**Top workgroup award: $100,000**

Division awards nearly $2 million to support workgroup activities in 2001-02

By Gabriele Kassner

UC vegetable crops specialist Jeff Mitchell and members of his workgroup are exploring the opportunities and limitations of employing conservation tillage in California. Widely used in the Southeast and Midwest but just catching on here, this practice of eliminating some land-preparation operations may help California farmers trim their energy, equipment and labor costs, maintain or enhance the soil and slash water usage without compromising yields.

For the conservation tillage workgroup members, it’s an exciting enterprise, made possible by funding from the Division through the annual “Call for DANR Workgroup Proposals.”

The conservation tillage workgroup was one of 48 workgroups to receive Division funding in the recently completed cycle of awards, in which up to two years of funding, for FY 2001-02 and FY 2002-03, could be requested. The workgroup’s $38,300 award for this fiscal year will permit it to go forward with its projects.

Altogether, the Division funded 62 research and extension projects this year. In addition, 10 new workgroups were ratified through this call (see sidebar on p. 3).

Division funding for the workgroups will total about $2 million in 2001-02. That’s a 25 percent increase over previous years, the result of carry-over funds. Usually the pool of funds adds up to about $1.5 million per year.

The Rangeland Watershed Program received $100,000, the highest award for 2001-02. Other substantial awards include the Nematology Workgroup ($50,000), Dairy Quality Assurance Workgroup (just over $50,000); and Body Weight and Health Workgroup ($50,000).

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**Intended for workgroups, ANR programs**

Training offered for simple website construction

Website templates are now available to make it easier to create websites for Division workgroups and programs. The templates provide a consistent look for all participating workgroups, but are easily customized.

Communication Services is giving training sessions on how to use the templates. Nearly 30 people attended the first session, held Oct. 3 at UC Davis. The overall feedback was very positive. According to wildlife damage specialist Terry Salmon, for example, the training “was exactly what we needed.”

Another participant, postharvest specialist Marita Cantwell, said, “The website training was fun as well as informative, and useful to anyone with more to do than time to do it! I recommend it to any colleague needing to set up a good-looking, easy-to-navigate website quickly.”

Participation in this website support system is voluntary, but offers several advantages:

- Standard links help visitors navigate easily among ANR, UCCE and related websites.
- Workgroup project information is pre-loaded.
- The search feature reaches all websites on the ANR server.
- Interaction with file sharing and email collaborative tools is available.
- Easy-to-use web-based forms to create and edit site eliminate the need for knowledge of html.
- Easy upload of reports, photos, other documents.
- Website hosting, mainte-

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continued on p. 2
Getting back to normal (whatever that is) after being an eyewitness to the Sept. 11 attack on the WTC

By Toby Winer

For all classes at New York University Graduate School of Business, where I am studying on an academic leave, began as scheduled. I had taken this opportunity to further my educational and professional development in the areas of business and law. My husband, Russ, is teaching at NYU this year, and my daughter, Jessica, is a junior there.

Our apartment, on West 3rd Street in Greenwich Village, about 20 blocks (a mile or so) from the Financial District, had a direct view of the World Trade Center.

Russ and I were reading on the morning of Sept. 11 when we saw a plane overhead. We thought it strange that the plane was so low. A few seconds later, we heard an explosion. We saw the explosion 18 minutes later and, eventually, the collapse of the WTC towers. Jessica’s dorm was evacuated after the attack because of its proximity to the Financial District. She and some of her friends who also had been displaced stayed with us.

They slept fitfully, had headaches, found it difficult to concentrate, and watched over their shoulders for what might come next.

They were afraid, anxious about traveling (including riding the subway—a big problem if you live in Manhattan!), and fearful about the economy and the uncertainty of a pending war.

Immediately after the attack, the internet was our only reliable way to communicate. Unfortunately rumors began to circulate as news. A lot of these rumors just added to their fears.

Since our daughter is in school in New York City, we feel fortunate to have been here during this period and able to provide a safe place for her and some of her fellow students while their dorm was closed and they began processing their feelings about what had happened. We kept them busy, let them talk about their feelings, provided regular meals and tried to help them retain the feeling that they had control over their lives.

