**Regents appoint Gilless CNR Dean**

On July 17, the UC Board of Regents approved the appointment of Professor J. Keith Gilless as dean of the College of Natural Resources, following a highly competitive search and the recommendation of UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert Birgeneau. Gilless had been serving as interim dean since the summer of 2007, when he transitioned from the role of CNR’s executive associate dean.

Gilless, who joined the faculty in 1983, is a professor of Forest Economics and Management jointly in the departments of Environmental Science, Policy and Management and of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Gilless earned his B.S. in forestry from Michigan State University and worked in forestry jobs in Maryland, Idaho, and Minnesota before enrolling to earn his joint Ph.D. in forestry and agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

His career includes teaching, research and service in Austria, China, El Salvador, and Honduras. He won the campus distinguished teaching award in 1988 and the ESPN undergraduate teaching award in 2006. He regularly teaches an introductory environmental economics & policy course and is director of the UC Berkeley’s summer field program in forestry.

Gilless’ academic specialties include trade in forest products, regional economic analysis of resource-dependent communities, wildland fire protection planning, forestry development and forest management decision analysis. He is particularly well known for his textbook in forest resource management and his work on modeling the pulp and paper industry and wildland fire protection system.

– Cyril Manning

**J. Keith Gilless**

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**Dooley meets with committee consultants in Sacramento**

VP Dooley and executive director Steve Nation visited Sacramento on Aug. 15 to meet with key legislative staffers in the Senate and Assembly.

Dooley’s message to the committee consultants was: “ANR campus- and county-based academics and staff can provide you and your committee members with expert advice and practical information on a range of topics from production agriculture to the environment to human health and nutrition, so call on us when you need technical information, briefings on critical issues or expert testimony at hearings.” Dooley also asked the legislative staffers about the major issues before their committees and promised follow-up in areas where UC can be of assistance.

Dooley’s schedule included meetings with John Chandler, Senate Committee on Agriculture; Jim Collin and Dawn Clover, Assembly Committee on Agriculture; Diane Colborn, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife; Lawrence Lingbloom, Assembly Committee on Natural Resources; and Kate Riley and Shannon McKinney, Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials.

Dooley is planning visits with staffers from a dozen other committees during the next several months as part of his goal to have the Division more visible in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and more engaged in advocacy and the public policy arena.
Call for Proposals

Kearney REC

Kearney Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new research and demonstration projects for the period Nov. 1, 2008, through Oct. 31, 2009.

Located near Fresno in the San Joaquin Valley, Kearney has 330 acres suitable for many types of tree, vine, and row crops. Kearney has specialized research facilities suitable for greenhouse, post-harvest, sample handling (including cold storage and drying) and assorted laboratory research activities. Proposal forms can be obtained at http://groups.ucanr.org/krec/Research/Research_forms.htm and are due by Oct. 10. Submit all forms electronically to Janie Duran at jdur@uckac.edu.

If you have questions about field research management, contact Chuck Boldwyn at (559) 646-6020, cboldwyn@uckac.edu. For questions about the facilities, contact Laura Van der Staay at (559) 646-6030, lvdstaay@uckac.edu. Other questions can be directed to Center Director Fred Swanson at (559) 646-6060, fswanson@uckac.edu.

To learn more about Kearney Research and Extension Center, visit the Web site at http://groups.ucanr.org/krec/.

REA and student intern

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Statewide Program is requesting proposals for education and student intern programs for the 2008-09 Federal Fiscal Year. Areas of priority are identified in the call. The call and proposal information is available at http://rea.ucanr.org/proposals.shtml.

To create a proposal for an RREA grant, go to your ANR Portal (http://ucanr.org/portal). The RREA Grants are in the ‘Simple Grant System’ section at the bottom of the center column.

The funding period is Oct. 1, 2008, to Sept. 30, 2009. Deadline to submit proposals, which must be done online, is Sept. 10.

The general funding ranges are from $6,000 to $12,000. Proposals will be reviewed for merit by an eight-member Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Decisions on funding will be made by mid-October and recipients will be notified by letter of award and/or rejection by the end of October, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Questions can be directed to Nikki Humphreys at (530) 754-8510, nrhumphreys@ucdavis.edu, or Pam Tise at (530) 754-8509, pdtise@ucdavis.edu.

