Regents approve Standiford as acting VP

At their meeting in San Francisco on May 17, UC Regents approved President Dynes’ appointment of Rick Standiford to serve as acting vice president—agriculture and natural resources until the position is filled. Reg Gomes, who held the position for the past 11 years, officially retired on May 1.

In regard to filling the VP position, Dynes said, “I am confident and comfortable with Rick at the helm… I expect a full and thorough national search.”

Standiford, who joined UC as a Cooperative Extension forestry specialist at the Berkeley campus in 1980, has served as associate vice president—agriculture and natural resources since January 2005.

“The people of ANR are the best in the nation and poised to continue their excellent work serving California, which makes my job easier,” said Standiford, who lives in Davis. But he has enlisted some assistance in covering responsibilities of his two jobs.

Until the search for the assistant vice president—programs is complete, Standiford has appointed Bill Frost and Linda Marie Manton to assist him in carrying out some of the internal ANR management functions he is responsible for as associate vice president.

“I very much appreciate Bill and Linda’s willingness to step forward and help during this transition period,” Standiford said.

Frost will serve as acting director of ANR statewide programs, providing coordination and general direction for the four program leaders. He will provide general liaison on all statewide programmatic planning issues.

Manton will serve as acting director for regional Cooperative Extension programs, providing leadership and coordination of all county-based CE programs. The other two regional directors will report to Manton and she will ensure that consistent approaches to policy and procedures are followed.

Frost and Manton will report to Standiford and will work with Pat Day on the agenda for Program Council meetings until the assistant VP—programs position is filled.

Kay Harrison Taber continues as deputy to the vice president. Geralyn Unterberg is Standiford’s executive assistant and can be contacted at (510) 987-0027, geralyn.unterberg@ucop.edu.

PAC discusses Farm Bill

The Power of 10 is “taking root,” President Dynes told members of the President’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources as he spoke of his vision for UC. “Faculty and chancellors are talking about the Power of 10 and it’s the only way to grow in strength,” he said, referring to the university’s collective pool of intellectual and financial resources at the 10 campuses and other locations. “Our strength comes from working together.”

At the meeting on April 26 in Berkeley, 20 commissioners joined Dynes, acting VP Rick Standiford, Deans Paul Ludden (College of Natural Resources, Berkeley), Bennie Osburn (School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis) and Neal Van Allen (College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Davis), and acting Dean Don Cooksey (College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Riverside) for the noon-to-noon meeting.

Recounting visits he had made to agricultural operations in Ventura County and in Moss Landing and Watsonville, Dynes related what he had learned about the effects of the January freeze and prevention of E. coli contamination. “I learned the E. coli problem is pretty complicated,” he concluded, “but we’ve got good people working on it.”

The major discussion topic for the meeting was Farm Bill 2007: Why Does It Matter to California? Presenters included Julian Alston, UC Davis professor in Agriculture and Resource Economics; Dan Dooley, California water attorney and former commissioner; A.G. Kawamura, California Secretary for Food and Agriculture; and Richard Rominger, Winters grower and former deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. John Hamilton, UC Federal Governmental Relations deputy director, served as moderator.

The panel reviewed the genesis of the Farm Bill and took a closer look at research, specialty crops, energy, food security and commodity payments, all of which have a significant impact on California. Farm Bill 2007, with its focus on authorizing substantial increases in competitive research funds available to land-grant universities, establishing new research and extension activities related to specialty crops, funding development of on-farm renewable and alternative energy sources, and addressing food safety and food security concerns holds considerable promise for UC, consumers and the state’s farming, natural resources and conservation communities.

Kawamura noted that pessimists think proposed changes to the Farm Bill will lead to the demise of agriculture in California. “It’s not true,” Kawamura declared. “Agriculture’s got a great future.” Pointing out that change is inevitable, he

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said emphatically, “The bottomline may be smaller, but I think we can be creative and innovative. Let’s see what we can do differently.”

Congress is expected to send a legislative package and recommendations on the Farm Bill to the White House by fall.

The commissioners received an update by Ludden on the recent $500 million BP Renewable Energy award to UC Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of Illinois, and the establishment of the Energy Bioscience Institute.

Osburn, Van Alfen and commissioner Jim Lugg of Fresh Express briefed the group on UC research and outreach activities under way through the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security (WIFSS) and ANR to address E. coli contamination in leafy greens and other fresh produce.

