Dynes to resign

President Dynes has announced his plans to step down as UC president in June 2008, or upon the appointment of his successor, after serving a five-year term in office. He will return to his faculty position.

Dynes’ letter to UC colleagues is at http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/dynes/dynesletter.pdf.

Casey named SMU VP for Business and Finance

Christine Casey has been named vice president for Business and Finance at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Casey, who has served as ANR’s assistant vice president - Administrative Services since 2005, will begin her duties at the private university on Sept. 1.

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Allen-Diaz named assistant vice president for programs

Barbara Allen-Diaz has been named ANR assistant vice president for programs, effective Sept. 1. Allen-Diaz is currently a professor and the Russell Rustici Chair in Rangeland Management in the UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources.

She has served UC for over 20 years as a UC Berkeley professor and member of the Agricultural Experiment Station. She has also served as department chair of Environmental Science, Policy and Management and executive associate dean of CNR. In 2005 Allen-Diaz was awarded the first Russell Rustici Chair in Rangeland Management, in recognition of her strong program in range management and ecology. Her research has included the effects of livestock grazing on natural resources, oak woodlands and ecosystems of the Sierra Nevada.

“I am honored to be working with Division academics and staff from the campuses, regions and counties,” Allen-Diaz said, “to provide leadership and vision for the Division to continue making a difference here in California and the world.

“ANR possesses the expertise and passion to understand, critique, debate and provide the scientific basis for evaluation of social, economic and environmental consequences of various approaches to sustainability,” she said. “Our commitment to diversity, multiculturalism and community will aid in this endeavor. The future of our Division depends on capturing opportunities to integrate social, political and biological sciences in solving global environmental problems to ensure a sustainable world future.”

As AVP-Programs, Allen-Diaz will be the programmatic leader for ANR and responsible for guiding all ANR academic programs at the statewide level. The AVP-Programs serves as the statewide administrative leader for county-based Cooperative Extension programs and the director for the research and extension centers. ANR’s four program leaders, three regional directors, and the directors for the nine research and extension centers report to her. She reports to the ANR associate vice president.

“Barbara’s own research and teaching programs have made strong use of both the Hopland and Sierra Foothill research and extension centers, so she is very familiar with this important area,” said Rick Standiford, acting vice president. “She brings a wealth of knowledge about the full range of ANR’s programs and I am excited to have her join my staff.”

Allen-Diaz was born in Mt. Vernon, Wash., and raised in the small town of Edmonds, 15 miles north of Seattle. She earned her bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees at UC Berkeley. Before joining the UC faculty in 1986, she worked for the U.S. Forest Service for six years as a regional ecologist for Region 5, with responsibilities for California’s 20 million acres of national forest. The Society for Range Management honored her with its Outstanding Achievement Award in 2001, and the following year the California chapter named her Range Manager of the Year.

Chantal Guillemin will be assisting Allen-Diaz during the transition. Guillemin can be reached at (510) 987-0024 and chantal.guillemin@ucop.edu.
ANR calls for Core Issue Grants proposals

ANR is soliciting proposals for the FY 2008-09 ANR Core Issue Grants. This grants program is intended to foster collaborative efforts of Agricultural Experiment Station faculty, Cooperative Extension specialists and CE advisors to address ANR high priority core issues and target opportunities identified below or a critical emerging issue that is not reflected in the current Core Issues.

Preference will be given to proposals outlining projects that use a multidisciplinary, systems approach and a balance of activities and roles across the research-extension continuum. Extra consideration will be given to proposals that will leverage funding and/or will contribute to multi-state research and extension efforts.

This year Core Issue Grants will be awarded for either:

Tier I – Projects requesting up to $40,000 for 14 months. Project team must include ANR campus-based (AES and/or CE) and county-based CE academics; or,

Tier II – Projects requesting up to $80,000 for 26 months. Project team must include ANR campus-based AES and county-based CE academics and may include CE specialists.

At least 60 percent of Core Issue Grant funds will be awarded to projects proposing collaboration between AES faculty and CE advisors.

Leadership for proposals can come from ANR centers, statewide programs, workgroups, or individuals. Principal investigators (PIs) must hold an academic appointment in ANR, either campus or county-based. If there are multiple PIs, at least one PI must have an ANR appointment.

Funding may be requested for one-time projects, redirection of existing individual academic programs, or “seed money” for longer term efforts, in which case, proposals should include plans for securing continued external funding or institutionalization of the project’s program component.

For a list of priority core issues or other information about the grants, go to http://ucanr.org/cig/. All proposals must be submitted by Oct. 1 via http://ucanr.org/cig/. Funding decisions will be made in January.

