

Year-Round Professional Development

Rick Griffiths (NM), NEAFCS President

As I write this message, we are halfway through the NEAFCS year, and a lot is happening. I greatly enjoyed spending time with the 45+ NEAFCS members who were able to attend the JCEP Extension Leadership Conference in Tampa, FL, last month. I want to thank our Regional Directors, Jesse Ketterman, and Dianne Christensen, for the great work they did planning the NEAFCS Association meeting, where members could engage in productive conversations in program areas and regions.



The JCEP Public Issues Leadership Conference is quickly approaching in Arlington, VA, April 15th through 17th; this year's theme is Year-Round Advocacy. I want to thank the NEAFCS members on the Planning Committee, including Robin Ridgley, VP of Public Affairs Christine Zellers, Immediate Past President Julie Garden-Robinson, who's serving as the Committee's Co-Vice-Chair and Past President Susan Routh, who is serving as the Conference Chair. **I want to encourage everyone to learn more about this outstanding conference at: <https://www.jcep.org/pild> and to attend if possible.** I look forward to seeing many of you in our Nation's Capital in April.

Another great year-round professional development opportunity is NEAFCS webinars. The Professional Development Webinar Committee works year-round to provide regularly scheduled webinars focused on improving content knowledge, sharing best practices, and keeping members informed of the various aspects of our Association. NEAFCS webinars maintain the same rigor as concurrent sessions submitted for Annual Session. **I encourage you to be on the lookout for e-mail announcements of new webinars to attend. As well as regularly checking the webinar page of our website for a listing of upcoming webinars <https://neafcs.memberclicks.net/webinars>.**

Additionally, as a member of NEAFCS, you can view the Association's archive of webinars at <https://neafcs.memberclicks.net/webinar-archives>. Here, you can find hours of recorded webinars focusing on topics across our curriculum areas and our association. I highly encourage you to take advantage of these resources to expand your professional knowledge and gain insights into the inner workings of the Association.

If you find that a topic is missing from the archives, or you have a great idea for a NEAFCS webinar, I would like to encourage you to consider submitting a webinar proposal. You can find the webinar proposal submission form and webinar selection criteria by clicking on the professional development tab of the website and looking about halfway down the menu for the submit a webinar proposal tab or following this link https://neafcs.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2056468#!/. **Webinar proposals are accepted year-round and are an outstanding way to add national presentations to your CV,** as well as share your knowledge and passion with your colleagues. I look forward to learning from the great information that will be presented at future webinars. I hope everyone has a great month! I hope spring is finding its way to you!

-Rick

Questions, advice, or concerns to share with Rick?

Contact him at rickgrif@nmsu.edu