isabella C. Brown, MA | Doctoral Student

The AAFCS 2020 Virtual Conference was a success. There were a lot of choices and the sessions that I attended were informative and engaging. The price of this conference was right and I am sure that those who were stretching their budgets to afford a ticket to Baltimore, hotel, meals, and conference registration were happy with the registration cost. Also, it is a wonderful opportunity to be able to go back and “see” presentations (at least the PowerPoint® version) that we wanted to but did not get to attend because of a time conflict. The Salute to the Stars - Toast of Blue Celebration with the Distinguished Service Award Presentations was as exciting as the 2017 Dallas Conference when our own Mary Gilliand was awarded the DSA. This year it was especially moving because Carolyn Barnhart was one of the recipients. When LA District hosted the 2016 CA-AFCS Conference we had asked our National AAFCS President Carolyn Barnhart to speak. At that time she won the hearts of many of us as she called out, and put in her slide presentation, students who volunteered and had made a positive impression on her. Many of us have followed (on Caring Bridge) and continue to pray for her during her continuing battle with cancer. Her June 28th update included the very good part of her week where she was awarded the highest honor that AAFCS bestows on a member. I was most impressed by the Friday General Session Panel Discussion about the Past, Present, and Future. The excitement and passion about our field, especially by the younger members of the panel, set a tone of a bright future. I feel very fortunate to get to see a glimpse of the future through my teaching. Our future is as brilliant as the light that shines from our symbolic Betty Lamp.

Diane Lewis-Goldstein, Ph.D., CFCS
Take-aways from Conference Attendees at the first-ever AAFCS Virtual Conference continued…

Kudos to all the contributors, presenters, participants, attendees, professionals, students, and the like who made the 2020 AAFCS Virtual Conference a complete success! As a first-time attendee of the annual AAFCS Conference, it was a virtual-supercalifragilisticexpialidocious experience. Never have I ever had access to such a trifecta of invaluable information: diversity, inclusivity, and equity in such a short amount of time—two days! And as an FCS graduate student and instructor at San Francisco State University, my go-to phrase is always “cultural kaleidoscope,” which encompasses the ethos of the FCS Body of Knowledge. “Be bold, be courageous, be your best.” Gabrielle Gifford.

Michael Martin, FCS graduate student | Director of Communications of CA-AFCS

I was impressed by the content and delivery of the conference. The opening panels on both Thursday and Friday were excellent. We've all heard so much about the pandemic, but it was good hearing from experts in education, the Good Housekeeping Institute, FDIC, and CDC and thinking about our future Post-Covid world. I appreciated the sessions on updated information on nutrition labeling and baking ingredient myths, 20 Financial Tips for Lifelong Professionals, and today's retail panic. The emphasis on diversity (the mix) and inclusion (getting the mix to work well together) was important including strategies to help us all embrace diversity. I loved watching the 35-year old video We Are the World again. Lots of us were singing along.

Nancy J. Rabolt, Professor Emerita | CA-AFCS Past-President

The AAFCS conference was full of many unique pathways you could follow through the packed 2-day experience. In light of what I have been working on in my personal life and professional career, I choose to attend those workshops focused on race, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Not only was I impressed by the fact that this conference offered so many workshops in this particular area, but I was impressed by the quality and knowledge of the presenters themselves. All workshops I attended were crafted with a lovely balance of data and heart, which mirrors our profession well. In one session the speaker said "FCS is a people-based profession" and so to focus on the people within our classes seemed like the way forward. I am proud to be a member of AAFCS and am excited that this great organization has its finger on the pulse of the needs of our students, members, and community's needs right now.

Mindy Trisko, CA-AFCS Member, FCS High School Educator
On behalf of the AAFCS Board of Directors, Jacqueline M. Holland, CFCS-HDFS and the AAFCS Diversity and Inclusion Community, I am sending you this important message. The American Association of Family and Consumer Association (AAFCS) reinforces our commitment to racial equality and social justice.

As an organization that focuses on families’ and communities’ wellbeing, we express our sadness over the recent events of racial injustice and the loss of the life of George Floyd. We denounce systemic racism, celebrate, and embrace diversity, and respect every person’s value.

