ANR to end partnership with California Sea Grant College

The severe budget cuts require ANR to examine every program in relation to our core mission and Strategic Vision, and to evaluate the efficiency of our existing structures. Barbara Allen-Diaz, AVP-Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives, has announced that one result of this examination is the difficult decision to end a long and productive relationship with the California Sea Grant College.

ANR advisors working as part of the California Sea Grant College have made important contributions over the many years of the partnership. The intent is that all current CE advisors will have a position within ANR or Sea Grant. Three fixed-term advisors will transition fully to Sea Grant as they are solely supported on a federally funded Sea Grant program grant. Currently, Sea Grant leadership is collecting information on options from UC San Diego, where the California Sea Grant College is based, so that advisors and staff can make informed decisions.

Opportunities for advisors to collaborate with the Sea Grant program will continue, and coastal watershed issues will continue to be an important part of ANR’s work. ANR leadership is currently working with the Sea Grant College leadership to ensure an effective transition of advisors and programs by the end of the fiscal year. They will meet again in January to further the transition plan.

New business operations centers established

The two new business operations centers previously announced by VP Dooley are being established to serve ANR programs. Both business operations centers are being established Jan. 1, and staffing will take place throughout the spring based on staffing level recommendations by the Administrative Review Council and approval by VP Dooley.

Cherie McDougald, currently Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Central Valley Regional Office of Cooperative Extension, will lead the Business Operations Center–Kearney (BOC-K) while continuing her appointment as CAO of the region through June 30. This unit will be located at the Kearney REC in Parlier and will serve county-based programs.

Nikki Humphreys, currently Chief Administrative Officer for the North Coast & Mountain Regional Office of Cooperative Extension, which closes Dec. 31, will lead the Business Operations Center–Davis (BOC-D). The BOC-D will provide business services to the new Strategic Initiatives, statewide programs, Research and Extension Centers (at the administrative office level), Contracts and Grants, Academic Personnel, and Staff Personnel.

Both business operations centers will work in collaboration with the newly announced Academic Program Support Unit led by Coordinator Joni Rippee. McDougald and Humphreys will report to Associate Vice President Taber.

Kathy Carrington will remain as CAO for the Central Coast & South Regional Office (CCSR) through June 30. From July 1 through Dec. 31, 2010, Carrington will oversee the final transition of the business operations and contracts and grants from CCSR to the Business Operations Center-Kearney and dispersal of equipment and records from the region while working directly with the Office of the Associate Vice President—Business Operations.

Some of the major functions of the Business Operations Centers include:

- Contracts & Grants (budget review, new account notice, cost share/effort reporting)
- Payroll (time & leave reporting for academic and staff employees)
- Payroll/Personnel System (personnel action entries for academic and staff employees)
- Gift acceptance
- Purchasing
- Accounts Payable
- Bank accounts
- Direct charges
- Travel and Entertainment
- Financial Management
- Sales and service (income)
- Equipment inventory and procurement (for county-based programs and statewide programs)
IREC calls for proposals

Intermountain Research and Extension Center in Tulelake is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research projects for project year 2010-11.

IREC provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical support to UC academics and personnel from cooperating agencies. Grants of center-provided labor to support approved projects are awarded annually. Grants will be awarded by the Research Advisory Committee during their meeting in February 2010. Funding criteria is listed in the full Call for Proposals in the Simple Grant System.

IREC is a 140-acre research facility located at 4,000 feet elevation near the Oregon border. The center specializes in potato, small grain, onion, peppermint, forage grasses and alfalfa research; however, most cool season field and vegetable crops can be accommodated and grown on the center. Main topics of research interest include variety development; weed, insect, and disease control; irrigation management; plant nutrition; and agriculture and wildlife interactions.

Facilities and equipment include a greenhouse, controlled postharvest facility, drying ovens, an automated potato grading line, a mini-still for essential oil extraction, specialized small plot irrigation equipment, small plot planters and harvesters, and a full line of commercial farm equipment for field and vegetable crop production.

Technical assistance is available for all farming practices, field instrumentation and data collection.

Proposal forms can be obtained from the IREC Web site at http://groups.ucanr.org/intermountain/Research/Proposal_Forms.htm. Completed forms should be submitted using the Simple Grant System through the ANR Portal starting Dec. 1, and due no later than Jan. 30.

For more information about research support or facilities, contact IREC director Rob Wilson at (530) 667-2719. For information on electronic submission or forms, contact Jennifer Engel at (530) 667-5117.