South Coast REC

South Coast Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for calendar year 2009. Proposals are due by Sept. 22.

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 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.

Contact Marie Hernandez Vega at (949) 653-1810 or mthernandezvega@ucdavis.edu for more information. For proposal forms, please visit http://groups.ucanr.org/southcoast/Research/Research_Proposal_Forms.htm or call Vega. All forms must be submitted to Vega as e-mail attachments.

Communication Services Update

Your ANR Repository

Recent changes to the ANR Repository make it more intuitive for users to add files and create their own collections. The Repository’s Help files have been updated to reflect these changes and now include short video demonstrations of the basic features. The Repository, which can be accessed through the ANR portal at http://my.ucanr.org, contains nearly 42,000 documents including photos, PowerPoint presentations, and over 300 free publications.

ANR Blogs

Often one person can’t keep up with providing new content on a blog on a regular basis, which is an essential quality of a useful blog. With additional moderators, the team can keep a blog fresh and share the burden of providing content. The administration area of the ANR blogs has new features to make this easier. Adding and removing moderators has been greatly simplified, and links to e-mail all moderators and users who may post have been added. For details, see programmer Bryon Noel’s blog entry Blog Administration Change http://ucanr.org/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=553.

In addition, you can now have your blog appear on your website’s homepage using a new feature in Site Builder. For details, see Noel’s blog entry New Feature http://ucanr.org/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=394.

Adobe Connect

If you use Adobe Connect, you may have noticed an announcement on the login page stating that fees for use of Connect will go into effect on Oct. 1. It suggests contacting your MSO to establish an agreement for fee-for-service. As ANR faculty and staff, you do not need to do anything about this. ANR Communication Services pays ATS at UCD a flat fee that covers unlimited use of Connect by anyone in ANR hosting meetings.

For more information, contact Mike Poe, media services manager, (530) 754-3905, mlpoe@ucdavis.edu.
Names in the news

Allen-Diaz contributes to Nobel-winning climate work

Barbara Allen-Diaz is among the UC Berkeley professors who contributed to a United Nations international climate change organization that is sharing the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore. The prize was announced Oct. 12.

Allen-Diaz became involved in the project after attending a UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) meeting in 1993, where she met with other scientists from around the world who work on rangelands. She was appointed to oversee the rangelands mitigation chapter.


“We were charged to synthesize the current data, at that time 1990, from the climate physicists on what the effects of climate change might be on our particular ecosystem and what options there might be for mitigating the effects of climate change,” Allen-Diaz said.

The three-year effort required multiple meetings with the scientists working on the report. Allen-Diaz coordinated the effort for the chapter: recruiting additional scientists to participate, writing many sections of the report, and synthesizing the contributions from all the authors. She also defended the chapter on the stage in Geneva, responding to questions and critiques from policymakers and politicians from several countries.

“We provided some of the first analyses that later became the IPCC IV, Al Gore’s film, “An Inconvenient Truth,” and most importantly, enhanced the understanding of more of the general populace about the importance of climate change,” she said.

The IPCC was established in 1988 and has issued four major studies that analyzed climate change causes, impacts and what can be done about it.

Also from Berkeley, Inez Fung, professor of atmospheric science and co-director of UC Berkeley’s Institute of the Environment; William D. Collins, professor of earth and planetary science; Norm Miller, adjunct professor of geography; and Dan Kammen, professor in the Energy and Resources Group and the Goldman School of Public Policy and co-director of UC Berkeley’s Institute of the Environment, are among more than 2,000 scientists worldwide who have conducted groundbreaking research for the IPCC and share the Nobel Peace Prize.

Silva del Rio named Tulare dairy advisor

Noelia Silva del Rio has accepted the position of UC Cooperative Extension dairy science advisor for Tulare County.

Silva del Rio earned her Ph.D. in Dairy Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her LV degree in Veterinary Medicine at Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Silva del Rio has most recently been working with Veterinary Population Medicine at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, St. Paul, Minn.

Silva del Rio will begin her appointment as CE dairy science advisor in Tulare County on Aug. 18. She can be reached at (559) 685-3309 x213.

