



Candidate Application for National Office

What you can expect when applying for a National Board Position:

- Newly elected individuals will receive training from board members, and materials related to the position will be passed down.
- Candidates will be invited to join the Pre-National Board Meeting as an observer to become familiar with board business (will not be reimbursed by National to attend)
- Newly elected Executive Board members may be reimbursed for one night's lodging for post board meeting (at a rate of ½ of double room) but are not reimbursed for additional travel costs. Meal reimbursement for day of post board meeting will follow Policy Manual and current approved budget.

Upon applying for the position, I acknowledge that I will have the necessary resources (i.e. computer, internet, etc.) to complete the duties of the position. **X** I agree

Office Applied for: **SOUTHERN REGION DIRECTOR**

Date: **4/12/2023**

This form should be used as a guideline. When typing your own form, add more space as necessary.

Samantha	Erin	Kennedy	
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	
Extension Agent III, Family and Consumer Sciences		University of Florida/IFAS Extension Wakulla County	
Job Title		Employer	
84 Cedar Avenue		Crawfordville	FL 32327
Work Mailing Address		City	State/Territory Zip
skennedy@ufl.edu		imacatlvr@gmail.com	
Work Email Address		Home Email Address	
(850) 926-3931	N/A	(850) 329-6355 (H) (941) 545-7347 (C)	
Work Phone/Extension	Work Fax	Home Phone	

I. Education Background

BS

Majors: Microbiology & Cell Science and Nutritional Sciences

Institution: University of Florida

Year: 2000

MS

Major: Agricultural Education and Communication

Institution: University of Florida

Year: 2002

PhD

N/A

II. State/Territory Affiliate Experience

Office

Past President (2010-2011, 2015-2016)

President (2009-2010, 2014-2015)

President-Elect (2009-2010, 2014-2015)

Editor, *Living Well News* (2006-2009)

South Central District Director (2006-2008)

Website Editor (2006-2023)

Committee Chair

Awards Subcommittee Chair (2018-2021)

Bylaws Committee Chair (2009-2010, 2014-2015)

Committee

Awards Committee Member (2017-2021)

Nominating Committee Member (2006-2008)

Youth Committee Member (2004-2007)

Simply Florida Cookbook Layout & Design Committee Member (2005)

Abstract Review Committee Member (2005)

III. NEAFCS Experience

Office

Vice President for Awards and Recognition (2021-2023)

Committee Chair

Awards Ceremony Subcommittee Immediate Past Chair (2021)

Awards Ceremony Subcommittee Chair (2020)

Awards Ceremony Subcommittee Vice Chair (2019)

Awards Exhibit Subcommittee Chair (2007-2011)

Other Assignments representing NEAFCS

Diversity Committee Member (2021)

Awards Ceremony Committee Member (2018-2021)

Arrangements Committee Member (2018-2019)

*Please email one copy of your completed application
to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).*

Proposal Reviewer (2018-2019)

Awards Judge (2016)

Marketing and Promotion Subcommittee Member (2006-2007)

Awards Exhibit Subcommittee Member (2006)

Annual Sessions Attended (list years)

2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

Submissions for Awards, Webinars and/or Annual Session Proposals (concurrent session, poster, ignite)
Submission did not have to be accepted.

Check all that apply:

Webinar Submission Year(s): 2022, 2023

Annual Session Proposal Year(s): 2010, 2011, 2012, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Proposal Type: Concurrent Session (2010, 2011, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023)

Poster (2012, 2018, 2020, 2023)

Ignite (2019, 2020)

Award Submission Year(s): 2007, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

IV. Non-Association Extension Leadership Assignments

Years	Name of Activity	Elected or Appointed
2023	UF/IFAS Mental Health Action Team	Appointed
2022-present	UF Faculty Senate	Elected
2020-2023	NW District Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee (Chair)	Appointed
2019	Food Safety and Quality Common Objectives Task Force	Appointed
2018	Mary Harrison Professional & Enhancement Award Committee	Appointed
2016	County Extension Director (CED) In-Service Training Planning Team	Appointed
2016	National Extension Technology Conference (NETC) Planning Team	Appointed
2016	UF/IFAS Extension FCS Visioning Team	Appointed
2014-2016	Urban Extension Task Force (Southwest District)	Appointed
2014	Smith-Lever Planning Committee	Appointed
2014	Christine Taylor Waddill Professional Enhancement Award Committee	Appointed
2020-2023 2010-2016	New Faculty Mentor	Appointed
2008	Christine Taylor Waddill Professional Enhancement Award Committee	Appointed
2008	Seafood Safety Task Force	Appointed
2007	Nutrition, Food Safety, and Health Task Force	Appointed
2006-2007	4-H Nutrition Curriculum Task Force	Appointed

Please email one copy of your completed application to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).

