Equal opportunity advisory committee appointed

AVP Rick Standiford has appointed an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee.

California’s strength is in its diversity,” Standiford said. “I am looking to this committee to enhance and promote diversity in our research and extension projects.

“As ANR strives toward equitable representation within the workforce and in program delivery, I will be calling upon this committee for counsel and guidance.”

The committee includes Eugene Britt, who serves as chair, Linda Garcia, Sonya Varea Hammond, Richard Molinar, Mignone Pollard, Vernard Lewis, Terry Salmon, Gloria Barrett, Don Hodel, Carol Cardona, Martin Smith and Linda Fernandez. Their first quarterly meeting was held Aug. 9.

ANR now has a Web site that showcases the myriad ways the Division serves California’s diverse population.

Under the direction of Eugene Britt, ANR’s affirmative action director, ANR is creating a diversity Web site, which will link to the UC systemwide diversity Web site.

On the ANR diversity Web site, staff and academics can access the ANR Administrative Handbook, UC-approved statements of nondiscrimination to use in ANR publications and employment notices, ANR’s sexual harassment policy, contact information for the Cultural Resource Team and many forms.

By clicking on the button labeled “Community,” visitors will find links to ANR materials available to the public in languages other than English and to programs that ANR has designed to assist people with limited resources or disabilities.

The center of the Web site features vignettes about ANR employees who work with diverse and underserved groups of Californians. So far, there are brief articles about Gregorio Billikopf Encina, Sua Vang, Michael Yang and Myriam Grajales-Hall. The stories can be accessed by clicking on the revolving photo or quote. To suggest other ANR employees for vignettes, e-mail jwarnert@ucop.edu.

Diversity-related news releases, events and UC Delivers are linked to the page.

Communication Services’ Valerie Griffith and Karl Krist provided the site’s technical design and News and Information Services’ Jeannette Warnert, Grajales-Hall and Pam Kan-Rice supplied content.

The ANR Diversity site is at http://groups.ucanr.org/ANRdiversity/.

Reward your peers

Nominations for the biennial Distinguished Service Awards are being accepted until Oct. 16. The awards, sponsored by ANR and Academic Assembly Council, recognize and reward outstanding accomplishments by UCCE academics in four areas — outstanding research, outstanding extension, outstanding new professional and outstanding team work.

The awards are meant to highlight the use of innovative methods and the integration of research and extension by specialists and advisors.

Winners in each of the four categories will receive a plaque and a cash award: Outstanding Research ($5,000), Outstanding Extension ($5,000), Outstanding New Professional ($5,000), and Outstanding Team Work ($10,000). See details at http://groups.ucanr.org/AAC/Distinguished_Service_Awards/.
Requests for Proposals

RREA issues call for proposals
The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Statewide Program is requesting proposals for education programs for the 2006-2007 federal fiscal year. Areas of priority are identified in the call. The call and application forms are available at the following web address: http://groups.ucanr.org/rrea/

The funding period is October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007. Deadline to submit proposals, which must be done online, is Sept. 22, 2006.

The general funding ranges are from $6,000 to $12,000. Proposals will be reviewed for merit by a nine-member technical advisory committee. Decisions on funding will be made by mid-October and recipients will be notified by letter of award and/or rejection by the end of October or as soon as possible thereafter.

Questions can be directed to Pam Thomas at (530) 754-8510, pkthomas@ucdavis.edu or to Pam Tise at (530) 754-8509, pdtise@ucdavis.edu.

West Side REC requests research proposals
West Side Research & Extension Center (WSREC) is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2007.

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 co-operating 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://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form/index.html and are due by Nov. 3. Submit forms electronically to Chris Robles at csrobles@ucdavis.edu.

For questions about the research proposal process or about research opportunities, please contact Edwin Scott, center superintendent at (559) 618-2818; edscott@ucdavis.edu, or Bob Hutmacher, center director at (559) 260-8957, rbhutmacher@ucdavis.edu.

