

Family and Work: Doing What Counts

Minnesota Family and Consumer Sciences State Conference

Educational Objectives

1. Demonstrate respectful and caring relationships in family, workplace, and community.
2. Demonstrate nutrition and wellness practices that enhance individual and family well-being.
3. Integrate knowledge, skills and practices needed for careers and consumer services.
4. Evaluate the effects of parenting roles and responsibilities on strengthening the well-being of families and individuals.
5. Integrate core academic skills, math, reading, and technology into the Family and Consumer Sciences classroom.

“FACS IN THE BIG PICTURE”

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JANET B. BRAY, CAE

FRIDAY - 9:00-9:50 AM

“THE VIEW FROM THE CAPITAL”

BREAKOUT SESSION FOLLOWING FROM 10:00-10:50AM

Janet Bray serves as the Executive Director of the Association for Career and Technical Education, a not-for-profit association representing over 30,000 professionals across the United States. As Executive Director, Janet manages the staff and program services of the association. She is actively involved in the strategic public policy efforts of the association and works on legislative and public awareness issues for the profession. She also provides leadership and guidance to the ACTE Board of Directors, committees and related associations.



Prior to joining ACTE, Janet was Executive Vice President of the National Association of Enrolled Agents where she oversaw a comprehensive strategic planning process, governance restructure and leadership development program. During her 36-year tenure in the association management profession, she has provided leadership to a variety of associations in strategic planning, education program development, outreach to related professions and publics and creation of innovative programs and services. She was instrumental in the development of a Youth Apprenticeship Program for the graphic arts industry in the State of Wisconsin and initiated the industry’s effort to develop national skill standards.

Janet has been active participant in the association community serving on the American Society of Association Executives Education Foundation Board of Directors, Greater Washington Society of Association Executives Board of Directors, and numerous association-related committees and councils. She has served as a speaker at numerous association conferences and seminars and has authored articles related to the association field. Janet holds a Bachelors Degree in History and Government from the University of Maryland and a Masters Degree in Adult Education from the George Washington University. Janet earned her Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential in 1991 and is a member of the distinguished ASAE Fellows Group.

Session and Speaker Highlights

Internet Safety

Karina Berzins

Training and Education Coordinator
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Friday Session - 10:00-10:50 AM

Open your eyes to clues that may indicate unsafe internet travel. Current Minnesota examples will be given regarding what to avoid as well as productive steps to take for safe internet navigation. Families, teachers, and students will benefit from this information which includes tools to help you communicate safely on the internet.

Karina Berzins is the Training and Education Coordinator with the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) unit at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). Miss Berzins has been with the BCA for the past nine years. Prior to working in ICAC, Miss Berzins has trained and audited for the Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) unit, worked in the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) unit, and the Predatory Offender (POR) unit.

Karina Berzins has delivered training throughout Minnesota and has assisted in proactive and reactive ICAC investigations in Minnesota.

Karina Berzins received a B.A. in Criminology and Psychology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

At Your Service

Diane Medcalf

President/CEO, TIPS' Incorporated

Friday Session - 10:00-10:50 AM

See how you can educate students and employees by using this new on-line program for training. Utilize the same training platform that government agencies, universities and major company's worldwide use to educate individuals to succeed in the hospitality industry. Since 74% of teens and young adults enter the Hospitality/Restaurant industry every year, proper interaction with the public is crucial. This high tech training environment so familiar to new generations is helping restaurants to reap higher levels of service return, more revenue generated and profit increase.

Mrs. Medcalf started her career in the restaurant industry in 1976 growing up in Orange County, CA. Mrs. Medcalf brings with her 34 years in the customer and guest relations industry.

Mrs. Medcalf has had an impressive career in the guest services field working with some of the top professionals in the hospitality and restaurant industries. Some of her past achievements include the Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, Ca, PGA West, La Quinta, Ca, Alto Lakes Private Golf & Country Club, Alto, NM and Rainmakers Private Golf Club as Director of Food & Beverage.

Mrs. Medcalf made the decision to educate people in proper social skills and procedures, and so in 2007 founded TIPS Incorporated. She put together a Corporate Wait Staff training program & the first On-line Wait Staff training course, developed to assist Food & Beverage Departments at Resorts, Country Clubs and Restaurants nationwide with the training necessary to return proper etiquette & procedure back into the food service industry.