AAFCS has over the years supported diversity and inclusion in the following ways.

- 2006 Resolution on Non-Discrimination
- The AAFCS Strategic Direction, Imagine, includes as a core value “Embrace diversity and value all people.”
- AAFCS established a task force in 2018 on Diversity & Inclusion which transformed into being an AAFCS Community on Diversity & Inclusion as approved by the Board of Directors on May 20, 2020.

The AAFCS Community on Diversity & Inclusion Purposes:

The Diversity and Inclusion Community will review Association practices and policies and advise the board and the AAFCS CEO/Staff to enhance aspects of diversity and inclusion throughout the organization, create a plan of work incorporating these aspects, and to facilitate programming that enhances diversity and inclusion on every Association level. This community supports two of the core values from our Strategic Directions, “Embrace diversity and value all people” and “See new ideas and initiatives and embrace change.” This body will be a supportive entity for AAFCS communities to embrace a culture of diversity and inclusion that would be observed and experienced by all.

In supporting the AAFCS mission “to provide leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life,” the Diversity and Inclusion Community recognizes and endorses the viability, value, and richness of each member as the Association moves forward to meet the needs of families in a new and constantly changing world.

Overall Goals of the Community are to:

- review Association practices and policies and advise the AAFCS Board and the AAFCS CEO/Staff
- to enhance aspects of diversity and inclusion in the organization,
- create a plan of work regarding these aspects,
- facilitate programming that enhances diversity and inclusion on every Association level
- become a supportive entity for AAFCS communities to embrace a culture of diversity and inclusion,
- recognize and endorse the viability, value, and richness of each member as the Association moves forward to meet the needs of families in a new and constantly changing world.

As an organization, AAFCS will continue to listen to, advocate for, and support the communities we serve.
Congratulations to the 2020 CA-AFCS Scholarship Recipients!

I am passionate, hard-working, and creative, and use those skills to positively impact the overall well-being of children. I plan to use my knowledge and experience in child development to inspire and support young children and their families so that we all can have a brighter future.

Ashley Adams, attending CSU, Long Beach

I am proud to represent the California Association of family and consumer sciences because of my long-standing passion for nutrition in the community. I plan to study nutrition and dietetics as a holistic science to create a more personalized system of healthcare while researching the potential medical benefits of various foods. I also plan to work in public health nutrition to ensure that low income communities have a means of access to proper nutrition.

Jennah Brown, a Nutrition Sciences/ Dietetics major at UC Berkeley
CA-AFCS San Diego District - Ellen Ferguson Snyder Scholarship

My name is Brooke Davidson this is my second year here at SFSU and I am grateful to be in the interior design program! My goal as a designer is to make the designs I want as sustainable as possible but also aesthetically pleasing. Winning the CA-AFCS has been a very humbling experience and an amazing opportunity.

Brooke Davidson, an Interior Design major at SFSU
CA-AFCS undergraduate scholarship

To start from simple and little things, a seed, a dollar, even a smile. The world around will start to change.

Hongfang Li, an Early Childhood Education major at Mira Costa College
CA-AFCS San Diego District - Ellen Ferguson Snyder Scholarship

Hello, my name is Garrett Lopez and I am an Apparel Merchandising student at San Francisco State University. First off, I would like to thank the California Association of Family and Consumer Sciences for this wonderful opportunity. As an aspiring creative director, I plan to further my dreams of a world where fashion is sustainable, timeless, and cultivated for generations to come.

Garrett Lopez, an Apparel Design & Merchandising major at SFSU
CA-AFCS Bay District scholarship

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As an interior design student from San Francisco State University, Carrie Xinye Jiang has devoted herself in interior design industry since first semester. She became the member of American Society of Interior Designers at her first semester as an interior design student and the co-president of ASID student chapter in SFSU the following semester. In her third semester, she started her internship as a volunteer at an interior design company in San Francisco. She believes hard-work and persistence is key to success.

Carrie Xinye Jiang, an Interior Design major at SFSU  
CA-AFCS undergraduate scholarship

I’ve always been the person to give the shirt off my back to anyone who needed it; I know I will continue this selflessness throughout my life and future career. I hope to go on to inspire future generations of children to become charismatic adults.