V. Membership/Leadership in Other Organizations

Association	Role	Years
Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FAFCS)	Immediate Past President	2022-2023
	President	2020-2022
	President-Elect	2018-2020
	Vice President for Public Affairs	2009-2013
	Newsletter Editor	2009-2014
Extension Professional Associations of Florida (EPAF)	Program Book Editor	2010, 2017-2018
	Board Member	2008-2016, 2022-2023
Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) – Alpha Delta Chapter	President-Elect	2022-2023
	Secretary	2021-2022
	Annalist	2020-2021
	Chaplain	2019-2020
	Member Services Committee Chair	2018-2022
	Annual Report Committee Chair	2017-2022
	Abstract Judge	2017-2018, 2021-2022
Big Bend Hospice	Advisory Council Member	2019-2023
Leadership Tallahassee	Affiliate Member	2018-2022
Coastal Optimist Club of Wakulla County	Member	2018-2023
Kiwanis Club of Bradenton	Co-Chair of Agriculture Committee	2013-2016
Manatee County Government Green Team	Chair	2013-2016
Leadership Manatee	Participant/Graduate	2006-2007
Junior Leadership Manatee	Board Member	2006-2010
	Secretary	2007-2008
	Board President	2008-2009
	Past President	2009-2010
	Website Editor	2009-2019
Healthy Start Coalition	Member	2004-2009
Parenting Education Coalition	Member	2004-2009
America on the Move	Advisory Committee Member	2006-2008
Head Start/Early Head Start	Advisory Committee Member	2004-2007

VI. Work Experience Other Than Extension (if applicable)

Position	Years
Student Assistant (UF)	1999-2000
Graduate Assistant (UF)	2000-2002

VII. Awards and Honors

Year	Organization	Award
2022	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)	3 rd Place – Educational Curriculum Package (Team Award)

Please email one copy of your completed application to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).

2022	National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP) – Southern Region	Search for Excellence in Teen Programming (Team Award)
2022	Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FAFCS)	Leader of the Year
2022	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Florence Hall (Team Award)
		Educational Curriculum Package (Team Award)
2022	Florida Association of Extension 4-H Agents (FAE4-HA)	Search for Excellence in Teen Programming (Team Award)
2021	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Communications Award – Educational Publication
		Communications Team Award – Internet Education Technology (Team Award)
		Communications Team Award – TV/Video (Team Award)
		Extension Disaster Award (Team Award)
		Family Health and Wellness Award (Team Award)
2020	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) – Western Region	1 st Place – Excellence in Multi-State Collaboration Award (Team Award)
2020	UF/IFAS Extension Administration	Extension Entrepreneurial Team Award
2019	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Communications Award – Newsletter (Team Award)
		Communications Award – Written Press Release
		Communications Award – Educational Publication (Team Award)
2018	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) – Southern Region	3 rd Place – Excellence in Multi-State Collaboration Award (Team Award)
	Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) – Alpha Delta Chapter	Mid-Career Service Award
	Georgia Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (GEAFCS)	Multi-State Collaboration (Team Award)
	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Communications Award – Written Press Release
		Communications Award – Photograph Communications Award – Educational Piece
2017	UF/IFAS Extension Administration	Mary Harrison Extension Professional & Enhancement Award
2016	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Distinguished Service Award
		Program of Excellence (Team Award)

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	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)	Distinguished Service Award
2014	National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA)	Agricultural Awareness and Appreciation Award (National Finalist)
	Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents (FACAA)	Agriculture Awareness and Appreciation Award (Team Award)
2013	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Program of Excellence
	Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FAFCS)	Excellence in Extension Award
2012	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)	Environmental Education (Team Award)
	National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) – Southern Region	1st Place – Environmental Education (Team Award)
	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Environmental Education (Team Award)
		Communications Award – Educational Publication
2010	Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FAFCS)	New Achiever Award
	Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Communications Award – Internet Technology
2007	Florida Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS)	Educational Technology
		Newsletter
2005	University of Florida IFAS	Silver IMAGE Award

Position Statement

A. Why would you like to be a candidate for this office?

I have been in Extension for 19 years. I joined NEAFCS in my first year (2004) and in that time, I have been active in both my state affiliate in a number of board and committee roles and in various national committees. I very much enjoy giving back to an association that has done so much to support me in my career as a Family and Consumer Sciences agent and love working with fellow FCS colleagues to help them grow as professionals. In my first term on the national board, I have learned a lot and found a lot of satisfaction in serving the association. Southern Region Director is a good fit for me at this time since I believe that office provides a terrific opportunity not only to learn more about the inner workings of the association and the board itself, serving as a training ground for future board service, but would also allow me to put my excellent organizational and communication skills to work in support of the association. I have a good understanding and working knowledge of how the national board operates and after serving in a Vice President role, I would like to help lead the largest region in NEAFCS as we move towards the future.

