B ecause she’s enrolled in the 4-H After School Activity Program, 12-year-old Tymeka Kelly won’t be idle this afternoon. Instead, she’ll be spending her time in a caring, educationally rich environment designed to help her realize her potential.

A resident of a low-income housing community in Watts, Kelly is one of more than 500 Los Angeles youngsters ages 7 to 13 who take part in the 4-H After School Activity Program (4-H ASAP) each day. The program provides meaningful, learn-by-doing educational activities to children living in educationally and economically disadvantaged communities.

“This place is safer than being on the streets and I’d rather learn from 4-H than on the streets,” Kelly says.

Thanks to private contributors like Wells Fargo, Kelly and the other kids will continue to have access to a quality program focused on education.

On April 26, Les Biller, vice chairman and chief operating officer of Wells Fargo, presented a $100,000 check for 4-H ASAP on a visit he made to the 4-H ASAP site at the Compton Avenue Elementary School in Watts.

4-H ASAP began serving youth at Compton Avenue Elementary School in 1994 and today 50 kids are enrolled at this program site.

“The students in the 4-H Program do their homework and participate in enriching activities that develop life skills and make connections with academic subject areas,” says Sylvia Ruiz, the school’s principal.

4-H ASAP is available 5 days a week, year-round at 10 elementary schools and community-based facilities.

“The Wells Fargo donation enables us to meet our

continued on p. 2

Angle accepts permanent position as CNAS dean

C Riverside Chancellor Ray Orbach announced on May 3 that Steven Angle has accepted the invitation to become dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) on a permanent basis.

Angle had been interim dean since last July, when Michael Clegg, who had served as dean for six years, stepped down to return to full-time teaching and research.

“During this era of tremendous scientific advancement, it is vital for the College to move with purpose and direction toward a clear goal,” Angle said. “Our success will be measured by our ability to enhance our role as a world-class research and educational institution. We accomplish this when faculty apply their expertise to areas of great social and economic needs.”

Angle joined UCR in 1986 as an assistant professor of chemistry. He was promoted to full professor in 1994 and served as associate dean for physical and mathematical sciences from 1997 to 2000.

He received graduate and undergraduate degrees from UC Irvine and UCLA and was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin before joining the UCR faculty. He was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1999 and he was an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow from 1993 to 1997.

continued on p. 2
Search under way for director of research and extension centers

UC academics applying for the post of director for ANR’s 10 research and extension centers should note that the deadline for submitting applications is rapidly approaching — the review of applications begins May 21.

Job requirements, salary range and application procedures are posted at the UCOP job listings website (http://jobs.ucop.edu:8080) under the “management” category.

The director reports to Assistant Vice President for Programs Lanny L. Lund and is based at the REC system’s administrative office in Davis.

Because this is an internal search, only UC candidates are eligible for the post. The appointee may maintain his or her current DANR academic appointment.

ANR’s 10 research and extension centers are situated in major agricultural production areas of the state, where each year they provide field, laboratory and greenhouse sites for up to 400 research projects conducted by UC scientists and others. The operations budget runs around $8 million annually, and the annual capital improvement program averages about $1.5 million. About 115 staff and academic career employees work at the RECs.

New Academy members (from p. 1)

members and 325 nonvoting foreign associates. The three newly elected members from ANR are:

- Alex Glazer, director of the Natural Reserve System and professor of the graduate school in the UCB department of molecular and cell biology. He studies macromolecular complexes, fundamental mechanisms of light-harvesting in photosynthesis and the design and applications of fluorescent probes.

- J. Clark Lagarias, Paul K. and Ruth R. Stumpf Professor of Plant Biochemistry and AES biochemist in the molecular and cellular biology section, Division of Biological Sciences, UCD. His research interests include light mediated plant development, and the elucidation of the primary mechanism of phytochrome control of growth, development and gene expression at the molecular level.

- Patricia Zambryski, UCB professor of plant and microbial biology. She is a specialist in floral differentiation, including Agrobacterium-plant cell interaction, Arabidopsis flower development and plasmodesmata structure and function.

