Ground-breaking held for UCR insectary and quarantine facility

UC Riverside broke ground July 2 for a state-of-the-art insectary and quarantine facility that will be built over the next 24 months.

Research at the facility will focus on biological control and other alternative pest management strategies for the state’s agricultural, urban and natural environments.

“This facility is a critical link in the chain of defense against pest invasions,” UCR Chancellor Raymond O’rbach said in his address at the ground-breaking ceremony.

“Just as California is uniquely situated in terms of exotic pest introductions, the University of California is uniquely positioned to combat these pests through research and extension of knowledge,” he said.

Several members of Congress were honored at the ceremony for helping obtain federal funding for the facility.

They included U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer as well as Representatives George Brown, Ken Calvert, Jerry Lewis, Ron Packard and the late Sonny Bono.

“The research conducted here,” said Boxer in a video-taped message, “contributes to our society and to our health by creating effective and economically sound alternatives to pesticides. It means fewer potentially harmful chemicals in our air, water and soil; less exposure to these chemicals for farm workers and consumers; and a safer food supply.”

In one of the most vigorously applauded moments of the ceremony, first O’rbach and then Vice President Gomes took the controls of a gigantic bulldozer to knock down an antiquated greenhouse and clear the site for the new facility.

Transition Team to release ‘blueprint’ on Sept. 24

The DANR Transition Team is nearing completion of its charge to establish a new mission-based organizational structure.

The team expects to release a “blueprint” at the Sept. 24 CODAD meeting, at which time it will also issue the blueprint electronically to CODAD members for distribution throughout the Division. Later that day, Vice President Gomes will discuss the blueprint with President Atkinson’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources (for more information on this new commission, see the June 23 issue of ANR Report).

To ensure successful implementation of the new structure, a period for comment and discussion will follow the release of the blueprint.

The Transition Team has set up an electronic suggestions box to get ideas and comments to them quickly. The email address is: transition.team@ucop.edu

Or, you may fax correspondence in care of Kay Harrison Taber (510/451-2317).

The mailing address is: Kay Harrison Taber, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland CA 94607-5200.

All comments (signed or unsigned) will be reviewed.
Slosson Endowment funds 18 horticulture projects

The Elvinia J. Slosson Endowment Fund has awarded nearly $200,000 to support 18 research and extension projects in ornamental horticulture. Projects and recipients include:

- Fill soils in the landscape: A quantitative assessment of soil aeration status, root function and the efficacy of remediation systems (James M acD onald)
- Interactive, computer-assisted training for nursery clerks and master gardeners (Mary Louise Flint)
- School gardens resource guide — Santa Clara County (Nancy G arrison)
- Selection and propagation of deep-rooted ornamental trees for urban environments (David Burger)
- Assessing the influence of irrigation and treeshelters on the root development of three California native oak species (Laurence Costello)
- University of California garden information center project (John Kabashima)
- Root growth in containers: implications for xeriscape and restoration (Truman Young)
- Fair Oaks orchard demonstration project (Chuck Ingels)
- Use of biological stressor to enhance the efficacy of entomopathogenic nematodes for white grub suppression in turfgrass (Harry Kaya)
- Evaluation of a method for classifying landscape plants by relative water use (Richard Evans)
- Study of California native grasses and landscape plant species for recycled water irrigation and for use in California landscapes and gardens (Lin Wu)
- Creation of a UC statewide fruit and nut crop website for the homegardener (Mario M oratorio)
- Rootstocks for “difficult” plants: Rhododendrons, azaleas and grevilleas (Michael Reid)
- Reducing tree root damage to sidewalks in California cities: a collaborative study (Greg M cPherson)
- Australian plants for Central Valley gardens: a living exhibit at the UC Davis arboretum (Ellen Z agory)
- The potential of marigold varieties to control root-knot nematodes (Antoon Ploeg)
- Evaluation of pruning as a method to reduce damage by oleander leaf scorch (Marcia G rebus)
- Master gardener information network (Michael Henry)

The Elvinia J. Slosson Endowment Fund is dedicated to the support of research and extension education in ornamental horticulture, with an emphasis on research that enhances the human environment.

Requests for proposals ($20,000 limit) are issued annually with a December deadline.

