A conversation with AVP Lanny Lund

DANR’s programmatic leader discusses workgroups, the Program Council and collective leadership

Assistant Vice President Lanny Lund is the primary programmatic leader for Division research and educational outreach activities. He is also statewide administrative leader for UCCE county programs.

Previously chair of the UCR department of environmental sciences, Lund became assistant vice president for programs, a post created for DANR’s new organizational structure, on July 1.

He had been in office just eight weeks when he accepted ANR Report editor Gabriele Kassner’s invitation to talk about his new job.

Below are excerpts from that conversation, which took place Aug. 24 in Oakland in Lund’s corner office on the sixth floor of the UC Office of the President building.

How do you envision your new role?

I’m still learning a lot about the new organization, so I haven’t laid out a specific agenda. ... I think my role right now is to listen to what people have to say and to respond to their concerns.

From your perspective, what does the reorganization do?

It provides us with an opportunity to improve the linkages between campuses and counties and, really, all arms of the Division.

When you say between campuses and counties, do you mean between AES and CE?

Yes, between the advisors and specialists and AES researchers. I also would like to more fully integrate the

continued on p. 2

Joanne Ikeda receives DANR outreach award

By Jill Goetz

Joanne Ikeda, a nationally recognized expert on pediatric obesity and the dietary practices of ethnic and immigrant populations, is the recipient of the Division’s 1999 Outstanding Outreach Award. The award, which includes a plaque and cash, is presented annually by the Affirmative Action Office to CE academics.

As a CE nutrition education specialist and co-director of the Center for Hunger and Obesity in the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley, Ikeda has been a leader in efforts to refine approaches to the prevention and treatment of pediatric obesity at the local, state and national levels.

In addition, Ikeda has been a pioneer in conducting community collaborative research on the food habits and dietary quality of California’s low-income, immigrant and

continued on p. 3

Y2K problems and your desktop computer

By Claudia Myers

Can your computer handle the Year 2000 date change? Is this even a problem you need to worry about? And if your computer isn’t Y2K compliant, will ANR Communication Services fix it for you?

The answers to these questions are, respectively, maybe, yes if you use a PC) and no.

Chances are, you do need to concern yourself with Y2K and your desktop computer at work, because like most people in the Division, you probably use a PC. (Because the internal clock and hardware in Macintosh computers are good until the year 2018, Macs don’t have this problem. But Mac users should know that some PC-based software could be affected by the Y2K rollover.)

Y2K can have an impact on three areas of your computer: the BIOS, the operating system and individual software programs. PC users should be particularly concerned with the BIOS in their computer.

In this article, I’ll talk about the BIOS, what its problems might be, and what to do about them. In future articles I’ll discuss

continued on p. 4
research and extension centers into our statewide programs.

Some people say the restructuring was primarily a reorganization of CE. What’s your reaction to that notion?

I am concerned that there is the perception in some quarters that the reorganization is a CE phenomenon.

I chair the Program Council and it is our intention—that of the associate deans, the regional directors and the program leaders—to strengthen the land-grant continuum of research and extension. The program leaders, in particular, are working hard to increase the interest of AES personnel in the workgroups and in linking with advisors and specialists.

What about the new structure will improve that? After all, we are trying to get the research and extension sides of the institution to work together on a larger scale has been a long sought-after goal not only in California.

You’re right, the situation is not unique to California; it’s going on throughout the nation. As you know, the land-grant philosophy is tripartite; in other words, you have teaching, research and extension, and, hopefully, those three functions are all working toward the same goal.

Different reward systems on the extension side and the research side—the heavy emphasis on obtaining grant funds, the drive to be a research university, which in some cases has been at the expense of the land-grant university—have tended to create a disconnect between extension and research.

In recent years, there has been a real effort to enhance and in some cases reestablish the land-grant mission at the national, regional and statewide levels.

... Here in California ... with our new structure, we have the opportunity to increase linkages between extension and research ... For example, we are encouraging any workgroup that forms to have members from the extension side and the research side, and possibly even from outside DANR.

Hopefully, we can utilize the “two-way street” concept more fully, so that concerns of clientele are brought to the attention of researchers and, on the other hand, researchers’ findings can be brought to the attention of clientele.