Since Sept. 11, it’s become routine for people here to begin every conversation by asking each other where they were the day of the attack.

While we are returning to normal, normal is not quite the same, as the city was altered by more than just its skyline. At the same time, people are going to work, attending classes, and trying to resume their lives. And so are we.

Thank you to my ANR colleagues for all your emails and expressions of concern.

Winer is ANR’s assistant vice president for development. She wrote this article in New York City on Oct. 7. She is scheduled to return to Oakland early next year.

Webmaster named to manage ANR’s website

Sure that all units of the Division are represented on the redesigned website,” said Pam Kan-Rice, assistant director of ANR News and Information Outreach, who announced Warnert’s appointment.

Besides managing the Division’s statewide website, Warnert will continue to identify and promote major stories that originate at CE offices in the Central Valley and the Kearney, Lindcove, Shafter and West Side research and extension centers.

Warnert has served on ANR’s Governmental and External Relations team for the past 11 years as senior public information representative in the Central Valley Region.

Three years ago she created the website for ANR News and Information Outreach, giving the news media quick access to comprehensive information about the Division. She will continue to manage the content of the news site.

“Jeannette did an outstanding job of developing the ANR News and Information Outreach website,” Kan-Rice said. “This website has greatly increased awareness of the Division’s discoveries, its extension services and its experts through news stories published and broadcast over the past three years.

“We are fortunate that the Division will be able to draw on her experience and creativity to lead further improvements to the Division’s redesigned website while retaining her valuable skills in media relations.”

Warnert can be reached at 559/241-7514 or at jeannette.warnert@ucop.edu.

Web training

Programming and designer support are provided by Communication Services.

Programmer and designer support are provided by Communication Services.

The training sessions for the Workgroup/Program Site Builder were announced earlier in the year. The other training sessions are scheduled for:

- UC Riverside: Oct. 17, Room 240, Science Library
- Kearney Ag Center, Parlier: Oct. 30, Large Conference Room
- UC Berkeley: Nov. 15, Room 111, Mulford Hall

All training sessions are from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please pre-register for a session by contacting Claudia Myers, ANR Communication Services, at camyers@ucdavis.edu, 530/754-8537.
Division awards $2 million to workgroups
(from p. 1)