4-H ASAP receives $100,000 gift (from p. 1)

goals for staff/youth ratios and program improvement by providing educational assistants who will help involve the kids in really exciting, engaging curricula,” says 4-H youth development advisor John Pusey.

“Wells Fargo’s support demonstrates how 4-H’s well-known name and logo attract supporters who trust 4-H’s reputation for good work with young people,” Sergeant says.

Other major contributors to 4-H ASAP include the George H. and M. J. Hoag Family Foundation, the Henry L. Guenther Foundation, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, the S. Mark Taper Foundation, Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation and Unocal Corporation.

4-H ASAP’s effectiveness has earned notable acclaim during its 12 years of service in Los Angeles, including USA Today’s National Coalition on Education Award.
New UC website answers questions on biotech

A new UC website—http://ucbiotech.org—provides quick access to a wealth of sound scientific information on issues related to agricultural and environmental biotechnology.

The site offers educators such as advisors, specialists, campus-based faculty and teachers a number of new tools—including a searchable database of published research—they can use to keep current on the issues and to educate the public.

“This is the only site we know of that offers a database of scientific literature linked to the issues,” says UC Cooperative Extension biotechnology specialist Peggy G. Lemaux, who co-authored the site with post-doctoral fellow Petra Frey, with input from UC’s Statewide Biotechnology Workgroup. The site, which will be updated regularly, features the following sections:

**Biotechnology Information.**

This section currently addresses about 120 frequently raised issues regarding agricultural and environmental biotechnology and related topics. The explanations include literature citations and links to the abstracts or summaries of the articles. This section can be searched by category or by keyword.

**Scientific Database.**

The nearly 600 papers in the database were individually reviewed for content before being cited in the issues section. The references are searchable by keyword in the title, author and abstract.

**News.**

Current biotechnology headlines in the popular press, covering both positive and negative viewpoints, are displayed and linked to the articles.

**Resources.**

Informational bulletins about genetically modified crops, including cotton and tomatoes, are available for download with links to other bulletins being developed at UC Davis. Also available are talks on a variety of topics. Slides about biotechnology can be downloaded for outreach activities. A generic talk on biotechnology is available in Spanish and in English.

**Education.**

Teachers will find this section particularly helpful. It contains the 4-H curriculum, “Biotechnology and Foods,” aimed at educating 11- and 12-year-olds. The section also includes a protocol for isolating DNA from tomato and descriptions of and links to other useful educational websites.

**Glossary.**

This section contains definitions of frequently used terms related to biotechnology, agriculture and plant biology.

**Links.**

Websites directed at a variety of topics related to biotechnology from UC campuses, and other state, national and international programs are linked here.

**Feedback.**

Using the “feedback” button, visitors can comment on the site or provide additional information.

The UC Statewide Biotechnology Workgroup is composed of 125 UC campus- and county-based academics and others outside UC, representing a wide range of disciplines.

Visit the biotech website at http://ucbiotech.org

---

102 workgroup proposals submitted in response to ANR’s call

A NR has received 102 proposals requesting either funds for workgroup activities or the ratification of new workgroups, according to Assistant Vice President Lanny Lund’s office. The funding pool for workgroups totals about $1.5 million per year.

Eighty-seven proposals are seeking two years of funding. This was the first time in which two years of funding could be requested instead of just one—a change introduced to cut paperwork and the time it takes to complete the proposal process each year.

The proposals break down according to the following programmatic areas:

- **Agricultural productivity:** 46 proposals submitted, including five for new workgroups.
- **Agricultural policy and pest management:** 16 proposals submitted, including one for a new workgroup.
- **Human resources:** 22 proposals submitted, including three for new workgroups.
- **Natural resources:** 18 proposals submitted, including three for new workgroups.