Schmidt promoted to CAES Assistant Dean

Christine Schmidt has been promoted to assistant dean for College Advancement in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at UC Davis. Schmidt has served as acting assistant dean since June 2007. Schmidt will lead the college advancement team, which handles philanthropy, communications, events, and external relations for CAES.

The new assistant dean is enthusiastic about the dialogue between donors and CAES.

“When someone tells us they want to invest in UC Davis, it becomes a conversation,” Schmidt said. “We talk with donors to help them understand our work. We explain ways that they could use their philanthropic dollars to deepen the university’s impact and to shape the legacy they want to create.”

Schmidt is a UC Davis alumna who also has a master’s degree in nonprofit administration from the University of San Francisco. Prior to her work as acting assistant dean, Schmidt served as a director of Major Gifts and director of Planned Giving for CAES. Schmidt joined the college’s development team in 2002 after several years of work in fundraising and communications for non-profit organizations.

“We are fortunate to have someone with Christine’s experience to meet our challenging fundraising goals,” said Neal Van Allen, dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. “She has successfully shepherded major gifts to our college, and she has experience in directing communications efforts related to fundraising. She brings a great deal of enthusiasm for our college to her job, and has an outstanding ability to build partnerships that benefit both the college and our supporters.”

Schmidt can be reached at (530) 752-0236 and cmschmidt@ucdavis.edu.

Hayden-Smith joins newspaper advisory board

Rose Hayden-Smith, acting UCCE Ventura County director and 4-H Youth Development advisor, has been invited by the Ventura County Star (Scripps Howard) to serve as a member of its Community Advisory Board. This small group – usually seven to ten individuals – serves as an advisory and sounding board for the newspaper on editorials, coverage and community issues.

The board typically consists of a diverse group of community leaders, who receive no compensation. Occasionally, an advisory member is invited to write an article.

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Names in the news - cont. from p. 3

Zhu holds the Jane S. Johnson Chair in Plant Sciences as well as a UC Presidential Chair and is the former director of the Institute for Integrative Genome Biology. He joined UCR in 2004, after appointments at the University of Arizona, Auburn University and Rockefeller University, where he was a Life Sciences Research Foundation Fellow.

While at Arizona, Zhu was named Researcher of the Year in 2002 by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In 2003 he received the Charles Albert Shull Award from the American Society of Plant Biologists. And in 2004 he was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which cited him for his pioneering research in the field of plant stress biology research, work that fundamentally changed the perspective and direction of research in this field. It is this pioneering research that receives so many citations from other scientists around the world.

Zhu received a B.S. in soils and agricultural chemistry from Beijing Agricultural University in 1987, an M.S. in botany from UCR in 1990, and a doctorate in plant physiology at Purdue in 1993.

UC Davis to host ag biodiversity symposium

Noted evolutionary biologist and author Jared Diamond will deliver the opening keynote talk for an international symposium on agricultural biodiversity at UC Davis, to be held Sept. 14-17.

Diamond, a UCLA professor of geography and author of the books “Collapse” and “Guns, Germs and Steel,” will discuss the role that chance or destiny play in the local origins of agriculture. He will speak on Sept. 14 for Harlan II: An International Symposium on Biodiversity in Agriculture: Domestication, Evolution and Sustainability.

Also presenting a keynote speech will be Gary Nabhan, a University of Arizona ecologist, expert in how different cultures use plants, and a pioneer of the local food movement.

Nabhan will speak about the origins of food diversity on Sept. 16, during the symposium gala.

The symposium will be held on campus. Tours will follow to agricultural sites near Davis and in Northern California. Pre-registration is required and discounts are offered for those registering by Aug. 21.

More information and registration is available online at http://Harlanii.ucdavis.edu.

The symposium, named in honor of the late evolutionary biologist and plant explorer Jack R. Harlan, is coordinated by the UC Genetic Resources Conservation Program and UC Davis departments of Animal Science, Anthropology, Human and Community Development, and Plant Sciences, with guidance from an international advisory committee.

CNAS, CAES to join California Agricultural Heritage Club

On Aug. 27, UCR’s College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences and UCD’s College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences will become members of the California Agricultural Heritage Club at the State Fair in Sacramento.