Identity Theft: "Have You Been Had"

William Gosiger

Attorney General's Office Mediator

Friday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

Mr. Gosiger invites you to his discussion about types of identity theft and preventative measures. Most individuals will be faced with identity theft sometime in their life. Learn immediate steps to follow when you become a victim of identity theft and what follow up measures you will need to take. Development of a response plan to identity theft is the focus of this session. Do what counts.

William Gosiger joined the Attorney General's Office 1994. William worked ten years in Environmental Division. He was instrumental in enactment and implementation of the Landfill Recovery Act. In 2004 he moved to the Consumer Services Division as Mediator. William works primarily on mortgage and financial issues. He frequently speaks on topics related to privacy and financial scams.

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! Food Science at Work

Gary Reineccius

Food Science Professor, University of Minnesota

Friday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

Demand for new food products, production, and safety have taken a new role in our global world. Learn how products are created and its affect on the job market and economy. Food Science has become one of the fastest growing areas for new jobs, and is heavily supported by the Obama initiative in STEM. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

Gary Reineccius, Ph.D., is a Professor and Department Head (since May 1, 2008) in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Minnesota. Prior to becoming department head, he was a faculty member of the department (38 years) focusing his research efforts on flavor chemistry. During this time he published over 210 research articles. Dr. Reineccius has spent sabbatical leaves with Fritzsche Dodge and Olcott (New York, flavor creation and production), Nestle (Switzerland, reaction flavors) and Robertet S.A. (France, taste modifiers and manufacturing).

Dr. Reineccius teaches courses in Food Processing, Food Chemistry, Food Analysis, and Flavor Chemistry and Technology. He has written a College textbook on food flavors with Henry Heath (the second edition of this book became available in 2006). This was the first textbook in the flavor area which combined both flavor chemistry and technology. Dr. Risch and he edited and were major contributors to two books on flavor encapsulation. He is the sole author of the *"Source Book of Flavors"* and coeditor of *"Heteroatomic Flavor Compounds in Foods."*

Dr. Reineccius' achievements have been recognized by several local and international organizations. He is an honorary member of the Society of Flavor Chemists. He has been granted the Palmer Award for his contribution to chromatography by the Minnesota Chromatography Forum. He has received the Distinguished Achievement and Service in Agricultural and Food Chemistry Award and been honored by being made a Fellow by the American Chemical Society. He has been presented the Stephen S. Chang Award by the Institute of Food Technologists (first flavor chemist to be so honored). These are the highest awards given to individuals in the flavor area. In 2006 he was selected to receive the new FEMA (Flavor Extract Manufacturers Association) award. This award comes from the largest flavor industry association in the US. His selection as the *first* recipient of this award reflects their opinion of his standing in the profession.

He often speaks at public schools and other groups. His favorite lay topics are chocolate (he spent three years researching chocolate flavor for his Ph.D. thesis) and the chemistry of gourmet cooking. From a professional standpoint, his favorite topic is flavor encapsulation. He has been actively engaged in research in this area since 1964.

Question and Answer; Licensure Updates and More

John Melick, Licensure; Marlys Bucher MDE concerns

Minnesota Department of Education

Friday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

Questions about licensure? Career pathways? Perkins funding? We will address issues of concern that you face as a FACS professional, improving direct communication connections for FACS education.

“The Hat Lady”

Anne Jans, FACS Teacher

Luncheon and Style Show Speaker

Friday 12:30-1:30 PM

Anne Jans is in her ninth year as a FACS teacher in the Jordan school district. She loves teaching and finds it very rewarding working with both middle and high school students. Anne also has a very active FCCLA chapter and is currently the advisor to the State President and the State Secretary and a region Junior High Council Representative. She has three children, ages 4, 2 and 10 months which keep her very busy and finds that being a parent has made teaching child development so much easier! In her spare time she collects antique women's hats, hatboxes and hatpins. She has been collecting for 18 years and in that time has acquired quite a large collection of hats dating from the 1840's through the 1960's. Although she doesn't collect dresses she has approximately 125 from the late 1800's through the 1960's. Anne has been able to bring in her collections and share them with her sewing and fashions classes. As she gained knowledge of hats and historic costume, she has been traveling around Minnesota and the surrounding states presenting about the history of hats and sharing her collection.

Older Workers; New Realities

Elvria Barnes-Wycough

AARP Minnesota State Office

Friday Session - 1:45-2:35 PM

Economic impact and current demographics show the United States has more older workers than ever before. Older workers are faced with numerous challenges; health care, family composition, housing, and financial management. Resources and information will be provided.