But instead of having the specialists and the farm advisors in “one room” and then having the specialists go talk to the researchers in “another room,” which is how it often worked in the past, workgroups are intended to have the three groups in the same room, at least periodically, so that they can all talk together about the problems that need to be addressed.

Will the funding allocated to workgroups provide an incentive for more AES academics to participate in workgroups?

Two thoughts come to mind here. First, we are attempting to identify additional sources of funds to support workgroup activities and participants, including AES researchers. The second is more fundamental to the success of the workgroup model. We have to convince campus researchers that there is something for them to gain by really knowing what is going on in the state and what the challenges are that our clientele are facing on a day-to-day basis. That is, what are the real pressures growers have relative to pests? Or drainage waters? Or what are the real concerns in youth development in the inner-city?

I think our researchers have a lot to gain by knowing what it is our advisors are encountering on the firing lines. A personal experience is often much more informative than reading about something in the newspaper.

You’ve used the term collective leadership in talking about your job; I assume you’re referring to your relationship with the Program Council. How does collective leadership work?

In the organizational chart, I function as a link between academics and the higher administrative structures in the Division.

The Program Council has been established to advise me on many, many matters relative to budget, personnel and so on, because I’m charged with making recommendations to the associate vice president about deployments of budgets and personnel.

What I mean by collective leadership, then, is that it is not me making the decisions—it’s a group of individuals interested in the collective good of the Division. As such, we all have important contributions to make.

I look to the Program Council to lay out the strategies for deploying budgeting and personnel resources so we can most effectively address the needs of Californians and contribute to the direction of the Division.

That’s a consensus style of management, isn’t it?

Even with shared governance, universities are quite hierarchical. What I’m trying to do here, at least at the Program Council level, is break down the hierarchy.

Collective leadership means you listen to your clientele, you listen to your staff—you carry on conversations with interested parties—and then you set a direction based on those conversations and the experiments you want to try.

By experiments, you mean employing new approaches to see how they work?

Right. To give you an example: When a new issue comes up, I might encourage the program leader to set up a task force and see if it works. If it doesn’t, maybe we’ll go to a different model. A researcher learns through experimentation and does it all the time. So we may need to experiment with more than one approach.

How do you see the program leaders working with the workgroups?

Program leaders are really charged with program coordination in their respective areas. What that says to me is that we would like advisors to know what backup they have on campuses—where to go for research—

continued on p. 3
based information—and we would like researchers in the lab to know what outreach avenues they have for their research work. That’s what I think of as program coordination.

And that’s what I hope the program leaders are able to do—to talk about program coordination, whether it means we can reduce some duplication, or make sure we have adequate coverage in high-priority areas.

I also expect the program leaders to bring to my attention and to the attention of the Program Council those areas in which the Division has voids. When the Program Council meets, the program leaders, regional directors and the associate deans are all in the room and basically we have all the “employing” units to hear where the pressing programmatic needs in the Division are.

We will divide up the workgroups according to program areas. And I would expect the program leaders to be in contact with all the workgroup chairs in their area and bring information from those workgroups to the Program Council. Beyond that, the program leaders will be continually looking for opportunities for the Division to marshal the forces to address issues.

Let me add that in the workgroup format, we are not trying to direct anyone’s research. All the workgroup activities are hopefully grass-roots’ kinds of things so that we’re not directing from above. The program leaders are hoping only to facilitate important activities—not to direct activities.

Is the role of the regional director different than it was in the past?

We obviously have newly configured regions. But the regional directors are still involved in all aspects of personnel in their counties. They are also responsible for program delivery.

Apparently, some people thought that under the new organization, the RDS wouldn’t have program responsibility any more. But they do, because if the advisors are not delivering the programs, we as a Division are not getting where we want to go.

The three regional directors and I have a common goal of establishing a statewide CE. So we are working toward common policies and procedures. While we recognize there are regional differences, to the degree possible we want uniformity throughout the state.

The three regional directors are working with me to develop a collective strategy for allocating resources and filling advisor positions.

Of course, what we come up with are only recommendations that I will make to the associate vice president.

And that also holds true for workgroup funding and temporary funding. The Program Council assists me in developing the recommendations; they are really my consultative body that develops the recommendations that we then forward to the associate vice president for appropriate action.

