

ASA, DSA, and MSA Service Awards Application

This application is designed to aid in the selection of ASA, DSA, and MSA service award applicants. The following questions are designed to highlight the applicant's experiences as they relate to the national scoring rubric. The number of ASA and DSA award winners selected is based off the current year's GAE4-HA membership. One MSA award is given each year for the whole state.

Name: Casey D. Mull Service Award Level: DSA

**1. Please list association memberships, committee/task force work, and leadership positions held.
(15%)**

Membership in Professional Societies/Associations

2014 – present American Education Research Association
2012 – present Epsilon Sigma Phi
2012 – present American Evaluation Association
2011 – present American Association of Adult and Continuing Educators
2010 – present University of Georgia Lifelong Learning Association
2006 – present National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA)
2006 – present Georgia Association of Extension 4-H Agents (GAE4-HA)
2011 – 2013 American Camping Association

Leadership/Special Assignments

2014 – Vice President for Marketing & Outreach, NAE4-HA
2010 – NAE4-HA Specialty Awards Judge
2007 – NAE4-HA Conference Planning Committee
2009 - 2010 Senior Director, GAE4-HA
2009 – State Staff Awards Chair, GAE4-HA
2008 – 2009 Junior Director, GAE4-HA
2008 – State Awards Judge, GAE4HA

Committee/Task Force Activities

2014/2015 – Discussant, AERA Conference
2014/2015 – Session Chair, AERA Conference
2014 – Conference Volunteer, American Association of Adult and Continuing Education Conference
2014/15 – NAE4HA Hall of Fame Task Force, ex-officio member
2014/15 – NAE4HA Public Relations & Information, ex-officio member
2014 – NAE4-HA Southern Region Fundraiser & Annual Awards Recognition Event Team
2014 – NAE4HA Board of Trustees Meetings (2)
2014 – NAE4HA Vice Presidents' Council Calls (4)

2. Please list formal education and continuing education trainings. (Also count state and national association meetings as well as Extension trainings. (15 %)

2014 Doctor of Philosophy

The University of Georgia; Athens, Georgia

Major: Adult Education, Learning, and Organizational Development

Dissertation: Boundary-Spanning Behaviors of Individuals Engaged with the U.S. Military Community

2008 Master of Public Administration

The University of Georgia; Athens, Georgia

Specialization: Public Budgeting and Finance

2006 Bachelor of Science

Wake Forest University; Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Major: Business Minor: History

Professional Improvement and Continuing Education

Institutes

2014 World Wide College of Auctioneering, Mason City, Iowa

2011 Emerging Engagement Scholars Program, Engagement Scholarship Consortium

2009 Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserves

Atlanta, GA - Military Child Education Coalition

2014, 12, 08, 07 Cooperative Extension Winter School / Winter Conference

2013, 11, 10, 09 Cooperative Extension Online Winter Sessions

(face to face one day, online sessions the remainder of the week)

Winter School / Online Winter Sessions are the, typically, week long professional development conference for Extension Faculty at the University of Georgia.

Certifications and Licenses

2014 Georgia Auctioneers License

2010-14 Department of Defense Information Assurance Awareness (yearly)

2010-14 US Air Force Information Protection Certification (yearly)

2011, 2006 UGA Online Institutional Review Board (IRB) Certification Course

2008 Protocol Officer – Protocol School of Washington

2006 Certified 4-H Overnight Chaperone Trainer Certification

2006 – present Completed 83 Continuing Education classes and seminars

Meetings Attended:

NAE4-HA: 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

GAE4HA: 2008, 2009, 2012, 2014

Engagement Scholarship Consortium: 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014,

Epsilon Sigma Phi: 2012, 2013, 2014

3. Please answer all three parts. (50%)

Part A. Please list the size and depth of the programs you have carried out.

Since starting with the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, Casey Mull has expanded not only the size and depth of programming with military audiences, but also has contributed to other programs supporting the overall Georgia 4-H program.