Elvria Barnes-Wycough is Director of Volunteer Engagement and Diversity, AARP: She recruits, trains, evaluates and manages AARP Minnesota's 22 Chapters, Drivers' Safety Programs, 21 Community Action Network teams, Information Center (Mall of America) and episodic volunteers. Collaboration with agencies, non-profit organizations, AARP national office staff and the business community to promote AARP's strategic plan, priorities, programs and activities are components of her efforts. Ms. Barnes-Wycough provides training to staff, Executive Council and volunteers on diversity, inclusiveness, Equal Opportunity and culturally specific issues and attributes. Elvria also serves as a Metropolitan State University Community Faculty Member who teaches Multicultural Psychology, Ethics and diversity.

Past positions include 11 years of employment with the State of Minnesota, Council on Black Minnesotans as Senior State Planner; Liaison to governor's office (Carlson and Ventura). Public Policy Research Analyst where her lobbying efforts resulted in the passage of 14 Bills related to Equality. Elvria has served as Executive director of Diversity Village, Inc.; recruited potential employees from various cultures and potential employers for dvstreet.com; a provider of a global network of multicultural resources, including: the career portal, a commerce site that featured eight diverse jobsites; One World Job Fairs; DVI Consulting, a service that promotes workforce and marketplace diversity.

Ms. Barnes-Wycough earned her M.A. Psychology and B.A. Community Administration from Metropolitan University. She plans to receive her EdD 2011. Elvria has served on numerous Boards and Committees including: Domestic Abuse Project – Policy Chair, Parents Anonymous, Diversity and Inclusiveness Task Force - Metropolitan State University and many others.

Interpreting Food Label Language

Morgan Kurtz, RD, LD

Friday Session - 1:45-2:35 PM

Have you ever read the nutrition label on that food package and wondered about that 0g Transfat in peanut butter? What about the ingredient lists on a package that includes Nitrates? Splenda? "Other" spices and additives? Fiber? Sugars? Soy? What about the lite, low-fat, organic, and natural foods? Learn from a registered dietician how to *really* read nutrition labels and food package information for a healthier and more informed you.

Morgan Kurtz is a Registered and Licensed Dietitian for Park Nicollet Institute in St Louis Park, MN. As an outpatient Dietitian, Morgan's primary tasks are counseling patient one-on-one on various nutrition topics and teaching monthly nutrition classes to the public on Cholesterol and Pre-Diabetes. Her areas of expertise are weight management, cholesterol, and bariatrics.

Prior to joining Park Nicollet, Morgan was a Nutrition Service Manager for hospital in the Des Moines, IA area, where she oversaw the kitchen and staff, presented to the public and counseled patients. As a Community Registered Dietitian with the Women, Infant and Children program in Des Moines, IA she counseled patients on nutrition and became certified as a breastfeeding educator. Morgan is actively involved with the Minnesota Dietetic association and a member of the American Dietetic Association. Morgan is a graduate of Iowa State University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Nutrition and Dietetics.

Technology; Can You Keep Up?

Wendy Knapp, University of Minnesota Instructor

Crystal Scott, U of M Graduate Student and Student Teacher

Friday Session – 1:45-2:35 PM

Technology within Family and Consumer Sciences can enhance classroom activities, to make teaching more efficient. Learn how to use technology, what resources are available, how to make your classes more exciting and ways to help students learn today. See examples of current teacher and teaching web tools to make the teaching process more efficient. Key links!

Wendy Knapp understands what constitutes engaging learning from a student perspective while possessing the knowledge and ability to design and develop courses based on proven pedagogical practice. Wendy enjoys working closely with teachers to bring technology into the classroom to promote meaningful experiences and has had the opportunity to do this by *teaching a technology integration course at the University of Minnesota* for the past three years. In addition, Wendy is currently the Director of Online Learning for Learner's Edge Inc.

Wendy is a licensed teacher who has taught grades 7-12 as well as graduate and undergraduate students. She has developed curriculum for junior high, high school and collegiate courses as well as materials for the private and government sectors. Wendy is a PhD candidate in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Learning Technologies program at the University of Minnesota. In her free time Wendy enjoys traveling and spending time with her family.

Teaming to Build Our Profession; Who, What and Why?

