UC responds to Hurricane Katrina

President Robert C. Dynes issued the following statement on Sept. 2: “Like all other Americans, I am heart sick at the devastation that has enveloped New Orleans and much of the Gulf Coast region. Though we are at some distance from the center of the catastrophe, we at the University of California are pursuing every possible option for contributing our assistance to the recovery effort.

“Our campuses and medical centers are working right now to identify the personnel, expertise, equipment, medical assets, and other resources that can be made available to support the immediate clinical and public health emergency needs, as well as the long-term health recovery efforts, in the Gulf Coast region. That effort will be a massive, national undertaking, and we believe UC’s vast resources and expertise can make an important contribution.” For Dynes’ full statement, see www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2005/sep02.html.

UCOP has assembled a Web site of the resources available from throughout the UC system directed at the Hurricane Katrina relief effort: http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/katrina-relief/.

Riverside County 4-H members will be making duffle bags (like the ones shown here for the Pillow Patrol Foster Home Project) and sending them to young Hurricane Katrina survivors.

Proposals sought for Core Issue Grants

Proposals are being sought for the FY 2006-2007 ANR Core Issue Grants. This grants program is intended to foster collaborative efforts of the Agricultural Experiment Station, statewide, campus and county Cooperative Extension and other ANR cooperators focused on identified high-priority issues and target opportunities outlined in “ANR Core Issues and Target Opportunities, 2005.”

Core Issue Grant projects should address critical issues affecting various populations in California’s diverse agricultural, natural and urban communities. ANR Core Issues in this call include:

- Air Quality
- Biosecurity
- Childhood Obesity
- Food Safety
- Invasive Species
- Pest Management
- Sustainability and Viability of Agriculture
- Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
- Youth Development
- Water Quality

Priority will be given to proposals that use a “systems” approach to address this year’s target opportunities. Funding decisions will be communicated on March 1, 2006, and funds will be available for the period July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007.

ANR centers, statewide programs and workgroups are encouraged to provide leadership for ANR Core Issue Grant proposals. ANR members who wish to redirect their programs to address identified high-priority core issues and target opportunities in this call are encouraged to join a collaborative project team to begin re-directing their research and/or extension activities.

ANR Core Issue Grants should serve as support for one-time projects, re-direction of existing individual academic programs,
**Core Issue Grants – from page 1**

or “seed money” for longer term efforts. Proposals for longer term projects should include plans for continued funding. For both new and longer-term efforts, projects should be designed to complete a significant and definitive step toward the longer-term goals within this 12-month period. Emphasis will be placed on projects that can be initiated and completed by June 30, 2007, demonstrating association of ANR campus- and county-based academics. Projects demonstrating partnerships of AES and CE campus and county collaborators will be given special consideration. For more information, see the complete call for proposals at [http://ucanr.org/external/miscshow.cfm?unit=5728&miscstype=Main_page](http://ucanr.org/external/miscshow.cfm?unit=5728&miscstype=Main_page). A directory of projects funded in last year’s call is at [http://ucanr.org/external/coreisuegrants.cfm](http://ucanr.org/external/coreisuegrants.cfm).

All proposals must be submitted by Nov. 1 in ANR’s Web-based system at [http://ucanr.org/cig/](http://ucanr.org/cig/).

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**West Side REC requests research proposals**

The West Side Research & Extension Center (WSREC) is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for the period Jan. 1, 2006 through Dec. 31, 2006.

Located on 320 acres in the San Joaquin Valley, WSREC has land suitable for growing row, orchard and field crops, and turfgrass, landscape and nursery plants.

The center also provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical and management support to UC academics and to personnel from cooperating non-UC organizations, such as USDA. Approximately 7,000 hours of labor will be awarded to support approved projects.

Proposal forms can be obtained at [http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form/index.html](http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form/index.html) and are due by Nov. 1, 2005. Submit all forms electronically to Chris Robles at csrobles@ucdavis.edu.

For questions about the research proposal process or about research opportunities, please contact Edwin Scott, Interim Center Director at (559) 884-6433 or edscott@ucdavis.edu.

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**Advisors invited to associate with CA&ES**

The UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has launched a pilot program to enhance campus/county connections. CA&ES is inviting Cooperative Extension advisors to seek unpaid appointments as Cooperative Extension associates in the Agricultural Experiment Station in the department of their choice. Advisors can choose one or more of four departments: Plant Sciences; Animal Science; Human and Community Development; and Land, Air and Water Resources.