The California Agricultural Heritage Club recognizes agricultural family enterprises and agribusinesses that have been in operation in California for more than 100 years. UCB’s College of Natural Resources became a member several years ago, so after the event all three of UC’s Agricultural Experiment Station campuses will be members.

VP Dooley will be the keynote speaker at the awards brunch.

editorial on an issue important to them. Hayden-Smith, who formerly served as the county’s Master Gardener coordinator, has already been granted this privilege – the Star published an op-ed in May that she and Dan Desmond, wrote on gardening.

Hayden-Smith was chosen for the board because of her UC role in education, agriculture and with youth, her work as a historian, and her community involvement.

UCCE San Diego earns 2 national awards

The National Association of Counties honored UCCE San Diego’s Wildfire Zone and Healthy Gardens, Healthy Homes program with its Achieve ment Award.

Healthy Gardens, Healthy Homes, a pesticide education program, is directed by Cheryl Wilen, IPM advisor, and Scott Parker, program representative III.

The wildfire program is coordinated by Terry Salmon, county director; Valerie Mellano, environmental issues advisor; Carl Bell, regional invasive plants advisor; Dave Shaw, landscape advisor; and Jan Gonzales, wildfire program coordinator.

The annual Achievement Award recognizes innovative county government programs called County Model Programs.

Zhu ranked top U.S. plant scientist

Jian-Kang Zhu, a faculty member in the UCR Department of Botany and Plant Sciences is the most cited plant scientist in the United States, according to a survey by ScienceWatch for 1997-2007 (http://sciencewatch.com/dr/sci/08/jun22-08_4/).

Zhu’s 5,405 citations—references to his research work in other scholars’ articles—earned him a #4 ranking internationally.

The long-term goals of his research program, Zhu says, are “to elucidate the signaling pathways used by plants in responding to environmental stresses and to identify key genes for modifying the responses of crops to environmental stresses, which ultimately will lead to major contributions to agriculture and the environment.”
Interim Oakland assignments

Academic Personnel Coordinator
Former contact: Elizabeth Gomez
New contact: Carolyn Frazier, (510) 987-0034, Carolyn.Frazier@ucop.edu
• Interprets and implements academic policies and procedures
• Develops and implements Division academic personal procedures and practices in the areas of employment, compensation, training and development and employee and labor relations. Manages academic personnel functions for all employees of statewide programs and projects
• Coordinates academic employee relations cases including investigation of complaints, formal grievances, layoff actions, and advise on corrective and demotion actions
• Serves as liaison to OGC for formal grievances, administrative reviews, and advocacy at hearings
• Serves as the Division’s Compliance Officer on background investigations, academic employment, academic grievances, access to academic records and other issues related to academic personnel. Coordinates audit processes with internal and external auditors

Affirmative Action Administrative Asst II
Former contact: Josylene Eckel
New contact: David White, (510) 987-0095, David.White@ucop.edu
• Processes ADA Requests
• Maintains summary log and usage of ADA funds
• Maintains annual complaints log of various cases of discrimination
• Assists Director in preparing various reports
• Processes invoices and travel

Contracts and Grants Director
Former contact: Carol Berman
New contact: Lynn Deetz, (510) 987-0042, Lynn.Deetz@ucop.edu
• ANR Sponsored Project Administration
• Develops Division policies and procedures to comply with UC practices on sponsored projects and intellectual property administration
• Oversees proposal submission on behalf of ANR
• Represents ANR on the UC Technology Transfer Advisory Committee (TTAC)

Federal Contracts and Grants Analyst
Former contact: Flora Vasilevsky
New contact: Lynn Deetz, (510) 987-0042, Lynn.Deetz@ucop.edu
• Coordinates proposal preparation with principal investigators and departmental staff
• Reviews proposals for cost accuracy, proper commitment of university resources, compliance with UC policy
• Coordinates award acceptance and negotiations with extramural sponsors regarding such matters as award terms and conditions, indirect costs, budgets and to assure consensus
• Implements and enforces ANR policies and procedures related to post-award administration of contracts and grants, including subcontracts