Workgroup (almost $55,000).
For additional details, visit the workgroup directory
(linked to the ANR homepage: http://danr.ucop.edu/).
It lists all ratified workgroups and the amount of funding
each received in 2001-02.
The Division has now ratified and funded 97 workgroups and six coordinating
conferences. The breakdown according to the Division’s
four broad programmatic areas is as follows: Agriculture
Policy and Pest Management: 20 workgroups; Agriculture
Productivity: 39 workgroups, four coordinating conferences;
Human Resources: 22 workgroups, one coordinating conference;
Natural Resources: 16 workgroups, one coordinating conference.
This call was the first one in which up to two years of
funding was available through one proposal. About two-thirds of those submitting
proposals took advantage of this option—which streamlined the process for every-one involved—to also request funding for FY 2002-03.
Another change: the review process in this cycle of
awards was a month longer. This gave program leaders the
opportunity to collaborate with workgroup chairs on proposals where needed
changes were identified in the evaluation phase. And
that increased the number of
projects that could be
funded, says Assistant Vice President for Programs
Lanny Lund.
The conservation tillage
workgroup, one of the first
to be ratified in this process,
had used funding from the
Division to organize annual
conferences in the San
Joaquin and Sacramento
valleys and bring in scientists,
farmers and companies from
other parts of the U.S. to
provide demonstrations and
share information with po-tential local users of conserva-tion tillage practices.
It has also put together a
research and extension group in Five Points to look at alter-native tillage systems in a
cotton/tomato crop rotation.
“That’s a key project,” says
Mitchell, the workgroup’s
chair. He notes that obtaining
extramural funding has been a struggle.
“At the national level there is the perception that a
lot of this stuff is already
known,” he says. “But a lot of
these things are brand new
for California, and they are
being evaluated and tested
and worked out for the first
time in this state.
“Division support of that
project in the first year is
critical, because we will now
be able to approach a number
of other outlets for augmen-tations to those funds,”
he says.
So, what does he think of
the workgroup concept?
Mitchell says he is a fan.
“It’s helped us and facil-itated our work at quite an
appropriate time. Before, we
were a few isolated members
on a shoestring that saw the
emerging interest here, and
we doggedly stuck with it.
The workgroup has facilitated
our integration and expan-sion,” he says.
Human Resources Pro-
gram Leader Karen Varcoe
says she is pleased by the
evolution of the workgroups,
although she notes that
“some of the workgroups
obviously got out of the gate
running, while others are
having a harder time.
“I like the way different
individuals, interests and
ideas are coming together to
become unified projects,”
Varcoe says. “Instead of us
all being entrepreneurial
islands, we are learning that
the way to get support is to
find our commonalities. In
that way we make what we
do stronger.”
She remarks that she is
“especially encouraged by the
involvement I see of AES fac-
ulty members.”
She points out, as ex-
amples, that several nutrition
workgroups are conducting
research projects in the
counties and “are working
towards what will be the
implementation model for
extension as it follows through
from the research results.”
This collaboration is
“good for everybody,” she
says. She explains that it gives
extension people in the coun-
ties the opportunity to par-
ticipate in the research and
gives faculty members new
opportunities to conduct their
research off campus. “They
see the potential of working
together,” Varcoe says.
Turning to other positive
outcomes, she notes that the
collaborations in some work-
groups have become spring-
boards to large extramural
grants. In addition, she says,
several papers have been
presented at professional so-ciety meetings as a result of
the research and extension
activities of the workgroups.
The workgroup proposal
process was installed in mid-
1999 as part of the Division’s
effort to maximize support
for priority programs and
help AES and CE members
of the Division collaborate
on statewide issues.
Regional staffs and CE county directors

as of October 2001

**NORTH COAST AND MOUNTAIN REGION**

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<td>Yolo</td>
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county email = cecountyname@ucdavis.edu (ex: ceyolo@ucdavis.edu)
$35 million Robert and Margrit Mondavi gift benefits wine and food sciences and performing arts at UC Davis

Robert Mondavi and his wife, Margrit, have announced that they are making a personal gift of $35 million to the University of California, Davis, to establish the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science and to name the campus's Center for the Performing Arts, now under construction.

The gift is the largest private contribution to UC Davis and represents one of the most generous single gifts from an individual donor in the history of the University of California. It includes $25 million for the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science and $10 million for the Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts.

“The magnificent gift from the Mondavis is not only incredibly generous, it has been given in a remarkably gracious spirit,” said Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef. “By providing funding for our internationally renowned programs in the science of wine and food while also providing support for the performing arts, the Mondavis are committing their resources to nurture the very body and soul of both the university and society as a whole.”

The Mondavis' donation for the wine and food sciences realizes a campus vision for consolidating its teaching and research programs in these disciplines in one new facility. The $25 million gift will be combined with campus funds and other private contributions to create new state-of-the-art research and teaching facilities to house the UC Davis departments of viticulture and enology as well as food science and technology. Both departments are part of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The institute will include an academic building of approximately 75,000 square feet for classrooms, laboratories, offices and meeting rooms. A 13,000-square-foot plant for food processing, and a 36,000-square-foot building for a new campus teaching and research winery, also will be constructed within the proposed institute.

The institute will be designed to be the global innovator in university-based wine and food programs and will house the largest and most prestigious wine and food science academic program in the world.

The educational components associated with the winery, brewery and food-processing plant are expected to draw many national and international visitors annually.

The departments of viticulture and enology and food science and technology are currently housed in Wickson and Cruess halls, buildings that are nearly 50 years old.

Planning for the institute will begin immediately, with groundbreaking expected in 2004.

(To read the entire UC Davis press release, go to http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/mondavi/)
Perry named to lead ANR research and extension centers

By Gabrielle Kasner

Assistant Vice President Lanny Lund announced on Sept. 18 that Fred Perry has been selected to fill the permanent position of director of the 10 ANR research and extension centers.

“Fred Perry has done an outstanding job leading the research and extension centers as interim director for the past four years,” said Lund. “I’m delighted he has accepted the directorship on a permanent basis, and I look forward to working with him as he provides leadership for the centers in the future.”

Besides serving as interim director of the RECs, Perry has been responsible for the REC’s Equipment and Facilities unit since 1995. He has been a member of the REC system for 16 years. “I feel very fortunate to be a part of the University of California and a contributor to the mission of ANR,” Perry said.

Q: You’ve probably already developed some ideas about what you’d like to do as REC director.

Perry: I do not anticipate any big changes, although there may be some small course corrections over time.

We did an extensive internal review about five years ago in which we held focus groups up and down the state. We did a lot of intensive work on questions such as, “What are we doing well?” and “What do we need to do better?” That review helped us set the direction we’re pursuing now.

When we conducted the review, we had come through the budget-cut years, and we were beginning to recharge researchers for the cost of some of our services. One question we asked was, “Do we pull back and downsize, or do we take full advantage of the infrastructure that we have in place, and then have the researchers help us with our budget shortfall by recharging?”

The overwhelming input from researchers was that we need to take full advantage of our infrastructure. And although they didn’t necessarily like recharges, if that’s what was required to take full advantage of our facilities, they agreed that’s what we needed to do.

That doesn’t mean we shouldn’t be trying to get external funds. We’re always trying for that and that will continue to be one of my goals. We’ve been relatively successful obtaining funding for the capital improvement side of the budget over the years, but that hasn’t happened on the operation side.

Q: What you mean when you say, “take full advantage of our infrastructure”?

A: For example, one of our goals is to increase the extension efforts of the research and extension centers. One of the things that Lanny Lund has said is that we want to strengthen the “E” in “REC.” That includes increasing the role of the superintendents in that extension effort.

The given role of the superintendents is the management of the center. They are responsible for operations, but there is an academic side of their position. We want to strengthen the academic parts of their role in both research and extension.

Q: And other goals?

A: Another goal is to do a better job informing people, both internally and externally, about the wonderful work that’s being done at the centers.

For example, do you know about the coverage that California Agriculture magazine is giving in its November-December issue to the 50th anniversary of Hopland REC? The entire issue will focus on the variety of outstanding research that’s conducted at Hopland.

We want decision-makers, the ag community and other interested parties to know about the critical research that’s going on at all of our research and extension centers—and we’re planning now on how to provide that information to more people in the months ahead.

Division welcomes two new advisors

Mark Battany is the new viticulture/soils advisor in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

Before joining UC, he worked at Adcon Telemetry, a Sonoma County manufacturer of agricultural meteorological equipment, where he helped clients with hardware and software concerns and provided custom installations and system troubleshooting for a variety of farm systems.

Battany was raised in Boulder, Colo. After high school, he worked on a small farm and served for four years in the U.S. Marine Corps Infantry.

After completing undergraduate work at Colorado State University, he obtained a master’s degree in hydrologic sciences—his focus was on agricultural water and soil management—at UC Davis.

Battany, who is fluent in Spanish, subsequently attended the Institute of Sustainable Agriculture in Cordoba, Spain, as a Fulbright Scholar and, later, as a staff researcher. He studied runoff and erosion in hillside olive groves and developed a computer model to predict soil water content. He also established long-term research plots to compare treatments of conventional tillage, no-till and barley cover crops.

Extension is a three-generation affair for Rob Wilson’s family. His grandfather was a county Extension agent in eastern Nebraska. His father is an Extension weed specialist for the University of Nebraska. And since last summer, Rob Wilson has been a farm advisor here in California.

His home office is in Susanville (Lassen County) but he also works with farmers, ranchers and land managers in Plumas and Sierra counties. Wilson’s focus is on weed ecology and cropping systems.