For more information, contact Robert Webster, assistant director of DANR programs (530/752-0316 or rkwebster@ucdavis.edu).

Names in the news

- Christine Bruhn, CE food marketing specialist and director of the UC Davis Center for Consumer Research, will present the Ivan Parkin Lecture on Aug. 16 in Nashville at the opening session of the annual meeting of the International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians. The honor of giving the lecture is reserved for those who have made a positive impact on food safety.
- Clyde Eimore, CE weed scientist, is the recipient of the Outstanding Weed Science Research Award. He received the award at the annual meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science held recently in Kona, Hawaii.
- In memoriam Clarence S. “Clancy” D avis, a long-time Cooperative Extension entomologist based at UC Berkeley, died April 11, in San Rafael. He was 81. Davis received his PhD from Berkeley in 1957 and became a CE entomologist that same year. He retired in 1981. Davis was a pioneer in developing integrated pest management programs for fruit and nut crops, particularly apples, pears and walnuts.

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Procedures for background checks being developed in CE

By Diane M etz

V ice President G omes has appointed a 9-member committee to develop statewide procedures for screening the backgrounds of Cooperative Extension employees who deal directly with youth.

The Employee Background Check Committee expects to complete its work by December.

The committee chair is Northern Region Director Terry Salmon. The other members of the committee are Larry Clement, Solano-Yolo counties; Diane M etz, Solano County; Neil O’Connell, Tulare County; John Pusey, Los Angeles County; Barbara Reed, Glenn County; Isela Valdez, Colusa/Sutter-Yuba counties; Virginia Vogel, Personnel, DANR, Oakland and Eunice Williamson, Riverside County.

In March of this year, DANR adopted a statewide policy to maintain a background screening process (including fingerprinting) for criminal records for all employees and volunteers who work directly with youth, as defined by job description, job title and/or job convention. The responsible administrator, for example, the county director, will have the authority and responsibility to determine which positions and individuals are subject to background investigations.

The committee is working on a procedure manual for carrying out this process. We expect to present the manual to Gomes by next December. Please feel free to offer suggestions and comments to any committee member.

M etz is nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor in Solano County.
UC issues rate increases, other changes in entertainment policy

Higher limits for entertainment expenses were announced in a revision of UC’s entertainment policy. As of July 1, the maximum entertainment expense per person is as follows:

- Breakfast — $10
- Lunch — $20
- Dinner — $40
- Light refreshment — $10

The rate increases were published in “Business and Finance Bulletin BUS 79 on Entertainment,” issued by the Office of the President.

Several other important changes have been made in entertainment policy.

Stricter controls mean more documentation is now required on the requests for payment: for example, events must be described in greater detail, and the host must now certify in writing that expenditures are for University business purposes.

Among the things that haven’t changed is that entertainment expenses still need the approval of the host’s supervisor or a higher-level manager; only individuals to whom approval authority has been given can authorize entertainment expenses.

Another key change is that “We can now cover some expenses that we couldn’t before,” said Assistant Vice President Toby Winer.

Employee recognition functions, such as faculty/staff picnics and holiday parties, as well as the entertainment expenses of the spouse (or equivalent) of a guest or the official host of an event can be covered — if exception approval is obtained, Winer said.

The only noncampus administrators in the Division authorized to approve exceptions are the vice president, associate vice president, assistant vice president and regional directors. Expenses that require exception approval cannot be charged to state funds and to certain other funds, said DANR Controller and Director of Budget Dorothy Labbok.

She advised the Division’s campus-based employees to check with their campus accounting office for campus procedures on entertainment expenses, since the campuses can opt to establish more restrictive procedures than those issued by the Office of the President. DANR units must adhere to the appropriate campus procedure or to BUS 79, whichever is more restrictive.

Section 201 of DANR’s “Administrative Handbook” is being revised to reflect the policy changes in BUS 79. Winer said Handbook holders will receive the revision as soon as it is available.

Howard Rosenberg (from p. 1)

“DANR is grateful to Howard Rosenberg for his dedicated service as director of the APM P,” said Associate Vice President Henry Vaux Jr. “Under his leadership, the program has grown and prospered despite a prolonged period of budget reductions.