Federal Reporting Principal Analyst
Former contact: Kevin Coughlin
New contact: Jake McGuire, (510) 987-9052, Jake.Mcguire@ucop.edu
• USDA AD-419 Expenditure Report
• ANR Annual Expenditure and Budget Reporting from Corporate Financial system
• DaFIS General Ledger Review Monitoring
• Ad Hoc Reporting and Analysis
• ANR Account Maintenance Review

Financial Services Director
Former contact: Federico Gomez, (510) 987-0055, Federico.Gomez@ucop.edu
• Directs and overseas Divisionwide fiscal processes and procedures, financial planning, analysis and reporting
• Develops and implements financial strategies, policies, systems and controls for the Division’s activities
• Department Administrator for the UCLA Financial/Personnel System. Access Coordinator for various campus financial systems including UCD, UCB, UCR general ledger and payroll systems
• Provides management and staff with guidance and support in decision making, providing necessary financial analysis and reports
• Manages the staff of the financial services unit
• Provides training to ANR staff in various campus and systemwide financial systems and procedures

Risk Services Coordinator
Former contact: Robert Watkins
New contact: Jake McGuire, (510) 987-9052, Jake.Mcguire@ucop.edu
• Manages the Self-Insurance and Insurance Programs for ANR
• Responsible for risk assessment, loss prevention and loss control, organization wide
• Claims management and coordination with third-party administrators
• Business contact review and analysis for indemnification and insurance requirements
• On-site reviews for all remote locations and facilities
• Manages DOJ Fingerprinting Process for ANR staff/employees and volunteer programs
• Education and training programs for ANR units and volunteer programs in insurance, liability and loss prevention and control

Staff contacts for senior leadership
VP Dan Dooley – Cheryl Bennett, executive assistant, (510) 987-0060, cheryl.bennett@ucop.edu
AVP Rick Standiford – Geralyn Unterberg, executive assistant, (510) 987-0027, geralyn.unterberg@ucop.edu
Assistant VP-Programs Barbara Allen-Diaz – Pat Harrigan, administrative specialist, (510) 987-0067, Patricia.Harrigan@ucop.edu
Assistant VP-Administrative Services Kay Harrison Taber – Cheryl Hyland, administrative specialist, (510) 987-0145, Cheryl.Hyland@ucop.edu
A documentary written and directed by Steve Quirt and Ellie Rilla of the Marin County UC Cooperative Extension will make its debut at the end of August. “Hidden Bounty of Marin” is a new 28-minute documentary about farming and ranching in Marin County.

It will premiere at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 29 at the Foreign Cinema restaurant in San Francisco at a $100 Slow Food Nation fundraising dinner for Marin Organic. It will also screen at 7 p.m. on Sept. 18 at Tomales Town Hall and at 7 p.m. on Sept. 26 at the Point Reyes Dance Palace. KRCB, Channel 22, the Rohnert Park-based PBS-affiliate, will air the video during the first week of September.

The documentary was produced by Novato Public Access Television with funding from Marin Community Foundation, Marin County Board of Supervisors and UC Davis California Communities Program.

Retirements

Harry Carlson

Harry Carlson retired in June from what he calls the “best job in UC Cooperative Extension,” director of Intermountain Research and Extension Center.

Carlson earned a bachelor’s in wildlife and fisheries biology, a master’s in agronomy and a Ph.D. in ecology from UC Davis.

In 1981, he was named the agronomy advisor for Modoc and Siskiyou counties, but almost immediately took on the role of IREC director. Carlson held the position for 28 years, preceded by only one other farm advisor, Ken Baghott, in the station’s 62-year history. In 1997, Carlson was promoted to director of the REC system, based at UC Davis. Three years later, the call of Tule Lake’s wide open spaces, wildlife, beautiful climate and innovative farmers drew him back to IREC.

“Unlike other areas where farm advisors might be trying to convince farmers to adopt new practices, I was in the position of asking people to wait a year to be sure of our research results,” Carlson said.

Over his career, Carlson conducted research and educational programs in nematode, insect, weed and disease management, variety development in several crops, crop water use, irrigation efficiency and irrigation scheduling.