Awards will be announced by July 31.
Ricardo Fouster has joined ANR’s Office of Development Services as its director of corporate and foundation relations. Fouster is responsible for identifying, cultivating and soliciting foundations and corporations who are likely to give to ANR and are capable of making gifts, according to Toby Winer, assistant vice president for development services.

“With over 13 years of experience in the combined areas of higher education, development and marketing, Ricardo has the expertise to address the fundraising needs of the Division,” Winer said. Prior to joining UC, Fouster was director of development for the Unity Council. Before that he was director of corporate relations in the California State University System for the Hayward and San Francisco campuses and director of public relations for the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund. Earlier in his career he was on the staff of the reelection committee of the late Harold Washington, mayor of Chicago.

Fouster holds a bachelor’s degree from UC Berkeley. He is a native of Puerto Rico. Fouster is based at 1111 Franklin Street in Oakland. He can be contacted at 510/987-0376 or at ricardo.fouster@ucop.edu.

A profile typically includes mailing address, contact name, telephone number, email address and crucial data such as grant-making priorities, areas of interest, application process and a list of recent grantees. He said that having this information is an important first step in identifying new funding opportunities. The research can also save valuable time by screening out inappropriate prospects.

“If you would like to discuss a project and its funding potential, or need information on funding sources, grant deadlines and application requirements, please contact Fouster at 510/987-0376 or ricardo.fouster@ucop.edu.
Dean Donaldson, longtime county director and farm advisor in Napa County, retired Feb. 1 after a distinguished 31-year career with UC Cooperative Extension. He has been awarded the emeritus title for his contributions to the University.

Viticulture farm advisor Ed Weber is the new county director for Napa County CE.

Donaldson began his career with Cooperative Extension in November 1969 as horticulture advisor for Napa, Sonoma and Marin counties and became CE county director and farm advisor for Napa County in 1972. When he retired, Donaldson was the longest-serving county director in the state, according to former Regional Director Nicki King.

Assistant Director Emerita Doris Smith described Donaldson as a “superb county director and a major contributor to programs and administrative activities statewide.”

King noted that Donaldson “was always willing to help new county directors, as a mentor and to answer their questions in a supportive, non-threatening way.” She especially appreciated his “philosophical” stance—he took the long view, she said, in discussions over, for example, resource allocations, and that helped move the region’s decision-making forward. She recalled that Donaldson had a habit that tickled her. He often came to county director meetings with his pruning shears in his back pocket, she said, “in case he saw something that needed immediate attention, I guess.”

State 4-H Program Coordinator Dan Desmond said Donaldson was “one of the best county directors I’ve had the privilege of working with. He was extremely supportive of 4-H and youth development in general and especially of activities in garden-based learning. He really fostered a creative spirit in the 4-H staff in Napa County.”

Donaldson received many honors during his career, including the Cooperative Extension Assembly Council Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Teaching, County Director/Advisor, in 1990.

The Master Gardener Program he organized in 1995 now includes 100 master gardener volunteers trained to extend CE’s reach into the community.

Donaldson developed and contributed to many adaptive research and educational programs. Highlights include his work in developing new vineyard weed-management practices for local growers converting from walnut and prune orchards to vineyards. He initiated a new concept of weed management by establishing demonstration trials using ultra-low volume herbicide applications to shift weed populations. He also initiated a long-term trial to demonstrate the influence of weed-management practices on spring time vineyard temperatures.

Additional research demonstrated the practicality of raising fuel wood under small-farm conditions. In the 1990s, he demonstrated that field-grown mulch can control vineyard weeds, helping growers reduce their use of chemical inputs.

The Small Farm Resource and Training Center, situated on a 20-acre slice of prime farmland on the southwest outskirts of Fresno, officially opened April 20.

The center will assist individuals who wish to learn more about small-scale farming by providing small plots of land they can rent to grow crops. The farmers receive intensive field guidance and classroom training. Target clientele are small farmers from the wide range of ethnic groups living in the central San Joaquin Valley. The center is the only farm incubator in the Valley serving small-scale growers.