Requests for Proposals

Kearney REC
Kearney Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new and demonstration projects for the period Nov. 1, 2007 through Oct. 31, 2008.

Located near Fresno in the San Joaquin Valley, Kearney has 330 acres suitable for many types of tree, vine, and row crops. Refer questions regarding field research management to Chuck Boldwyn, (559) 646-6020, cboldwyn@uckac.edu.

Kearney has specialized research facilities suitable for greenhouse, post-harvest, sample handling (including cold storage and drying) and assorted laboratory research activities. Refer questions about these facilities to Laura Van der Staay, (559) 646-6030, lvdstaay@uckac.edu.

Direct other inquires to Center Director Fred Swanson, (559) 646-6060, fswanson@uckac.edu.

Proposal forms can be obtained at http://groups.ucanr.org/krec/Research/Research_Forms.htm and are due by Oct. 15. Submit all forms electronically to Janie Duran at jdurant@uckac.edu.

To learn more about Kearney, visit http://groups.ucanr.org/krec/.

Kearney Foundation of Soil Science
The Kearney Foundation of Soil Science offers the following funding opportunities:

1. Undergraduate internship support. A maximum of $3,000 is available to support an undergraduate intern during either the summer or academic year on research related to the current mission. Funding is limited to one intern per faculty/CE specialist/county advisor at any one time. You do not need to have a funded Kearney proposal to apply for this funding.

2. Graduate course development on the topic of spatial-temporal soil dynamics in soil ecosystems. This funding opportunity is intended to support the development of courses having a significant field component that requires field equipment or instrumentation to develop (no salary support is allowed). Maximum funding is $5,000 per integrated field course and $500 for field trip format. Those proposals demonstrating matching funds will receive a higher priority.

Two examples of relevant courses: a) A field trip course format that examines spatial-temporal soil dynamics in one or more ecosystems. The format could consist of a multi-day field trip or several day-long field excursions; or b) An integrated, multidisciplinary field course in which spatial-temporal soil measurements are taken over the course of a typical field season. For example, the spatial-temporal dynamics in the hydrology/physics, mineralogy, chemistry, nutrient availability, microbiology, and plant phenology of vernal pool wetlands would make for an interesting study.

3. Support for short-courses and outreach activities that contain a significant spatial-temporal soil ecosystem dynamics component. Examples include stakeholder meetings for precision agriculture, utilization of digital soil survey products, and irrigation management strategies. CE specialists and county advisors are especially welcome to consider this source of funding to enhance their outreach programs.

4. Seminar support. Kearney offers funding to support seminar speakers in the area of spatial and temporal scaling in soil ecosystems. The speaker’s topic must be clearly related to the current 2006-2011 mission. Kearney funding can support travel expenses, lodging and board for the speaker up to $500 for in-state, $1,000 for out-of-state domestic, and $1,200 for international speakers.

Applicants for Kearney funding must have UC or UC-ANR affiliation. Deadline to submit proposals is Aug. 31. The RFP is posted on the Kearney Web site at http://kearney.ucdavis.edu.

For more information about these funding opportunities, please e-mail to Kearney@ucdavis.edu and/or visit the Kearney Foundation Web site at http://kearney.ucdavis.edu.

South Coast REC
The South Coast Research and Extension Center (SCREC) is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for calendar year 2008. Proposals are due by Sept. 21.

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located on 200 acres, SCREC has land suitable for growing row, orchard and field crops, and turfgrass, landscape and nursery plants. Usable orchards are available for new research or demonstration projects on ‘Hass’ avocado trees. There is also ample greenhouse bench space.

SCREC also provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical and management support to UC academics and to personnel from cooperating non-UC organizations, such as USDA. Projects approved by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) will be eligible for SCREC labor support.

For more information contact Julie Chavez, (949) 653-1824, jchavez@ucdavis.edu.

For proposal forms, visit http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form or call Julie Chavez.

All forms must be submitted to Julie Chavez as e-mail attachments.

Renewable Resources Extension Act

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Statewide Program is requesting proposals for education programs for the 2007-2008 federal fiscal year. Areas of priority are identified in the call. The call and application forms are available at http://groups.ucanr.org/rea/

The funding period is Oct. 1, 2007 to Sept. 30, 2008. Deadline to submit proposals, which must be done online, is Sept. 10.

The general funding range is from $6,000 to $12,000. Proposals will be reviewed for merit by a Technical Advisory Committee. Decisions on funding will be made by mid-October and applicants will be notified by letter of award or rejection by the end of October or soon after.

Questions can be directed to Nikki Humphreys in the North Coast and Mountain Region at (530) 754-8510, nhumphreys@ucdavis.edu or to Pam Tise at (530) 754-8509, pdtise@ucdavis.edu.

