



ACE/eXtension Fellowship

eXtension, is funding two (2) opportunities for ACE (Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences) members to serve as eXtension Impact Collaborative Fellows from January—December 2018. Recipients of the 2018 Fellowship will be named January 1, 2018 and recognized at the ACE National Conference in June 2018. In order to be eligible for these fellowships, applicants must be current or retired Cooperative Extension employees who were members in good standing with ACE in the 2017 membership year.

In collaboration with ACE, one (1) fellowship will focus on strategic communications planning and one (1) will focus on marketing tactics. It is anticipated that, as a part of its <u>Impact Collaborative</u> strategy for 2017-2018, eXtension will conduct four to six Impact Collaboratives, throughout 2017-2018, focusing on diversity & inclusion, behavioral health, food systems, and select regional issues.

The ACE/eXtension Fellows will serve as "key informants" throughout 2018, bringing expertise in communications strategy and marketing to each Impact Collaborative. The specific requirements of the fellowship include:

- 1. Three virtual engagements with the national Impact Collaborative in the form of professional development/training and one-to-one consulting during the general Collaborative schedule using Zoom webinars and Zoom rooms provided by eXtension. Though the final design for this rests on the needs of each Collaborative, the first eXtension Issue Corps (the Impact Collaborative predecessor) had 1 to 3 webinars, plus weekly consulting options for 2 months, by appointment, in the topic areas aligned with the typical ACE areas of expertise.
- 2. Three face-to-face engagements in the form of participating as a key informant at a multiday design-a-thon targeting the specific work of each Impact Collaborative on focused issues. Though this is to be finalized, we anticipate the selected fellows each serving as a key informant for one full day during each Collaborative's design-a-thon.
- 3. Write at least three blog posts on <u>extension.org</u> of their progress throughout the term of the fellowship.
- 4. Conduct at least one webinar at the end of their fellowship sharing what they've learned during their fellowship.
- 5. Present the results of their work in the business meeting during the ACE Annual Conference.
- 6. Other: Fellows are encouraged to submit a peer-reviewed paper for publication.

Funding for the Fellowship will come via an agreement between ACE and the eXtension Foundation and will include travel costs and a small stipend. Individual Fellows will submit proposed travel budgets for pre-approval by eXtension. eXtension will pay the pre-approved amounts directly to the vendor for air fare and hotel for the required three face-to-face engagements associated with the eXtension-sponsored Impact Collaborative events. Fellows will submit other expenses (meals, ground transportation, etc.) and hotel charges for non-eXtension-sponsored events within allowable, pre-approved amounts to eXtension for reimbursement. Each Fellow will receive a copy of eXtension's travel policy.

Fellows will also receive a \$1,000 stipend for their work. This stipend will be awarded during the ACE National Conference in the middle of the fellowship year, and the Fellows for the following year will be named at the same time, as long as eXtension sponsorship for this award is available.

Application Process

To apply for this position please submit the following information to the Assistant to the CEO of the eXtension Foundation at <u>ceoassistant@extension.org</u>. Address your letter to Dr. Christine Geith, CEO, eXtension Foundation.

- A maximum 1-page letter highlighting your areas of expertise in either communications strategy or marketing and your interest in supporting Cooperative Extension peers with your expertise in these areas.
- Copy of vitae/resume focusing on your expertise in communications strategy and marketing. Limit of 2 pages.
- Letter of support from your institution's Director/Administrator for Cooperative Extension.

Applications are due August 31, 2017. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of the eXtension Director of Issue Response and the ACE President-Elect or his/her designee. Selected Fellows will be notified by December 15, 2017.

Questions regarding the application process should be directed to: Terry Meisenbach Director, eXtension Issue Response <u>tmeisenbach@extension.org</u> 760-641-9354

About the eXtension Foundation

The eXtension Foundation is a membership-based non-profit designed to be the engine fueling U.S. Cooperative Extension's advancement in making a more visible and measureable impact in support of education outreach from land-grant universities/colleges located in every state and territory. eXtension provides an array of opportunities for Extension professionals that foster innovation creation, the adoption of innovations at member institutions, and increased impact of Extension programs.

ACE President-Elect: Elizabeth Gregory North Office of Agricultural Communications Mississippi State University 979-571-5747 elizabeth.north@msstate.edu