Orlena Morris, a Child Development major  
CA-AFCS San Diego District undergraduate scholarship

Hello, my name is Carmen Tong and I am an undergraduate at San Francisco State University, pursuing a degree in Interior Design and a minor in Marketing. I'd like my career to revolve around designing, which to me creates growth in both my artistic vision and my relationship with my communities. I believe that progressive experience in the working field will offer diverse skill sets, which will drive the vision to assist others in optimizing qualities of life.

Carmen Tong, an Interior Design major at SFSU  
CA-AFCS undergraduate scholarship

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<tr>
<th>Scholar Name</th>
<th>Field of Study</th>
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<td>Joelle Roque</td>
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<td>Marisol Vargas</td>
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We were disappointed that after so much work into the March 2020 CA-AFCS conference it was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders. Thank you to Jody Roubanis, Amber Bradley, and Susan Rogers for their work on this conference. Next year we are teaming up with the CA Department of Education which annually organizes a conference for CA secondary FCS teachers. Conference planning between the two groups continues; the conference will be in San Diego March 18-20, 2021. The conference is being planned for Thursday evening reception followed by Friday and Saturday speakers and breakout sessions. CA-AFCS committee meetings may be conducted remotely prior to the meeting......lots of discussions to still happen.

One of our goals is to bring university and secondary teachers and students together as many other AAFCS state affiliates do. There will be our regular poster and oral presentations of research, creative work, and community outreach programs in addition to teacher workshops and curriculum sharing. We hope to have both FCCLA and university students presenting. Updates on government programs and motivational keynote speakers will also be a major part of the conference with good food and lots of networking opportunities. Both secondary and university folks will learn about trends, initiatives, programs, and priorities of each others’ positions. University students will gain a better understanding of secondary teaching as a career. FCSTAC (FCS Teachers Association) and CA-AFCS members have a lot in common, have the same FCS mission, and many belong to both associations.

We look forward to a successful conference next year. Suggestions and comments are always welcome to be added to the ongoing discussions. Please send them to Nina Dilbeck (ninad@csufresno.edu) and Gus Vouchilas (gusv@sfsu.edu).

What you need to know and how to protect yourself. Click here to get the latest updates on COVID-19 from the CDC.

May 29, 2020 ~ Do you have an idea for submission related to the pandemic? Review the special call for articles and send a paragraph describing your idea to Editor Scott Hall at sshall@bsu.edu ASAP! In this issue, AAFCS President Jackie Ogden, CFCS, CEO Carolyn Jackson, CFCS, and Editor Scott Hall, CFLE, present their thoughts on the pandemic and the FCS response. Watch for special features on the pandemic in upcoming issues.

May 20, 2020 ~ AAFCS Expands Relief Policy. By a unanimous vote on May 20, 2020, the AAFCS Board of Directors passed a Disaster and Pandemic Relief Policy that will provide a way for AAFCS members and certified professionals to keep their membership benefits and certified status intact in the event they have suffered a substantial loss of income due to a pandemic like the nation is facing with Covid-19. This policy is an update to the Major Disaster Relief Policy passed by the board in 2018, and can be read in its entirety here.

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Congratulations to the new (and extended) officers of CA-AFCS

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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Nancy Rabolt</td>
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<td>Jody Roubanis</td>
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Calendar

**March 18-20, 2021**
Joint CA-AFCS and FCS Education Leadership and Management conference.

**June 25-27, 2021**
AAFCS 2021 Annual Conference Minneapolis, MN
Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

**October 2021**
AAFCS Leadership Development Workshop, Zoom,
*(specific date to be specified later)*

**August 2-8, 2022**
AAFCS 2022 Annual Conference Orlando, FL
DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld

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 at [https://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/scholarship-info/](https://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/scholarship-info/)

If you have any questions, contact the district scholarship representative.

**Professionals & Students on LinkedIn**
Just search for CA-AFCS to join. If you are not yet networked on LinkedIn, go to [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

Ask district leaders for more information on activities specific to your district!