A defining moment in his career came in 2001, when drought triggered a cut-off of irrigation water to producers in the area to protect two species of endangered suckers and endangered salmon in the Klamath River and upper Klamath Lake. Carlson advised and educated producers, scientists and regulators as the crisis unfolded. For example, he coordinated a symposium on evapotranspiration to counter unsupported claims about how much water agriculture uses compared to wetlands.

Carlson will serve as IREC’s interim director part-time while a search for his replacement takes place. Retirement will give him time to hunt, fish, complete home remodeling projects and train his four Labrador retrievers for field trial competitions.

Read the full story at http://news.ucanr.org/newsstorymain.cfm?story=1131

Richard Ponzio

Richard Ponzio, UC Davis CE 4-H specialist, retired in June after a 22-year career with ANR.

In 1986, Ponzio joined ANR as a UCCE 4-H specialist at UC Berkeley. In 1991, he was moved to UC Davis Department of Human and Community Development.

“My CE position has been the perfect professional platform, providing me a unique opportunity to engage in academic research, development, and application of usable knowledge to benefit children, youth and families,” Ponzio said.

He has successfully led major efforts in 4-H science and technology education funded primarily by the National Science Foundation. In 1988 he became the principal investigator for the first NSF grant award to 4-H, for the 4-H Science Experiences and Resources for Informal Education Settings (4-H SERIES). He involved UCCE academics in fields such as hardwoods, entomology, wildlife and human development, as well as other scientists and educators in the
Jim Grieshop retired from UC Davis in July after nearly 33 years as a UC Cooperative Extension community education development specialist. For the past 3 years, Grieshop has also served as director of the 4-H Center for Youth Development.

The rural Ohio native earned his B.S. in biology from Marquette University, served in the Peace Corps in Ecuador for two years, earned his M.A. in anthropology at SUNY in Binghamton, NY, then worked with a program to educate farmworkers while earning his Ph.D. in foundations of education at the University of New Mexico. Before joining UC in 1975, Grieshop served as a statewide CE specialist at New Mexico State University for 2 years.

He was a key member of the team that launched UC’s statewide Master Gardener Program in 1980.

David Chaney

David Chaney, education coordinator at the statewide UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and the UC Davis Agricultural Sustainability Institute (ASI), is retiring at the end of August after 20 years of service.

Chaney, who has also been the USDA Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) representative for California for 13 years, recently received a commendation from national SARE director Jill Auburn.

“His work performed in the area of sustainable agriculture in California has helped shape extension education and farmer-rancher programs, and elevated awareness of sustainable agriculture in general,” Auburn said.

Chaney began his tenure at SAREP in 1987 as an information analyst and technical writer. In 1995 he was promoted to academic coordinator. Recently, he has been coordinating the statewide and campus programs’ Web presence.

As state SARE coordinator, Chaney provided greater access to Western Region and national SARE resources, strengthened professional development opportunities for advisors and other agricultural and community development professionals, and developed educational materials for agricultural professionals’ working with California farmers and ranchers. Among the many projects and products he coordinated are an online course in ecological pest management, workshops and educational materials on agricultural direct marketing, and the Organic Farming Compliance Handbook for Western Region agricultural professionals.

Tom Tomich, ASI director, noted that Chaney’s broad understanding of educational outreach and his proficiency with Web tools “will be deeply missed.”

Chaney, who is moving with his family to Corvallis, Ore., will be exploring a new career in education and pursuing gardening, travel and the arts.

“I have had the opportunity to work with incredibly talented and dedicated colleagues during my time at UC,” he said. “I’m grateful for the experience and the friendships that have developed along the way.”

James Grieshop

A highlight of his career, Grieshop says, has been working with farmworkers, Mexican immigrants, CE colleagues and students on campus.

Known for his creativity, Grieshop developed the La Loteria Manejo Seguro program to promote safe driving among farmworkers. This program, which Nationwide Insurance Company recognized with its national award in 1998, used an innovative, educational game and mass media to engage and educate Spanish-speaking drivers in California.

More recently, he has initiated a multi-campus, bi-national campaign to warn and educate people in the Seaside-Monterey area of the high levels of lead contained in food sent from relatives in Oaxaca, Mexico.