What’s the role of the associate deans in the Program Council?

The associate deans bring the campus perspective to the Program Council.

For example, the Division has no sign-off authority on AES and CE positions on the campuses. But we will encourage the associate deans to bring their proposed positions to the Program Council so that we can have a comprehensive discussion of DANR academic resources and take advantage of opportunities to improve program coordination and coverage.

The council meets monthly?

Our intention is to meet every month. And we’re maintaining a website [go to http://danr.ucop.edu/ and click on DANR Program Council] that, hopefully, will become integral to our operations.

When will the workgroups be ratified?

The peer review committees are meeting in late September to review workgroup proposals. The Program Council will also review the proposals; the final recommendations will be developed at the October Program Council meeting, after which recommendations will be forwarded to Associate Vice President Vaux.

We have also issued a call for temporary funding proposals, which are due Oct. 1. The Program Council will review these proposals at the October meeting as well.

We want to maximize the opportunity to coordinate programs, and therefore we don’t want to fund workgroups or make temporary funds allocations in isolation. That’s why we are making our recommendation on these proposals simultaneously.

Ikeda (from p. 1)

Ethnic populations. Her findings are used to develop culturally sensitive and relevant educational programs for these groups, which have included Hmong families in California’s Central Valley, Vietnamese-speaking women in the Bay Area, Native Americans in Mariposa and other areas of California and African-American women from eight California counties.

Last year Ikeda received the Nutrition Education for the Public Award of Excellence from the American Dietetic Association for the project “A Culturally Sensitive and Relevant Nutrition Education Program for Vietnamese Immigrants.” She recently completed an in-service training module on increasing cross-cultural competence in nutrition education. The module is being distributed by the American Dietetic Association and the Society for Nutrition Education.

Article was adapted from a press release by Goetz. She is a senior public information representative for DANR and the UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources.

Job opportunity

Forest Products Advisor, Urban/Wildland Interface Fire Mitigation Richmond (Forest Products Lab)
Closing Date: Nov. 1 ACCS099-04

For more information, contact Cheryl Gneckow (909/787-3604; email: cheryl.gneckow@ucr.edu)
The Forest Products Laboratory, a statewide program whose research helps make housing safer, more economical and more durable, has received a $1.5 million contribution from the Louisiana-Pacific Corporation.

The contribution is part of a settlement agreement negotiated between Louisiana-Pacific and attorneys for the class representing owners of structures containing allegedly defective Louisiana-Pacific Inner-Seal oriented strandboard sheathing. All parties involved in the actions chose to compromise and settle all issues and claims rather than pursue litigation.

This is the largest contribution in the lab’s 45-year history. The money will fund independent research to improve the performance of manufactured wood products and to evaluate the conditions of materials in buildings. “We are grateful for wood panel products, create information to help homeowners and manufacturers. In particular, we will develop instruments that will provide quality control services to homeowners and train personnel to use a portable ultrasonic device that can evaluate panels currently in use.”

Y2K and your computer (from p. 1)

Y2K and your computer

the operating system and individual software programs.

But first, let’s address the third question I posed.

Some people have asked if ANR Communication Services computer technicians will check Y2K compliance on individual computers at UCCE and research and extension center offices. We are not going to be able to visit your offices to do that.

However, to assist you with Y2K issues on your computer, we have prepared a CD-ROM for each advisor for and all UCCE and research and extension center offices. The CD, called UCCE Internet v.3, contains Y2K tools and programs to help you analyze and make your computer compliant if it isn’t already.

The CD-ROM was mailed on Sept. 15 to each advisor, with additional copies sent to each UCCE and REC office. In a PC, the computer’s date, using a two-digit year, is set in a piece of hardware called the CMOS. When you start your computer the BIOS kicks in first. It receives the two-digit year from the CMOS and adds the century to it so that software programs can use that date as the system date.

One of the programs on the UCCE Internet v.3 CD, called test2000, checks your BIOS for compliance, meaning it checks that your computer’s date will change correctly from Dec. 31, 1999, to Jan. 1, 2000. It does this by temporarily re-setting the clock in your computer to seconds before midnight on Dec. 31, then restarting the computer a few seconds later and checking for the correct date. If your BIOS is not Y2K compatible, then the date most likely will read either Jan. 1, 1980, or Jan. 1, 1900.