Adobe Connect tutorials available online

Over 40 video tutorials covering the various aspects of conducting a successful online meeting with Adobe Connect are available on the Connect Pro Resource Center at http://www.adobe.com/resources/acrobatconnect/

The tutorials are also included in the ANR FAQ system available on the ANR Portal. The topics of the video tutorials include:

- Meeting basics, including creating meetings, and roles of users
- Participating in a meeting
- Meeting management, including managing access, attendees, pods and layouts
- Meeting audio
- Using the Share Pod to share documents, applications, and whiteboards
- Using other meeting pods, including polls, web links, and file share
- Sharing desktop video with webcams
- Meeting recordings
- Managing meetings and meeting content via Connect Pro Central (your home page)
- Tutorials for intermediate and advanced users

Haver named South Coast REC director

Darren Haver has been named the new director of the South Coast Research & Extension Center, effective Nov. 1. Haver has been the water resources and water quality advisor for Orange County since 2002. In his new position, Haver will devote 40 percent of his time to working as South Coast REC director and 60 percent of his time as a water resources advisor.

“We are enormously pleased to have Darren Haver become the South Coast Research and Extension director,” said Barbara Allen-Diaz, AVP—Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives. “He has tremendous vision for the station. I look forward to working with him.”

Haver can be reached at (949) 653-1814 and dlhaver@ucdavis.edu.

Chin joins Financial Services

Ben Chin has been selected as director of Financial Services and started on Nov. 3. Chin most recently was the assistant manager for Capital Asset Accounting on the Davis campus. He comes to ANR with over 15 years of experience on the Davis campus in various capacities in the financial services and audit offices.

Ben, a California Certified Public Accountant, has also served in the State of California’s Department of Finance and the Shasta County Controller’s Office. He received his BS in business administration from Humboldt State University.

Chin is based at the Franklin Building in Oakland and can be reached at (510) 987-0704 and ben.chin@ucop.edu.

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Cahir to lead ASI communications
Ian Cahir has been named the new communications coordinator for the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis. He will create and coordinate communications for ASI in print, on video and online.

He comes to UC from the University of Kansas, where he was communications coordinator for the school of engineering and publications/marketing manager for KU’s Lied Center of Kansas performing arts center. Cahir has more than 12 years experience in newspapers as a writer, editor, designer and Web producer for the San Bernardino County Sun and The Sacramento Bee. He has a bachelor’s degree in mass communication from CSU San Bernardino.

Cahir can be reached at (530) 752-8664 and cahir@caes.ucdavis.edu.

Holtz named San Joaquin County CE director
Brent A. Holtz has accepted the position of UC Cooperative Extension County director/farm advisor for San Joaquin County. Holtz will begin his new position on Jan. 1, and will be headquartered in Stockton. He succeeds Mick Canevari, who retired in June.

For the past 15 years, Holtz has been working as a CE farm advisor specializing in pomology serving Madera County.

Holtz earned his bachelor’s degree in biology, plant pathology and entomology at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He earned both his master’s degree and PhD in plant pathology from UC Berkeley.

Holtz can be reached at baholtz@ucdavis.edu. After Jan. 1, his phone number will be (209) 953-6118.

APS honors Gubler, Adaskaveg
Doug Gubler, UC Davis Cooperative Extension plant pathology specialist was named a Fellow of the American Phytopathological Society in recognition of his distinguished contributions to plant pathology. Fellow recognition is based on significant contributions in one or more of the following areas: original research, teaching, administration, professional and public service, and/or extension and outreach.

Jim Adaskaveg, UC Riverside plant pathology professor, received the Lee M. Hutchins Award. The award is given to the author or authors of published research on basic or applied aspects of diseases of perennial fruit plants that provides a better understanding of fruit plant diseases and contributes ultimate value to the fruit industry.

The awards were presented at the APS annual meeting held in August in Portland, Ore.

Orloff wins award for publication
Steve Orloff, Siskiyou County director and farm advisor, won the American Society of Agronomy’s Award of Excellence for educational publication “16 pages or fewer.” The award was presented at the society’s A-4 business meeting in Pittsburgh on Nov. 3.

The award-winning publication “Avoiding Weed Shifts and Weed Resistance in Roundup Ready Alfalfa Systems,” was co-authored by Dan Putnam, Mick Canevari, and Tom Lanini and can be accessed at http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu/-files/pdf/avoidingWeedShifts_RR.pdf.

Blackburn wins NEAFCS research award
Mary Blackburn has been selected as a Western Region winner in the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences’ annual awards program. Blackburn’s research into the quality of life education needs of limited-income senior citizens won the 2009 Program Excellence Through Research Award.

Blackburn’s study results suggest the greatest educational need for limited-income senior citizens is learning how to integrate multiple complex concepts and information into their personal lives. “They were discouraged, and tuned out/gave up, and wanted educational activities with personal interactions/exchanges on questions that mattered to them—not abstract information,” Blackburn wrote.

Blackburn accepted her award at the NEAFCS Annual Session in Birmingham in September.

Harivandi receives USGA service award
Ali Harivandi, Alameda County horticulture advisor, has been honored with the United States Golf Association Green Section’s Piper and Oakley Award, which recognizes meritorious service to the golf course industry by a volunteer. The honor is not awarded annually, only when an outstanding nominee is recognized. Harivandi is the first recipient of this award since 2003.

Harivandi has been an active member of the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee since joining in 1998.

“As an Environmental Horticulturist who specializes in turf, soil and water with the University of California Cooperative Extension, Harivandi provides an invaluable national and international perspective of crucial water and turfgrass issues to help guide the USGA’s broad research objectives,” said the USGA news release announcing the award. “Harivandi’s knowledge, experience and loyalty has been invaluable, and without him, the research program would not have been as stable and effective as it has been for more than the past dozen years of his oversight.”

Charles V. Piper and Russell A. Oakley were among the earliest scientists to conduct studies in the fields of turfgrass science and golf course management.
PAC discusses budget cuts, climate change effects on ag

The President’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources met Oct. 22 at the Waterfront Hotel in Oakland to discuss UC’s budget, ANR’s restructuring and climate change.

The commissioners were joined by guests AG Kawamura, CDFA secretary; Ashley Boren, executive director of Sustainable Conservation; Ralph Grossi, rancher, former American Farmland Trust president and former PAC member; Rich Rominger, farmer and former regent and former PAC member; and Karen Ross, president of the California Association of Winegrape Growers and a UC CARET representative.

UC’s budget

President Mark Yudof thanked the commissioners for their support during state budget negotiations and talked about funding prospects for next year.

“You are part of the backbone that in difficult times gets us all through,” Yudof said. “You’ve helped in every way you possibly can.”

Yudof was joined by UC Interim Executive Vice President-Business Operations Nathan Brostrom, UC Executive Vice President-Chief Financial Officer Peter Taylor and UC Vice President-Budget and Capital Resources Patrick Lenz. They discussed actions being taken to close UC’s budget gap—including student fee increases, employee furloughs and lower student enrollment.

Taylor said that they are trying to debunk some myths about UC’s finances.

“There’s a notion that we’re sitting on $5 billion of unclaimed cash,” Taylor said, explaining that while the university may have money in the bank, it is designated for specific expenses. He compared it to looking at your bank balance after your paycheck is deposited and knowing that your mortgage will be deducted from the amount.

He added that rising retiree health-benefit costs are unfunded liabilities and may well be the largest threat to UC’s financial future.

Yudof told the PAC that he is exploring increased federal support, pushing for private support and will ask the Legislature to restore nearly $1 billion in state funding for FY 2010-11.

Climate change

A panel of UC scientists addressed climate change and talked about research under way to help Californians adapt to new conditions.

Richard Howitt, UC Davis professor of Agricultural Economics and department chair, provided estimates of the economic impacts of climate change on California agriculture. Howitt said agriculture will lose 22 percent of its water and 20 percent of irrigated farmland by 2050. However, he expects California’s quality high-value crops to be in strong demand and yields to increase, driving up revenues.

“I think ag revenues can grow by about 25 percent even though we are reducing input of land and water,” Howitt said.

Minghua Zhang, UC Davis professor of Environmental and Resource Science, and Eike Luedeling, a UC Davis postdoctoral fellow, described their research into impacts on fruit and nut production of the warming climate and declining winter chill.

They saw substantial decreases in chilling hours between 1950 to 2000, with some Central Valley locations already experiencing a 30 percent change. Projecting the trend to continue downward, the scientists said growers will need to adapt to new varieties and cultural practices. They recommend that growers consider medium term climate projections when making current planting decisions.

Biofuel

Stephen Kaffka, UC Davis Cooperative Extension agronomist and director of the California Biomass Collaborative, talked about the prospects for bioenergy from agriculture in California. He described the workgroup approach to assess different crops for biomass production across the state. One of the difficulties of assessing the economic viability of biofuel crops, he said, is that farmers can have different production costs, such as water, even within a region.

Stuart Woolf, PAC chair, presented Steve Nation a plaque recognizing Nation’s 25 years of service to ANR in governmental and external relations. “He is ANR to many of us,” Woolf said. Nation’s position, executive director of governmental and external relations, is being eliminated to help meet budget constraints.

The PAC is scheduled to meet next in May.
The 4-H Youth Development Program has released results and recommendations from its Pilot Leadership Staffing Plan.

In 2007 and 2008, the 4-H Pilot Leadership team implemented and evaluated a new staff structure in each of the three UCCE regions as part of the 4-H Youth Development Program Pilot Leadership Staffing Plan (see map for counties that participated in the pilot). The pilot tested the effectiveness of a county clustering model for California 4-H where 4-H program representatives continued to manage local programs, however, with support provided by a cluster coordinator (a dual role taken on by a 4-H youth development advisor in each region). Advisors were involved in various ways in the three clusters including providing training, program planning, and clusterwide evaluation.

Evaluation of the pilot at the end of two years revealed

- A significant majority (94%) of program representatives agreed that participation in clustered counties with a coordinator was beneficial.
  - Above 85% reported increased access to trainings
  - Above 60% reported increased access to resources for programs
  - There was a significant increase in job satisfaction, confidence and overall support as compared to before the pilot

- Slightly more than half of advisors and county directors who responded to a survey at the end of Year 2 were positive in their overall impressions. Half of the advisors agreed that county clustering with a coordinator enhanced their role in research, evaluation and education by providing increased opportunities in these areas.

- Communication and consistency in policy interpretation across clusters and region increased significantly compared to before the pilot.

- There was more cross-county collaboration and increased efficiency in administrative tasks leading to reduced cost.

- Programming for youth and volunteers was enhanced as a result of increased capacity of program representatives and new program opportunities across county lines.

- Main issues observed were the strain of the dual advisor/coordinator role, structural inequities in program representative status and issues related to transitioning into a new way of operating, such as role clarification of academic personnel involved in the cluster.

There is enough evidence to suggest that county clustering with a coordinator role is beneficial to the 4-H Youth Development Program in cluster counties. The following are recommendations made by the pilot leadership team:

- Cluster California counties with leadership provided by an academic.
- Adopt a regional cluster model, with formal or informal subregional groups.
- Determine a system of regional leadership provided by a 4-H youth development advisor or other academic.
- Provide opportunities for advisors to share their expertise statewide and continue to reconceptualize the role of a 4-H youth development advisor in a new staff structure.
- Cluster coordinators should work in a unified way with programmatic leadership from the 4-H State Office.
- Communicate new lines of communication between county personnel, cluster coordinators and the 4-H State Office to all personnel.
- Revisit the concept of a committee to reconcile 4-H program representative status from a statewide perspective.

Retirements

Eugene Britt
Eugene Britt, Affirmative Action director, will retire Dec. 1 after 20 years of service to ANR.
Britt started working with UC ANR in 1989 as the Director of Affirmative Action. During his tenure, he also served for 7 years as both the Director of Affirmative Action and the Director of Staff Personnel Services.

Before coming to UC, he was director of personnel for University of Maryland Cooperative Extension for 9 years. Before that, he worked at the University of Massachusetts for 8 years as the director of Affirmative Action for Cooperative Extension.

Britt earned a BS in Chemistry from Howard University in Washington DC, and an MS in Public Health Administration from the University of Massachusetts.

“I’ve seen many changes during this time, such as the passing of Prop. 209, and I’m sure there are more changes in store in the future for ANR,” Britt said. “As California’s population becomes even more diverse, ANR will have opportunities in its new structure to reach people who are underserved.”

Britt added that he leaves ANR feeling encouraged by last year’s survey results showing a strong interest among ANR academics and staff in learning to serve clientele from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

David White (david.white@ucop.edu) will continue to handle Affirmative Action CASA reporting. Linda Manton (lmanton@uckac.edu) will be responsible for ADA accommodations/compliance, discrimination complaints, complaints from outside agencies and federal requests. Online sexual harassment prevention training questions should be directed to Peggy Michel at Peggy.Michel@ucop.edu.

Sharon Junge
Sharon Junge, interim 4-H Youth Development Program director, retired Oct. 31 after a 38-year UC career.

Junge joined UC in 1971 as a staff assistant for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) in Sacramento, providing nutrition and youth development programming in the city’s low income communities. The following year, she became the 4-H Youth Development and Nutrition, Family & Consumer Sciences advisor for Placer and Nevada counties.

In 1985, ANR added county director to her responsibilities for Placer and Nevada counties. In 2007, she was named acting director for the statewide 4-H Youth Development Program.

In the early 1980s, Junge began addressing the issue of latchkey children, becoming the first in the nation to offer 4-H administered afterschool programs. She oversaw the establishment and operation of the Placer and Nevada counties 4-H Afterschool Program, which operated 18 after-school programs for more than 1,000 youth each year, and co-authored some of the earliest afterschool management and curriculum manuals in the country.

From 1990 through 1994, she served as the director of the California 4-H Center for Action, which provided technical assistance and training to 42 states initiating afterschool programming. She has also served on the national Extension Network, USDA/CSREES CARES Initiative Steering Committee, National School-age Editorial Board, and the National Afterschool Leadership Team. She has authored and coauthored several publications for 4-H, EFNEP and FSNEP.

Junge has received numerous awards throughout her career, including the ANR Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Extension in 2002, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences’ Continued Excellence Award in 2002, and the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Meritorious Service Award in 2003.

She earned her BS in home economics and MS in consumer education, both from California State University, Sacramento.

VP Dooley has granted Junge emeritus status. She will return to ANR in December to work part-time as leader of the Healthy Families and Communities initiative and the 4-H Youth Development Program.

New e-mail for former UCOP employees based in Davis
ANR employees who have moved to Davis in the past few months have been assigned UC Davis e-mail addresses. Their UCOP e-mail addresses will be discontinued so please use the addresses below.

Contracts & Grants
Lynn Deetz, director – ldeetz@ucdavis.edu
Andrea Davis, administrative assistant – aedavis@ucdavis.edu
Heidi von Geldern, federal subaward analyst – hvongeldern@ucdavis.edu
Floyd Thompson, contract grant officer – fathompson@ucdavis.edu

Human Resources
Carolyn Frazier, HR director – cvfrazier@ucdavis.edu
Robert Martinez, coordinator for staff personnel – ramartinez@ucdavis.edu

Andra Strads, analyst for academic personnel – aistrads@ucdavis.edu
Cathy Christy, administrative specialist – cachristy@ucdavis.edu
Doris McCarty, assistant III – damccarty@ucdavis.edu

News & Information Outreach
Pam Kan-Rice, assistant director, (510) 206-3476, pskanrice@ucdavis.edu
Jeannette Warnert, Web content coordinator/public information representative, (559) 241-7514, jwarnert@ucdavis.edu
**In Memoriam**

**Bob Willoughby**

Bob Willoughby, farm advisor emeritus, passed away in Redding on Oct. 20. He was 75.

After high school graduation, the Oregon native served in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1955. Willoughby enrolled at Oregon State University, graduating with a BS in Animal Husbandry in 1959, then went to work as a field representative for Albers Milling Company.

In 1964 he joined UC as a 4-H youth advisor in Kern County. He took a sabbatical leave in 1970 and completed an MS in Agronomy at California State University, Fresno. In 1973, he was assigned to Trinity County, where he served as county director and farm advisor. His efforts ranged from helping the rural county work through the development of Williamson Act Contracts that met its needs while complying with Department of Conservation regulations, to responding to first year 4-H members’ questions about feeding lambs.

In 1978 Willoughby moved to Butte County where he served as the livestock farm advisor. In this capacity he worked with livestock producers on applied research projects as well as collaborated on oak woodland, sub/rose clover and rangeland fertility projects with campus based faculty and specialists. He was instrumental in early collaborative efforts with CSU Chico on the popular Beef and Sheep Days. Willoughby served as county director for Butte County for the last year of his career and retired in 1993.

“Bob clearly understood the importance of University of California Cooperative Extension programming to the communities he served,” said his former colleague Larry Forero, Shasta County livestock farm advisor. “He related well to people from all walks of life. He was always professional, friendly and knowledgeable.”

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Connie, and their children Tammy Frye, Tim Willoughby, and Cheri Bonasto.

**Martin Birch**

Martin Christopher Birch, former chair of the UC Davis Department of Entomology and an international authority on insect communication, died Oct. 17 in Oxford, England. He was 65.

Birch joined UC in 1970 as an assistant research entomologist and lecturer in entomology at UC Berkeley. In 1973, he moved to UC Davis Department of Entomology as an assistant professor, and was promoted to associate professor in 1977. In 1974 he wrote the textbook, “Pheromones,” part of the Frontiers of Biology Series.

He served as department chair from 1979 to 1981, until he accepted a faculty position at the University of Oxford. Birch retired from Oxford in 1984 following a severe automobile accident.

“Martin significantly influenced my career in two critical ways,” said Tim Paine, a UC Riverside entomologist who studied under Birch. “Rather than impose his own interests, he encouraged me to develop my own independent scientific curiosity and gave me the freedom and intellectual support to explore questions that were important to me. I have tried to replicate that supportive approach to foster independence and curiosity in students who have studied with me.”

Birch received his bachelor of arts with honors in zoology and completed his master’s degree and doctorate in entomology from Oxford University.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Birch of Tackley, near Oxford, and their daughters Jennifer and Julia.