In 1994 the UC Davis Academic Federation honored him as the first Cooperative Extension specialist to receive the UC Davis James Meyer Distinguished Achievement Award. In 1984-85, he received a Fulbright Fellowship for work on risk perception and community based education in Ecuador. In 1992-93, he was awarded a second Fulbright Fellowship to research risk, health and community-based education in Oaxaca.

Grieshop said he has felt blessed to get paid to teach and to address real-life problems, working with wonderful colleagues.

“I’ve had the opportunity to work in a variety of areas with many groups and people,” Grieshop said. “It has been a real joy and I hope to continue with it. This has never been ‘work!’”

He has received emeritus status and will continue to lead the 4-HCYD part-time during its search for a successor. In retirement, he and his wife plan a bike trip around Ireland. He also plans to continue working to educate people in creative and innovative ways.

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Bill Peacock

Bill Peacock retired from UCCE Tulare County in June ending a 36-year distinguished career helping local table, raisin, and wine grape growers.

Peacock represents the fifth generation of his family, on both his mother’s and his father’s sides, to farm in Tulare County. While he was growing up, his father would call on legendary Tulare County farm advisor Fred Jensen for consultation.

“I was impressed and thought that farm advising would be a rewarding job,” Peacock said. “Fred became a specialist and moved to Kearney in 1972 and I was hired as his replacement.”

During his career, Peacock completed an extensive body of research focused on improving grapevine cultural practices, including canopy management, trellis design, irrigation scheduling, deficit irrigation and grapevine nutrition. In all, he authored or co-authored 161 peer-reviewed scientific articles, 276 newsletters, county publications and proceeding articles and 185 articles in the popular press. His writing was recognized in 1990 when his publication on nitrogen fertilization of grapevines was named the “best paper of the year” by the American Society for Enology and Viticulture.

Peacock plans to stay in Tulare County during retirement and will continue some of his viticulture research as an emeritus farm advisor. He also expects to do more traveling, hiking in the Sierra Nevada and spending time with his family.

The farm family line does not snap with the sixth Peacock generation. Peacock and his wife raised their two children on a small farm near Woodlake. His daughter graduated this year from the UC Davis College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and his son is a sophomore in CAES.

“And so the beat goes on,” Peacock said.

Ted Torngren

Theodore S. “Ted” Torngren, former UCCE Sacramento County director, passed away July 4, in Sacramento, at age 84.

When Torngren retired in 1984, he had served UC Cooperative Extension for 37 years, and was recognized by the California State Assembly and the County of Sacramento for his exemplary record of professional, public and civic leadership.

He was born in San Francisco. When he was six, his family moved to Redwood Valley in Mendocino County where his father had a small farm with egg production and a grape vineyard.

Torngren received his B.S. in poultry husbandry from UC Berkeley and his Master of Education from UC Davis.

His first assignment was as 4-H advisor for Yolo County in 1947. In 1955, he became a field crops advisor, cooperating with UC Davis specialists on field experiments in agronomic crops, irrigation, land use, and pest and weed control.

In 1962, Torngren was appointed Sacramento County director. His achievements included design of a county agricultural building to house the Sacramento County Department of Agriculture and UCCE. He was a leader for urban programs with the successful establishment of the Master Gardener, the Master Food Preservation and the Urban Forestry programs. He also brought community gardens to the Sacramento area.

Torngren set up one of the first Expanded Food and Nutrition Education programs in the state. He devised methods for the chemical control of mistletoe and established a eucalyptus trial to evaluate biomass production. He worked with agricultural interests and the Air Pollution Control Districts in developing an agricultural burning standard for the Sacramento area.

In 1968, the U.S. Agency for International Development chose him to survey and plan an Agricultural Education Program for East Pakistan (Bangladesh). For a sabbatical in 1982, he was a senior intern for the California State Assembly Agricultural Committee chaired by the late John Thurman.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Jackie; son Bill; daughters Sue, Kate and JoAnne; and six grandchildren.

Heat stress prevention tips

“When a body is working hard in any weather, it generates and needs to dissipate a lot of internal heat,” says Howard Rosenberg, UC Berkeley CE agricultural personnel management specialist.


Key points on heat stress prevention in Spanish and English on pocket-sized fold-out cards may be downloaded from the site as well.

In memoriam