“We are quite excited that this provides an opportunity for faculty, specialists and advisors to form closer ties,” said Rick Standiford, ANR associate vice president. “All of our advice from both internal and external stakeholders indicates the importance of maintaining strong partnerships between the campuses and the county Cooperative Extension offices.”

Advisors are eligible for the two-year appointment as a CE Associate in the AES after their first successful program review and may renew their appointments.

These appointments are intended to stimulate advisor participation in departmental strategic planning activities; peer/ad hoc groups that advise departments in CE Specialist appointment, merit and promotion actions; joint research projects; undergraduate or graduate student education; workshops, seminars, training activities and/or symposia; and CA&ES international programs. It is also intended to encourage publication of research, outreach or extension materials with department faculty.

“We are pleased that the faculty members of our departments are so interested in developing close partnerships with advisors,” said Neal Van Alfen, CA&ES dean.

“Close collaborations between campus and county programs result in bringing real-world problems to the attention of campus faculty and in having the campus faculty participate in finding solutions to these problems. This is the fundamental basis of the land-grant university vision, so we are very interested in finding ways to strengthen these collaborations.”

To apply, advisors must provide department chairs with a current biography and a one-page description of their desired involvements with the department (i.e., expected outcomes or goals). Final approval is made by the dean.

For more information, contact a department chair: Plant Sciences – Chris van Kessel, cvankessel@ucdavis.edu, [http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu](http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu); Animal Science – Mary Delany, medelany@ucdavis.edu, [http://animalscience.ucdavis.edu](http://animalscience.ucdavis.edu); Human and Community Development – Beth Ober, baober@ucdavis.edu, [http://hcd.ucdavis.edu](http://hcd.ucdavis.edu); Land, Air and Water Resources – Michael Singer, mjsinger@ucdavis.edu, [http://lawr.ucdavis.edu](http://lawr.ucdavis.edu).

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**LA County recruits nutrition program director**

UCCE Los Angeles County is recruiting an academic to develop comprehensive education and training programs for nutrition, physical activity, food assistance and social marketing pertaining to the Regional Nutrition Network: 5-A-Day Power Play (children 9 - 11 years old) and Latino 5-a-Day (adults) programs. The position will require close interaction with the California Department of Health Service, Department of Public Health, and community partners.

A master’s degree is required in, but not limited to, education, business, nutrition, public health, or discipline relevant to duties and responsibilities of position. Experience and skills required include five years in a managerial/supervisory role (preferably education); three years in community health/nutrition; and work with low-income and diverse populations. Must possess skills in education, mass media outreach and public speaking.

Salary will be in the Academic Administrator series, Rank III ($54,240 - $60,672), commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. Deadline to apply is Oct. 3.

The full position vacancy announcement and application materials are available at [http://csrr.ucdavis.edu](http://csrr.ucdavis.edu). For more information, contact Cheryl Gneckow at ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu, (951) 827-2529 or fax (951) 827-2328.
Santos joins Financial Services
Jaime (Jimmy) Santos has joined ANR Financial Services as an accountant. Santos worked previously at the UC San Francisco Extramural Accounting Office.

“He brings with him years of professional accounting and UC system experience,” said Jo Ann Javier, director of Financial Services. “We are very excited to have him on our team.”

Santos can be reached at (510) 987-0739 and jaime.santos@ucop.edu.

Hill, Bransford honored by rice industry
Jim Hill, UC Davis-based rice specialist, was awarded the California Rice Industry Award at the Rice Day Aug. 30. Rice grower Don Bransford, who serves on the President's Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources, also received the award. This award is presented annually by the California Cooperative Rice Research Foundation and the California Rice Research Foundation to recognize and honor members of the rice industry who have made outstanding and distinguished contributions to the California rice industry. Recipients of the award are nominated and selected by a committee of rice growers and others appointed by the CCRRF Board of Directors.

VanderGheynst honored as educator
The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) has named Jean VanderGheynst, UCD professor in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, the 2005 winner of the A.W. Farrall Young Educator Award. The award was presented at the society’s annual meeting in Florida. The ASABE stated that her “enthusiasm, energy, knowledge, and commitment has made her a role model and guide for numerous university students.” VanderGheynst is an expert in biological engineering, particularly in integrating molecular biology with engineering.

Carl Funke, chairman of the California Cooperative Rice Research Foundation, left, and Kurt Meyer of the California Rice Research Board, right, present Jim Hill, center, with the California Rice Industry Award.

Plant Sciences to host symposium Sept. 27
The UC Davis Department of Plant Sciences will be hosting a symposium on Sept. 27 in Freeborn Hall. The symposium will provide an overview of current trends and future outlook of agricultural sustainability, biodiversity and conservation, plant genetics, and international agricultural development in the plant sciences.

Presentations will showcase the breadth and depth of current research, teaching, and extension/outreach activities in the plant sciences at UC Davis and in collaboration with UCCE Advisors. Speakers from outside UC as well as from within the department will present their research and views on the issues. A poster session will reflect various research programs in plant sciences.

The symposium is cosponsored by the Department of Plant Sciences, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and the Storer Life Sciences Endowment. There is no fee for the symposium, however, lunch will be provided for those that pre-register. A complete agenda and registration information is available on the web at: http://groups.ucanr.org/symposium.

California Agriculture joins Communication Services
California Agriculture magazine, ANR’s research journal, is moving from the Office of Governmental and External Relations to Communication Services, with a direct reporting relationship to director Bob Sams.

Vice President Gomes approved the organizational change based on the recommendations of Steve Nation, executive director of Governmental and External Relations, and Sams. The staff of the peer-reviewed journal -- Janet White, executive editor; Janet Byron, managing editor; and Davis Krauter, art director — continues to work in Oakland with the same e-mail addresses and phone numbers.

“The move to Communication Services has many positive benefits for California Agriculture, including the opportunity to work regularly with other colleagues who have experience in editing, publishing, design and photography, as well as the production of peer-reviewed materials,” Nation said.

“This should help the California Agriculture team produce an even better journal, focus additional resources on serving ANR academics, and provide wonderful professional development and information-sharing opportunities for California Agriculture and the Communication Services team,” Nation said. “Conversely, California Agriculture has excellent links to campus academics, as well as CE specialists and advisors, which will expand the Communication Services network of contacts.”

“That’s exactly right,” says Director Sams. “We’re excited by the prospect of working more closely with Janet, Janet, and Davis. Moreover, we all see many possible synergies, some of which may come from connecting a respected peer-reviewed journal and ANR peer-reviewed publications and educational products. I also look forward to having a better perspective on both research and extension in our communications planning.”

The transition is expected to be complete within the next three months.
Hurricane Katrina – continued from page 1


The Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS) is coordinating with the UC Davis Medical School’s telemedicine program to offer advice on waterborne and foodborne diseases and zoonotic diseases; as well as facilitating the California Crisis Management Team with FEMA and others involved in disaster disease management.

4-H pitches in

4-H clubs in several counties are participating in the effort to assist the people chased out of their homes by Hurricane Katrina. Some clubs are making backpacks and filling them with games, cards, activity books, etc. Others are finding homes for homeless animals. Others are doing fundraising.

The Glenn County 4-H Teen Council is challenging all of the 4-H clubs in California to donate to the Hurricane Katrina 4-H Relief Fund. “We are challenging each club to donate at least $100 or more for the 4-H Foundations in Mississippi and Louisiana,” said Jeanne George, Glenn County 4-H youth development advisor. All the money raised will be split equally between these two states’ 4-H programs. They are trying to assist 4-H members and their families as well as 4-H staff.

Riverside County 4-H representative Jeanne Lothridge has proposed that the 4-H members who are participating in the pillow patrol project make duffle bags for kids affected by the hurricane to keep their belongings. They intend to put necessities such as toothbrushes and toothpaste in the duffle bags, which will have a tag that says, “made especially for you by Riverside County CA 4-H”.

Hurricane Katrina hits land-grant institutions

As many in Cooperative Extension reach out to provide assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, we’ve learned that some of our colleagues are among the victims.

As of Sept. 6, there were five Cooperative Extension employees missing from Louisiana and 12 missing from Mississippi, according to James C. Wade, NASULGC Director, Extension and Outreach.

“The Association of Southern Region Extension Directors and the Association of Extension Administrators have agreed to assist Extension faculty and staff who have suffered personal loss from Hurricane Katrina. As a result, a fund has been set up at NASULGC to receive donations for these regional associations to disperse to Extension staff in need as a result of the hurricane,” Wade wrote in an e-mail.