Creating a Dynamic Future for FACS Education

Wendy Ambrose, Minnesota FCCLA Director

Friday Session - 2:45-3:35 PM

What's going on nationally and in our state to strengthen, sustain FACS opportunities for Minnesota students? Do you ever wish "somebody" would do "something" to make the path easier for sustaining FACS education programs? Learn what is happening at the national and state levels for communication among organizations and influencing policy makers. Learn about the initiatives of the National Coalition for FACS Education and a newly formed Minnesota FACS Coalition across the various organizations.

Wendy L. Ambrose is the Executive Director of Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Wendy has a BS and masters program at the University of Minnesota as well as a Mini MBA program and a Non-Profit Executive Director Leadership Program from St Thomas University. Wendy Ambrose was a Buckman Fellow for Philanthropic Leadership with the U of MN. Wendy has served on the National Coalition for Family and Consumer Sciences Education from 2005-2009, the National FCCLA Board of Directors from 2005-2008. Wendy served as the National President of the ACTE affiliate of the State Supervisors of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) in 2002-2003. Recently Wendy has served as chairperson of National FCCLA Task Force for Star Event Management Team and Service-Learning/Civic Engagement. As an advocate for youth development, Wendy has been active with Youth Service America, America's Promise, Peace Jam and other state and national youth initiatives. Through interesting program developments with FCCLA, Wendy has met the first lady Barbara Bush and Millie (the first dog), Mrs. Colin Powell, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, and most recently Miley Cyrus. Wendy enjoys singing with an auditioned chorale group which has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York.

Are You Using the Right Tools for Your Classroom Activities?

Exhibitor: Jeremy Pinson with McGraw-Hill

Friday Session - 2:45-3:35 PM

Discover how to develop authentic assessments and more for your classroom with digital textbook tools.

Jeremy Pinson has been working with Glencoe McGraw-Hill for over five years. McGraw-Hill recently started a sales division dedicated to Family & Consumer Sciences and Career & Technical Education. Jeremy enjoys the outdoors and recently became the guardian of a rescued 7 week old "puggle" named Rigsby.

Legislation that Impacts Us:

Keeping our Children, Communities, State, and World Healthy.

Kate Knuth, State Legislator

Friday Session - 2:45-3:35 PM

A changing climate and increase in toxic chemicals in products and the environment are global issues that affect the health of our community and the people in it. This talk will discuss climate and toxics as a health issue, and outline the efforts in the Minnesota Legislature to address both problems.

Representative Kate Knuth is serving her second term in the Minnesota State House representing District 50B. She is an assistant majority leader and serves on the Environment and Natural Resource Finance Division and the Energy Policy and Finance Division along with the Commerce and Labor and Finance committees. Much of Rep. Knuth's legislative work has focused on energy, environment, and climate issues. She carried the Green Solutions Act of 2008, which addressed cap and trade and the Toxic Free Kids Act, a comprehensive approach to reducing toxics in children's products. One of Kate's key concerns involves Toxics legislation because it is all about keeping children and our community safe and healthy. Rep. Knuth has previously worked at Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education, and she began a PhD in conservation biology at the University of Minnesota in fall of 2009. She earned an MS from Oxford University in Biodiversity Conservation and Management. She holds a BA from the University of Chicago in biology and philosophy. She also studied at the University of Oslo as Fulbright Fellow.

“Minnesota’s Changing Labor Market”

Kyle Uphoff, Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

Saturday Morning - 9:00 AM Keynote Speaker

The recent recession resulted in the loss of over 100,000 jobs in Minnesota. In addition to the pain of widespread unemployment, the recession has fundamentally restructured the state's economy. In other words, the job market that we have experienced in recent years will be very different from the one of the future. This has a direct impact on students and others who are about to enter the job market in the post recessionary world. This presentation will cover recent changes in the labor market and the impacts of those changes in coming years. It will also cover a variety of tools that job seekers can use to make informed decisions about careers.



Kyle Uphoff is the Regional Analysis and Outreach Manager with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). He is responsible for the dissemination of labor market expertise through DEED’s five regional labor market analysts located throughout the state. Kyle has Bachelor’s degrees in biochemistry and genetics from the University of Minnesota. After completing graduate work in chemistry at Indiana University, he received a Master’s degree in public policy from the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. Kyle has worked with DEED for the last nine years and previously worked with other state agencies including the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources and the Minnesota Department of Education.

Teacher of Year Presentation (TOY)

Saturday Session - 10:00-10:50 AM

Marsha Chizek: Fridley High School Baccalaureate Program

Human Development: Reaching a Diverse Community through FACS

Congratulations Marsha!! Go girl!