Commissioner Rodney Taylor, nutrition services director of the Riverside Unified School District, explained how he introduced K-12 farm-to-school salad bar programs in his 32-school district, buying fresh produce from local growers. He began introducing salad bars to the schools in March 2005. In the nine schools where the program has begun, Taylor said 41 percent of the students who eat school lunch are eating salad bar daily. As a result of adding salad bars, he said the district has reduced food waste, lowered food costs, increased student participation in the school lunch program, and increased revenues from school lunches.

At the close of the meeting, Dynes announced his intention to reappoint eight commissioners to a second, three-year term effective July 1. The reappointed commissioners are Stan Andre, California Milk Advisory Board, South San Francisco; Kevin Andrew, Sun World International, Bakersfield; Carol Chandler, Chandler Farms, Selma; Grant Davis, The Bay Institute, Novato; Dina Moore, Lone Star Ranch, Kneeland; Joel Nielsen, California Citrus Mutual, Exeter; Jack Pearlstein, Nursemay’s Exchange, Half Moon Bay; and Stuart Woolf, Woolf Enterprises, Fresno.

The President’s Advisory Commission will next meet Oct. 11-12.

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**Employment opportunities**

**Central Valley Region: IPM wildlife pest management advisor**

The Central Valley Region is seeking an advisor to specialize in wildlife pest and wildlife damage management. The position is responsible for providing research-based information to assist clientele to solve human-wildlife conflicts regarding diverse resources. The emphasis is on agriculture, but includes natural resources landscaping, human health and safety.

The position requires a master’s degree in wildlife management, conservation biology, ecology, integrated pest management, natural resources management, or a closely related field with course work in pest management, pesticides/toxicology, and IPM technologies. Field experience and/or coursework in bird, rodent, or predator management are highly desirable.

**Imperial County: Vegetable crops advisor**

Imperial County is seeking a vegetable crops advisor. The deadline to apply has been extended – the new closing date is June 22.

The advisor will be expected to design and implement an applied research program in vegetable crop production to develop information to resolve priority problems; and design and implement an educational program to extend new and existing information to identified clientele groups. The advisor will initiate, develop and conduct educational and applied research programs in vegetable crop production.

The position requires a master’s degree in horticulture or a related field. An ability to effectively convey research-based information to the public, conduct issue-focused research, and publish research results is required.

Beginning salary will be in the CE Assistant Advisor rank, commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications.

To view the complete description for position #ACCSO-07-03-R, go to [http://ucanr.org/jobs.shtml#e32j](http://ucanr.org/jobs.shtml#e32j).

To request an Academic Application packet or for questions regarding the application process, call (951) 827-2529 or e-mail ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu.

**Merced County: Pomology advisor**

Merced County is recruiting an advisor for tree crop production, with particular emphasis on nut crops including almonds, walnuts, pistachios, other nut crops, as well as for ornamental trees and urban forestry. Deadline to apply is May 31.

A master’s degree in a biological, agricultural, or plant science field, or other closely related field; with course work in pomology and/or nut crops, is required. Course work in air quality, water quality, and/or soils is highly desired.

Postgraduate agricultural experience in applied research, education, or in private industry is desired. The candidate must acquire a CA Qualified Applicators Certificate (QAC) within nine months of employment.

Beginning salary will be in the CE Assistant Advisor rank, commensurate with applicable experience and education.

The full description for position #ACV-06-09 and required academic application are available at [http://ucanr.org/cvrjoblisting](http://ucanr.org/cvrjoblisting).

Submit applications to Cindy Inouye, UCCE Central Valley Region, 9240 S. Riverbend Ave., Parlier, CA 93648; e-mail cinouye@uckac.edu; phone (559) 646-6535.

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San Bernardino County:
4-H youth development advisor

UCCE San Bernardino County is seeking a career-track academic candidate to establish short- and long-term educational program and research goals/objectives that address needs of the county and youth staff, volunteer leaders/extenders, and interested individuals for a comprehensive county 4-H youth development program.

A master’s degree is required in education or another topic related to youth development. Work-related experience in a youth development education or non-profit setting is required, preferably in low-income and/or urban youth populations. Experience in conducting applied research is required.

Salary is in the CE Assistant Advisor rank, commensurate with education and relevant experience.

Deadline for position #ACCSO-06-05-R is June 15. To request an application packet, e-mail ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu or phone (951) 827-2529.

**Pear Production and Handling Manual**

*by Elizabeth J. Mitcham, Rachel B. Elkins*

**Publication 3483 ($25.00)**

Users of this new manual will gain a basic understanding of growth and fruit development, as well as practical considerations on pear culture. While written with Bartlett pear production California in mind, pear growers of all varieties worldwide will find the information useful.

