

IFHE-US President's Report

2011-2012

Mary Warnock

Serving as President for IFHE-US has been a most extraordinary experience. My term ends in Melbourne, Australia at the XXII IFHE World Congress (July 16-21, 2012), but you will have the excellent leadership of Dr. Carol Anderson (2012-2016) to move the organization forward. My role will be changing to that of Past President, including being Membership Coordinator. Juanita Mendenhall has been serving in the latter capacity. I only hope that I can perform up to the high standards that she already has set. Juanita, thank you for a job well done. As I leave office, I want to thank each of the IFHE-US Board Members for your support, your willingness to serve in leadership roles, and your willingness to “get the job done” in a timely manner. What a joy to work with professional home economists who have the desire to help and influence the quality of life for others while improving home economics programs around the world.

- Mary Andrews, Past President – Your guidance has been invaluable. Thank you for your patience and understanding as I grew into the role of President.
- Nancy Billings and Martha Dallmeyer, Directors of Finance – Financial matters for IFHE-US can be challenging, but both of you have done a magnificent job of keeping us on track, especially about dues, payments and deadlines. I and those at the IFHE office in Bonn, Germany, appreciate your efforts.
- Tahira Hira and Sharleen Kato, Directors of Professional Development and Programs – Tahira, the IFHE-US strategic plan has given us a course for success. I know that the 2012-2014 document, Sharleen, will be another visionary organizational plan.
- Pamela Kirkley, Director of Communications – Your newsletters have been excellent and the life line for the organization. Without you, the IFHE-US news, activities and accomplishments would not be shared. Thank you for giving of your time and expertise to this very worthy endeavor.
- Deborah Tippett, Recorder – The minutes always have been well written and circulated in a timely manner. I have appreciated your attention to details.
- Ruth Norman, Director, UN Liaison – Without your well written and meaningful articles, the membership would not be notified of United Nations committee meetings; family, children and women's issues; and special events such as celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family. You are a valued member of the IFHE-US team.
- Sharon McManus, Director, IFHE-US Development Fund – The special events held in conjunction with the AAFCS Annual Meetings have been fabulous. Thanks to you and your excellent organizational skills, these events have been very successful and have increased the amount in the Development Fund so that grants can continue to be awarded for home economics projects.
- Mary Gilliland and Anita Ferron, AAFCS Global Perspectives – This AAFCS community would not have been successful, Mary, without your leadership. Anita, I know that you will continue this leadership of excellence. International programs have become an important part of the AAFCS Annual Meeting because of your efforts.
- Helen Brittin, Nominating Chair – Congratulations to you for preparing the officer election ballot and conducting the election.

- IFHE-US members – You have been a great group to work with. Thank you for sharing information and your very creative ideas.

Let me take this opportunity to share:

- IFHE-US News
 - Officer elections were held during November (2011) with the following results:
 - Carol Anderson – President
 - Debbie Nelson – Recorder
 - Mary Miller – Director, United Nations Liaison
 - Sharon McManus – Director, IFHE-US Development Fund

Other officers remain in their current positions until the 2014 Council meeting that is to be held in London, Ontario, Canada.

- Delegate elections for the 2012 Council meeting, to be held in conjunction with the IFHE Congress in Melbourne, will be held soon. Individual members, as well as organizations, are to be represented. The names of those elected will need to be sent to the IFHE office by June 1st; therefore, this election will be held soon.
- The Board and Business meetings have been scheduled to occur in conjunction with the AAFCS Annual Conference in Indianapolis, IN during late June. Check the “Program-at-a-Glance” on the www.aafcs.org website for the exact dates, days and times. An “Italian Night” has been planned by Sharon McManus and her committee to benefit the IFHE-US Development Fund. The registration form may be accessed online and then mailed to Sharon. See this newsletter for more information.
- “Partnership for Home Economics Disaster Assistance to Developing Countries,” spearheaded by Juanita Mendenhall, will be sponsoring a sales table at the AAFCS Annual Conference. Please bring items to sell for this worthy cause. IFHE has sent new brochures and post cards that, also, will be available at the table – FREE!!! See the “Home Economics News” newsletter posted on the www.ifhe.org website for a related article written by Juanita. Volunteers are needed for this project. Come be a part of this new opportunity to assist other home economists.
- The 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family will be in 2014. Ruth Norman, Director, UN Liaison, already has compiled historical information about the topic and has an article published in the “Home Economics News” (www.ifhe.org). It is very informative and well worth the read.
- IFHE News
 - The IFHE Annual Meeting was held February 3-7 in Bonn, Germany. The people were warm and friendly, but the outside temperature hovered between -10 to 10° F. Going a few days early allowed me to do some sightseeing and become familiar with the cities of Bonn and Cologne. The temperature was not going to stop me! The plenary sessions were most informative. One speaker was Dr. Ursula Eid, University of Applied Sciences, Osnabrück, who focused on the roles of Home Economics/Home Economists to support the UN MDGs. She is Vice-chair of the UN Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation. The subject chosen by another keynote speaker, Dr. Gertraud Pichler, was “Intercultural Understanding as Basis for Development Cooperation.” She stated

that intercultural understanding, competencies and management were the work of home economists. Workshops were held so that strategies for development cooperation within home economics could be discussed. Much discussion revolved around the 2012 Congress. Carol Warren, IFHE President-elect attended and gave details for the program and related activities. Chairs of committees presented their accomplishments for the year and their contributions to the upcoming Congress. All in all, much work was accomplished and the Annual Meeting was a grand success.

- Gail Boddy, Executive Member, Pacific Region, is coordinating the construction of the 2012 IFHE Congress quilt. You can contribute to this project by contacting Gail at ifhepacific@gmail.com. Fabric specifics, such as square size, etc. have been listed in the latest IFHE newsletter at www.ifhe.org.
- Mary Covington has written an excellent report concerning the 50th Commission for Social Development, United Nations, New York. The Commission focused on poverty eradication for youth, families, women and the disabled. Please go to www.ifhe.org for much more information. Within this same newsletter, Eileen Gallagher Labiner also contributed a report on the 56th Commission on the Status of Women. According to this report, “Access to land and secure tenure is a key requisite to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development in developing countries.” Both of these home economics professionals have given of their time to attend meetings at the United Nations. The Board and members of IFHE-US appreciate your willingness to serve and your commitment to the profession.
- Region of the Americas met at the IFHE Annual Meeting. Joanne Pearson, Vice President, led this meeting. Discussions focused on membership plus agencies and centers of the United Nations located within the Region. Joanne, You have done an excellent job for the Region.

As you can see, IFHE-US and IFHE have been very busy creating new projects for member participation; planning future meetings and putting the final touches on the World Congress in Melbourne, Australia; publishing articles for use by home economics professionals and others around the world; supporting the United Nations MDGs; making preparations for the 2014 Council meeting in Canada; and sharing the benefits of IFHE and IFHE-US so that current members will become more involved with the expectation that others will join.

I have my bag packed for Australia and will be traveling with Janett Gibbs and her tour group. Another tour of Australia is being arranged by Joan McFadden. There are several opportunities for attending the 2012 IFHE World Congress. Take advantage of one of these and I'll see you there!

Many THANKS for a FABULOUS four year term as President. YOU are the BEST!!!!