Analytical Lab funds 3 projects
The Analytical Laboratory Advisory Committee has announced the following three research projects for funding from the August 2006 cycle:

“Ecology and management of Eurasian watermilfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum) in Fall River” by principal investigator Joseph DiTomaso and collaborators David Spencer and Thaddeus Hunt.

“Improvement of fertilizer efficiency in red raspberry through adjustment of rate and timing of fertilizer applications” by principal investigator Mark Bolda.

“Potassium availability and management in vineyard soils of Napa and Sonoma Counties” by principal investigator James Wolpert and collaborator Jean-Jacques Lambert.

The call for proposals for the lab’s February 2007 cycle will be issued in mid-December.

Employment Opportunities

Napa County: Weed advisor
Napa County is seeking an advisor for weed science and vegetation management in perennial cropping systems, primarily vineyards. Major issues include sustainable management of weeds, cover cropping systems, vegetation management in riparian corridors and aquatic weed control in irrigation ponds.

The advisor will provide an educational and applied research program to the wine grape industry in Napa County, and provide regional expertise and extension support to advisors in Sonoma, Marin, Lake and other counties.

A minimum of a master’s degree in horticulture, crop science, pest management, or related fields, with a strong emphasis on weed science is required.

The beginning salary will be in the UC Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor rank, salary commensurate with experience and education.

To see the full description for position #ANCM 07-05 or to obtain an application form, go to http://www.ucanr.org/jobs.shtml#ncm.

To submit an applicant packet or to request a UC ANR Academic Application form, contact Academic Recruiter, ANR—North Coast & Mountain Region, University of California, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616-8575; fax (530) 754-8540; pdtise@ucdavis.edu. Applications must be received by Oct. 13 for full consideration.

Contra Costa County: NFCS advisor
Contra Costa County is seeking a nutrition, family and consumer sciences (NFCS) advisor. The NFCS advisor plans, conducts and evaluates educational programs and applied research in community nutrition and will supervise one full-time and two part-time staff. The advisor will administer and provide subject matter leadership for two federally funded nutrition education programs: Adult Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and the Adult Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP). Special emphasis will be directed to the creation and/or evaluation of nutrition education programs for use with diverse clientele.

This position requires a minimum of a master’s degree in nutrition, dietetics, community nutrition or home economics. A registered dietitian (RD) with the American Dietetic Association is desirable. Work experience in an administrative leadership role is also desirable.

Beginning salary will be in the Cooperative Extension Assistant rank, commensurate with education and relevant experience. The full description of position #ANCM 07-05-R and the ANR Academic Application form can be downloaded in PDF from http://ccscr.ucdavis.edu/. To assure full consideration, application materials must be received by Oct. 18 (or open until filled).

To request an academic application packet or for questions on the application process, contact Cheryl Gneckow at ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu or (951) 827-2529.

For details on the NFCS position, contact Shelley Murdock, county director, at swmurdock@ucdavis.edu or Joanne Ikeda, search committee chair, at jikeda@berkeley.edu.

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Bartolome named IHRMP director

James Bartolome was appointed director of the Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program, effective July 1. He succeeds Doug McCreary, who served the program as director since 1999. McCreary has chosen to concentrate on his specialist role within the program.

Bartolome has been a professor of rangeland ecology at UC Berkeley since 1979. He earned a BA in Field Biology at UCSB, an MS in Range Management and PhD at Berkeley. His area of research focuses on the ecology, management, and conservation of rangelands. Bartolome has held several administrative posts in the Forestry and the Environmental Science, Policy, and Management Departments and is currently the Chair of the Interdepartmental Graduate Group in Range Management. He has been active in the range profession, especially in professional certification, and was elected a Fellow of the International Society for Range Management in 2000. Until becoming the IHRMP director, Bartolome served as assistant program manager for research, a position which he has held since the program was founded in 1986.