Checks payable to “NASULGC – Katrina Extension Disaster Fund” may be sent to the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), Department 0545, Washington, DC 20073-0545.

On Sept. 3, Frankie Gould, Louisiana State University AgCenter director of communications and public relations, wrote in an e-mail: “We have 585 displaced AgCenter faculty, staff and their families at our 4-H camp with only the clothes on their back. This does not include other AgCenter personnel that are in motels, with family or other temporary accommodations. These coworkers will not be able to go back to their offices for 6 to 12 months, so we are in the process of relocating them.”

The Louisiana 4-H Foundation has established an AgCenter Relief Fund with all proceeds benefiting LSU AgCenter families affected by Hurricane Katrina. For more information about the LSU relief fund, go to [http://www.la4hfoundation.org](http://www.la4hfoundation.org/).

4-H gives “Hero Pack” to military kids

On Sept. 11, at a function for military families at the Fresno National Guard Armory, Elizabeth Kludas, right, was among several 4-H members who handed out backpacks full of goodies to the children of Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve members. The backpacks contained a variety of gifts—a disposable camera, notebook, etc.—but perhaps the most meaningful was a personal letter from a 4-H member thanking the military children for their sacrifices and inviting them to join a local 4-H club.
EFNEP educators aim for more interaction

Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program advisors and educators from around the statewide gathered in San Jose for three days in September to learn a more motivational method of teaching. The session was led by Joye Norris, author of the book, “From Telling to Teaching.” Norris prodded the educators to move from delivering monologues to inspiring dialogue during their lessons.

“This is a paradigm shift,” said Eli Gong, Santa Clara County nutrition program representative, explaining that the new approach emphasizes interaction and limits lecturing.

During the workshop, breakout groups planned curricula for specific EFNEP lessons. For these lessons, they were asked to incorporate the elements “anchor, add, apply and away.”

“Anchor” means relating the discussion topic to the learner’s life, such as having EFNEP participants ask each other, What’s the best fruit-based recipe you ever tasted? “Add” refers to the educator giving just the essential information, such as essential vitamins contained in fruit. “Apply” refers to an activity that reinforces the message, such as having participants prepare and sample a fruit smoothie. “Away” refers to leading participants to come up with actions they can take to make changes at home such as asking, What could you do to improve this recipe to suit your family’s needs?

As more sophisticated knowledge emerges about how people learn, EFNEP needs to modify its delivery of information, said Barbara Sutherland, EFNEP director. “We must incorporate the latest research on nutrition with the latest research on learning styles to encourage our EFNEP families to eat right and be physically active,” said Sutherland.

The EFNEP educators left the training session invigorated. “EFNEP stands for Exciting and Fun Nutrition Education Program,” declared Barbara Turner, Los Angeles County nutrition, family & consumer sciences advisor.

Mileage reimbursement rate raised

Vice President-Financial Management Anne Broome announced Sept. 12 a temporary increase in the University’s mileage reimbursement rate for private automobiles from 40.5 cents per mile to 48.5 cents per mile. The change conforms to new rates announced by the IRS in response to the dramatic increase in gas prices. The rates are effective for expenses incurred on or after Sept. 1, 2005, through Dec. 31, 2005.

Broome’s memo can be read at http://ucanr.org/internal/internalstories/Mileage%20Rate%20Increase3.pdf.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Catherine Montano, ANR Coordinator - Administrative Policies & Business Contracts. Montano can be reached at catherine.montano@ucop.edu or 510-987-0103.

Analytical Lab funds 3 projects

The Analytical Laboratory Advisory Committee has announced approval of the following three projects for funding from the August 2005 cycle:

“Groundwater quality impacts from Eel River Valley Dairies” Principal Investigator: Ken Andersen; Collaborator: Thomas Harter

“Improvement of yield in red raspberry with optimized cane pruning and fertility management” Principal Investigator: Mark Bolda

“Effects of livestock grazing on soil physical properties and organic matter in Sierra Nevada high montane and subalpine meadows” Principal Investigator: Jay Norton; Collaborators: Ken Tate, Will Horwath, Barbara Allen-Diaz, William Frost, Neil McDougald

The call for proposals for the lab’s February 2006 cycle will be issued in mid-December.