

**National Institute for Food and Agriculture Nutrition and Health Committee
for Planning and Guidance
End of Year Report, Oct 2008-Sept 2009**

The Nutrition and Health Committee for Planning and Guidance formed in October 2008 to work with NIFA national program leaders to strategically position Extension for the future. The entire committee (n=14), lead by co-chairs Melinda Manore (Oregon) and Gayle Coleman (Wisconsin), met via teleconference on a monthly basis. Julia Zee (Hawaii) served as secretary for the committee and recorded minutes for these meetings. In addition, six of the 14 committee members along with national program leaders, Drs. Shirley Gerrior and Susan Welsh, met at the Society for Nutrition Education annual conference in New Orleans, LA (July 2009). Subcommittees had additional teleconferences to advance their work. All committee minutes and documents can be found on the web at

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/food/in_focus/nutrition_if_nutrition_health_committee.html. Over the course of its first year, the committee has completed the following tasks:

- Created their mission statement – *Provide expert opinion to CSREES national program leaders regarding future national health and nutrition policies and programs to strategically position the Cooperative Extension System for the future.*
- Developed operating procedures for the committee composition, functions and responsibilities, including rotation of committee members and officers.
- Identified and formed five subcommittees: 1) Evaluation indicators; 2) Curriculum review; 3) Nutrition and physical activity; 4) Targeted Extension training; 5) Communication strategies.
- Reviewed USDA's Memorandum of Agreement with the American College of Sports Medicine's (ACSM) American Fitness Index.
- Created a brochure that could be used to inform colleagues and other stakeholders about the committee.
- Promoted the committee mission and goals through various listserves and at conferences and meetings: Priester Conference (Indianapolis, IN), SNE (New Orleans, LA), USDA Multistate W1005 Obesity Research Group (Denver, CO); EFNEP regional meetings, and National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) (Birmingham, AL)
- Developed and administered an IRB approved on-line survey to collect information about nutrition and health programs across the Extension system from Extension Specialist.
- Initiated an executive summary of the survey results.
- Formed a writing committee, comprised of four committee members (Dr. Ninfa Peña-Purcell [chair, Texas], Elaine Bowen [West Virginia], Ellen Schuster [Missouri]) and Virginie Zoumenou [Maryland], to write and publish a manuscript with the survey results.