Broome joins Sacramento CE

Janet “Jenny” C. Broome, former assistant director of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, has taken the position of academic coordinator in Sacramento County, effective July 1.

Broome served SAREP for eight years, the last five years as associate director. At her new position she will work with Sacramento, Yolo and Solano county farm advisors and Master Gardener staff to provide plant disease diagnosis and management advice as well as develop a cooperative research and education program for various crops in the southern Sacramento Valley. She hopes to draw in campus academics to work on cooperative projects in plant pathology and plant health management relevant to the region. Broome said she is also interested in assisting organic farmers in the region develop plant disease-management options.

Broome received her doctorate and master’s degree in plant pathology from UC Davis and a bachelor’s from Swarthmore College. After completing her doctorate, she worked for several years at the Department of Pesticide Regulation as an environmental research scientist before returning to the university.

She can be reached at jcbroome@ucdavis.edu, (916) 875-6913, (530) 681-0216, 4145 Branch Center Road, Sacramento, 95827.

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Names in the news

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Billikopf, Turini win top NAFAS awards

The National Association of Farm Advisors & Specialists awarded Gregorio Billikopf Encina its 2006 Distinguished Service Award, which is given to members who have served more than 10 years in Cooperative Extension. Tom Turini received the 2006 Achievement Award, which is given to members who have served less than 10 years in CE. Both awards recognize professional excellence.

Billikopf, a Stanislaus County farm advisor, specializes in agricultural labor relations, focusing on interpersonal relations and conflict resolution. Turini, an Imperial County farm advisor, specializes in plant pathology of vegetable and field crops and has conducted research on 15 diseases.


The “Vegetable Notes” newsletter for Fresno, Tulare and Kings counties received national finalist designation in the team newsletter category. The newsletter is produced by farm advisors Michelle LeStrange, Tulare County; Shannon Mueller, Fresno County; Scott Stoddard, Merced County; Joe Nuñez, Kern County; Jan Mickler, Stanislaus County; Brenna Aegerter, San Joaquin County; and Kurt Hembree, Fresno County.

Hastings wins ESA award

Alan Hastings has been named the 2006 winner of the Ecological Society of America’s Robert H. MacArthur Award. He received the award at annual ESA meeting in Memphis in August. Hastings joins a list of the most influential figures in ecology of the past 40 years. The award is given every other year to an established ecologist in mid-career for meritorious contributions to ecology, in the expectation of continued outstanding ecological research. At the next annual meeting of the society in San Jose in August 2007, Hastings will give an address that will subsequently be published in the journal Ecology.

Madigan receives Animal Welfare Award

The American Veterinary Medical Association recently presented its Animal Welfare Award to John Madigan of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The award recognizes Madigan’s efforts to advance animal well-being, as well as his dedication to animal care, and his contributions to the community and society. Madigan is a professor of medicine and epidemiology, and an equine specialist, and he heads the Veterinary Emergency Response and Helicopter Rescue teams. He received the award July 18 during the association’s convention in Honolulu.

Nielsen honored by international society

Donald Nielsen, UC Davis professor emeritus of soil and water science, received honorary membership to the International Union of Soil Sciences during the 18th World Congress of Soil Science in Philadelphia. This recognition is for soil scientists of distinction and international reputation who have given service to the International Union of Soil Sciences. While at Davis, Nielsen collaborated with 90 soil scientists from 40 countries. Nielsen retired in 1994, but continues to visit and encourage young colleagues worldwide.

Retirement

Fred Perry

Fred Perry, director of UC ANR’s Research and Extension Centers, retired June 30. Perry, trained as a civil engineer, joined the REC administration 21 years ago as assistant director. He was named interim director in 1986 and promoted to director in 2001.

Perry was at the helm while more than 100,000 square feet of laboratories, buildings and meeting rooms were added to the nine REC facilities.