Wilson earned a bachelor’s degree in natural resource recreation and tourism and a master’s in weed science at Colorado State University.

Lassen County CE Director David Lile said, “I am excited to have a new advisor with Rob’s technical education and experience in noxious weed management join our team in the North Coast and Mountain Region.”

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Sutherlin named director of Fresno County UCCE

By Jeannette Warnert

Jeanette Sutherlin, a 28-year veteran of UC Cooperative Extension, has been named director of its Fresno County program, effective Oct. 1.

“I value the opportunity to continue serving the people of Fresno County and sharing my vision and passion for UC’s education and research programs,” Sutherlin said.

Sutherlin was raised on a Southern California dairy farm and active in UC Cooperative Extension’s 4-H Youth Development Program since she was 10 years old.

She joined the UCCE staff in San Diego County in 1973 and became the 4-H advisor in Fresno County in 1976. Ten years later she was named the county’s nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor.

During the 1990s, her focus was on providing nutrition education and access to healthy food to low-income families. Sutherlin secured more than a half-million dollars each year in grants to fund the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, Project LEAN, California Nutrition Network and Five-a-Day Power Play. The funding and special programs enabled her to develop a staff of 11 professionals dedicated to educating low-income families in Fresno County in nutrition and physical activity.

In 1999, Sutherlin was named interim co-director of Fresno County CE.

“I look to the future of UC Cooperative Extension in Fresno County as a time of opportunity—a time to develop research, deliver education to the Fresno community, and assist our clientele in improving their livelihoods,” Sutherlin said.

Sutherlin has bachelor’s and master’s degrees in home economics education.

The UCCE academic staff in Fresno County includes 13 farm advisors, a 4-H youth development advisor, and a nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor. The office also has 11 program staff and eight support staff.

ANR team wins media award

Iliberto Hauffen and Myriam Grajales-Hall, Spanish Broadcast and Media Services, received the silver award in the public service electronic media, audio category from the Agricultural Communicators in Education, an international association of communications professionals who prepare and disseminate knowledge about natural resources, agriculture and the food industry.

The award recognized the work done to promote UC’s outreach information to Latino students and parents.

ANR also welcomes ... Allan Lochmann

New leader for Contra Costa CE

Allan Lochmann was installed as county director/environmental education advisor in Contra Costa County CE on Sept. 3.

Lochmann comes to UC from Monsanto Corporation, where he was a science communicator on the public affairs team. He was based at the company’s “Beautiful Science Experience” at EPCOT at Disney World in Orlando, Fla. Lochmann’s assignment was to provide educational programming about the benefits of plant biotechnology.

Prior to that, he was with Extension Services in Iowa and Colorado for 23 years. From 1975 to 1993, he served as a county director for several counties in Iowa State University Extension and from 1993 to 1998 he served as a county director in Colorado State University Cooperative Extension.

“I am enthusiastic about Cooperative Extension because I have seen Extension work successfully in changing people’s lives,” he said.

Lochmann has also been an award-winning high school teacher, a farmer and a meteorology specialist in the U.S. Army. He is a native of Iowa. He completed his undergraduate education at Iowa State University, where he also obtained a master’s degree in agricultural education.

Lochmann has been a member or leader of several teams whose work received special recognition. “Tomorrow’s Leaders Today,” an Extension program for developing young leaders in rural communities, received a commendation for outstanding leadership from Iowa’s governor and a community development award from the state Extension Service. Other honors include an environmental award from The National Association of County Agricultural Agents and various recognitions from master gardeners, the cattlemen’s association and the Extension Services at Iowa State University and Colorado State University. He attributes his success to being on great teams with great co-workers.

On the move

■ 4-H Youth Development Program specialist Stephen Russell is the new director of the Division’s 4-H Center for Youth Development. He succeeds Rich Ponzio, who completed his three-year appointment in June.

■ Frank Zalom will step down as director of the IPM Project on Oct. 31. A national search is under way to identify his successor, said Associate Vice President Henry Vaux.

