

Extension Reconsidered

An invitation to join the conversation

*IN THE 21ST CENTURY, HOW CAN CORNELL
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION CONTINUE TO BE
RELEVANT, ENGAGED, ACCESSIBLE, AND VALUED
IN ITS WORK WITH NYS FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES?*

In 2011 Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) celebrated its Centennial. In 2013 CCE developed a new Strategic Plan. Now CCE is moving forward to put that Plan into action, and is asking you to help answer the question above.

Please join the conversation and add your voice!

Insights and perspectives on Extension from staff, partners, and community members will increase shared understanding about Extension's role, bring to light existing innovations and new ideas about best practices for Extension's community engagement work in counties and on campus, and will contribute to Cornell University's development of a vision and model for public engagement in the 21st century.



A community planning meeting, Ithaca New York

Why reconsider? Why now?

This year the national Extension system is marking the 100-year anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act which established the Cooperative Extension System. Thirteen land-grant colleges and universities* are engaged in a national “Extension Reconsidered” project, which is bringing citizens together to reflect and deliberate on the value of Extension and its potential to renew and strengthen our communities, our democracy and our civic culture in the 21st century.

***National Extension Reconsidered Project Participants:** Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

Goal of CCE’s Extension Reconsidered project:

Our goal is to bring to light the diverse ways of seeing, and doing, the work of Extension in order to foster dialog and deliberation that informs CCE’s on-going work of community engagement.

To achieve this goal we will:

- invite participation from a broad range of viewpoints including:
 - Campus-based leadership, staff, and faculty
 - County-based leadership, staff , and volunteers
 - Community members and organizations working with Extension
 - Community members, groups, and organizations not currently involved with Extension
- gather insights and diverse contributions through:
 - Web-based story and input gathering
 - One-on-one interviews in diverse venues and Extension events
 - Regional and campus-based deliberative forums
 - Arts and performance events

CCE's Extension Reconsidered project invites you to share your ideas and insights about:

The challenges CCE should address...

The strengths CCE has, and will need...

The innovations and changes CCE should be part of...

Your insights and contributions will:

- **Expand and inform discussions and decisions about CCE's role and work within and among campus and counties**
 - Contributors' perspectives and ideas will be accessible and visible on the CCE Extension Reconsidered blog site
 - Regional and on-campus deliberative forums will engage participants in constructive discussions about the values and tradeoffs among different approaches to Extension's work
 - A culminating event on October 8th will bring together contributors and decision-makers from Cornell University, CCE leadership and staff, and CCE Association leadership and staff to absorb and plan for the opportunities , challenges, and visions that have been brought to light
- **Shape the operationalization of the "University-Community Engagement" objective in CCE's Strategic Plan**
- **Contribute to wider understanding of Extension's role in Cornell's vision for engagement in the 21st century**
 - Cornell's Sesquicentennial celebration in 2015 and the Land Grant Reconsidered initiative will be informed by the Extension Reconsidered events and conversations

Join the conversation at:

<http://extrecon.cce.cornell.edu/>

Read and view other contributions.

Add comments.

Contribute in writing, through photos and videos, by sharing an audio or video presentation or story, an artistic creation, an interesting article.

Learn more about the national initiative at:

www.extensionreconsidered.org

Follow the national initiative at:

<http://imaginingamerica.org/blog/category/extension-reconsidered/>

Find us on twitter:

@ExtRecon

Extension Reconsidered is a partnership between Imagining America and the Kettering Foundation, the Engagement-Scholarship Consortium, Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, and Art of the Rural.



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension