Assistant VP Toby Winer retires

Toby Winer, tapped to fill two newly created leadership positions during her tenure in ANR, is retiring as the Division’s assistant vice president of development services on Jan. 1. Winer is leaving UC to move to New York City. Her last day on the job in Oakland will be Nov. 27.

“It has been personally rewarding in many, many ways to have worked for ANR, and I am pleased that during my career I have contributed to its achievements,” Winer said.

“And if I have, it is because of the support and assistance of my colleagues and friends that I have had the good fortune to work with from the beginning. Although I am excited about new opportunities, I will deeply miss the challenges and accomplishments that ANR and the University have provided me during the last 14 years.”

Vice President Gomes said, “I want to express my thanks and appreciation for all that Toby has done for ANR and the University of California. Toby’s leadership in Division administration and in the establishment of a development program for ANR has contributed greatly to the success of ANR’s programs.”

UC awarded $1.8 million in specialty crops grants

UC researchers have been awarded $1.8 million in specialty crops grants from the “Buy California” program, administered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

The projects will be conducted during the next 30 months. Awards for the one-time grants were announced earlier this month. The funding was provided by a special federal appropriation.

At CDFA’s request, Vice President Gomes agreed to have UC manage the specialty crops competitive grants portion of the Buy California program. UC Davis extension vegetable specialist Ron Voss was named to manage the grants program by Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr.

Voss said that the 62 proposals received in the competition were rigorously reviewed by panels of experts from UC, CSU, USDA and the grower community.

Seventeen projects received funding: Nine projects focus on management systems for ecologically based agriculture, including organic production; five focus on new crops and products; two on biological control of pests; and one on agricultural enhancement of environmental quality.

Principal investigators from UC, CSU and USDA were eligible for grants. To be considered, “projects had to be on one or more of the federally non-subsidized crops, a wide definition of specialty crops,” Voss said.

Scientific and technical merit topped the selection criteria, but one of the project’s components, he said, had to be a strong outreach program with potential impact on California’s specialty crop industries. The project also had to be consistent with “sustainable agriculture” and the “Buy California” program concepts and goals.

Following are the titles of the 17 projects, their principal investigators, and the amounts of the awards:

continued on p. 2
Winer (from p. 1)

She completed the assignment in 1999 having stacked up an impressive list of successes. Key accomplishments included providing more efficient and cost-effective administrative service; developing a budget process; replacing outdated computer systems with an efficient online system for information sharing and data management; and implementing a proactive affirmative action program that won USDA’s first national Cooperative Extension System Award for Diversity.

She helped implement new funding partnerships for ANR facilities, such as the postharvest center at Kearney Research and Extension Center and the citrus packing line at Lindcove, and served as a founding board member of the Hansen Trust.

In 1999, Gomes tapped Winer to create a new fundraising capability for the Division.

As head of Development Services, Winer hired a core staff and established a web presence in implementing an ANR donor and fund development program in coordination with the UC Office of the President and the campuses.

The unit cultivates and solicits major gifts, creates promotional materials, helps ANR maintain strong relationships with retirees and alumni, conducts regional fundraising workshops and assists with local fundraising initiatives, including the establishment of support groups.

Recruitment for a new assistant vice president for development services will begin next spring.

President’s Advisory Commission discusses water, agricultural labor issues at its fall meeting

Water challenges facing California was the major presentation topic for the fall 2002 meeting of the UC President’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources (PAC), held in Oakland Oct. 18-19.

PAC commissioner Rita Schmidt Sudman, of the Water Education Foundation, gave an overview of water issues—supply, demand and conveyance systems. Commissioner Dan Dooley, of Dooley & Herr, discussed critical policy issues related to water utilization. Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr. reviewed water-resources research and outreach capabilities and programs at UC. The commissioners followed up with a round table discussion of water issues and feedback on the University’s programs and efforts.

Senior Vice President for University Affairs Bruce Darling and Vice President Gomes briefed the group on the long-term impacts of the 10 percent cut in state-funded research on UC research capabilities and ANR’s ability to respond quickly to new problems and pests.

Darling also provided an update on demographic changes in California and long-range planning under way by the Regents and the Office of the President. That effort aims to protect and enhance the quality of UC programs while addressing the challenges of enrollment growth and constrained resources. (For background on the Regents’ planning effort, go to http://www.ucop.edu/planning/lrp/lrp.html.)

Associate Vice Provost for Research Susanne Huttner discussed the Industry-University Cooperative Research Program, a state-industry cost-share partnership to speed the transfer of new technologies and research discoveries from UC for the public benefit. She said that agriculture has benefited extensively, with millions of dollars in state and private matching funds awarded for projects ranging from genetic enhancement of flavor in fresh fruits and vegetables to genetic improvement of bacteria for use in pest control.

Gomes updated the group on ANR activities related to sudden oak death, Pierce’s disease, West Nile virus and other invasive pests and diseases, and on several new ANR programs focusing on agriterrorism. School of Veterinary Medicine Dean Bennie O’bourn added details about the newly established Western Institute for Food Safety and Security, at UC Davis. Gomes also briefed the commission on ANR projects funded by the Governor’s Buy California initiative, and progress in awarding grants through a separate $1.8 million specialty-crops program administered by the Division (see “UC wins $1.8 million in specialty crops grants” on page 1).

Agricultural Issues Center Director Dan Sumner’s summary of the current agricultural labor situation in California focused on supply and demand, regulations and immigration reform, and labor-management relations. He also gave a detailed review of UC programs and services. His presentation was followed by a round table discussion of critical labor issues in California and areas where UC can make a difference.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled for April 2003. The commission includes more than two dozen leaders from the agricultural, natural resources, environmental and conservation, and human resources communities.

President Atkinson established the PAC in 1998 to bring together senior leaders from UC and its stakeholder groups to share information, ideas and advice and to help identify emerging issues and challenges where the University and ANR can be of assistance through research, extension and natural reserve system programs.

KREC requests proposals

Nov. 26 is the due date for submitting proposals for conducting research projects at Kearney Research and Extension Center in 2003.

KREC, located in Parlier, has open ground; 15 acres of alfalfa; one acre of kiwi. It also offers postharvest, fruit washer/waxer, fruit color sorter/sizer, greenhouse, nursery, sample handling, drying, incubator, freezer, cold room, lab and storage facilities.

Download proposals forms from the KREC website (http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/ rec/form/rac.html).

For more information, contact KREC (559/646-6010; jduran@uckac.edu; fax: 559/646-6015).
Specialty crops grants (from p. 1)

- Efficient determination of spore inoculum potential of brown rot pathogen (M. oryzae) in stone fruit orchards by using molecular techniques. Themis Michailides (UCD plant pathology-KAC) $119,290.
- Evaluation of food additives and low-toxicity compounds as alternative chemicals to synthetic fungicides for the control of the main postharvest diseases of California stone fruits. Carlos Crisosto (UCD pomology-KAC) $121,461.
- Developing a management program for San Jose scale and oriental fruit moth for organic and non-organic stone fruit farmers. Walt Bentley (KAC) $139,169.
- Investigation of organic seed treatments for spinach disease control. Steve Koike and Richard Smith (Monterey Co. CE), Eric Brennan (USDA-NRCS, Salinas) $4,600.
- Developing technology to grow mushrooms from recycled urban waste and food scraps and paper waste (vermicompost). Maria de la Fuente (Santa Clara Co. CE) $109,398.
- Effect of cover crop variety and seeding rate, and supplemental fertilization on yield, weed management, nitrate leaching, soil quality, and profitability of organic cool-season vegetable production on the Central Coast. Eric Brennan (USDA-NRCS, Salinas), Michael Cahn (Monterey Co. CE), Steve Fennimore (UCD vegetable crops, Salinas), Howard Ferris (UCD nematology), Richard Smith (Monterey Co. CE), Laura Toure (Santa Clara Co. CE) $124,667.
- Nutrient management and soil microbial ecology for organically grown fresh-market tomatoes. Louise Jackson (UCD veg crops), Kate Scow (UCD LAWR) $124,969.
- Ecological management system for controlling olive fruit fly in California olives. Frank Zalom (UCD entomology), Louise Ferguson (UCD pomology-KAC) $50,000.
- Precision weed control for organic vegetable growers. Ken Giles and David Slaughter (UCD biological and agricultural engineering), Tom Lanini (UCD veg crops) $122,538.
- Does conservation tillage reduce dust emissions in central valley specialty crop rotations? Jeff Mitchell (UCD vegetable crops-KAC), Randal Southard (UCD land, air and water resources) $121,373.
- Importation and host range testing of parasitoids that attack the olive fruit fly, Bactrocera oleae. Kent Daane, Marshall Johnson, (UCB entomology-KAC) $180,000.
- Development and extension of new barley varieties for human consumption in California. Cal Qalset (UCD agronomy and range science) $75,000.
- Development of intergeneric hybrids of ryegrasses with fescues as new cool-season turfgrasses. A.J. Lukaszewski and V.A. Gibeault (UCR botany and plant sciences) $57,050.

Experts from 23 countries discuss innovations in water management at Rosenberg International Forum

Fifty-five of the world’s top water managers, scholars and policy makers joined President Atkinson, Vice President Gomes, Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr. and about 30 local observers in Canberra, Australia, Oct. 7-11 for the third biennial Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy.

The forum, held in a different country every two years, promotes a global dialogue to enhance the environment and economic growth, reduce water-related conflicts and improve water policy. ANR is one of the forum’s co-sponsors. “The conference enables water managers in the world’s semi-arid regions to compare their experiences and participate in building a coherent, global body of knowledge about effective water management techniques and policies,” said Vaux, who has been co-chair of the forum’s advisory committee since the forum’s inception in 1996. Vaux is an expert on the economics of irrigated agriculture and water marketing.

This edition of the forum focused on innovations in water management and attracted experts from public and private sectors in 23 countries, including China, Namibia, Spain, South Africa and officials from the European Union and the World Bank. To facilitate in-depth discussions, the forum is generally limited to about 50 participants, Vaux said.

Atkinson and Australian Senator Margaret Reid, who represented Prime Minister John Howard, gave the welcoming remarks, continued on p. 4
kicking off two days of presentations and discussions.

Atkinson, who sat in on the sessions, said: “This was a most interesting symposium, enabling scholars and water managers from around the world to share ideas about how to address the world’s intensifying water problems.”

Two themes reverberated throughout the discussions, Vaux said. “The first was that no country or region can escape the growing problem of water scarcity.

“The second theme was that, without institutions to manage water scarcity, the impact of this scarcity is much worse than it need be.”

The keynote addresses—“World Water Supplies: Are They Adequate?” and “The Australian Water Experience: Some Ways Forward”—were followed by six formal sessions during which 18 papers were presented. Sessions on integrated river basin management and community participation and stakeholder input “demonstrated how difficult it is to manage large rivers in an integrated way, particularly when they transcend international boundaries,” Vaux said.

In a session on innovative salinity management, UC Riverside’s John Letey, director of the Center for Water Resources, compared salinity management in the Imperial Valley and the West Side of the San Joaquin Valley. Other speakers highlighted projects in the Nile Basin in Egypt, and in Australia.

The next to last session focused on three of the most sophisticated groundwater management systems in the world, two from California and one from Namibia. The session included a presentation by Vaux on the Arvin Edison Water Storage District in the southern San Joaquin Valley. These presentations illustrated “how different public and private arrangements for managing groundwater are appropriate to different circumstances,” Vaux said.

The final session on institutional innovations began with a keynote address by the Honorable Chen Guangguo, vice mayor of Chongqing, People’s Republic of China. A subsequent speaker, Vaux said, illuminated “some very difficult problems” the Chinese have in managing one of their major aquifers. A discussion of agricultural water pricing and the European Union’s water directive framework concluded the session.

In a pre-conference tour, the participants visited sites in the Murray River Basin, internationally known for successful river basin management. A post-conference tour traveled to the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme, where the focus was on water issues and the electricity market.

Since Australia currently has severe drought, forum participants found visits to these water management sites particularly informative, Vaux said.

The Rosenberg Forum, named after former Bank of America chairman Richard Rosenberg, was established by an endowment gift to UC from BofA. ANR administers the forum.

The next forum is scheduled to be convened in 2004 in Ankara, Turkey.

**California advisors honored**

Dr. Blackburn’s article used census data to quantify the numbers of children living in grandparent-headed households in California and discussed efforts to provide needed services to this at-risk community,” said California Agriculture managing editor Janet Byron.

Blackburn’s article was also distributed to 207 print, radio and TV outlets and helped raise public awareness, generate funding and additional grandparent education, and build coalitions to address the issue.

Yvonne Steinbring, family consumer science advisor in Siskiyou County, received the Environmental Education Award in the association’s Western Region. The Western Region is comprised of 17 states and territories.

Steinbring was honored for actively working with charities and thrift stores in the county to keep excess donations of clothing and textiles from going into local landfills. In one year, items from discarded clothing and textiles brought one thrift store an additional $6,000.

A five-member UCCE team shared the Western Region’s Program Excellence through Research Award. Advisors Cathy Lamp (Tulare County), Margaret Johns (Kern County), Jan Harwood (who retired earlier this year from Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties) and Jeanette Sutherlin (Fresno county director), and UC Davis CE community nutrition specialist Lucia Kaiser were selected for a study of overweight pre-school children in low-income Latino families. They looked at what can be done to help prevent “overweight” in this population.
University proposes to revise two academic personnel policies

Under academic personnel policy 715, the University grants eligible employees up to 12 workweeks of family and medical leave during the leave year to care for the appointee’s child, parent or spouse with a serious health condition. Consistent with other University policies and employment benefits, UC proposes to revise APM 715 to extend family and medical leave coverage to eligible employees who have a domestic partner. Also, “calendar year” is now used in conformance with existing policy.

The proposed revised APM 715 is online (http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/acadpers/apm/rev-apm-715.html). If you have any questions or wish to comment, please contact Elizabeth Gomez (510/987-0082; elizabeth.gomez@ucop.edu) by Dec. 13.

Proposed revisions to academic personnel policy 740—sabbatical leaves—would: 1) As an exception to policy, allow significant UC service to be substituted for the teaching requirement for a sabbatical in residence; 2) allow recipients of a sabbatical leave at less than full salary to receive additional compensation for research from other universities and 3) allow a faculty member who holds a full-time administrative position for five years or more to take a sabbatical immediately after that service based on the pay rate of the administrative position.

The proposed policy, to apply to academic titles listed in APM 740-11, is available online (http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/acadpers/apm/rev-apm-740.html). Send comments to Gomez (elizabeth.gomez@ucop.edu) by Jan. 6.

PPACs to sharpen focus on programmatic results

Seeking more stakeholder input, comparing program goals against actual results, and prioritizing “target” issues across the Division’s three major subject areas are key changes in a revised program planning process ANR is implementing this year.

The revised process was initiated Sept. 4-5, when the Division’s three program planning advisory committees (PPACs) held their first joint meeting in this new planning cycle and welcomed newly appointed members.

The current roster of PPAC members, including new appointees, is listed on ANR’s internal website. (Click on divisionwide planning, go to the PPAC home page, and look to the right for the PPAC member link.) The Agricultural Resources, Natural Resources and Human Resources PPACs have 13 to 15 members each. Created in 1994, the PPACs advise ANR leaders on priorities for research and extension programming.

Joseph Morse, program leader for agricultural policy and pest management and ex-officio member of the Agricultural Resources PPAC, said his group used their first get-together this year to draft a plan for soliciting external stakeholder input. The PPACs want to collaborate with a greater diversity of stakeholders in identifying potential issues and outcomes for ANR programs, he said.

“We’ve put together a long list of clientele that includes 50 commodity groups, boards and councils,” Morse said. The PPAC sent a questionnaire to these clientele and other stakeholders such as water resource boards, grower groups, agricultural associations, state and federal agencies and non-ANR academics. The questionnaire asked them, among other things, to list key issues they would like ANR to address to a greater extent. Morse said the PPAC members plan to follow up with these stakeholders. The other PPACs are using a similar approach to gather stakeholder input, he said.

Last March, in his call for PPAC nominations, Assistant Vice President for Programs Lanny Lund announced that the planning process had been revised. The new process is based on the recommendations of a review committee he appointed last year.

The PPACs will finish their part of the first phase of the revised process by December 2003, Lund said. They will conduct a needs assessments and identify critical and target issues that should receive the attention of ANR programs.

Critical issues are defined as being the most important issues for the Division to address, and in their planning, the PPACs also identify the “desired outcomes” of ANR programs that address those issues.

Target issues are a subset of critical issues. These issues need additional resources to be addressed effectively.

In early 2004, the Program Council will take the target issues that each PPAC identified and integrate them into one list, Lund said.

In the future, the planning process will also include an evaluation component, and the planning cycle will span three years to accommodate this additional activity.

“Although the evaluation phase will not be carried out in this first cycle, thus shortening it to two years, in future cycles the PPACs will be asked to evaluate how effectively the Division has addressed previously identified issues,” Lund said.

In 2004, after reviewing the PPAC recommendations and integrating the target issues across the three PPACs, the Program Council will forward its recommendations for Division program priorities to Vice President Gomez for his approval. These priorities will be considered in resource allocation decisions for the next three years,” Lund said.

The second planning cycle will lead to new priorities in 2007.
Highlights from Vice President Gomes’ fall schedule

Vice President Gomes’ desire to raise the Division’s profile with key audiences outside the University frequently puts him on the road. To share ANR’s vision, capabilities, achievements and funding needs, he often meets with legislators, regulatory boards, commodity groups, as well as the public-at-large and other members of the University. Following is a sampling of events and meetings on Gomes’ fall schedule:

- Dedication of Plant and Environmental Sciences Building, UC Davis
- California State Board on Food and Agriculture, San Joaquin Valley
- Greenhouse Groundbreaking Ceremony, Kearney Research and Extension Center, Parlier
- Rosenberg International Water Forum, Canberra, Australia
- President’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources, Oakland
- UCCE Central Coast and South Region Conference, San Jose
- ANR Executive Council, Oakland
- UC Merced Chancellor’s Inauguration and Founding Day, Merced
- California State Board on Food and Agriculture, Napa
- Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.
- National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Annual Meeting, Chicago
- UC Board of Regents, San Francisco
- California Farm Bureau Foundation Annual Meeting, Monterey
- California State Board on Food and Agriculture, San Diego

Program-review training materials online

The electronic version of the program-review training materials presented by the Personnel Committee and the regional directors at the Fall 2002 Program Review Training can be accessed on the web at http://ucanr.org/internal/misshow.cfm?unit=5107&misctype=Academic_P.

You can also access the training materials by clicking successively from the ANR home page (ucanr.org) on internal resources, personnel/benefits, academic personnel, (on right) policies and procedures and then on the menu.

If you have any questions about the materials, please contact Coordinator Elizabeth Gomez at 510/987-0082 or elizabeth.gomez@ucop.edu.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars

ANR Statewide Academic Staff Conference
Feb. 18: Pre-conference meetings
Feb. 19-21: Conference
Location: Sacramento
For more information, contact Andrea Tung (510/987-0067; andrea.tung@ucop.edu)