■ Jim Lyons, founding director of the IPM Project, will serve as interim director until a permanent director is appointed.

■ Farm advisor Ken Brittan has a new assignment. He is now responsible for field crops in Sacramento County and field and oil-seed crops in Yolo and Solano counties. His headquarters are in Woodland, in Yolo County. He can be reached at 530/666-8143 or at kbrittan@ucdavis.edu.

He had been the field and vegetable crops farm advisor in Sacramento County since 1996.
**COMING UP**

**NOVEMBER**
- Weather Monitoring Workshop  
  Nov. 5-6; Davis; Joyce Strand  
  (530/752-8350; jfstrand@ucdavis.edu)
- Workshop for Trainers of Pesticide Handlers and Ag Fieldworkers  
  Nov. 30; Winters; 530/752-5273  
  (www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPM PROJECT/workshops.html)

**DECEMBER**
- UC Executive Seminar on Ag Issues—WTO and Int’l Trade Prospects  
  Dec. 9-10; Sacramento; Lauri Treacher (530/752-2320; http://aic.ucdavis.edu)
- Human Resources Program Conference  
  Feb. 25-26; San Jose

**FEBRUARY**
- DAN R Leadership Conference, “Enhancing the Leader in You” (intended for CDS, SSPP directors, REC superintendents and department chairs)  
  Feb. 5-7; San Diego
- Human Resources Program Conference  
  Feb. 25-26; San Jose

*To list events, call 510/987-0631 or send to ANR Report*

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**West Side REC issues call for proposals**

West Side Research and Extension Center in Five Points has issued its call for research proposals for calendar year 2002.

The deadline for submitting research project proposals and the annual requests for land, labor and facilities is Friday, Nov. 2.

The forms are available online for downloading (http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/west_side/research_forms.html). For more information, contact Superintendent Jimmie Ross (559/884-2412; jiross@ucdavis.edu).

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**California Agricultural Experiment Station to undergo five-year review**

The Agricultural Experiment Station is formally classified by the University of California as a Multi-campus Research Unit (M RU). According to University policy, each M RU is to be reviewed every five years to ensure that its mission remains timely and that its resources are allocated efficiently. On recommendation of the statewide Academic Senate, the AES will be the subject of an extramural review during the winter months and early spring. The review is being conducted under the direction of Larry Coleman, UC vice provost for research.

A distinguished ad hoc committee drawn from scholars within and outside UC is in the process of being appointed to conduct the review. Three members of the National Academy of Sciences and one member of the National Academy of Engineering are among the committee members appointed so far. They are:

- Ed Hiler, vice chancellor for agriculture and life sciences, Texas A & M, who will chair the committee
- John Boyer, E.I. Du Pont Professor, Marine Studies, University of Delaware
- Vic Lichtenberg, dean, School of Agriculture, Purdue University
- Jack Gorski, professor emeritus, departments of animal sciences and biochemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Pam Marrone, president and chief executive officer, AgrAest, Inc., and a member of President Atkinson’s Advisory Commission for Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Mike Clegg, professor of genetics and former dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, UC Riverside
- Ed Price, chair and professor, UC Davis department of animal science
- Joe McBride, chair and professor, UC Berkeley Forest Science Division

Several more appointments are expected shortly.

The committee will make site visits to UC Berkeley, UC Davis and UC Riverside and to the Kearney and Hopland Research and Extension Centers to interview campus deans and selected program directors. The review is expected to conclude next spring.

In conducting its review, the committee will also rely on a written overview of the California AES prepared by the office of Associate Vice President for Research Vaux. This 30-page document has been posted on the Executive Council’s website (http://danr.ucop.edu/files/AESREV.pdf).

The committee will submit its review report jointly to Provost and Senior Vice President C. Judson King and Vice President Gomes.

Inasmuch as Vice President Gomes will be one of the two recipients of the report, Associate Vice President Vaux has been designated director of the AES for the purpose of the review. He will provide additional information and meet with the committee as needed.

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**Position update**

The livestock/natural resources farm advisor vacancy announced in the last issue of ANR Report will cover Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties.