



# HOME ECONOMICS NEWS

September 2020

## Publication of the International Federation for Home Economics

### COUNCIL 2020



Read about the first virtual Council held in IFHE history (page 4).

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## IN THIS ISSUE: IFHE PREPARED TO TACKLE FUTURE CHALLENGES

With global travel and meetings put to a halt, one might think that international federations struggle to keep their membership engaged. Quite to the contrary! These last weeks, IFHE was like a beehive with lots of activities going on, fostered by the admirable readiness of our members to master the "new normal":

When it became obvious, that the biennial Council could not be held as planned, IFHE held its first ever **virtual Council** with as many as 70 registered delegates (page 4). Delegates issued a resolution on home economics education 2020 (page 5), new **Executive Committee members** started their terms (page 6). And most importantly, **IFHE President Gwendolyn HUSTVEDT** took up office and announces The Way Forward 2020-2024 (page 2).

Even though events had to be cancelled, IFHE has increased efforts to promote home economics research: Preparations for the postponed **World Congress** in 2022 are well under way (page 7). Moreover, the **International Journal of Home Economics (IJHE)** publishes a **new issue** and a **call for contributions** on home economics, the 2020 pandemic and beyond (page 8).

Enjoy reading.

## GWENDOLYN HUSTVEDT TAKES ON IFHE PRESIDENCY 2020-2024



Gwendolyn HUSTVEDT at the 2029 Annual Meeting in Trinidad (picture: M. ECKART)

Gwendolyn HUSTVEDT, USA, takes on the IFHE presidency after having acted as interim president since October 2018. Read her vision on the way forward.

The International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) is responsible for safeguarding both the legacy and the future of Home Economics as we move from one era into another. The role of the President of IFHE has naturally changed over the years as the forces of time, change and evolution has shaped the organizations, sub-disciplines, methods of intellectual engagement and kinds of individuals who are drawn to our more than century long effort to promote Home Economics throughout global society. When I ran for the position of President for IFHE, I was well aware of the tensions of change at a pace and scale that almost everyone agrees is rapid and immense.

I grew up in the mountains of Colorado, where we are drawn to sports like orienteering, mountain climbing and white-water rafting. I know that we all feel like we are racing headlong through the dark, the tiny circle of our headlamp on the map that is our only guide. We clutch at the rope we willingly threw over the side of the rock, knowing that it is the only safe way down after our climb to perilous heights. We fill our lungs with the roar of freezing water as we hurtle through rapids and rocks, knowing we will never feel more alive. I want to harness the spirit of daring and adventure, a spirit that I know is not limited to one kind of woman from one kind of place, to ask the members of this organization to join me in facing the advancing unknown. In this time of uncertainty, I too long for the safety of the fireside, the warmth of yarn in my hands, the comfort of knowing I am safe at home but I also know that, even in the circle of our sturdy companionship, we can search for ways to be strong and brave that fit the moment in which we find ourselves.

### **Opportunities for communication and collaboration**

I have promised you a look at the vision for a way forward that will guide my time as the President of the IFHE. My focus over these next few years will be on our opportunities for Communication and Collaboration. The prime example of this is World Home Economics Day. This is an international event that belongs to us, as an organization that speaks for Home Economics on the global level. We can embrace the mission of expanding its relevance to all Home Economics professionals as individuals and through their national, regional and academic based organizations. We have already selected the themes for the event over the next four years and I look forward to working with you on making each successive World Home Economics Day more rich and effective than the last.

### **Increasing advocacy**

Speaking for Home Economics is an important responsibility and I would like to see each member of the federation given access to the training in advocacy that has made other NGOs so successful in shaping the conversation around the health and well-being of families and communities. The number of



TEXAS  
2020 Way Forward



See Gwendolyn's video statement on youtube: [https://youtu.be/rXKh\\_CasZ8](https://youtu.be/rXKh_CasZ8)

opportunities for us to communicate who we are can seem overwhelming but one avenue that we have already seen an example of the benefit of this advocacy is at the United Nations.