B. If you were elected, what would be your top priority/goal for your term?

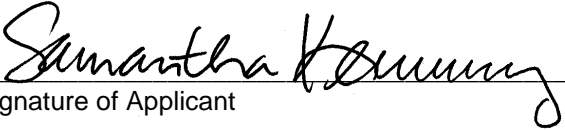
If I were elected as Southern Region Director, my top priority would be to support regional association members by keeping them updated about the latest NEAFCS news, acting as a liaison between other national board members and Southern region members, and helping new and veteran members alike in the Southern region get the most out of their NEAFCS membership. I would also make it a priority to learn more about the business side of the association and work to support members and other board members in any way necessary. As part of the national board, it would also be my responsibility to represent the association and the FCS profession in a professional manner by setting an example of excellence and dedication for other members as well as people outside the association.

Please email one copy of your completed application to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).

Are you willing to be considered as a candidate for a different office? The national nominating committee chair would contact you first as to your preference and willingness to serve in any other position. Yes No Maybe

Are you willing to leave your application on file for three (3) years in the event of a position vacancy or for reconsideration for office for the next election? Yes No

Your signature below confirms that you have read the current NEAFCS Policy Manual and agree to the duties and qualifications for the position in which you are applying for as well as additional policies outlined in the Manual.


Signature of Applicant

4/12/2023
Date

Letters of support and recommendation from the following individuals must accompany the application.

- ▶ State Director of Extension (required)
- ▶ State Program Leader or immediate supervisor (one required)
- ▶ NEAFCS board member or state/territory affiliate president (optional)

**Applications are due to the National Nominating Committee Chair by May 1st.
Please include with your application a high resolution headshot photo for the
candidate display at Annual Session.**

NEAFCS is an equal opportunity/affirmative action association. NEAFCS values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Membership is not by invitation. (Strategic Plan 1993-97)

April 12, 2023

Dear NEAFCS Nominating Committee:

It is my professional honor to support Samantha Kennedy's nomination for the office of Southern Region Director on the NEAFCS national board. Her 19 years with UF/IFAS Extension reads as an exemplary Extension career and NEAFCS would benefit from her expertise, dedication and drive, to assist her professional peers on the next level.

One would expect service at this point in her career, but Sam does not seek these roles as a mere checklist item; she serves to advance her peers and associations. Sam already has a variety of service and leadership roles, both in UF/IFAS Extension and in her professional associations, including the Florida Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FEAFCS), the Florida Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FAFCS), and Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP). She has served as Florida affiliate president twice, has chaired committees and subcommittees at both the state and national levels, and has served as the NEAFCS Vice President for Awards and Recognition since 2021.

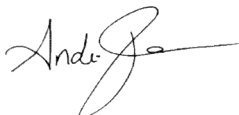
Sam's record of service and leadership reflects her passion for and dedication to the Family and Consumer Sciences profession. She always encourages and is supportive of her colleagues and enjoys watching them succeed as new professionals. Sam has received awards both on the state and national levels reflecting her professional regard from peers and shared team awards with them during her career.

Sam's attention to detail, proficiency with a variety of electronic communications, and meticulous organizational skills would make her an asset as NEAFCS Southern Region Director. She has served in similar capacities before in other organizations, including the Awards chair for the Alpha Delta chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi for several years, and has been an active member — including the chair of the NEAFCS Awards Ceremony Subcommittee. All these attributes would make her an asset to the NEAFCS national board.

I encourage you to accept Sam's nomination for the office of Southern Region Director, both Sam and NEAFCS will benefit from this professional partnership.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at andra.johnson@ufl.edu.

Sincerely,



Andra Johnson, Ph.D.
Dean for Extension and Director of
the Florida Cooperative Extension Service



UF/IFAS Extension
Office of the Dean for Extension

1020 McCarty Hall D
P.O. Box 110210
Gainesville, FL 32611-0210
352-392-1761

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kendra Hughson'.

Kendra Hughson
UF/IFAS Interim FCS State Program Leader
Regional Specialized Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences
Florida Cooperative Extension Service

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Sincerely,

Nelly Nelson

FEAFCS President, 2022-2023
Family and Consumer Sciences Agent
University of Florida IFAS Extension Manatee County