Math in the FACS Classroom

Debbie Larson; FACS Teacher

Saturday Session Saturday - 10:00-10:50 AM

See how you can incorporate Math in your classroom to address core academics that will validate your programs with high school administrations and school boards.

Debbie Larson is a graduate from the University of Minnesota receiving her degree in Family and Consumer Sciences Education and has a Master’s degree in education from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota. She is currently a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Andover High School in the Anoka-Hennepin School District #11. She is a member of AAFCS and MAFCS. In the past six years, she has been an active participant, serving three years on Public Policy, Secretary of FACSEd, President of FACSEd, and a representative to the MnACTE Board for Family and Consumer Sciences. For the past three years she has worked on implementing Math in the FACS program for the Anoka-Hennepin School District and has published a book to use in the Foods classrooms to address math concepts.

Food Science “FUN”damentals

Sue Turgeson: FACS Teacher, Menominee Wisconsin Session

Saturday Session - 10:00-10:50 AM

2009 AAFCS National Teacher of the Year, Susan Turgeson, will share activities, experiments, and resources that actively engage students and support academic achievement. Explore strategies to facilitate learning the principles of food safety, food preservation, fermentation, sensory evaluation, and basic chemistry concepts. Integrate core academics and 21st Century skills with family and consumer science to prepare your students for a possible career in food science.

Susan M. Turgeson, CFCS, MS, is a family & consumer sciences instructor and FCCLA adviser at Menomonie High School. Turgeson holds a bachelor of science in family & consumer sciences education and a master of science in home economics with a concentration in FCSE. Both degrees are from University of Wisconsin-Stout. Turgeson has authored, consulted, and presented for Learning ZoneXpress for the past four years. In addition to the 2009 AAFCS National Teacher of the Year award, Susan was the recipient of the 2005 AAFCS New Achiever award, and a 2005 Wal Mart Teacher of the Year award. Susan has been married for 22 years and has two adult children and lives in Menomonie, WI (only 7 blocks from school).

Spinning Plates, and Juggling Balls: Learning What Works for FACS Teachers!

Michele Saylor; FACS Teacher, Hopkins

Donna Butterfield; Recently Retired FACS Teacher

Saturday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

This session provides an opportunity to glean and share organizational management ideas and tips with new and experienced FACS colleagues. We will focus on the areas of classroom management, foods lab management, and personal life management. Come ready to learn and share!

Michele Saylor has been a FACS teacher for 20 years, with 16 of those years in the Hopkins School District. She has been an adjunct professor for the College of St. Catherine and Hamline University. She has served in many MAFCS and FACSEd professional roles including serving as President of each organization. She has received awards such as the MN FACS teacher of the year, a top ten finalist of the AAFCS national teacher of the year, the MAFCS professional of the year and has twice been named to Who's Who Among America's Educators, and was a candidate for Education MN teacher of the year. She has published two curriculums with Learning ZoneExpress, the award winning *“The Snack Shop”* and the best selling FACS Lab Management Guide.

Donna Butterfield was the 2007-2008 Minnesota FACS teacher of year. She has been actively involved with MAFCS for the past several years, served as President of FACSEd and is currently serving as co-chair for the Education committee. As well as being a FACS teacher, Donna has owned and operated her own business, developing sewing kits and materials for FACS teachers and students to use in the classroom.

Minnesota FACS Coalition: Question and Answer Session
You Can Help Create a Dynamic Future for FACS Education

Panel Discussion

Saturday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

MN Coalition for FACS education has been working throughout 2009 to communicate and learn about national and state efforts to strengthen and sustain FACS opportunities for Minnesota students. Learn what is happening at the national and state levels for communication among organizations and influencing policy makers. Learn about the initiatives of the newly formed Minnesota FACS Coalition across the various organizations and give your input.

A panel discussion of various perspectives of a thriving FACS Ed future for Minnesota.

