Redesigned ANR website now available for preview

By Pam Kan-Rice

Through the end of November, members of the Division have the opportunity to preview and comment on the new ANR website. It is scheduled to be launched next month for the public.

For nearly a year an ANR committee has been working to update, reorganize and redesign the ANR website, which now has a new address: http://ucanr.org.

“We asked the redesign team to make the website more attractive, accessible and useful for everyone who logs on,” said Communication Services Director Bob Sams. Sams and Governmental and External Relations Executive Director Steve Nation named 10 ANR staff and academics to the committee last November.

The redesign team, led by CS Information Technology Manager Claudia Myers, has done “an impressive job of creating a new look for the Division,” Nation said, “but we’d also like to hear the suggestions, ideas and comments of other Division members before the new site goes online.”

The redesigned site is organized as two separate websites—one for internal audiences, the other for the general public.

UC employees can access continued on p. 3

Focus groups take a glimpse into the future of county-based Cooperative Extension

On Sept. 20-21 and Oct. 17-18, Extension professionals throughout the state were brought together by Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr. to take a collective glimpse into the future of county-based CE in California and to identify possible strategies for meeting the challenges that lie ahead.

In addition to campus and county-based participants (listed on p. 2), both Vaux and Lanny Lund, assistant vice president for programs and academic personnel, participated in the discussions.

The focus group sessions were facilitated by Jim Brenner, facilitation coordinator. Brenner was assisted by Milton Fujii, assistant vice president for budget and planning.

The focus group sessions began with dinner, after which each individual shared his or her vision of how Cooperative Extension would look in the future. The next day the discussions centered on vision themes and specific goal areas, identifying forces affecting each goal and strategies for addressing them.

Vaux opened each meeting by stating that, in the long-term, CE has a unique opportunity to make substantial changes, both in structure and in the way advisors are hired and viewed among academic peers in the University. He noted that about 80 percent of the current CE advisors in California are age 45 or older. This means that there will be a very significant turnover in county-based personnel in the next 10 to 20 years, which provides the Division with continued on p. 2
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an opportunity to adapt to changing circumstances over the long run.

Changes in the organization of local government, increasing competition for public funds, the globalization of the agricultural economy and the trend of increasing urbanization of California’s population are all factors to which CE will have to adjust.

The groups identified a number of strategies for coping with change and discussed possible ways in which CE can adapt.

At the conclusion of each meeting, Vaux and Lund announced the intention to immediately follow-up on several short-term action items, which included:

- Preparation of a “modern” argument for Cooperative Extension’s role in the Division’s mission
- Identification of the cost of providing comparable health benefits to advisors in rural counties
- A survey to document how county directors spend their time
- Changes in the language in position vacancy announcements to make them more “user friendly” and implementing other measures to streamline and improve the recruitment process

- Examining historical salary data and pursuing the feasibility of a one-time “catch up” augmentation to the advisor salary scale
- Exploring options and budget ramifications for hiring new advisors at the Associate level
- Moving forward with plans for the ANR leadership development program

Vaux described the outcome of both sessions as “extremely constructive and productive,” and expressed appreciation to all who participated. He also indicated that plans to follow up on these initial sessions would be developed in a timely way and expressed his expectation that CE academics would continue to be involved in longer-range planning for CE. Look for more details on the outcome and follow-up action from these focus groups in a future issue of ANR Report.

This article was contributed by the office of Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr.

Klenk wins 2001 Marjorie Michael Award

Marciel A. Klenk (center) was recently selected by her UCCE peers as the 2001 Marjorie Michael Award recipient for her leadership in developing food safety and emergency preparedness programs in the North Coast and Mountain Region. The annual award recognizes an outstanding nutrition, family and consumer science advisor. Klenk, the family and consumer science and youth development advisor in Napa County, was cited for successfully using her relationships with local health-care providers, county departments and social service providers to expand UCCE programming to Latinos and the elderly. Klenk is shown here on Sept. 26 after receiving the Michael Award. With her are Regional Director Kim Rodrigues (right) and Sonoma County CE Director Linda Garcia, the 1999 Michael Award winner.

Award of Distinction

(from p. 1)

the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, he established plant protection programs in developing countries worldwide.

- Jack C. Corey, Aiken, South Carolina. He is considered the U.S. authority on the remediation of subsurface contaminants.

- Dolph Gotelli, Sacramento, teacher and designer, joined the UCD department of environmental design in 1970.

- Jim Lyons, Davis, professor emeritus of food science and technology, died on Aug. 24, while on vacation. His widow, Diane, accepted the award. An international authority on the biology of yeasts, Phaff made contributions in both pure and applied areas. Two yeast genera and several yeast species were named for him by other yeast taxonomists, a rare honor and an indication of the high esteem of his colleagues.

- George Rendell, Long Beach, retired county director

Focus group participants

**Sept. 20-21 Group**
- Harry Carlson, Siskiyous County
- Linda Garcia, Sonoma County
- Vic Gibeault, UC Riverside
- Refugio “Cuco” Gonzalez, Imperial County
- Shirley Peterson, San Luis Obispo County
- Rachel Mabie Surls, Los Angeles County
- Bruce Roberts, Kings County
- Rick Standiford, UC Berkeley
- Jack Williams, Sutter/Yuba counties

**Oct. 17-18 Group**
- Mary Lu Arpala, Kearney Ag Center and UC Riverside
- Susan Dohowhe, Butte County
- Mary Lavender Fujii, Contra Costa County
- Joe Grant, San Joaquin County
- Desmond Jolly, UC Davis
- Valerie Mellano, San Diego County
- Gene Miyama, Yolo County
- Gary Nakamura, UC Berkeley
- Steve O rollof, Siskiyous County

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administrative information by clicking on the “internal resources” link on the right side of the main page.

“For external users, the website will be the main portal into the Division, with information on who we are and what we do, and direct links to our programs and people,” Nation said.

“For the ANR family, we want the website to be a ‘one stop’ site for information on policies, benefits, administrative procedures and so on, with appropriate links.”

Once the site becomes public, anyone logging on to http://danr.ucop.edu/ will be automatically redirected to the new site at http://ucanr.org. The URL for the internal site is http://ucanr.org/internal.

“Our goal is for all units in the Division to be represented on the ANR website,” Sams said.

Communication Services has developed design templates to facilitate website construction for counties, workgroups and programs. These templates are linked to the main site and provide a consistent look, but can be customized.

With simple online forms, Division staff can create and edit their websites. Communication Services is providing programming and design support and training sessions. They also provide website hosting, server maintenance and backup. For more information, contact programmer Karl Krist at 530/754-6596 or kakrist@ucdavis.edu.

Jeannette Warnert, ANR’s public information representative in Fresno, is also managing the content of the redesigned ANR website.

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

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**2002 Statewide ANR Retiree Reunion to be held in Palm Springs**

By Cindy Barber

The ANR Retiree Reunions that took place in Fresno, San Diego and Chico during the past 12 months were so successful that a statewide reunion is being planned for 2002.

Attendance at the three reunions topped 200. These gatherings gave retired and former members of the Division the opportunity to renew friendships, learn more about the key issues currently facing ANR and share their ideas with ANR administrators. Guest speakers at each event provided valuable insight into a range of subjects such as changes to medical benefits for retirees, the progress of the University’s tenth campus and ANR’s efforts to eradicate the glassy-winged sharpshooter. There was also a fascinating presentation about the life of one of California’s great pioneers: John Bidwell, the founder of Chico and a leading agriculturalist. A variety of field trips also enriched these events.

The 2002 Statewide ANR Retiree Reunion will be held April 21-23 in Palm Springs at the Holiday Inn – Palm Mountain Resort.

The program committee is putting together an exciting agenda, including speakers and excursions that will take full advantage of what the Palm Springs area has to offer. Retirees and alumni are invited to join us for what we are sure will be a stimulating few days, both intellectually and socially. Details will be forthcoming.

If you are an ANR retiree or plan to retire soon, please call George Rendell at 562/495-4161, Evelyn Wunderlich at 707/725-1995 or Cindy Barber at 510/987-9139 for more information.

Barber is assistant for special projects, ANR Office of Development Services.

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**Award of Distinction (from p. 2)**

of Los Angeles County CE. In 1979 he initiated the concept for the UC Master Gardener Program. He organized numerous national meetings and initiatives on urban extension programs. He also strengthened academic and service programs for 4-H youth development.

Jeanette Van Emon, Las Vegas, a research chemist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Robert Washino, Davis, professor emeritus in the department of entomology. Former department chair, associate dean of academic affairs and director of the Center for Pest Management. He has made important contributions to public health pest and vector issues at national and international levels, with continued emphasis on minimizing environmental impact and protecting agricultural workers and the public.
Speakers needed for MG statewide conference

Speakers are being sought for a statewide conference that will be held at Asilomar Oct. 14-15, 2002 for UC Master Gardener volunteers affiliated with 36 UCCE offices. This educational event will provide an excellent opportunity for UC researchers and educators to extend the information to Californians by teaching a group of enthusiastic volunteers.

The conference will feature presentations on current issues and research in horticulture and agriculture, pest management, natural resources and environmental science.

If you are interested in giving a presentation or have potential speakers in mind, contact San Diego County CE farm advisor Vincent Lazcano (858/694-2859; vflazcano@ucdavis.edu).

Workgroup guide online

You can now go online to find out all you need to know about Division workgroups—and workgroup funding.

A concise, comprehensive workgroup primer has been posted on the ANR website; the link is on the homepage.

The primer, “DANR Workgroups: Purpose and Operations,” is full of information about how workgroups are formed, ratified and funded. It explains what Division funding can be used for—and how to put a proposal together. In other words, the primer provides valuable knowledge for anyone already involved in a workgroup, or considering joining or forming one.

While you’re online, check out the informative overview of coordinating conferences also posted at this site.

Executive seminar features world trade issues

By Gary Beall

The World Trade Organization (WTO) and agricultural trade will be the focus of an Executive Seminar on Agricultural Issues being held Dec. 9-10 in Sacramento.

“With agriculture’s increasing dependence on international markets and a new round of trade negotiations being launched this month, now is the time to assess trade issues important to agriculture,” says Dan Sumner, director of the UC Agricultural Issues Center, one of the event’s sponsors.

The seminar should be of special interest to agricultural and business leaders, advisors, consultants and anyone else with an interest in trade and agriculture, according to Sumner. To broaden participation in the seminar, the registration fee will be waived for advisors.

The program features U.S. agricultural leaders and international trade experts from Italy, Australia and Korea. They will cover such topics as WTO principles, current status of trade negotiations, prospects of agricultural trade with China, labeling issues, and specific issues related to dairy, horticultural crops and rice, among other commodities.

California Congressman Cal Dooley, a leading member of the Committee on Agriculture, will be a featured speaker. David Hegwood, special trade council to USDA Secretary Ann Veneman, will give the Bush administration’s perspective on WTO negotiations.

Contact http://aic.ucdavis.edu or 530/752-2320 for details.