Budget update

Dear Colleagues:

The Governor’s 2006-07 Budget Proposal was released Tuesday, Jan. 10. I am pleased to tell you that the proposal fulfills the “compact” agreement between the governor and UC. The agreement provides the University with budget stability by establishing funding and performance expectations over a multi-year period.

The Office of the President has sent out a press release with details on how UC will be affected: http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2006/jan10.html.


Sincerely,
W. R. Gomes, Vice President

History of UC IPM Program published online

The confluence of scientific progress, a receptive political climate and changes at UC led to the conception of the UC Integrated Pest Management Program, according to a recently released history of the 25-year-old program. The retrospective was written by James M. Lyons in collaboration with Mary Louise Flint, Peter Goodell, Patrick O’Connor-Marer and Joyce Strand, all longtime members of the IPM program. Lyons served as director or acting director of the program on four occasions.

The book describes the setting within and outside the university in which the idea for an IPM program arose and how the program developed. It chronicles major milestones through mid-2003.

The IPM philosophy began to develop in the 1950s and 1960s as researchers began to introduce biological control agents into agricultural systems that were using pesticides.

According to Lyons, a turning point came in 1959, when UC entomologists Vernon Stern, of Riverside, and Ray Smith, Robert van den Bosch and Kenneth Hagen of Berkeley, published in Hilgardia their seminal article “The Integrated Control Concept.” “This publication not only presented the definitions and explanation of terms useful in discussing IPM, but also developed the conceptual framework for successful IPM programs,” Lyons writes.

Advances occurring in computer sciences around the same time furthered the IPM effort. “To implement an effective integrated pest management control program on an ecosystem basis requires analysis of large quantities of detailed and accurate data from repeated field monitoring. Computerized data management had the ability to reduce, store, retrieve, and perform the necessary calculations to make relationships among biological and abiotic factors useful to those who have to predict the need for and supervise the treatment strategies.”

In 1979, the California Legislature funded the establishment of the UC State-wide IPM Program. The story of how it got off the ground is told in a conversational tone, such as this passage:

A contemporary philosopher once said, “The only thing more difficult to move than an academic faculty is a cemetery,” and each of the four areas of endeavor of the approved new program, i.e., the grants program, the field implementation program, the computer network, and the pest management manuals, were about to challenge long-standing institutional and academic paradigms… So, by its very existence, the Statewide IPM Project...immediately antagonized and caused resentment. . . .

The 74-page document is posted on the IPM Web site at http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPMPROJECT/HISTORY/index.html. The book can be downloaded by chapter as well as in its entirety. Also available from the Web site are 164 pages of appendices.
ANR offers 3 scholarships

ANR administers three scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of agriculture, each of which was made possible by the philanthropic foresight and generosity of the friends and family of those they honor.

Friends and family honored former dean Knowles Ryerson by contributing to a scholarship fund in his name. Ryerson was a distinguished member of the UCB faculty, and at the time of his retirement in 1960, was Dean of the College of Agriculture on the Berkeley campus. The Knowles A. Ryerson Award recognizes a foreign student of agriculture, in any curriculum, preferably after completion of junior year. This $1,500 award is made on the basis of high scholarship, outstanding character and promise of leadership. Winners are selected from the Berkeley and Davis campuses in alternating years; this year the scholarship will be awarded to an applicant from the Berkeley campus.

On the occasion of former UCCE advisor Bill Fischer’s retirement, friends and family contributed to a scholarship fund in his name. During his 37-year career, Fisher specialized in weed control. The $1,000 Bill and Jane Fischer Scholarship is awarded to students (preference given to graduate students) pursuing degrees in vegetation management or weed science at any accredited California university.

The Howard W. Clark Memorial Prize was established in 1941 by a gift from Prudence Clark, widow of Howard Clark. Clark was Curator of the Department of Ichthyology of the California Academy of Sciences. He maintained a keen interest in horticulture, plant breeding and soil building. This fund provides an annual award to an outstanding upper division student in a College of Agriculture, whose high scholastic achievement, talent for independent research, and other characteristics, with particular reference to either plant breeding or soil building, seem to show the greatest promise.

