

## Biographies of FCS Educators in the 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries

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Through the late 1890s, when the Lake Placid Conferences began in New York State, both women and men tried to achieve a new profession that was called domestic science, euthenics, or home economics. Most of the early Extension workers were called home demonstration agents, unless they were at the land-grant university or worked for the United States Department of Agriculture (currently NIFA). Since that time, this profession has changed its name to Extension Family and Consumer Sciences.

In preparation for the 85<sup>th</sup> NEAFCS anniversary, biographical references were reviewed and 263 short biographies were found from “Abel” to “Zuill” from four books representing the field of family and consumer sciences.

The books represent the 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, having been published in 1929 (AHEA), 1982 (Bailey and Davis), 2009 (McFadden, Ball, and Booth), and 2016 (Miller, Mitstifer and Vaughn).

Fewer than five percent of those honored are Extension educators, likely because most of the publications were written and developed by teachers and academics. Notably forgotten in these biographies are: Annie Peters Hunter, the first African American Extension home demonstration from Oklahoma (Scholl, 2012) and Mignon Quaw from Montana (Scholl, 2006), who directed five black and white films used in Extension work in the 1920s. There are hundreds of individuals that could be recognized and perhaps a book biography of these Extension women and men could be published. For certain, each of us should write a short autobiography of our individual contribution to the field. (If you wish to write an autobiography or biography for an Extension FCS educator, send them to me at [jfs9@psu.edu](mailto:jfs9@psu.edu).)

## References

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