The three professional home economists who wrote a compelling statement about protecting women from land dispossession for the 58th Commission on Social Development joined me in New York in February and we attended sessions across the meeting, speaking with UN diplomats and representatives of other NGOs. It was such a joy after three days of advocacy to see the light of recognition and have someone say to me when I introduced myself, "I heard Home Economics was back!"

We need to train more members to represent us in more places that the UN meets and we need to seize more opportunities to write statements that reflect our concerns and join partners in their statements. And speaking of writing, a young man who works full time to represent the International Federation for Family Development showed me a publication that his organization sponsored jointly with the UN and the faculty at a University in Spain. He said that that presenting research on the importance of parenting education through the framework of the UN sustainable development goals had made the publication accessible to policy makers and educators alike. We have already done good work on the first several UN Sustainable Development goals, finding opportunities to collaborate on Joint materials with partners about the role of Home Economics in achieving the UNSGDs will be one of my goals.

### **Strengthening collaboration**

I am conscious that I am the youngest Home Economist to be elected to lead this organization but I am also aware that I represent a bridge to the coming generation of professionals who we need to empower to take up the spindle or spatula so to speak and make Home Economics a force for good in the 21st Century. The pandemic has shown us how urgent and relevant our work can still be in a world of people seeking the shelter of their homes.

I will work to strengthen collaboration with those National and Regional Organizations who are standing proud at this time and I will also seek out, listen to and encourage those that may have fewer opportunities for collaboration due to a current lack of organization in their disciplines and or regions. Accidents of history happen all the time but we can't let an accident of history wipe out Home Economics from a disciplinary field or country while there are still home economists ready to speak up.

I will be asking each member of the EC and also those who consider themselves leaders in their regions to consider who they could mentor for leadership, just as I and other young professionals were mentored by so many excellent leaders during the beginning of our second century as an academic discipline and as a profession. We must identify or create more partners, colleagues, stories and visions that communicate our future together. Thank you for your steadfast willingness to serve, with me, our cherished family of Home Economics.

## COUNCIL 2020: FIRST EVER VIRTUAL MEETING IN IFHE HISTORY

Certainly, everyone would have preferred to meet face-to-face in Atlanta for the biennial delegates meeting as planned but delegates took up the challenge of holding IFHE's first online Council and made this new format a success.

When it became obvious that the Council 2020 could not be held as foreseen, the Executive Committee quickly came up with a very pragmatic solution: They decided to hold a virtual Council. And to strictly limit voting to formal aspects required to uphold IFHE's status as charity. All decisions that require a robust discussion were postponed to 2022 so to not disadvantage delegates with unreliable internet access.

Delegates, however, were not discouraged by the new format and busily registered. In the end, almost 70 delegates were invited to attend the online meeting on 27 July. The online meeting was well prepared and it showed that being forced to communicate online does have some advantages though: Prior to the event, comprehensive information on all aspects of the planned votes had been made available to delegates at the website member area so that few questions remained unclear. After the online meeting, a voting link was sent to all delegates to cast their votes by 3 August 2020.

Thanks to the delegates' commitment and flexibility, IFHE could thus fulfil important formal requirements such as releasing officers from responsibility or adopting the budget 2021/2022 (all decisions are documented in minutes that are made available at the website member area).

The online Council definitively was a good experience. But as much as most of us enjoyed venturing into new fields: It will be great to meet in person in 2022!

All decisions taken by the Council are published at the [IFHE website member area](#).

Screenshot of some delegates during the online Council





## HOME ECONOMICS EDUCATION 2020 (RESOLUTION)

Delegates to the IFHE Council represent our profession in many countries around the globe. They all share the concern for quality home economics education and its importance for a healthy and sustainable living. Thanks to the initiative of Canadian delegates, a resolution on the importance of home economics education was adopted and as such beautifully substituted for the traditional World Congress resolution which we will have to wait for until 2022. Below, please find the basic version of the resolution (to be expanded and disseminated on our social media channels in October).