Students at Berkeley, Davis and Riverside are eligible for this $2,500 award.

Nominations are due March 15. Recipients are selected by Vice President Gomes in May. For more information, please contact Cindy Barber at (510) 987-9139 or cynthia.barber@ucop.edu.

Sierra Foothill REC seeks proposals

The Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center (SFREC) is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research for the upcoming program year, May 1 - April 30.

Proposals are due at SFREC by March 1. The center expects to award approximately 2,300 hours of labor to assist continuing and new research projects.

The center comprises 5,721 acres of northern Sierra foothill oak woodland-animal grass rangeland. Several watersheds fall within its boundaries, and the Yuba River flows along the southern edge, offering opportunities for water-quality and riparian-habitat studies. There are 160 acres of irrigated pasture, with a herd of 350 beef cows and 100 yearling calves.

Proposal forms can be obtained at http://danrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form/index.html. For information on electronic submission of forms contact Chris Feddersen at (530) 639-8800 or cafeddersen@ucdavis.edu.

For more information regarding research opportunities, contact Dustin Flavell, Superintendent (530) 639-8812 or dkflavell@ucdavis.edu.

Analytical Lab calls for research proposals

ANR Analytical Laboratory invites CE advisors and specialists to apply to its Research Project Grant program for the upcoming cycle.

This program is designed to provide seed funding (i.e., analyses at no charge) for projects establishing baseline data that may result in extramural funding and for small projects (1-2 years) where extramural funding is unavailable. Higher priority will be given to new academics submitting proposals, to pilot or new projects, and/or to one-year projects for which other funding cannot be obtained.

Typical awards do not exceed $2,500. Proposals are reviewed by the Laboratory Advisory Committee, using criteria listed in the program’s guidelines. Please be sure to read the guidelines carefully. Proposals must be submitted in the current, required format.

The deadline for submitting proposals is Feb. 1. E-mail proposals to danranlab@ucdavis.edu.

Forms are available on the lab’s Web site: http://danranlab.ucanr.org. For more information, call (530) 752-0147.

Natural resources advisor sought for Tahoe Basin

UCCE in El Dorado County is seeking a natural resources advisor. The advisor will develop, implement and evaluate watershed management educational and applied research programs in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The position will provide leadership in natural resources management, integrating issues related to environmental quality, including watershed management and water quality, with human activities and community development. March 1 is the deadline for applications.

A minimum of a master’s degree in watershed management, soil science, air quality, environmental education, range management, forestry, ecology, or a closely related field is required. Specialty and/or professional experience must provide a significant understanding of watershed management and development of research and outreach programs.

The position requires skills in educational and mass media outreach, public speaking, and technical writing and an ability to plan, implement research, and evaluate and publish results. Experience in the educational use of computers, the Internet, and other distance learning techniques is required.

Beginning salary will be in the Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor rank, dependent upon applicable experience and professional qualifications. Information regarding Cooperative Extension Advisor salary scales is available at http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/acadpers/tab0506/table33.pdf.

This position is not an academic career track Cooperative Extension Advisor position; it is a three-year temporary term at 100% appointment.

For the full position description, go to http://ucanr.org/jobs.shtml#ncmj. To submit an application, contact Pam Tise at (530) 754-8509 or pdtise@ucdavis.edu.
Washino wins international entomology award

Medical entomologist Robert K. Washino, whose career spans four decades at UC Davis, has received the international Harry Hoogstraal Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Medical Entomology.

Washino, a global authority on the ecology of mosquitoes and mosquito control agents, received the prestigious medal from the American Committee of Medical Entomology at the 54th annual meeting of the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, held Dec. 11-15 in Washington, D.C.

“I’m dumbfounded,” said Washino, who retired from UC Davis 13 years ago but was tapped Nov. 1 to chair the UC Davis Department of Entomology for a year. “This is overwhelming.”