An easy realm to measure the size and the depth is the number of individuals served and the amount of grant funding brought in. The number of individuals served directly by the applicant is over 8,000 through residential and day camping, conferences and events with 4-H being an essential component to the content. Expanding outreach and service to those not involved in a traditional 4-H club is an important piece of Casey Mull's national responsibility to the US Air Force. These 4-H opportunities have brought over \$6.2 million in grant funded support of positions, facilities, and programming to support the overall 4-H program in the state. But these simple numbers are not the most important benefit to the applicant.

The size and depth of the program is best expressed by the youth who writes in a public forum: "No one will understand how grateful I am of the opportunities I've been given and the experiences I've had. I've climbed mountains, propelled off cliffs, gone rafting and ducking, gone hiking for hours on end, seen the stars in the darkest place, met the most amazing people, and so much more. I'm genuinely a different person because of them and I plan on living my life with the moral taught to me at the various camps I've attended throughout my years. It saddens me to think that I will not be able to attend any more military youth camps but I'm eternally grateful for all of the memories and friends I have accumulated throughout the years and the life lessons I've learned as well."

The size of the programming conducted is not important. The depth, whether it is just this one person who publicly shares this message or the hundreds who remain publicly silent, is the most important aspect of our collective work as Georgia 4-H.

Part B. Please list innovative or new practices used in these programs.

During 2014, the faculty member received his doctorate of philosophy. While this serves as a significant personal achievement, the results of this process have benefited the 4-H/Youth Department and will continue to reap benefits into the coming years. This personal achievement benefits the 4-H/Youth Department in three important ways. First, the degree program was not located in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. By completing the PhD in the College of Education, the faculty member created directly and indirectly collaborations with other faculty in COE. Recently, this has resulted in a collaboration to evaluate the Gifted Education program of the Department of Defense schools, strengthening the role of the University of Georgia in support military departments and functions.

Second, the research topic focused on boundary spanners. Boundary spanners have direct applicability to Cooperative Extension. The pilot study conducted as a part of the doctoral program included Cooperative Extension employees. Now having final data from research subjects, the faculty member can return to the Cooperative Extension respondents and more closely examine the predictors of boundary spanning behavior. This boundary spanning behavior assists the county faculty member in translating and informing the community with resources from UGA Extension. It also helps encourage a two-way approach and communication.

Finally, the research focus informs the scholarship of engagement, a form of scholarship that permeates higher education institution campuses currently. Higher education is returning to solving real-world problems using the tripartite function of land-grant universities in teaching, research, and service. In the coming years, having a faculty member well-informed in the scholarship of engagement will provide greater opportunities for collaboration across the physical campus and the state, leveraging students to assist county faculty, having county faculty inform research more directly and allowing greater synergies among campus faculty in other colleges in their work in youth outreach.

Part C. Please list improvements to quality and quantity of programs.

Camping remains an important role for Cooperative Extension to serve military audiences. The research regarding the impact of camping experiences is clear. Camping can lead to transformational experiences leading to high quality positive youth development. What is less clear is the role of camping on military youth. While there is some research that indicates camping leads to positive youth development outcomes, the 4-H/Cooperative Extension system has been successful in creating a sense of belonging in the Georgia 4-H Camping program for military youth.

Parents indicated in a research study of Georgia 4-H military camping experiences that 80% of youth became better at talking to friends about things that are important to them and 88% became better at enjoying being with friends. These indicators lead to building resiliency in military youth, an essential outcome for the Department of Defense in their reasoning for funding these programs. But more important than the sense of belonging to the military community, it is a better relationship within the family that leads to success throughout the year. One parent responded, "[the] service member dad said after camp she [the camper] talked to him more in one day than she had in [the] last 6 months."

All levels of government are requiring greater accountability for use of government appropriations for programming. Systems are coming together at the national level for use with 4-H programming to use common outcome measures to evaluate programming, demonstrate impact and share results with stakeholders. A strength of Extension programming has always been the grassroots, bottom-up approach to programming planning and design. This, however, leads to challenges in program evaluation. Being a part of a team with short-term statewide impact and long-term national impact is a second accomplishment.

At the state-level, a group of state and county faculty have developed simple evaluation tools to capture the impact and evaluate the programming of smaller programming that may not yet be fully applicable with the 4-H Common Measures. These resources have been used throughout the state, and most recently in at least 3 other states to build evaluation capacity. Likewise, the need for evaluation capacity is not just in 4-H, but is also in Air Force Youth Programs. The faculty member is a part of several iterative teams to not only evaluate the current programming taking place on Air Force installations and in the Department of Defense Schools nationally, but also to build evaluative capacity within their respective organizations.

Finally, an accomplishment at the federal level for the faculty member is working with the Air Force Personnel Center to increase the skills and competencies of youth development workers. This project is unique because it further builds the opportunity for a multiplier effect. Air Force Youth Programs determined that their Training & Curriculum Specialists—staff members charged with supporting direct care staff in their training and the programming planning process for youth—did not have the skills and competencies in delivering educational programming to adults. The ten-week long program the faculty member developed and designed in partnership with the lead Training and Curriculum Specialist has led to a funded project to develop the adult education and youth development skills and competencies of these staff members at air force bases worldwide. While the project is still in its genesis, the root of this project is in the ten-week long program developed by the faculty member that the lead Air Force trainer called, "exactly what was needed." The program used adult learning principles to teach adult learning principles. The impact of this project can be further adapted and implemented at the state level within Georgia 4-H. An identified challenge for the UGA 4-H system is how to increase use of volunteers when the historical trend and experience of county faculty is direct youth programming. Using the theory of change for this national project in Georgia could impact the motivations and barriers for county agents in more effectively using volunteers in 4-H programming.

4. Please list your community involvement (other associations, civic, religious, and other community based organizations) (15%)

2011-present University of Georgia Alpha Alpha Delta Advisory Board of Chi Psi
Serve as advisor to the recruitment chair

2008 – present Georgia 4-H Counselor Alumni Association Board of Directors

2008 – present Youth Leadership Athens Volunteer

2006-present Chi Psi Educational Trust Program Facilitator

Alpha Management Retreat Facilitator

2012 – Alpha Chi Delta (Clemson University)

2011 – George Mason

2010 – Alpha Beta (South Carolina)

Program for Self-Development Facilitator

2014 – Alpha Alpha Delta (University of Georgia)

2013 – Alpha Alpha Delta (University of Georgia)

2006 – present Etiquette and Leadership Institute/Perfectly Polished Volunteer

2006 – present Athens-Clarke County 4-H Volunteer Leader

1995 – present First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – Athens, GA – Member

2010 – Nominating Committee

5. Please list your awards and honors received. (5%)

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA)

2013 Communicator Award, Exhibit National Winner

2011 Achievement in Service Award, National Winner

2009 Army 4-H Salute Award, National Winner

2008 Communicator Award, Promotional Piece Team – Southern Region Winner

2007 Excellence in Camping, Team – Southern Region Winner

Georgia Association of Extension 4-H Agents (GAE4-HA)

2014 Professional Achievement Award

2014 Stiles Memorial Scholarship

2012 Promotional Piece, Individual – State Winner

2010 Educational Piece, Team – State Winner

2009 4-H/Air Force “Aim High” Award – State Winner

2009 Outstanding Young Professional – District Winner for State Staff

2009 Communicator Award, Media Presentation – State Winner

2009 Educational Technology Award, Team – State Winner

2009 Excellence in Camping, Team – State Winner

2008 Educational Piece Team, State Winner

Academic Awards and Honors

2008 Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration

2006 Spirit of Wayne Calloway Award – May 2006 - Awarded to the graduating Calloway School of Business and Accountancy student who embodies the ideals and values espoused by Wayne Calloway

Other Awards

2010 University System of Georgia Wimba Users Group Innovator Award

2010 Outstanding Supporter, Presented by the Georgia National Guard – one of ten individuals for exceeding performance in serving 10,000 Georgia National Guard families.

Various Coined over 20 times – Being coined is a military tradition with officers' coins being presented to those who go above expected service. Coins include four General Officers and the Secretary of Defense