Division anticipates awarding $2 million for workgroup activities in this fiscal year

A wards for 2002–03 have been announced in ANR’s annual workgroup funding program. Assistant Vice President for Programs Lanny Lund says the Division expects to allocate $2 million or so to support the operations, events and projects of ANR workgroups and coordinating conferences in this fiscal year.

The funding—derived from budgeted workgroup funds, endowment income and workgroup funds that were unexpended last year—is at about the same level as it was in 2001–02, he says.

Lund adds that although all Division budgets are contingent on the final impact of the state budget, as this article goes to press, minimal reductions in workgroup funds are anticipated for this year.

Award letters were sent to the workgroup chairs during the week of Aug. 5.

Last year, ANR adopted a two-year funding cycle in which about $1.1 million was allocated to 2002–03 workgroup proposals submitted at that time. Another $900,000 was awarded to proposals submitted this year.

This total amount of $2 million includes support for 64 projects being conducted by 56 workgroups.

All workgroups and coordinating conferences except for two were also funded for operations in 2002–03.

In addition, three new workgroups were ratified and one new coordinating conference was officially recognized: the Dairy Health and Production Workgroup (John Kirk, chair), Avocado Pest Management Workgroup (Ben Faber, chair), Exotic Fruit Fly Workgroup (Peter Atkinson, chair) and the Water Resources Coordinating Conference (John Letey, chair). And nine proposed workgroups were given seed money to continue planning and organizing. Five workgroups were dissolved, having achieved their objectives, merged with another group or decided to pursue other goals, Lund says.

The Division now has 94 workgroups, Lund says. In addition to the 2002–03 workgroups, this year’s Division anticipates awarding $2 million in workgroup funds.

UCB agroforestry expert wins World Food Prize

P edro A. Sanchez, a pioneer in the field of tropical soils and agroforestry, has won the 2002 World Food Prize.

The award, announced Aug. 11 by the World Food Prize Foundation, is the highest international honor bestowed upon an individual for achievements in improving the world’s food supply and reducing hunger.

Sanchez, a visiting professor of tropical resources at UCB’s College of Natural Resources, has led seminal work over the past three decades that turned once infertile soil into productive farmland. His methods for restoring soil fertility using naturally available resources have dramatically increased crop yields for hundreds of thousands of small farmers from Brazil to Africa.

“He is doing more than increasing crop yields, he is transforming the lives of African farmers who can now feed their families and become self-sufficient because of the programs he has developed,” said Kenneth Quinn, former U.S. ambassador to Cambodia and president of the World Food Prize Foundation.

Sanchez will receive $250,000 as part of the award in a ceremony scheduled for Oct. 24 in Des Moines, Iowa, where the foundation is based. The prize was established in 1986 by Norman Borlaug, winner of the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize for his work in world agriculture.

In addition to being a visiting professor, Sanchez is a senior research fellow at UCB’s Center for Sustainable Resource Development and chair of the United Nations Task Force on Hunger.
Following are brief introductions to three of the newest members of UC Cooperative Extension.

Kenneth Andersen, a Humboldt County native with expertise in irrigation and agronomy, has been selected as the new dairy and agricultural waste management advisor for Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

Andersen will work with the more than 100 local dairy producers in the development of an applied research and education program aimed at improving herd health, forage production, waste management and water quality. His program will also include dairy goat producers and landowners who utilize dairy wastes and producers of wood waste.

“We’re delighted to have someone with Ken’s experience, educational background and personal connection to the area fill this crucial position,” said Humboldt County UCCE Director Deborah Giraud.

Andersen earned a bachelor’s degree (1980) in crop science and a master’s degree (1993) in general agriculture from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Previously, he worked at the Irrigation Training and Research Center at Cal Poly, and as district agronomist for Salyer American and Scotia-based Pacific Lumber Company.

He can be reached at 707/445-7351 or kandersen@ucdavis.edu. — John Stumbos

Brad Clinehens is the community and rural development advisor for Inyo-Mono counties.

Before joining UCCE on June 3, Clinehens was in the Peace Corps for two years as a community-agriculture volunteer in Mauritania, a developing country in northwest Africa, where the climate is extremely harsh. Assisting a women’s garden cooperative located at the fringe of the Sahara Desert “was the most challenging thing I’ve ever done or maybe will ever do,” Clinehens said.

He grew up on a dairy and grain farm north of Dayton, Ohio. A 4-H member for 11 years, he credits the program with sparking his interest in leadership development.

Clinehens was awarded a master’s degree in rural sociology and community development from Penn State in 1999. He completed undergraduate studies at Goshen College, a liberal arts school in northern Indiana.

Clinehens can be reached at 760/873-7854 or bcclinehens@ucdavis.edu. — John Stumbos

Christopher A. Greer has joined UCCE as the farm advisor for rice farming systems, serving Colusa, Tehama, Glenn and Yolo counties.

Greer is headquartered in Colusa. He began his new job on Aug. 5.

Roughly half of the state’s $500-million rice crop is grown in the four-county region of Colusa, Glenn, Tehama and Yolo counties, located in the Sacramento Valley. In both Colusa and Glenn counties, rice is the top value crop.

“Dr. Greer will be responsible for conducting a balanced program comprised of extending knowledge, applied research or other creative activities,” Central Valley Region Director Linda Manton said in announcing the appointment.

Greer earned a bachelor’s degree in bioenvironmental sciences at Texas A & M University in College Station. He earned both a master’s degree and a doctorate in plant pathology at UC Davis.

Most recently, he had been a postgraduate researcher working with UC Davis plant pathologist Robert Webster.

Greer can be reached at 530/458-0578 or cagreer@ucdavis.edu. — John Stumbos

NRS’ Sedgwick Reserve receives $1.4 million gift

The Natural Reserve System’s Sedgwick Reserve, in the Santa Ynez Valley, has received $1.4 million from the J.E. and Lillian Tipton Foundation for construction of the first of several buildings proposed in its long-range master plan. In honor of its benefactors, the building will be designated the Tipton Meeting House.

The building will host more than 6,000 visitors each year, offering a site for University classes, research meetings, public workshops and K-12 outreach programs.

Gifts such as this one are essential to the reserve realizing its long-range vision, since University contributions cover general maintenance only and do not extend to capital improvements.

This excerpt is from a press release by NRS’ Jerry Booth. You can read it by going to the “news” link at ANR’s website.

World Food Prize (from p. 1)

Before coming to UCB in January, Sanchez spent 10 years as director general of the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, now known as the World Agroforestry Centre.

“We are most fortunate to have Pedro Sanchez based at Berkeley and the College of Natural Resources, said Paul Ludden, incoming dean of the college. “He is a passionate advocate for the use of science to address the problem of hunger in the world and has dedicated his whole career to this effort.”

— Sarah Yang, Media Relations
Names in the news

- Vice President Emeritus Kenneth R. Farrell was a recent recipient of a USDA Plow Group Honor Award for his work in Armenia in recent years. The award to the Marketing Assistance Project of CSREES, Washington, D.C., included individuals from several land-grant universities.

Since his retirement in 1995, Farrell has had short-term assignments in Armenia and hosted delegations of Armenian academics and legislators in the U.S. His assignments have focused on the reform and development of Armenian agricultural research and education institutions. In Armenia he worked closely with the Armenian Agricultural Academy, the World Bank, the Armenian Ministry of Agriculture and USDA Marketing Assistance Program personnel.

- Larry Costello, environmental horticulture advisor, San Mateo-San Francisco counties, received the 2002 L.C. Chadwick Award for Arboricultural Research from the International Society of Arboriculture. The award stated that his outstanding research had advanced the principles, ideals and practices of arboriculture. The society has 14,000 members from 20 countries. Costello has been one of the leaders in arboricultural research over the past 20 years.

- Lita Charlot, senior writer at Spanish Broadcast and Media Services, won first place in the outstanding political article category in a competition sponsored by the National Association of Hispanic Publications.

- Brian Wright, professor in the agricultural and resource economics department at UCB, was elected a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association.

- Vernard Lewis, CE specialist at UCB, received the Recognition Award in Urban Entomology from the Entomological Society of America, Pacific Branch.

- Mary Lu Arpaia, UCR subtropical horticulture specialist, is the first recipient of the Art Schroeder Memorial Award from the California Avocado Commission. The award honors outstanding service benefiting the state avocado industry. (from KUDOS newsletter)

- Beth Grafton-Cardwell, UCR integrated pest management specialist at Kearney Ag Center, has received the 2002 Extension Specialist Award for Outstanding Achievement from the Friends of Ag Extension. (KUDOS)

- The following retired members of Cooperative Extension have been awarded emeritus status: Nancy Feldman, Lonnie Hendricks, Judith Kingston, Phil Osterli, Augie Perez, Tom Shultz, Bill Weir and Edwina Williams.

- Tom Shultz, Tulare County CE dairy farm advisor emeritus, received the 2002 Friends of Ag Extension Award. “This prestigious and sought-after award included a $5,000 cash prize, which Tom will use in his long-awaited international travel plans,” said County Director Jim Sullins.

Appointments

- Barbara Allen-Diaz has been appointed executive associate dean, UCB’s College of Natural Resources.

- Rick Melnicoe has been appointed director of the Office of Pesticide Information and Coordination, one of ANR’s 23 statewide special programs. Melnicoe is also director of the USDA-funded Western Region Pest Management Center.

In memoriam

- Robert Hagan, UCD professor emeritus of water science and an international authority on irrigation, died on July 3 at age 85.

- Charles Rick, UCD plant geneticist emeritus and the world’s leading authority on the biology of the tomato, died in May at age 87.

Note: for more information on either scientist, visit http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/

Tools you can use

What’s new at ucanr.org

By Jeannette Warnert

- Ideas are welcome for new feature stories now running monthly on the front pages of the external and internal websites. These stories give readers more information about ANR. The external page, especially tailored for the public, emphasizes programs and activities. Topics rotate among agriculture, natural resources, 4-H, nutrition, and family and consumer sciences. The internal page covers items of special interest to faculty and staff. Send suggestions to jeannette.warnert@ucop.edu—or use the “feedback” form at either site.

- Need a news release? Guidelines to help you announce upcoming meetings are posted on the Governmental and External Relations “resources” page (ucanr.org/external > communications > public relations resources).

If you would like an ANR public information officer (PIO) to write a news release for you, there’s a link to a request form. Fill in the form, and a PIO will contact you. Topics may include research results, a new issue, an innovative solution, an important statewide meeting or a new hire or retirement.

- Check out the new look of the “news” website. The new background and graphics tie the site to the redesigned ucanr.org. You can view it at http://danr.ucop.edu/news. Or go to “news” at ucanr.org. Media log on to this site to quickly access ANR news releases, radio stories, media kits and ANR experts information. During phase two of the site’s upgrade, news releases, photographs and radio stories will be entered into a database, the latest and most efficient way of generating websites for the media.
South Coast issues call for proposals for 2003 research, demo projects

South Coast Research and Extension Center (SCREC) is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects in 2003. Proposals are due by Oct. 7, 2002.

Located on 200 acres, SCREC has land suitable for growing row, orchard and field crops, and turfgrass, landscape and nursery plants. Usable orchards available for new research include 430 ‘Hass’ avocado trees, 120 low-chill peach trees in 10 varieties and 132 low-chill apple trees in 11 varieties. There is also ample greenhouse bench space.

The center also provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical and management support to UC academics and to personnel from cooperating organizations such as USDA. SCREC expects to award more than 6,000 hours of labor to support approved projects.

Contact Julie Chavez (949/653-1824 or jgchavez@ucdavis.edu) for more information. For proposal forms, please visit http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form or call Chavez.

Workgroup funding for 2002-03 (from p. 1)

Workgroups and eight coordinating conferences. The breakdown of workgroups according to ANR’s four broad programmatic areas is as follows: Ag Policy and Pest Management—20; Ag Productivity—39; Human Resources—20; Natural Resources—15.

The largest awards for 2002–03 were given to the Alfalfa and Forage Systems Workgroup ($70,180), the Nematology Workgroup ($63,550), Adolescence ($41,223) and Rangeland and Watershed Program ($76,905).

Lund says the feedback he’s received from workgroup chairs confirms that the web-based process for submitting proposals continues to work well.

This year’s awards will be posted on the updated Workgroup Directory webpage (http://ucanr.org/internal/workgroups.cfm).

Job opportunities

- County Director—San Diego
  #ACCSO-02-04
  Closing Date: Sept. 16

- Youth Development Advisor—Childhood Nutrition
  Los Angeles
  #ACCSO-02-03
  Closing Date: Oct. 30

Contact Cheryl Gneckow (909/787-2529; fax: 909/787-2328 or email: ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu).

- Resource Management and Water Quality Advisor
  San Joaquin, Stanislaus
  #ACV 02-05
  Closing Date: Aug. 21

- Farm Advisor—Orchard Systems
  Tulare County
  #ACV 02-02R
  Closing Date: Sept. 27

Contact Cindy Inouye (559/646-6535; fax: 559/646-6513 or email: cinouye@ucdac.edu). Full position vacancy announcement is posted at http://cvr.ucdavis.edu.

ANR REPORT

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