Thomas Scott, professor and director of the UC Davis Mosquito Research Laboratory, who nominated Washino for the award, said that Washino’s papers on anopheline and culicine mosquitoes remain the bedrock for understanding those species roles in pathogen transmission in California.

Washino’s expertise includes mosquito control agents, rice field ecology, mosquito blood meal identification, and remote sensing and geographic information technologies. He published 193 papers and abstracts on topics related to mosquito biology, ecology, and control. He co-authored the last complete treatise on the Mosquitoes of California.

Frost lauded by Chamber of Commerce

The El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce awarded Bill Frost the Achievement Award - Agriculture for 2005. He was recognized for his contributions to the county general plan development process in regards to natural resource and conservation issues, his water quality education programs, and for his leadership in assessing land suitability for agriculture in the county. Frost is ANR program leader for Natural Resources and Animal Agriculture and El Dorado County director and natural resources advisor.

Moore named “Citizen of the Year”

Sue Moore, Tuolumne County 4-H Youth Development program manager, was recognized by the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce as the “Citizen of the Year” for 2005.

Ty Wivell, of the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce board of directors, said, “Sue has always been there to support the kids and the 4-H chapters for over 20 years. She’s deeply involved in community events.” He added that although the award is given annually, it recognizes the continuing contributions of the honoree, not just for contributions made to the community during the year it is given.

Retirements

Richard Coviello

Richard Coviello, entomology advisor for Fresno County, has retired after devoting 35 years to ANR.

Born in Fresno, Coviello was raised on a family grape and peach farm between Clovis and Fresno. Though Coviello knew he wanted to leave the farm, he loved certain aspects of the lifestyle. At Fresno State College he pursued a bachelor’s degree in biology with an emphasis on entomology. In 1971, Coviello became the staff research associate for UC entomologist Charlie Summers at the UC Kearney Research and Extension Center near Parlier. In 1976, he earned a master’s degree at Fresno State and in 1981 was named the entomology farm advisor for Fresno County.

As the entomology advisor, Coviello focused on pesticide evaluation and pest monitoring programs for tomatoes, almonds, stone fruit and grapes. The last few years, he worked closely with a team of farm advisors and specialists to tackle pest management in almonds. The scientists developed protocols for using new ant bait products which are safer and more effective than older conventional insecticide sprays.

“Rich leaves a legacy as an entomologist with his clientele and with farm advisors throughout California,” said Jeanette Sutherlin, Fresno County director.

During retirement, Coviello and his wife JoAnn, who recently retired from the Kearney Research and Extension Center after serving for 35 years as an administrative assistant, will continue to renovate their turn-of-the-century farm house near Fowler. Coviello, who was honored with emeritus status by VP Gomes, also plans to maintain a monitoring program he established for tree fruit and almond pests.

— Joannette Warnert

Jeanette “Jay” Worsham

After serving with ANR for over 23 years and the University of California for 36 years, Jeanette “Jay” Worsham will retire Feb. 2.

Worsham began her career with UC in 1970 in the printing department on the Berkeley campus as a senior clerk, processing printing requisitions while getting her bachelor’s degree in sociology from UCB. In 1982, she joined ANR, working as an administrative assistant III for Jim Meyers, who was then associate director for CE. In 1989, she went to work as a management services officer for Toby Winer, then assistant vice president for administration. Since 1999, Worsham has served as a principal analyst in the Office of the Controller and Business Services, coordinating OCBS/ANR business operations including the UCLA financial systems, office space planning, purchase of office equipment and supplies, and facilities administration issues. She also supervised the OCBS support staff and did research and analysis on special projects for the controller.

“It has been a pleasure and honor to work with Jay these past few years,” said Jake McGuire, controller and director of Business Services.
Retiree annual newsletter released

The ANR Retiree Newsletter is being mailed this week to some 550 ANR retirees. The annual publication contains news of the Division as well as personal news of some of our retirees. Retirees who aren’t on the mailing list can subscribe by contacting Cindy Barber at (510) 987-9139 or Cynthia.Barber@ucop.edu.