“Howard was responsible for ‘Labor Management Decisions’ and several other periodicals, for creating a website and for publishing texts that have helped personnel managers in the agricultural sector remain current on personnel and labor management practices.

“Howard also established the WPS-Forum, a national clearinghouse on the Internet for information about the federal Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides.

On behalf of Vice President Gomes, I want to wish Howard well as he resumes full-time his duties as a CE specialist.”

Rosenberg indicated that he will now focus on his research and extension activities in personnel management topics and labor market issues. He also intends to take a long-deferred sabbatical. Rosenberg is a member of the agricultural and resource economics and policy department in the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley.

Vaux named Rex Woods, former academic coordinator of the Water Resources Center, as APM P’s acting director, effective July 1, 1998.

Seeking travel reimbursements?

Here are two key things you need to know

Which answer is correct: Travel expense vouchers must be turned in:

- a) within 21 days of the end of a trip.
- b) before the end of the year.
- c) whenever you get time.
- d) right after you find your receipts stuck between the pages of last year’s best seller.

If you’re not sure, you’re not alone. According to a recent internal audit, it looks like a lot of us don’t know about the deadline specified in the University’s travel policy.

The audit also revealed shortcomings in documenting the business purposes for taking trips, says DANR Controller and Director of Budget Dorothy Labbok.

So here’s a gentle reminder:

Get reimbursement vouchers to the accounting office within 21 days of your journey — and don’t forget to attach registration forms, meeting agendas, department correspondence, email messages or any other materials that provide the reasons for your travel.
DANR Incentive Awards recipients honored

Recipients of the DANR Incentive Awards Program were honored at a recent reception at Division headquarters in Oakland. Sixteen individual incentive awards, three team incentive awards and 12 professional development awards were presented, as follows:

- **Individual awards**
  - Janet Clark, Kay Collins, Margaret Dial, Gabrielle Kassner, Dorothy Labbok, Janice Montano, Connie Price-Campbell, Susan Rumsey, Stephanie Sharp, Holly Tucker, David White, Jeanette Worsham, Johnathan Wrobble, Michael Yang, Sallie Yoshida, Robert Young

- **Team awards**
  - Alameda County — Michele Brown, Nelly Camacho, Zoya Khalaf-Kirkman, Mary Lowe, Lan Nguyen
  - Associate Vice President-Programs, immediate office — Lynne Buenz, Stepheny Kellogg
  - Office of Governmental and External Relations — Peggy Michel, Claudia Reid, Kimberly Strassner

- **Professional development**
  - John Borba, David Crawford, Pamela Fabry, M yriam G rajales-H all, John Gutierrez, Pamela Kan-Rice, Gabrielle Kassner, Lorrie M andoriao, Peggy M ichel, Basilia R awleigh, Jacqueline Thompson, Janet White

The program is for noncampus DANR professional and support staff, managers and senior professionals and members of some collective bargaining units. Its purpose is to encourage, recognize and reward excellence in University service and to support professional growth.

Incentive awards range from $1,000 to $2,500.

Professional development awards cover tuition or fees for courses, workshops and membership fees, ranging from $450 to $1,050. Awards are presented annually.

**Society meeting funds**

CE specialists and advisors applying for Professional Society Meeting Reimbursement funds for meetings held during the October to December 1998 period must have their requests (form M F-117) to Mary Lu McGuire by Friday, Aug. 7. The form can be obtained from McGuire (510/987-0067; email: marylu.mcguire@ucop.edu).

CE specialists and advisors are eligible for one grant per fiscal year (July 1 - June 30).

**UCR insectary (from p. 1)**

nation’s other land-grant universities.”

Steve Nation, director of Governmental and External Relations, said DANR is hopeful that the FY ’99 Federal Budget will include the final increment of cost-share funding needed for the UC Davis facility. The Governor’s Budget is expected to contain more than $13 million in state funds for the project.

**In memoriam (from p. 2)**

CE pomologist David Ramos said, “Clancy Davis was the consummate Extension specialist. No one did the job better.”

Memorial contributions may be made to the Johannes Joos Memorial Fund, Division of Insect Biology, UCB.

**ANR Report**

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources.

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