Whereas the global pandemic has required billions of people worldwide to shelter within their homes along with family members

Whereas access to resources, workplaces, learning institutions, leisure and health pursuits, and other aspects of human living have been disrupted and creative solutions required to maintain and sustain quality living

Whereas there has been a resurgence and need for living skills such as food preparation, sewing, financial management, parenting, interior design, sanitation, personal care and health in all countries

Whereas the responsible management of resources at the consumer and household level has re-emerged as essential to maintain a quality of life for all

Whereas Home Economics education addresses life skills such as healthy food and cooking skills, health and wellbeing, safe hygiene practices, sustainable diets, good use of resources, food storage techniques and many more capabilities that together form home economics literacy

Therefore, the International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) encourages all countries to focus on Home Economics education in all levels of schooling and higher educational institutions. Governments should consider making some Home Economics courses mandatory for all students to ensure quality and sustainability of life, especially at this time of adaptation and transformation.





## MEET OUTGOING & NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In the IFHE Executive Committee (EC), members from all five IFHE regions are represented by a Vice-President and a Member. Both are elected within the regions and start their term in office with the Council.

First of all, IFHE says a big thank you to all outgoing EC members for having been a member during a very pivotal time in our history. When we met for the last Council in Sudan, probably no one could have foreseen the challenges we have tackled. We share our best wishes with outgoing members Louise, Franziska, Andrew and Yukiko and welcome new members Audrey, Seohee Son, Jacob and Jay. Jacob and Jay were elected Vice-President of their regions as well as Wee Leng, who takes over as Vice President of her region from Yukiko.

We all dearly regret that we couldn't be together in Atlanta to celebrate this step appropriately and in person. Thanks to all EC members for contributing to the future of Home Economics as a leader. Your perspective is highly valued.

### IFHE Executive Committee Members



**President**  
Gwendolyn HUSTVEDT  
United States (2020-24)



**Treasurer**  
Christiane PAKULA  
Germany (2018-22)



**Vice-President Africa**  
Patricia MBAH  
Nigeria (2018-22)



**Member Africa**  
Mona ABDELGALIL  
Egypt (2018-22)



**Vice-President Americas**  
Jan SCHOLL  
United States (2018-22)



**Member Americas**  
Audrey JONES-DRAYTON  
Barbados (2020-24)



**Vice-President Asia**  
Wee Leng SOO  
Malaysia (2020-24)



**Member Asia**  
Seohee SON  
Korea (2020-24)



**Vice-President Europe**  
Jacob CHRISTENSEN  
Denmark (2020-24)



**Member Europe**  
Amanda McCLOAT  
Ireland (2018-22)



**Vice-President Pacific**  
Kerry RENWICK  
Australia (2018-22)



**Member Pacific**  
Jay DEAGON  
Australia (2020-24)



**Executive Director**  
Annette PTASSEK  
Germany

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### XXVI WORLD CONGRESS 2022 UPDATE



Thanks to the commitment of our host IFHE-US and Family and Consumer Sciences colleagues from across the United States, the World Congress could be postponed to 2022. Read important dates and save the date: 4 to 10 September 2022 in Atlanta, USA.

The XXVI IFHE World Congress theme remains "Home Economics: Soaring Toward Sustainable Development". The Congress will be held at the same venue, the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta. All hotel reservations that have been made so far have been cancelled by Hyatt Regency Atlanta on June 9, 2020. 2022 hotel reservations will open January 2022.

#### Registration Information

All 2020 registration fees were refunded until August 1, 2020. Registration fees that have not been filed for refund are saved for Congress 2022 registration with the same rate guaranteed.

Registrations for World Congress 2022 will open in January 2022.

#### Grants and Scholarship Information

For all grants and scholarships, an uncomplicated approach has been decided: 2020 IFHE-US travel grants and 2020 IHES scholarships remain in place for 2022.

#### Abstracts

Submitted 2020 textile abstracts are currently being compiled for a digital catalog, 2020 full paper submissions are under consideration for an IJHE special issue.

2020 abstract authors are called on to submit an updated or new abstract for the 2022 World Congress (new authors welcome!). Submissions will be accepted June-August 2021.

See the Congress website for details. Looking forward to seeing you in Atlanta!



Please check the [Congress 2022 website](#) for up to date information.