The newsletter is also online at http://groups.ucanr.org/devsvcs/documents/newsletter594.htm.

Vet Med receives $12.6 million gift

The School of Veterinary Medicine has received its largest gift on record -- nearly $13 million from the estate of a Reno, Nev., animal lover to support scholarships for veterinary students faced with rising educational costs.

The donor, Theodora Peigh, passed away more than a decade ago. Before her death, Peigh asked that the bulk of her Nevada estate be left to UC Davis in the hopes of advancing animal health care. When Peigh passed away, her estate was worth $6 million. When the estate is finally liquidated into funds for student scholarships, the total benefit to UC Davis will be $12.6 million. The proceeds from the estate have established an endowment to fund scholarships for students pursuing veterinary medical degrees at UC Davis.

Since 1995, when the first portion of Peigh’s gift arrived at the school, roughly 650 students have received support from the Peigh scholarships. And because the Peigh endowment was set up in perpetuity, hundreds more will benefit from the $2,000 to $40,000 scholarships in the years to come.

“I never had the good fortune to meet Mrs. Peigh, but she clearly had her animals and the veterinarians that care for them in her heart,” said Bennie Osburn, dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine. “Her generosity will be a legacy to our school for many, many years. Our students will continue to benefit from her love for animals.”

Duties realigned in Administrative Services

The Office of the Controller and Business Services (OCBS) announced that existing talent and resources will be leveraged to cover responsibilities left open by the retirement of Jay Worsham, principal analyst, on Feb. 2.

Reporting to Controller Jake McGuire, Claudine Kent will support OCBS in several areas, including administrative policies and business contracts. Kent will also continue to support Christine Casey, assistant VP, in the oversight of all administrative and operational functions within the Office of Administrative Services.

Stepheny Kellogg will now report to Catherine Montano, coordinator of administrative policy and business contracts. Kellogg will be taking on new responsibilities in many areas including memoranda of understanding, revision of the ANR Administrative Handbook, and others. She will also coordinate training on the “UCLA Express” (travel) and “Bruin Buy” (purchasing) electronic systems.

Linda Harris will now report directly to Robert Watkins, risk services coordinator. In addition to her current duties of overseeing purchasing and office equipment, Harris will assume management of ANR’s needs in the area of facilities administration to include logistical portions of any move such as telephone and scheduling of movers.

“PAC” (Purchasing/Accounts Payable system) transaction review will now be managed by Jo Ann Javier’s Financial Services unit. The Financial Services unit will also be responsible for UCLA system-related training and communication, as well as oversight of the “Pro-Card” program for ANR. (For an interim period, Peggy Michel, Governmental and External Relations management services officer will perform PAC transaction review.)

Oversight of academic grievances will be assumed by Carolyn Frazier, interim director of Human Services.

Web site assists program review

All the information necessary for preparing a program dossier can be found on a new Academic Personnel Web site: http://ucanr.org/internal/misshow.cfm?unit=5107&miscetype=Academic_P. This link takes you to the new E-Book, PR examples, PR training slides and Ad Hoc Chair Training.

Snapshot of VP & AVP activities

Over the past four weeks, VP Gomes engaged in the following meetings:

12/20 Principals from Western Growers Association; Principals and members of United Agribusiness League; Irvine

12/21 Juan Arambula, Democrat-Fresno, Assembly District 31; County Supervisor Phil Larson; Mark Borba of Borba Farms; Bill and Carol Chandler, Chandler Farms, Inc.; Fresno

12/27 Chief Consul Shen Yang, Chinese Consulate, San Francisco

1/5-7 Farm Foundation Annual Roundtable, Phoenix, AZ

1/11 ANR Executive Council Conference Call

1/12 CSREES Conference Call on Customer Service Survey

1/18-19 Regents, San Diego

Each Monday President’s Cabinet

Twice a month UC VP Cabinet with the President

Each Monday ANR VP Cabinet

Over the past four weeks, AVP Standiford engaged in the following meetings:

