



Karen Bruns

Leader, OSU CARES and Outreach/Engagement

Area of Expertise

Since 1996, Dr. Karen Bruns has served as leader of OSU CARES and Outreach/Engagement. In this position, she works with faculty and staff across the university to support and encourage outreach/engagement efforts. This includes working with The Ohio State University's Office of University Outreach where she works closely with the leadership team, develops and implements educational programs and a grants program for faculty/staff, and fosters university/community partnerships. In addition, she gives lead to Ohio State's involvement in a partnership with Penn State, University of Wisconsin-Extension, University of Georgia, Michigan State University, University of Alabama, and North Carolina State University to foster a national dialogue on engagement through the annual Outreach Scholarship conferences.

Dr. Bruns also gives leadership to the OSU CARES initiative through OSU Extension. OSU CARES serves as a catalyst to activate teams of university personnel to address the emerging issues that will face Ohioans. Her responsibilities include fostering and developing partnerships between OSU Extension and others across the university including implementing a grants program to support partnerships.

Prior to serving as leader of OSU CARES and Outreach/Engagement, Dr. Bruns spent her career engaging the university with the community as an OSU Extension county agent from 1982 to 1996. She worked in rural and suburban Ohio counties in the areas of family and consumer sciences and community development.

Education

- 1979 B.S. Home Economics, University of Dayton
- 1981 M.S. Home Economics, The Ohio State University
- 1999 Ph.D. Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University

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Selected Recent Grants

Year(s)	Funding Source	Project Title	Grant Amount	Co-Principal Investigator(s)
October 2003-September 2007	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	Great Lakes Center for Agricultural Safety and Health Fellows Program	\$256,000	
October 2001	U. S. Department of Education	Creating a TABLE for Learning: Technology Access for Better Learning and Employment at the Godman Guild and Ohio State University Extension Learning Center	\$241,165	Susan Colbert, Karen Bruns, Deborah Bingham-Catri
August 2001-August, 2004	TELR Grant	Support of OSU Learning Centers	\$24,225	
July 2000	W.K. Kellogg Foundation	Institutional Change through Outreach and Engagement	\$265,000	Keith Smith, Garee Earnest and Karen Bruns, co-authors (Bruns project director)
November 1999	Ohio Board of Regents	OSU Extension Learning Centers	\$254,657	

Selected Recent Presentations

“SAMMIE—Successful Assessment Methods and Measurement in Evaluation.” American Evaluation Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, November 10, 2007

“Introducing SAMMIE: Successful Assessment Methods and Measurement in Evaluation. Great Ideas Session, Outreach Scholarship Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, October 7-9, 2007

“SAMMIE.” Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, September 2007

“Introducing SAMMIE: Successful Assessment Methods and Measurement in Evaluation.” NACDEP Conference, April 2007; OSU Extension Annual Conference, December 2006

“Faculty Outreach and Engagement.” Workshop Speaker, Miami University, Hamilton, Ohio, August 2006

“Making DEALS - Developing Experience And Learning opportunities that are Sustainable.” Workshop Speaker, Middle Tennessee State University, March 2007

“Strengthening the Evaluation Skills of Agricultural Health and Safety Practitioners and Researchers.” Poster presentation and Oral presentation. NORA Symposium 2006: Research Makes a Difference!, Washington, DC, April 2006

“Extension and a University’s Engagement Mission: Lessons Learned.” ESP Conference, Colorado Springs, Colorado, November 2005

Invited Speaker, Washington State University Extension Annual Conference, Outreach Scholarship, Pullman, Washington, March 2005

Invited Speaker, “Scholarship of Engagement,” Extension Western Mid Managers Conference, Outreach Scholarship, San Diego, California, July 2004

“Internationalizing Extension by Engagement Across Campus.” Invited concurrent session. Global Perspectives: Internationalizing Extension National Conference. Co-presenters Karen Bruns and Kathy Lechman, Lansing ,