“Fred was extremely knowledgeable about UC and was a tireless advocate for the REC system,” said Christine Casey, assistant vice president. “He successfully completed many capital projects at the centers, enhancing their ability to support ANR researchers. His most recent capital accomplishment was securing funding for a lab facility at Lindcove. The project is now in the planning stages.

“Fred’s efforts and years of service to ANR are very much appreciated,” she added.

During retirement, Perry plans to purchase a yacht and tour the Eastern seaboard and the Caribbean, where he and his wife enjoy scuba diving.
Monte Bell

Fremont “Monte” Livingston Bell, farm advisor emeritus, passed away on April 23 at age 76.

Bell was born on May 8, 1929, in Denver, Colo., where he was raised. He earned a B.S. in animal husbandry and range management at Colorado A&M University in Fort Collins. He joined UC Cooperative Extension in 1955 as an extension assistant with the Sacramento County office. In 1957 he became a farm advisor with Glenn County, adding livestock and range responsibility in Colusa County to his duties in 1968. Bell retired in 1991 after 35 years with UC.

In Glenn County, he helped introduce the cross-breeding of cattle. He played a vital role in selecting cattle for their economic traits, assisting in the development of COWBOSS, BULLTEST, and BEEFCARC programs. Some of Bell’s work helped establish feed values in a variety of products. For many years he worked on controlling selenium deficiency in Glenn and Colusa counties and researched range fertilization and legume varieties.

After retirement, Bell began a career as an international livestock consultant and holistic resource management expert. His consulting covered more than 25 countries.

Bell was selected by President George Bush’s Council on Service and Civic Participation to be awarded posthumously the Bronze Award for the President’s Volunteer Service Award Program.

Bell is survived by his wife, Shirley, sons, Scott and Doug Bell, daughter, Gini Bellawala, and six grandchildren.

Roy Jeter

Roy Jeter, pomology farm advisor emeritus and county director, passed away Aug. 29. He was 86 years old.

Jeter was born in Ladelle, Ark., on Aug. 12, 1920. His father made his living as a farmer, and passed away when Roy was nine years old. He and his brother John later worked at various jobs to help support their mother.

In 1946, Jeter married Betty Crist. They lived in student housing on the campus of Washington State University until his graduation. Jeter began his career with Cooperative Extension in Arizona.

In 1956, Jeters joined UC Cooperative Extension as a pomology advisor for Glenn County. In 1957 he became county director, serving until his retirement in 1976. After his retirement, Jeter continued to consult for local growers and managed a large orange orchard with his sons.

Jeter is survived by sons Ted, Gary, Kenan and Don, daughters Bonnie and Melinda, 21 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Betty passed away in 2004.

Kentucky CE director Turner dies in plane crash

Larry Turner, director of Cooperative Extension at the University of Kentucky and associate dean for Extension in the UK College of Agriculture, was among the 49 people who lost their lives in the Comair flight 5191 crash in Lexington on Aug. 27.

Turner was the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges’ Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) chair designee for 2008.

Turner joined UK in 1978 as an Extension agricultural engineer and faculty member in energy management. In 1999 he was promoted to chair of the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering. In January, 2002 he became associate dean.

Raised on an Indiana farm, Turner earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural engineering from Purdue University. He earned a PhD in agricultural engineering from UK in 1984.

Turner is survived by his wife, Lois, and three children.


Pest management conference, Nov. 6-7

The Pest Management Coordinating Conference will be held Nov. 6 and 7 at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento.

This conference is aimed at improving the integration of ANR Pest Management programming. It will focus on the roles the PMCC is playing and could play in the development of pest management staffing, communication, and linkage. There will be breakout sessions, updates from pest management workgroups, and featured speakers. The tentative agenda can be viewed at http://groups.ucanr.org/pm/. Conference registration and hotel information will available at the same Web site.

If you wish to conduct an educational breakout or workgroup meeting, rooms and times will be available until Oct. 15. Please let Pete Goodell know of your interest by contacting him at ipmpbg@uckac.edu.

ANR REPORT

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