12/15 North Coast/Mountain County Directors Meeting, Esparto

12/19 Search Committee for Agricultural Sustainability Institute Director, CAES, UCD

12/21 Juan Arambula, Democrat-Fresno, Assembly District 31; County Supervisor Phil Larson; Mark Borba of Borba Farms; Bill and Carol Chandler, Chandler Farms, Inc.; Fresno

1/3 Sea Grant Extension Program Director Olin and Program Leader Frost

1/6 Dean Van Alfen and Executive Associate Dean MacDonald, CAES, UCD

1/7-9 Western Farm Management and Marketing Extension Meeting, San Diego

1/10 Program Leaders in am/ Program Council in pm, UCD

1/11 Program Council Meeting, UCD

1/12 CE Administrative Working Group, UCD
The University of California Mosquito Research Program is targeting Culex mosquitoes, the major vectors of West Nile virus, as part of a five-year, $3.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

West Nile virus (WNV) killed 18 Californians this year and infected more than 900 others throughout the state.

Gregory Lanzaro, medical entomologist and director of the UC Mosquito Research Program, UC Davis, serves as principal investigator of the grant, “Control of Urban and Peri-Urban Culex Mosquitoes,” awarded through the NIH’s National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The five-year project, which continues through December 2008, involves a 16-member team of UC researchers, mosquito abatement experts and industry partners.

“The overall research goal is to improve strategies to control Culex mosquitoes by modifying methods for the application of chemical insecticides, developing novel methods for monitoring metabolic resistance to these insecticides, and improving methods for trapping older female Culex mosquitoes,” Lanzaro said.

Trapping methods zero in on sensory physiology (electrophysiology), flight observations (wind tunnel and videography) and a molecular approach based on affinity to an odorant-binding protein.

The research “is aimed at increasing our capacity to effectively manage Culex populations now, not 20 years from now,” Lanzaro said. Current emergency WNV control programs focused largely on Culex mosquitoes have yielded mixed results, he noted. “They have failed to prevent virus transmission, and suggest that we may significantly improve current control strategies.”

WNV activity has occurred in 54 of the state’s 58 counties so far this year, according to the California Department of Health Services’ Web site, www.westnile.ca.gov.

Members of the 16-member team are:

— medical entomologists, molecular biologists, chemical/behavioral ecologists and biochemists from UC Davis and UC Riverside
— operational specialists from mosquito and vector control districts in Coachella Valley, Greater Los Angeles, Merced County, Consolidated (Selma) and Shasta County, and mosquito abatement districts
— industry partners from Bayer Environmental Science, Montvale, N.J.; Bedoukian Research Inc., Danbury, Conn.; and Syngenta Crop Protection Inc., Greensboro, N.C.
— in addition to Lanzaro, also a CE entomologist at UC Davis, the team includes six co-investigators:
  — William Reisen, director of the Arbovirus Field Station, Bakersfield, a research station affiliated with the UC Davis Center for Vector-Borne Disease Research
  — Anthony Cornel of the Mosquito Control Research Laboratory, Kearney Agricultural Center, Parlier, and associate professor of entomology at UC Davis
  — Ring Carde, professor of entomology at UC Riverside
  — Walter Leal and Bruce Hammock, both professors of entomology at UC Davis, and
  — John Edman, emeritus professor of entomology, UC Davis.

Working with them are nine collaborators: William Hazeleur of the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District; Jack Hazelrigg, Greater Los Angeles Vector Control District; Allan Inman, Merced County Mosquito Abatement District; Hugh Lothrop, Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District; Steve Mulligan, Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District, Selma; Kris Lynn, UC ANR; Paul Hendley, Syngenta Crop Protection; Thomas Killinger, Bedoukian Research; and Jing Zhai, Bayer Environmental Science.

— Kathy Keatley Garvey