Chapters cover orchard and tree management including varieties, propagation and rootstock selection, training pruning, and orchard floor management. The section on irrigation and fertilization covers considerations including irrigation systems and scheduling, frost protection, and nutrition. Extensive sections on pest management, and fruit harvesting, storage and handling round out this essential guide.

Each CE office and REC will receive a copy of this publication. To order additional copies, call (800) 994-8849 or go online at http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/InOrder/Shop/ItemDetails.asp?ItemNo=3483.


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**Names in the news**

**Bower named Humboldt CD, advisor**

Alan Bower joined ANR as Humboldt County director and natural resources advisor on May 7.

Until taking the UC Cooperative Extension job, Bower was a rangeland management specialist for USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Placer County for the past five years. He worked with landowners assessing rangeland, analyzing riparian health, calculating carrying capacity, preparing grazing management plans and administering USDA-NRCS conservation programs.

Before that, he was a rangeland management specialist based in Bakersfield for the Bureau of Land Management. As a research assistant at University of Idaho, he studied yellow starthistle.

He earned his BS in Geology at CSU Chico and his MS in Rangeland Management and Ecology at University of Idaho.

Bower is based in Eureka and can be reached at (707) 445-7351 and arbower@ucdavis.edu.

**Golden, Dragoon join Communication Services**

Michelle Golden and Leigh Dragoon have joined the staff of Communication Services.

Golden is filling the newly created position of marketing coordinator. Working with marketing manager Cynthia Kintigh, Golden will be focusing on marketing ANR peer-reviewed publications and improving web-based marketing and sales efforts.

Prior to joining ANR, Golden was a marketing consultant to The Big Idea Group, a Folsom graphic design firm; and was a member of the marketing department at SmartForce e-Learning, which offered computer-based employee training. SmartForce was later acquired by SkillSoft.

Golden is based in Davis, and can be reached at mvgolden@ucdavis.edu and (530) 757-8392.

Leigh Dragoon is an instructional designer and creates online educational programs. Prior to coming to ANR, Dragoon worked at Intel in Folsom and did freelance work in illustration and comics. She studied traditional animation and new media at The Art Institute of Philadelphia.

Dragoon is also based in Davis, and can be reached at ladragoon@ucdavis.edu and (530) 757-3454.

**Lee, Alston and Sumner honored by peers**

Hyunok Lee, Julian Alston and Daniel Sumner, all UC Davis agricultural economists, were honored by the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society for their work on the book “Agricultural R&D Policy in the Developing World: Too Little, Too Late?” published in 2006. They were among several chapter authors of the book, which received the Quality of Communication prize.

Alston and Sumner were also awarded the Blackwell Prize for the best article of 2006 in the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Along with co-authors, Alston and Sumner received the award for “Supply and Demand for Commodity Components: Implications of Free Trade versus the AUSFTA for the U.S. Dairy Industry.”

The prizes were awarded at the society’s annual conference in New Zealand in February.

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**Employment opportunities**

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Kaffka wins Meritorious Service Award

Stephen Kaffka, extension agronomist and director of the UC Davis Center for Integrated Farming Systems, received a Meritorious Service Award from the American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists. This award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the beet sugar industry. Kaffka received the honor at the society’s 34th biennial meeting in Salt Lake City in March.

Zhang wins EPA award

Ruihong Zhang, UC Davis professor of biological and agricultural engineering, has been honored with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s 2007 Environmental Award for the Pacific Southwest. Her research focuses on the conversion of agricultural and food waste to biofuels and biobased products, and improvement of energy efficiency in wastewater treatment. The ninth annual Environmental Awards Ceremony, held on April 16 in San Francisco, honored more than 25 recipients.

Singh honored by engineers

R. Paul Singh, a UC Davis professor of biological and agricultural engineering, has received the 2007 Kishida International Award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers. The award recognizes Singh’s visionary leadership and outstanding contributions to teaching, research and technology transfer in food science and engineering.

Langley elected to AAAS

Charles H. “Chuck” Langley, an expert on evolution and population genetics, has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Langley, a UC Davis professor, seeks to understand the forces that shape genetic variation in natural populations, or how and why individuals are different from each other.

Lugg awarded CNR Citation

Jim Lugg, a member of the UC President’s Advisory Commission and past chair of the UCB College of Natural Resources Advisory Board, has been awarded the 2007 CNR Citation. The award is CNR’s highest honor, created to acknowledge individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the college. Lugg was honored for his unwavering advocacy for the College, active recruitment of donors, and dedication to CNR undergraduates. Lugg is founder and president of TransFresh, a Salinas company that has developed atmosphere control systems for rail cars, pallet bags and consumer packages.