Employment Opportunities

Shasta and Trinity counties: Nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor

UCCE is seeking a nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor for Shasta and Trinity counties to conduct a county-based extension, educational and applied research program in nutrition, family and consumer sciences (NF&CS) for all ethnic and socioeconomic groups, individuals, community agencies, associations and nonprofit groups. Headquartered in Redding, this advisor will administer FSNEP in both counties. Deadline to apply is Sept. 1.

The NF&CS advisor will implement applied research programs in areas such as human nutrition, chronic disease prevention (diabetes, heart disease, and cancers), food safety and accessibility, obesity, parenting and aging education, family resource management, and nutrition issues unique to the youth population and the senior population. A minimum of a master’s degree is required in one of the disciplines relevant to the duties and responsibilities of this position, including public health nutrition, community nutrition, or family and consumer sciences.

Beginning salary will be in the CE Assistant Advisor rank, commensurate with experience and education. If the successful candidate is currently a CE advisor, the candidate will be offered the position as a lateral transfer, retaining their current rank, step, salary, and definite or indefinite status.


For more information, contact Pam Tise at pdtise@ucdavis.edu.

Water Resources Center Archives: Librarian

The Water Resources Center Archives, located on the UC Berkeley campus, is seeking a part-time (40 percent) librarian to do cataloging for 1 year. The cataloger is responsible for original cataloging of monographs, serials, manuscript materials, and other formats as needed.

A graduate degree in librarianship from an ALA-accredited institution, or equivalent degree and four or more years of cataloging experience is required. Candidates must have working knowledge of AACR2, LC Subject Headings and MARC coding, and relevant cataloging experience and demonstrated experience working with an online bibliographic utility (i.e., OCLC, RLIN).

The salary is in the Associate Librarian I to Associate Librarian III range, depending upon qualifications.

For complete position description and to apply, go to http://www.san-andreas.ca.gov/jobline/070808ptcataloger.html. The position is open until filled, but review of applications will begin Sept. 1.

Send the application package to Linda Vida, Water Resources Center Archives, 410 O’Brien Hall, UC, Berkeley, CA 94720-1718, or fax to (510) 642-9143; or e-mail to lvida@library.berkeley.edu.
Names in the News

Collins named NFCS advisor

Margaret Collins joined the North Coast and Mountain Region staff as the nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor for Tuolumne and Mariposa counties on July 16.

Prior to her role as advisor, Collins recently returned from Ireland where she conducted a national study on quality of life and diabetes care. Collins was awarded her Ph.D. in Public Health at the University College Cork, Ireland under Professor Ivan J. Perry, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health.

Before moving to Ireland she completed an M.Sc. in Nutrition at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, Conn. Collins also has extensive food industry experience with the HJ Heinz Company, where she worked in product development and regulatory affairs.

Her current major research interests include chronic disease with a focus on the role of diet and lifestyle and access to health care and quality of care.

Collins is based in Sonora and can be reached at (209) 533-6991 and mmcollins@ucdavis.edu.

Gomez named lead accountant

Federico Gomez joined Financial Services as lead accountant on July 16. He is responsible for overseeing and coordinating some of the general accounting functions for the Division, including financial reporting and analysis.

He has worked for UCOP General Accounting since 1989 in various areas of administration, accounting management and financial reporting.

Gomez earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from National University Autonomous of Mexico in Mexico City, where he also became a certified public accountant. While attending UNAM, he played soccer for a couple of years with the Pumas, the university’s soccer team. He earned his M.B.A. from the University of San Francisco.

Before joining UC, Gomez worked a few years for the State Bar of California. He also worked for several years with Japanese and Taiwanese international trading companies in San Francisco.

Gomez can be reached at (510) 987-0055 and federico.gomez@ucop.edu.

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“Chris’ accomplishments at UC during the past two years are impressive and clearly led to her selection for this important position at SMU,” said Rick Standiford, acting vice president. “In two short years, Chris vastly improved ANR’s budget process, which is now clear and transparent, developed a unified approach to administrative issues, and formed a strong platform for fairness, service and reliability in all of our administrative units. Her remarkable ability as a problem solver who adopts an open and collaborative style has positively enhanced the functioning of many of our statewide programs.”

During the past year, Casey took on the additional responsibility as interim director of the Research and Extension Centers and worked to bring the REC system operations in line with the operations of ANR.

