**Jeff Dwyer**

MSU Extension

Interim Director

Jeff Dwyer was named interim director of [Michigan State University Extension](http://www.msu.edu/) on Jan. 1, 2016.

Previous to his appointment as interim director, Mr. Dwyer became familiar with MSU Extension not just through its outreach in his hometown, but through his role in the College of Human Medicine as one of the driving forces of the MSU Extension Health Research Team. At the College of Human Medicine, Mr. Dwyer served as senior associate dean for innovation & community partnerships and professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

While serving as senior associate dean, Mr. Dwyer worked with a talented staff of colleagues to facilitate multi-site collaboration, establishing university-community linkages, developing and monitoring research opportunities for students, recruiting scientists, and establishing the infrastructure needed to sustain a statewide research network in the 21 century.

Mr. Dwyer also served as director of the Institute of Gerontology and professor of sociology at [Wayne State University](https://wayne.edu/) from 1993-1999. Before joining Michigan State University, he was the founding director of the Institute on Aging and a professor of medicine at the [University of Florida](http://www.ufl.edu/). Through my academic and professional career I have established a substantial background in research on health and health services utilization, rural aging, and family dynamics.

Mr. Dwyer was born in Saline, Michigan, and lived there through elementary school. Summers growing up were spent partly at Walloon Lake near Petoskey and on his uncle’s farm in Sanilac County. His early years taught him to be adaptable, curious and to work hard. Mr. Dwyer attended high school in Los Angeles, and after graduating, attended [California Lutheran University](http://www.callutheran.edu/), receiving a bachelor’s degree in sociology in 1982. He continued his studies at the [University of Florida](http://www.ufl.edu/) where he received a doctorate in sociology in 1988. In 1992 he was selected as a Brookdale National Fellow and in 1997 was elected a fellow of both the Gerontological Society of America and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

Mr. Dwyer is excited to lead an organization he has seen first-hand make a difference in many people’s lives.

Mr. Dwyer and his wife, Nancy have been married for 14 years. Since 2003, Nancy and Jeff have lived outside Munising in the Upper Peninsula, with Cocoa their Chocolate Lab, where we started a business in that same year called the Falling Rock Café & Bookstore. Jeff and Nancy have two children, Amanda and Rebecca.