UC Cooperative Extension will coordinate the center’s education program. In the photo above, Fresno County farm advisor Richard M. Molinar (second from right) and his assistant Michael Yang (at Molinar’s right), help farmers identify weed species during one of the first classes held at the center. They conducted the class in English, Spanish and Hmong. Molinar and Yang have planned a monthly schedule of courses, covering such topics as pesticide safety, financing, crop selection, soil fertility, pest management, irrigation and marketing.

A coalition of groups—including the Hmong American Community and the Small Farm Resource Network—formed a partnership to create the center and obtain funding. The land is leased from the American Farmland Trust. Initial funding for the center has come from The California Endowment and USDA.

Holstege (from p. 4)
By Pamela Kan-Rice

Scow appointed director of Kearney Foundation

S
oil microbial ecologist Kate Scow has been appointed director of UC’s M. Theo Kearney Foundation of Soil Science for a five-year term beginning July 1. Scow is a professor in the department of land, air and water resources at UC Davis.

“I am excited and honored to become the director of the Kearney Foundation,” Scow said, “and, in particular, to be able to guide and support research on carbon dynamics in California’s diverse ecosystems.” The foundation’s 2001-2006 mission is “Soil Carbon and California’s Terrestrial Ecosystems.”

“How carbon flows and where it ends up has enormous global consequences,” Scow said. “Scientists and policy-makers are actively debating how, and to what degree, societies can control carbon fluxes and reverse recent trends in climate change.”

She explained that soil is an important source and sink of atmospheric carbon, yet there are serious gaps in knowledge of the processes involved. A major goal of the new Kearney mission, she said, will be to strengthen the scientific foundation for understanding and predicting carbon fluxes between soils and the atmosphere, as well as carbon sequestration in soil.

The Kearney Foundation of Soil Science was created in 1951 to encourage and support research within the Division in the fields of soils, plant nutrition and water science. Through competitive grants, the foundation supports fundamental and applied research by UC faculty at Berkeley, Davis and Riverside. Its five-year missions are dedicated to issues of public concern.

“Professor Scow is superbly qualified to lead the new mission of the Kearney Foundation,” said Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr. “I am delighted that she has agreed to take on these responsibilities, and I look forward to seeing the results of this mission as they begin to emerge a few years hence.”

Researchers will examine the effects of water, nutrients, organisms and management on carbon cycling. They will also evaluate the relationship between carbon management policies and environmental quality, agricultural productivity/sustainability, and the economy. The new mission will address issues of scale in measuring and modeling carbon processes; assess the roles soil carbon may play in greenhouse gas emissions; and analyze strategies for mitigating the adverse effects of global climate changes.

Scow joined UC Davis in 1989, after earning a doctorate and a master’s degree in soil science from Cornell University and a bachelor’s in biology from Antioch College.

She served as chair of the soil biology and biochemistry division of the Soil Science Society of America and last year was elected a fellow in the society. Scow is an editorial board member of several leading journals, and a member of the National Science Foundation Ecosystems panel.

Her research interests involve biodegradation of organic pollutants in soil and groundwater; kinetics of microbial processes; microbial ecology of organic decomposition in agro-ecosystems; and developing molecular approaches to identify groups of microorganisms involved in carbon flow. Her lab’s discovery in 1997 of a unique bacterium (PM 1) that is able to biodegrade the gasoline additive MTBE has stimulated MTBE remediation research at several field sites.

Scow is also a principal investigator of the Sustainable Agriculture Farming Systems (SAFS) Project, a multidisciplinary long-term study that compares conventional, organic and low-input management systems. Scow will succeed Garrison Sposito, who is finishing his five-year term with the foundation.

The 1996-2001 mission — “Soil Quality in the California Environment” — focused on assessment and improvement of soil quality while maintaining high productivity.

Air shuttle takes to the skies

I
clude the Air Shuttle in your research and outreach travel plans to the San Joaquin and Salinas valleys in 2001.

