

California's 2020 Hall of Fame Nominee
Mary L. Blackburn, PhD, MPH

Madam President, California nominates Mary L. Blackburn, PhD, MPH, for the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEACS) 2020 Hall of Fame. Dr. Blackburn has been a member of NEAFCS since 1991 and is active in the association at the state, regional, and national level. She has held elected offices in the California Affiliate for almost 30 years, and it's President multiple times. Currently she has held the office of president since 2011, and represents the affiliate at the annual leadership forums during the annual conferences. Often, she was the only face representing California at national and regional business meetings.

At the regional level, she has always volunteered to assist the Western Region directors as needed during the regional business meetings -- serving as Parliamentarian, reviewing the meeting minutes, recording minutes, offering Thoughts for the day at several regional business meetings, and has been Western Region representative on the National Nomination Committee. The California Affiliate is small so she has contributed continuously to multiple national committees and subcommittees for over two decades. Serving on the Member Resource – JNEACS Subcommittee since 2003, she enjoys reviewing manuscripts and offering mentoring feedback to help writers improve the quality of their writings. On the Professional Development Program Committee, she reviews and offers mentoring suggestions for applicants to submit successful abstracts for concurrent and poster sessions. She has also served as External Reviewer and Award Judge. She submits, and urges affiliate members to submit statements for the Public Affairs Annual Impact Statements, and works to develop meaningful Annual Affiliate Reports.

Her commitment to the mission and values of NEAFCS is seen in her work to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities, and helping to build leaders for the future. Dr. Blackburn exhibits and promotes excellence in scholarship as evident in her many national NEAFCS awards; epitomizes the Extension's concern with people as she focus her research and extension on the most vulnerable audiences; and is dedicated to giving back to NEAFCS to benefit the next generation.