Communication Services wins ACE gold

ANR Communication Services will receive gold awards from the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, Life and Human Sciences at the professional society’s annual meeting to be held in June in Albuquerque. The Communication Services team won the gold award for technical publications and the Outstanding Professional Skill Award in publishing for “Weeds of California and Other Western States (Vols. 1 and 2).”

Janet White, executive editor, and Janet Byron, managing editor, won the gold award for editing “When Crop Transgenes Wander in California, Should We Worry?,” which was published in the July-September 2006 issue of California Agriculture.

Environmental Health and Safety wins award

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety has won the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association’s Unique or Innovative Safety Award for its Safety Note program. The notes, produced by Brian Oatman, EH&S manager, Richard Smith, specialist II, and Mark Barros, specialist I, provide safety information and training materials to ANR’s 1,500-plus employees spread across the state.

Safety Notes are one-page summaries of relevant EH&S information about specific topics, and incorporate a graphic, statistical data about potential injuries or illnesses, and applicable regulatory requirements. To date, EH&S has prepared and disseminated 120 Safety Notes to ANR staff. The topics cover a wide range of hazards – from computer workstations to wildlife attacks to microwave ovens to earthquakes to machinery to workplace violence. The award-winning notes are posted at http://safety.ucanr.org.

From left, Mark Barros, Brian Oatman and Richard Smith hold copies of Safety Notes.
Communications Advisory Board seeks nominations

The advisory board to ANR Communication Services is seeking to fill positions on the board. Nominations can include, but are not limited to, specialists, advisors, and faculty affiliated with the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The board provides advice and support to the director of Communication Services, Bob Sams, on Division program connection, resource allocation prioritization, major policy issues, budget and long-range planning. It also provides oversight of the peer review process for ANR educational materials.

Board members—appointed by the associate vice president—serve three-year, rotating terms. The board meets on a quarterly basis. The new appointments begin in November 2007. Existing board members whose terms are ending may reapply.

Nominations are due by July 20. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Send nominations, along with the addresses of the candidates, to Communications Advisory Board Chair, Ed Weber at eaweber@ucdavis.edu. If nominating yourself, please submit a curriculum vitae and the online application at http://anrc.ucdavis.edu/contactus/Communications_Advisory_Board.htm to Ed Weber at eaweber@ucdavis.edu.

Current members of the advisory board are Marianne Bird, 4-H youth development advisor, Sacramento County; Mark Bolda, farm advisor, Santa Cruz County; Bees Butler, agricultural economics specialist, UC Davis; Joe Connell, farm advisor, Butte County; Peter Goodell, IPM advisor, Kearney Agricultural Center; Shirley Peterson, county director and advisor, San Luis Obispo County; Dennis Pittenger, environmental horticulture specialist, UC Riverside; Ellen Rilla, county director, Marin County; Kim Rodrigues, regional director & administrative liaison RREA, Davis; Jim Thompson, agricultural engineering specialist, UC Davis; Sonya Varea Hammond, county director, Monterey County; Stephen Vasquez, farm advisor, Fresno County; and Ed Weber, farm advisor and county director, Napa County.

Retirement

Christopher Dewees

Christopher Dewees, marine fisheries specialist, retired April 1 after 34 years at UC Davis.

Dewees began his UC career in 1972—a year before the university was officially designated a Sea Grant College—and shaped the Extension program as a marine fisheries specialist and later as director of California Sea Grant Extension, a position he held from 1992 to 2001.

His marine fisheries expertise evolved from focusing on harvest to alternative management strategies including individual transferable quotas. Throughout his career Dewees worked with numerous fisheries including salmon, squid, rockfish, cabezon, sea urchin and dungeness crab. He was the principal investigator and editor of two California Living Marine Resources books that are used throughout California.

Dewees helped form one of the earliest grassroots watershed conservation projects in the state, the Spring Run Chinook Salmon Workgroup, which sought to improve salmon habitats by engaging salmon fishermen, farmers, and loggers, among others, in constructive dialogs.

“Arguably, his greatest legacy is being an impartial source of expertise on a spectrum of fisheries management issues, including vessel buyback and limited entry programs, individual transferable quotas, spatial closures and cooperative fisheries management,” said Paul Olin, California Sea Grant Extension director.

Dewees earned a BA in Biology from University of Redlands, an MS in Fisheries from Humboldt State University, and a PhD in Ecology from UC Davis. Before coming to UC, he was a visiting professor in the School of Fisheries and Food Science at Catholic University of Valparaiso, Chile.

Dewees plans to spend more time with his family, play more tennis, pursue his art of Japanese fish printing, travel and fish.

ANR REPORT

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Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

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