The Air Shuttle departs from the UC Davis University Airport, and serves the San Joaquin Valley Tuesday through Friday until Oct. 26, except on holidays. Service is expanded to the Salinas Valley on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The shuttle is available to all UC employees or affiliated personnel on official University business.

The fare for subsidized passengers (i.e., CAES, Vet Med and ANR personnel) is 32 cents/passenger road mile.

The service provider for this season is Woodland Aviation. To make reservations call Woodland Aviation at 530/662-9631, or 800/442-1333.

LifeSkills (from p. 3)

in pdf format, are free.

The Family Independence Division of South Carolina, Operation Frontline in Washington, DC, M Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and Catholic Charities in San Diego are among the agencies that subscribe to the newsletter.

“We don’t really know exactly how far we reach because many recipients duplicate or forward the newsletter for other offices and clientele,” Johns said.

The Gateway to a Better Life Workgroup will survey LifeSkills recipients in the coming year to evaluate the newsletter’s effectiveness and the extent of its circulation.
now that former California Secretary for Food and Agriculture Ann Veneman is at the helm of USDA, the first woman and the second Californian to lead the agency, what issues might top its agenda during the next four years?

ANR Report put the question to Agricultural Issues Center Director Dan Sumner, who is also the Frank H. Buck Jr. Professor at the UCDavis department of agricultural and resource economics. From 1986 to 1993, he served in Washington while on leave from North Carolina State University—first as senior economist at the President’s Council of Economic Advisers and then at USDA, where he worked closely with Veneman on trade issues and other topics.

At the time, he was the agency’s assistant secretary for economics, and she served in various capacities, including as USDA’s deputy secretary (1991-1993) and its deputy undersecretary for international affairs and commodity programs (1989-1991). Veneman’s first USDA job was with the Foreign Agricultural Service (1986-1989).

ANR Report editor Gabriele Kassner interviewed Sumner about the issues facing Veneman. Following are excerpts from their conversation.

Sumner: One challenge facing our California friend and associate Ann Veneman is that as the secretary, she can’t possibly do everything. USDA has about 100,000 employees, so she has a major management task.

The first and most important job of the secretary is to provide a model of leadership for the department’s career employees and policy officials. She also guides the selection of the policy leaders in the department.

Secretary Veneman knows well the full breadth of USDA—food and nutrition and natural resources, as well as agriculture. But she has special expertise in two areas that are of particular interest to ANR: international issues and technology issues.

Let me start with her international expertise. Part of her early career was at the Foreign Agricultural Service. She understands the importance of agriculture in a “gut-feeling” way, and also from a professional perspective, how important trade is to agriculture.

She’s not unique in realizing this, of course. But she also knows how very difficult it is to negotiate trade agreements with trading partners who want to think about trade as a one-way street. It’s a natural tendency to say, “Fine, I want to export my stuff, but I’m sure not going to let anybody ship anything into my market.”

Ann Veneman understands that opening foreign markets is hard because they are usually closed for political reasons. That is, she understands that both political and economic issues are involved.

As the agricultural secretary, she will work closely with the State Department, with Secretary of State Colin Powell, for example, with the Commerce Department and particularly with the U.S. trade representative, Robert Zoellick, to crack these markets, because these issues are often handled as part of a larger overall negotiation.

Ann Veneman knows from personal experience that you can negotiate for a year at the subcabinet level, and have the cabinet officer spend an hour with, let’s say the head of the European Union, and lots of former barriers tend to melt away.

Let me mention another trade area that I think is crucially important to the U.S. and especially here in California. That is work related to exotic pests and diseases—everything from foot-and-mouth disease, in the news today, to medfly, which is in the news all the time in California.

The USDA agency APHIS—Animal Plant Health and Inspection Service—deals with these issues. There are two broad parts of exotic-pest policy: 1) controlling the border—and that is international relations and 2) what to do if you do get an outbreak—what measures do you undertake to monitor and detect and then eradicate once you have a pest? USDA is very much involved in both of those areas, along with CDFA and ANR, here in California.