Current Members:

Wendy Ambrose- FCCLA	Cherry Cramer- MAFCS, FACS Teacher, and MN FCCLA-HERO
Maxine Peterson, MAFCS and FACS teacher	Marcia Copeland, FCCLA Alumni
Jill Conlon- MSU- Mankato	Yvonne Gentzler- University of Minnesota
Marcine Elder- FACS teacher and MN FCCLA	Jill Doschadis- FACS teacher and MN FCCLA
Carol Zaudtke, MN FCCLA-HERO and FACS teacher	Tammy Borman- FACS Teacher and MN FCCLA
Trudy Landgren- St. Catherine's University	
Inger Wegner- FACS teacher and Perkins Consortium coordinator	

Applied Academics (Reading) in the FACS Classroom

Diane Fortney: FACS teacher, Paynesville High School Session

Saturday Session - 11:00-11:50 AM

In the world of budget cuts, a FACS and CTE teacher need to show that we apply core standards to real life. Examples, handouts, websites, and various ideas on how to successfully and actively engage FACS and CTE students in the reading, writing, and science standards will be applied and make it fun for our students to attend our elective classes. Research does show that we can make a difference in testing scores.

Diane Fortney is a High School FACS teacher at Paynesville Area High School. She previously spent three years as 7-12 FACS & Business Ed teacher at Renville County West High School. She has a BS degree from Minnesota State University-Mankato with a major in Accounting and minor in Business Administration. Diane got married in 1980 and received my CPA certificate in 1984 after which she worked with several public firms and corporations in the Twin Cities while starting my own CPA firm in Inver Grove Heights, MN. Diane was an elected Delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on small Business. In 1998, she sold her CPA firm and moved to Spicer Minnesota to raise her two children. In 2004, Diane stepped into the STEPP program at the University of Minnesota-TC to receive her masters in 5-12 FACS education and my initial teaching license in May of 2005. In 2009, she put together her business portfolio and received a dual teaching license; FACS & Business Education. Diane loves teaching!

Luncheon Keynote Speakers
Saturday 12:30 PM
Senator Amy Klobuchar

In 2006, Amy Klobuchar became the first woman elected to represent the State of Minnesota in the U. S. Senate. As a respected leader - both as chief prosecutor in Minnesota's largest county, and now as a United States Senator, Amy has always embraced the values she learned growing up in Minnesota. Her grandfather worked 1500 feet underground in the iron ore mines of Northern Minnesota. Her father, Jim, was a newspaperman, and her mother, Rose, was an elementary school teacher who continued teaching until she was 70.

As a private citizen and before being elected to public office, she was the leading advocate for successful passage of one of the first **laws in the country guaranteeing 48-hour hospital stays for new moms and their babies.**

Heading the largest prosecutor's office in the state for eight years, Amy made the prosecution of violent and career criminals her top priority. She was a leading advocate for successful passage of Minnesota's first felony DWI law for which she received a leadership award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Her safe schools initiative, community prosecution efforts and criminal justice reforms earned national awards, including from the U.S. Department of Justice under both the Clinton and Bush Administrations.

Since her election Amy quickly established herself as a leader determined to get results. On issues from **consumer protection to renewable energy;** from developing our rural economy to combating climate change to reforming our government, Amy has been a strong advocate for middle-class families and Minnesota values.

Amy took the lead to pass the most **significant consumer product safety legislation in a generation, keeping toxic products off our shores and out of our stores.** She introduced legislation to secure health and education benefits for our nation's veterans. She took on the cell phone companies for more consumer-friendly policies. And she **helped pass the most sweeping ethics reform** since Watergate.

Her work has gained national recognition. Working Mother Magazine named her as a 2008 "Best in Congress" for her efforts on behalf of working families.

Amy serves on **five Senate committees: Agriculture, Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Judiciary and the Joint Economic Committee.**

Amy was the valedictorian of her high school class. She graduated magna cum laude from Yale University and the University of Chicago Law School. Her senior thesis in college, published as the book "Uncovering the Dome," chronicles the 10-year-history behind the building of the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome and is still used at colleges and universities across the country.

"Economic Benefits of Early Childhood Investments"
Rob Grunewald, Associate Economist

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Rob Grunewald conducts regional economic research and co-authors the Minneapolis Fed's "Beige Book" report on current economic conditions. He also writes articles on the regional economy and other economics and banking issues for the *fedgazette* and *The Region*, two periodicals published by the Minneapolis Fed. Grunewald regularly speaks to business, community and school groups about the Federal Reserve and the regional economy. He co-authored "Early Childhood Development: Economic Development with a High Public Return" (January 2003), an economic policy paper, which has been featured in the media, legislative hearings, and seminars throughout the United States.



Grunewald serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency, the advisory board for First Children's Finance Growth Fund and as secretary for the Minnesota Economic Association.

Grunewald joined the bank in 1993, holds a bachelor's degree in economics and religion from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and is a graduate student in applied economics at the University of Minnesota.