What do you do if you find that your BIOS is not compliant? The odds are, you won’t; for example, my computer’s BIOS dates from 1992 and it passed the Y2K test.

But if your computer’s BIOS doesn’t pass, in some cases it can be upgraded or a software program can be installed that fixes the problem each time you boot up.

If you need to upgrade the BIOS, check on the Web for the BIOS manufacturer, and see if there is an upgrade you can download from the Website. In other cases, you may find that the BIOS will have to be replaced. Given the low cost of new computers, it’s probably best just to get a new one.

Another BIOS checking program you might want to try is YMARK2000. Although we couldn’t put this on the UCCE Internet v.3 CD because of copyright issues, you can download it from the UCOP Y2K site at http://www.ucop.edu/pccenter/y2k/ or directly from the company at http://www.nstl.com/html/nstl_ymark2000.html.

In my next article I’ll talk about making sure your operating system is Y2K compliant.
AIC publication details pressure of population growth on state farmland

By Jeannette Warnert

A new book from the UC Agricultural Issues Center examines California’s increasing population, the resulting urbanization and the encroachment of growth and development onto the state’s prime farmland.

“California Farmland and Urban Pressures: Statewide and Regional Perspectives” is a collection of 10 papers by authors from academic, governmental and private sectors. The volume is edited by rancher Albert M edvitz, UC public policy specialist Alvin Sokolow and technical writer Cathy L emp.

The book’s 208 pages address the many dimensions of California’s urbanization-farmland connection. Included are demographic and agricultural trends over time, state and local government policies, farmland conservation techniques, farm-urban tensions, land-use patterns and land markets.

The papers also provide insights into the social, economic and political processes that accompany urban-related impacts on farmland.

The first five chapters take a statewide perspective on agricultural land use and urbanization. The topics are:

- California agriculture over time, by M ort Rothstein, UC Davis professor emeritus.
- Conflict on the urban fringe, by M ary H andel, a land-use consultant.
- Growth management and farmland: the state policy context, by Steve Sanders, executive director of the California Futures Network.
- Farmland conservation in the private sector: land trusts and conservation easements, by Eric Vink, California policy director of the American Farmland Trust.

The second section focuses on a series of case studies on urbanization, farmland policy and community politics in several different California regions. The titles are:

- Twenty-five years of farmland protection in Napa County, by Volker Eisele, a Napa Valley grape grower and vintner.
- The land trust experience in M arin County, by Phyllis Faber, co-founder of M arin Agricultural Land Trust.
- Variations in local farmland protection policy: the Central Valley and the North Bay, by Sokolow.
- Urbanization of resource landscape in the Northern Sacramento Valley, by M ark Radabaugh of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.
- Land markets and planning boundaries at the urban edge: Ventura County patterns, by M ichal M oore, a resource economist.

The book can be purchased from the Agricultural Issues Center for $20. For more information call 530/752-2320 or email: agissues@ucdavis.edu.

Warnert is a Fresno-based senior public information representative for DANR.

IPM manual published for ‘stone fruit’

By John Stumbos

T he Integrated Pest Management Project recently released its much anticipated reference book for growers of “stone fruits”—apricots, cherries, nectarines, peaches, plums and prunes.

“Integrated Pest Management for Stone Fruits” contains a wealth of comprehensive information developed by UC Cooperative Extension specialists, county farm advisors, Experiment Station scientists and industry representatives. The 264-page manual is vividly illustrated with more than 300 color photographs and more than 100 line drawings and tables to help the reader identify, monitor and manage more than 140 different pest problems.

Written in the same easy-to-read format as other IPM manuals, the book is an indispensable guide for:

- Establishing a pest management program
- Diagnosing pest problems
- Identifying and using beneficial insects
- Establishing new orchards
- Using biological control and other non-chemical methods
- Determining when control actions are needed
- Understanding how cultural practices affect pest problems

Stone fruits, so called because of the pit or hard stone encasing the seed of these popular summertime fruits, are commercially grown throughout the Central Valley of California, and to a lesser extent on the Central Coast. “The common biology of stone fruits has led to the development of similar horticultural practices and a broad range of similar pest problems,” said Larry Strand, IPM’s senior writer on the manual. Strand added that the manual “was developed to give growers of all these crops a comprehensive yet concise source of state-of-the-art management information.”