A search for Casey’s successor will begin this fall. Standiford appointed Kay Harrison Taber, deputy to the VP, as acting assistant vice president, Administrative Services effective Sept. 1 until the search is completed.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with ANR and will miss interacting with those in the division,” said Casey. “I truly appreciate the support of all those in the division as we worked to put efficient administrative processes in place to enhance the ANR operations. I am confident under Kay’s leadership, progress will continue and further improvements will be made.”

Postharvest “Produce Facts” available in 4 languages

The Postharvest Technology Research & Information Center’s Web site is making steady progress to make all of its 128 commodity resource pages titled “Produce Facts: Recommendations for Maintaining Postharvest Quality” available in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish.

Adel Kader, UC Davis postharvest physiologist emeritus, who is fluent in Arabic is leading this project, which has received the support of postharvest specialists around the world.

Produce Facts summarize the latest recommendations for maintaining postharvest quality of horticultural perishables. The Produce Facts pages are some of the most visited pages of the Postharvest Technology Web site (http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu), which receives over 200,000 page views monthly.

Covering apricots to yellow aspers, the Produce Facts are organized into three categories: fruits and melons, vegetables, and ornamentals. Each fact page includes information about measuring the commodity’s maturity, quality, optimum temperature and relative humidity, rates of respiration and ethylene production, responses to ethylene and controlled atmospheres, and various physical, physiological and pathological disorders. Most of the pages have links to photographs illustrating these disorders and other aspects of produce quality.

A complete list of the Produce Facts is in English at http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu/Produce/Producefacts/index.shtml. For more information about Produce Facts, contact Adel Kader at (530) 752-0909 or aakader@ucdavis.edu.

– Mary Reed
Kader took pride in mentoring 36 graduate students and 60 researchers who worked in his lab. Among his students were Kathy Kelley Anderson, Stanislaus County farm advisor; Mary Lu Arpaia, UC Riverside subtropical horticulture specialist; and James Gorny, who was recently named executive director of the UC Davis Postharvest Technology Research and Information Center.

Arpaia says Kader has played an important role in the fresh fruit and vegetable industries because he kept researchers and processors focused on quality.

In 1979 he and his colleagues began offering the annual two-week Postharvest Technology Short Course. The second week is a tour from Davis down to Bakersfield and back via the coast, from Salinas through San Francisco, to visit 20 postharvest handling operations for fruits, vegetables and ornamental horticulture.

In 1998 he launched a Web site (postharvest.ucdavis.edu) that has become the premier source of postharvest information worldwide, averaging more than 200,000 hits per month. In retirement, he volunteers as technical editor for the site and intends to do consulting to raise funds for the postharvest endowment. He and his wife, Aileen, also plan to travel and spend time with their grandchildren.

For full story, see http://news.ucanr.org/newsstorymain.cfm?story=1006.

California Backyard Orchard Web site has a new look

Thanks to funding from the Elvinia J. Slosson Research Endowment and an exceptionally talented UC Davis student assistant, Alex Hong, the California Backyard Orchard Web site has a new look and coding. The updated site not only looks better. It is compliant with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulations and will be easier to maintain through the use of cascading style sheets (CSS).

They also added links to more than two dozen relevant publications from the UC Agriculture & Natural Resources 7000 & 8000 series. You can browse the new site at http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu.

– Donna Seaver

In memoriam

G. Eric Bradford

G. Eric Bradford, professor emeritus in the UC Davis Department of Animal Science, died of heart failure July 29. He was 77.

Bradford gave 50 years of service, building programs in livestock breeding, animal growth and reproduction, and agricultural sustainability.

Bradford was born in Canada and grew up on a small farm in Quebec. He received his bachelor’s degree in agriculture from McGill University, Montreal, in 1951, then attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he received his master’s degree and a Ph.D. in genetics and animal husbandry.

He joined UC Davis in 1957 as an assistant professor in animal husbandry. Hired to establish a sheep breeding program, Bradford studied the genetics of reproduction and growth in livestock, working extensively at the Hopland field station. He was one of the first livestock breeders also to work with laboratory animals, discovering a “high growth” gene in mice and a gene for large litter size in Javanese sheep.

He served two terms as chair of the Department of Animal Science, 1973-78 and 1990-92. He also was an associate dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

Bradford had a strong interest in global agriculture and sustainability. From 1978 to 1994 he was a principal investigator in the Small Ruminant Collaborative Research Support Program funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, carrying out studies in Kenya, Indonesia and Morocco.

Bradford retired in 1993 but remained active, notably in the planning and development of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis, which was established in 2005.

Bradford is survived by his wife of 53 years, Elizabeth, of Davis; their four children, Anne Harris of Madison, Wis., Ken Bradford and Margaret Aumann, both of Davis, and Ellen Javete of Pleasant Hill; and six grandchildren.