President Dynes appeared before the state Senate Budget & Fiscal Review Subcommittee on Education on March 8. In his remarks, Dynes noted that the University of California contributes to the state’s health, innovation, economic growth and quality of life.

“We don’t just teach 200,000 students; we touch the lives of every family in California,” he said. “The impact is in jobs; UC faculty and graduate students produce three new inventions every single day, and these inventions lead to new products, new companies, and entire new industries for California. The impact is in human health, where UC faculty make the discoveries that improve the quality of our lives. The impact is on the food we eat, where agricultural researchers and cooperative extension professionals have had a fundamental and lasting impact on the industry for decades.”

...“The University of California has always been an institution focused on helping the people of California achieve their hopes and dreams. We remain focused on that objective today; it is the heart and soul of what we do. But let me say this, and say it clearly: We are on the edge right now. A great public research university – in fact, the world’s best public research university – cannot be sustained if it is made to absorb dramatic budget cuts year after year, with no end in sight. The faculty won’t stay; the best students won’t come; the innovations that power our economy won’t keep flowing.”

Listening sessions attract over 500 stakeholders

More than 500 people attended the ANR listening sessions that were held at five locations around the state. The sessions were designed to solicit input from key leaders, partners and ANR employees on the Division’s future and programs. ANR Executive Council and Program Council members attended to hear from participants.

The Executive Council and Program Council members appreciated this opportunity to listen to different ideas and perspectives that provided a deeper understanding of stakeholder viewpoints. They met immediately following the final session at Davis to discuss recurring themes that arose during the series.

The vice president plans to convene another meeting of the Executive Council and Program Council at the end of March to further discuss what they heard at the listening sessions and next steps in response to comments from external and internal stakeholders. Thereafter, an executive summary of comments made at the listening sessions will be posted on the Future Directions Web site. Actual comments that were transcribed from each session, including notes from the individual table group discussions, will also be posted on this Web site for review.

Anyone who would like to provide additional comments to ANR leadership can still submit them through the Future Directions Web site.
Oak Woodland, Fire, Forestry, and Monitoring Working Groups to Meet May 5 & 6

The Oak Woodland, Fire, Forestry, and Monitoring Combined Working Groups Annual Meeting will be held on May 5 and 6 at the Courtyard Marriott in San Diego.

The theme of this meeting will be the Southern California fires and their effects on coast live oak-Engelmann oak, chaparral, coastal scrub, and mixed conifer vegetation communities. Groups will discuss fire history, fire regimes, fire ecology, and post-fire monitoring and restoration following the recent Southern California fires. There will also be a discussion about the opportunities for research and education relating to these fires.

Beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 5, a plenary session will address subjects such as fire-effects monitoring and Southern California fire regimes. In the afternoon, the plenary session will continue or individual Working Groups will pursue their specific interests. The day will end with a discussion of research and education needs and opportunities relating to fire issues, followed by dinner and a guest speaker.

On Thursday, May 6, attendees will take a field trip to some of the burned areas. This will serve as a backdrop for a hands-on review of postfire vegetation monitoring, and discussion of postfire impacts, vegetation and water quality issues, postfire vegetation restoration, and how the Oak Woodland, Fire, Forestry, and Monitoring Working Groups can address the social and community aspects of wildfire and fuels management.

Participants are encouraged to submit an abstract (project title, project participants’ names & addresses, 200-word summary) of oak woodland, forestry, fire, or monitoring research or education project. Submit these in Times New Roman, 12-point font, MS Word format, by e-mail attachment to Doug McCready at ddmccreary@ucdavis.edu by April 9. A booklet of the abstracts will be distributed at the meeting.

To register, contact Joni Rippee at rippee@nature.berkeley.edu, or phone (510) 642-0095 by April 9.

Names in the news

Tom Shultz, Tulare County dairy advisor emeritus, was honored by Western DairyBusiness with the Dairy Industry Outstanding Educational Support Award Feb. 11. Shultz was introduced as Intervet’s consultant to dairy producers in Central California.

Vincent Lazaneo, San Diego County home horticulture advisor, received the 9th Annual Horticulturist of the Year Award for Excellence from the 1,400-member San Diego Horticultural Society.
ANR shows a hit on UCTV Web site

The latest statistics from the UCTV Web site show that several ANR programs were included in their Top 20 streaming video downloads for January.

“Pretty exciting since they have all been available in our ‘on-demand’ archive for awhile and are obviously still of interest (and of use) to our audience,” UCTV communications manager Alison Gang wrote to ANR media services manager Mike Poe, who produces the videos.

Ranked among the most downloaded shows in January were:

#4 – “Conservation Tillage for California Growers” (first aired October 2001) - 386 downloads

#6 and #7 – “Weed Management Part 1” (374 downloads) and “Weed Management Part 2” (368 downloads), both programs first aired November 2002.

#8 – “UC Research for Commercial Tomatoes” (first aired November 2001) - 368 downloads.


Several Master Gardener programs made it into the Top 100 UCTV downloads of 2003:

“Home Vegetable Gardening: Part 1” (#26 with 558 downloads since original airing in July 2002)

“Planting and Care of Landscape Trees: Part 1” (#51 with 375 downloads since August 2002)

“Plant Disease Part 1” (#63 with 322 downloads since September 2002)

“The Home Vineyard” (#88 with 253 downloads since November 2002)

In the past three years over 40 hours of programs featuring ANR subjects have been aired on the Dish Network and California cable systems via UCTV.

ANR stories on UCTV can be found at http://anronuctv.ucanr.org.

Retiring

Keith Mayberry

Imperial County vegetable crops advisor Keith Mayberry retired in January after 35 years with Cooperative Extension.

Mayberry shaped his college education with a Cooperative Extension career in mind. He worked with UC extension specialists to develop coursework that would prepare him to conduct applied agricultural research and teach. When he finished his master’s degree in 1968, he took the soils and water advisor position in Imperial County, the county he was raised in. But it was as vegetable crops advisor that Mayberry accomplished significant research.

He screened cauliflower varieties from around the world and found cultivars that made it feasible to grow commercial cauliflower in the low desert from Thanksgiving to early March. Mayberry and recently retired San Diego County farm advisor Wayne Schrader are joint owners of a U.S. plant patent for breeding the Imperial Star artichoke, the leading variety planted from seed and used in California, Spain, North Africa, Mexico, Central America, South America, Australia, France and China.

In 1996, Mayberry collected artichoke plants grown high in the Andes Mountains in Peru. He and Schrader bred those selections with Imperial Star and produced red artichokes. In retirement, Mayberry intends to complete a U.S. patent on the red variety.

He and field crops advisor Herman Meister created an Internet-based cost-of-production spreadsheet program for 14 vegetable and eight field crops grown in the Imperial Valley.

Mayberry received the Distinguished Service Award from UC Assembly Council twice, for research and for teaching. Over his career, he authored or co-authored 55 peer-reviewed publications, dozens of technical publications and hundreds of magazine and newspaper stories.

Mayberry and his wife have moved to a five-acre ranch near Cortez, Colo.

— Jeannette Warnert

Anne Cotter

Anne Cotter, UC Cooperative Extension county director in Orange County, retired March 1.

Cotter’s extension career began as a home economist. She earned a bachelor’s degree in home economics at UC Berkeley and taught high school home economics for five years in Mishawaka, Ind. She relocated to the Milwaukee area and took her first job with Cooperative Extension in Racine County, Wis. In the small, midwestern community, Cotter taught homemakers about food preservation, food safety, nutrition and other traditional home economics topics. She also earned a master’s degree at the University of Wisconsin in educational administration and supervision.

Cotter joined UC Cooperative Extension in 1986, first as a 4-H staff member in San Diego County and later as the Orange County home economist. In 1991, Cotter was named county director. Her promotion coincided with major changes in Orange County’s Cooperative Extension program after losing its county funding. The advisors moved from a spacious county facility into much smaller quarters at the Orange County Fairgrounds.

“Many times, we got to the point of nearly closing,” Cotter said, “but a group formed ‘The Friends of Cooperative Extension’ and it provided invaluable support.”

Cotter plans to stay in Orange County during her retirement, near family and friends.

Environmental horticulture advisor John Kabashima succeeds Cotter as county director.

— Jeannette Warnert
UC nondiscrimination policies revised

UC President Dynes recently announced revisions to the UC nondiscrimination policies. One of the revisions adds the term “gender identity” to the list of individual characteristics which have been granted protected status under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. The other revision adds the term “pregnancy” to the list of individual characteristics to facilitate understanding of the University policy regarding the category of discrimination based on “sex.”


Please note that any stock of existing publications that has the old version of the ANR nondiscrimination statement will continue to be acceptable for use. However, any new publications should contain the above revised version of the nondiscrimination statement.

For more information about the policies, contact Eugene Britt, Director of Affirmative Action & Staff Personnel Services, at (510) 987-0096 or Eugene.britt@ucop.edu.

In Memoriam

Bruce E. Bearden

Bruce E. Bearden, farm advisor emeritus, died in Ukiah on Jan. 25. He was 75.

Bearden joined UC Cooperative Extension in Mendocino County in 1954, after earning his entomology degree from UC Berkeley. His assignment was in horticulture and viticulture, where he made significant scientific contributions to the tree fruit and grape industries until his retirement in 1990. In the last five years of his career, he served as county director.

In 1954, he discovered the walnut husk fly in Northern California. He was a leader in early research efforts to control both pear blight and pear decline and was among the first to recognize the need to find alternative pesticides to those currently in use. He published numerous articles in California Agriculture and was a member of the editorial committee of the American Society of Viticulture and Enology.

His early work in 1961-62 collecting temperature records in Anderson Valley was the foundation for the establishment of premium wine grapes in that area. Bearden was instrumental in convincing the UCD Dept. of Viticulture to fund and establish an experimental vineyard at the Hopland Field Station. This multivariety planting became the basis for considerable wine testing and helped to establish the county as a premium wine producing region.

He was a pioneer in the development of overhead sprinklers for frost protection in vineyards and played an important role in forming the 20-year-old Mendocino County Water Agency.

Upon retirement, he received a lifetime membership in the Mendocino County Farm Bureau.

He is survived by his wife, Francine, daughters Nancy Frenkel and Susan Thomas, son-in-law Steven Frenkel and six grandchildren. – Pete Passof

Hopland REC calls for proposals

The Hopland Research & Extension Center seeks research project proposals for the period June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2005. Proposals are due at Hopland on April 17.

The center encompasses more than 5,300 acres of oak woodland, grassland, and chaparral rangeland in southeastern Mendocino County. It presently supports a diverse mix of projects in subjects that include animal science, range management, wildlife ecology, entomology and epidemiology, pest management, viticulture, and natural resources management. New projects utilizing the center’s laboratory, greenhouse, resident sheep flock of 750 breeding ewes, 2-acre cabernet vineyard, wild black-tailed deer herd, or irrigated pasture (suitable for wine grape vineyard development) are specifically encouraged.

The center expects to award in excess of 2,500 hours of center-provided labor to support approved projects during this coming cycle.

For additional information and proposal forms, visit Hopland REC’s Web site at: http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/hopland/home_page.html, or contact Center Superintendent Robert Timm at (707) 744-1424 or e-mail rmtimm@ucdavis.edu.

ANR REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ANR)

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For nondiscrimination policy, click here.