“Integrated Pest Management for Stone Fruits” is written primarily for commercial growers and pest control advisers to help them incorporate integrated pest management (IPM) practices into the orchards they own or manage. However, according to Strand, home gardeners will also find the manual informative and useful.

“Integrated Pest Management for Stone Fruits” (DANR Publication 3389) is available for $35 from Communication Services and from many county offices of UC Cooperative Extension. A companion slide set (item 99/102) containing all 344 images from the manual is available for $292. A supplemental slide set (item 99/103) containing the 54 bloom stage images from the book’s appendix is available for $46.

To place an order by phone, call 800/994-8849 or 510/642-2431; fax 510/643-5470. Send email inquiries to danrcs@ucdavis.edu.

Stumbos is a UC Davis-based senior public information representative for DANR.
Materials sought for new display highlighting DANR units, activities

DANR programs and units are invited to help spotlight the range of AES and CE activities under way in the Division through a new display situated outside of Vice President Gomes’ office at the UCOP building in Oakland.

The display is accessible to visitors to DANR headquarters, including UC administrators, Regents, DANR friends and supporters, press people and Oakland-based members of the Division.

Brochures, pamphlets, photos, posters and other materials are suitable for the display, which is changed monthly. Programs that have been featured include the Natural Reserve System and the Small Farm Program.

If you are interested in scheduling a display or would like to know more about this opportunity, please contact Cheryl Bennett at 510/987-0057 or by email: cheryl.bennett@ucop.edu.

DANR welcomes ...

Central Valley Region Director Linda Marie Manton announced the appointment of Stephen J. Vasquez as viticulture farm advisor for Fresno County.

Vasquez received a master’s degree from UC Davis last month. The title of his thesis was “Etiology of Grapevine M easles in California.” He previously worked in the lab of CE plant pathologist Doug Gubler. He has also been an assistant researcher for the USDA Research Station in Salinas.

Regional Director Manton also announced that Jonathan W. M erriam will join UC as dairy farm advisor for Stanislaus and Merced counties on Oct. 15. For the last six years M erriam has been the manager of the University Dairy at Utah State University, the coordinator of the Dairy Herd Management Program and the state dairy youth specialist.

On Sept. 13 Laura Tourte began her duties as county director/small farms advisor for Santa Cruz County CE. Laura brings agricultural expertise in the areas of farm management and the economics of alternative production practices to the county.

Tourte joined CE as a postgraduate researcher in 1992, and has worked most recently as assistant specialist-AES in the department of agricultural and resource economics at UC Davis. As assistant specialist she managed several projects focused on farmer decision-making processes, adoption of sustainable practices, and economics for best management practices.

Tourte holds an M S in vegetable crop production and a BS in international agricultural development from UC Davis. — Cheryl Gneckow

Assistant Vice President Lanny Lund announced the appointment on Sept. 10 of David Grantz, specialist with the UCR department of botany and plant sciences, as director of the Kearney Ag Center academic unit.

Grantz, who is stationed at Kearney, will be responsible for personnel, budget, space and other matters and will lead the development of a long-term plan for the KAC academic unit.

On the move

An R Report

On Sept. 13 Laura Tourte began her duties as county director/small farms advisor for Santa Cruz County CE. Laura brings agricultural expertise in the areas of farm management and the economics of alternative production practices to the county.

Tourte joined CE as a postgraduate researcher in 1992, and has worked most recently as assistant specialist-AES in the department of agricultural and resource economics at UC Davis. As assistant specialist she managed several projects focused on farmer decision-making processes, adoption of sustainable practices, and economics for best management practices.

Tourte holds an M S in vegetable crop production and a BS in international agricultural development from UC Davis. — Cheryl Gneckow

Assistant Vice President Lanny Lund announced the appointment on Sept. 10 of David Grantz, specialist with the UCR department of botany and plant sciences, as director of the Kearney Ag Center academic unit. Grantz, who is stationed at Kearney, will be responsible for personnel, budget, space and other matters and will lead the development of a long-term plan for the KAC academic unit.