### IFHE TECHNOLOGY & SUSTAINABILITY WEBINAR

The 2020 Congress might have been called off, but members of the Programme Committee Household Technology & Sustainability decided they wanted to experience some of the inspiring international exchange the Congress offers to its participants. They organized a **webinar to be held October 28, 2020 at 9am Atlanta, Georgia/USA**, based on the workshop the Programme Committee had planned for Atlanta. Keep your eyes open for information on log-in details to be published soon (at the IFHE website and in a mailing to IFHE members). Don't miss listening to the contributions and experiencing some "Congress feeling".

## INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HOME ECONOMICS: ISSUE 1/2020

Download at

<https://www.ifhe.org/ijhe/ijhe-issues>

A new issue of the International Journal of Home Economics (IJHE) is available. The first issue in 2020 contains eleven contributions from around the globe that push the boundaries of theory and research and to seek out new paradigms, models and ways of framing Home Economics.

## CALL FOR PAPERS: HOME ECONOMICS, THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC & BEYOND

Read full details on the special edition and how to correctly submit an article at the IJHE section of the [IFHE website](#)



Editor Donna PENDERGAST (picture: M. ECKART)



Guest co-editor Jay DEAGON (picture: private)

Editor Donna PENDERGAST and guest co-editor Jay DEAGON, Australia, invite home economists to submit articles to a special edition of the International Journal of Home Economics (IJHE) on rapid response and lockdown learnings.

The true consequences of COVID-19 may not be known for years to come. During an event such as this unprecedented pandemic, it is an important moment to capture current reactions, responses and research. According to Harris & Dakin (2020), it is imperative to ensure rapid innovation is underpinned by quality principles and features careful evaluation to enable “organisations to capture and evaluate these learnings: to identify what has worked, what has utility going forward, and what could or should be discarded” (p.3). Phases of response are typically: crisis, adaptation, and opportunity.

Using these concepts as a lens for framing contributions, the IJHE Editor, Professor Donna Pendergast, along with guest co-editor Dr Jay Deagon, welcome contributions from members and non-members about all aspects of home economics and consumer studies. All papers will be subject to a full peer review process consistent with the usual requirements for publication in IJHE. The focus of this Special Issue is: Rapid response and lockdown learnings: Home economics, the global pandemic 2020, and beyond. It will particularly focus on innovation and good practice, supported by an evidence base, in one or more of the phases of response - crisis, adaptation and opportunity - in addressing issues of relevance to the field, including, but not limited to:

- Food and nutrition (access, choice, affordability, quality, kitchen gardens and safety of food)
- Equity and access, opportunities and barriers
- Home economics education
- Mental health and wellbeing for individuals, families and communities
- Habits and habitats – behaviour and attitude change

In the first instance, please send an intention to submit a paper in the form of an abstract of 150 words plus 50-word biographies of each author by 1 December 2020 to the Editor. Please send complete manuscripts for peer review for the IJHE special issue to Professor Donna Pendergast, Editor e-mail at [intjournalhomeconomics@gmail.com](mailto:intjournalhomeconomics@gmail.com) by 28 February.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Published by the International  
Federation for Home Economics  
(IFHE)

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Gwendolyn HUSTVEDT, USA

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### **28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Home Economics Institute of Australia**  
**Home Economics: Igniting Critical Agendas**  
National Conference, Brisbane, Australia

### **late October/early November 2020**

**IFHE Programme Committee Household Technology & Sustainability**  
Presentation of abstracts accepted for World Congress 2020  
Webinar

### **12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Home Renaissance Foundation**  
5<sup>th</sup> International Conference, London, United Kingdom

### **4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Caribbean Association of Home Economists Inc. (CAHE)**  
**Home Economist Mindset, Reset: Navigating the New Normal**  
24<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

### **8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**University of Agriculture/Institute of Education and Home Economics**  
**Rural Environment. Education. Personality (REEP-2020)**  
13<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference, Jelgava, Latvia

### **4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE)**  
**Home Economics: Soaring towards Sustainable Development**  
XXIV IFHE World Congress, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

### **7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**Asian Regional Association for Home Economics (ARAHE)**  
21. Biennial International Congress, Malaysia

Next Issue:  
DECEMBER 2020

Please submit information and  
articles by 15 November 2020 to the  
IFHE Office Bonn, Germany