ANR people make a real contribution in this area. The people at CDFA and at APHIS work with ANR to understand pests, understand their biology, ways to control them and best ways to eradicate them if we get an outbreak, and also to understand how dangerous pests are in other countries. Likewise, economists from ANR measure the dollars-and-cents impact of an outbreak on the economy. Secretary Veneman appreciates how important science is in combating plant and animal diseases. To devise measures that protect crops against exotic pests in an intelligent way requires having a solid research foundation.

However, she values the role of science and technology in agriculture more broadly. Through her previous experience at USDA and CDFA and as a national figure in agriculture, she has gained personal experience working on issues related to biotechnology, precision agriculture, e-commerce and much in between. And that means she will approach science and technology issues as someone who really appreciates their importance. All of this is good news for USDA programs and good news for ANR.

Fouster (from p. 4) ANR Development Services was established in July 1999 to sustain and enhance ANR programs by securing support in the form of goodwill and dollars for county-based and statewide programs.
Job opportunities

- Ag/Environmental Science Advisor
  Location: Ventura County
  Closing Date: June 8

- Agronomy/Sustainable Agriculture Farm Advisor
  Location: Imperial County
  Closing Date: June 28

For details, contact Cheryl Gneckow (ccsradcradrecruitment@ucdavis.edu; 909/787-2529; fax: 909/787-2328).

- County Director/Community Development/Public Policy Advisor
  Location: Sacramento County
  Closing Date: June 30

- Regional IPM Advisor-IPM Weed Ecologist
  Location: Central Valley Region
  Closing Date: July 2

For details, contact Cindy Inouye (cinouye@ucdavis.edu; 559/646-6535).

ANR REPORT

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources. We invite you to visit ANR’s website: http://danr.ucop.edu, where you can also access the current issue of ANR Report as well as archives by simply clicking on the publications button.

Send news items and comments to Gabriele Kassner, ANR Report editor, Office of Governmental & External Relations, 1111 Franklin St., 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200. Telephone: 510/987-0631; fax: 510/465-2659; email: gabriele.kassner@ucop.edu

ANR Report is issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, W.R. Gomes, Director of Cooperative Extension, University of California.

The University of California prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran or any other veteran who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized). University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws. Inquiries regarding this policy may be addressed to the Affirmative Action Director at the address above. Telephone: 510/987-0096.

Funding matters

The UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP) and UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Project (IPM) are jointly offering grants of up to $1,500 for rural/urban education events taking place between Aug. 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002. The deadline for proposals is May 22, 2001.

Participation of UC Cooperative Extension in proposals is encouraged.

The request for proposals is posted on SAREP’s website (www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/grants/request.htm). For more information or to receive a print version of this RFP, contact SAREP grants coordinator Bev Ransom (530/754-8546; baransom@ucdavis.edu).

On the move

- The Santa Clara County CE office has a new address: 700 Empey Way, San Jose, CA 95128. Telephone numbers are unchanged.
- Nicole Palkovsky, formerly project coordinator for the Oak Management Project in the Marin County CE office, has become state coordinator for the California Oak Mortality Task Force. She can be reached at the Center for Forestry at UC Berkeley.
  Her email address is palkovsk@nature.berkeley.edu.
- John Gutierrez, formerly coordinator of the Joint Policy Council on Agriculture and Higher Education (JPC), is now using his outstanding writing and organizational skills in a new field—as a technical writer for an ophthalmological equipment manufacturer.
  Gutierrez, who has been with the JPC since the fall of 1997, was the group’s first full-time coordinator. The JPC was created in 1995 to foster cooperation in the delivery of agriculture programs among the three systems of public higher education in California. He reported to Steve Na-tion, executive director of ANR’s Office of Governmental and External Relations.

Because this issue includes a lot of breaking news, ANR Report has postponed the additional coverage of the statewide conference’s breakout sessions. These, plus more photos of the event, will be featured soon.

Printed on recycled paper