

INSIDE:

West Side REC calls for proposals	2
Master Gardener coordinators gather in Davis	2
EIPD draft plan posted	2
ANR policy on firearms updated	2
Administrative reorganization saves ANR \$1.3 million	3
California gets \$17 million for specialty crops research	3
CS Update	4
Analytical Lab adds new services	4
Names in the News	5
Retirement	6
In memoriam	6

ANR town hall set for Oct. 28

All members of ANR are invited to join VP Dooley for a 60-minute ANR town hall meeting on Adobe Connect on Thursday, Oct. 28, at 9 a.m. PDT. For those unable to attend online, a recording of the event will be posted on the Web.

Dooley will discuss implications of the recently signed California state budget for UC and ANR. He will also answer questions.

The town hall link will be accessible only through the ANR Portal <http://ucanr.org/portal>. In the portal, you will find instructions to access the meeting at the top of the center column. Please test your ability to access the meeting before Oct. 28.

If you have trouble connecting to the town hall during the event, send a text to Mike Poe at (530) 902-2058 or e-mail mlpoe@ucdavis.edu.

Peer Review Committee members appointed

A new Peer Review Committee has been appointed by Barbara Allen-Diaz, AVP Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives, to support the ANR academic review process. The committee includes Shirley Peterson, Chris Greer, Eta Takele, Janet Hartin, John Harper, Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty and Chuck Ingels.

The Peer Review Committee, which will be chaired by Kim Rodrigues, executive director of Academic Personnel, replaces the former Senior Administrative Council, which was chaired by the assistant VP and composed of the three regional directors and the four program leaders. The committee is charged to review all term reviews, promotions and accelerations for ANR advisors and academic coordinators, as well as any/all special requests from the candidates and/or division administrators.

The Academic Personnel Unit received a large number of interested and qualified applicants to serve on this committee. The applications were reviewed by Rodrigues, Academic Assembly Council Personnel Committee Chair Steve Koike, and Steve Orloff and Joe DiTomaso, who were representing Program Council.

To enhance the academic peer review process, ad hoc committees will simultaneously be streamlined. Rather than maintaining several distinct ad hoc committees for any given action(s) and/or program areas, the ad hoc committees will review the promotions at each given rank for all program areas.

"Last year there were more than 50 academics engaged in ad hoc activities," Rodrigues said. "We anticipate fewer than 20 will be required to review the cases going forward this year in the division with this integrated approach."

The Academic Assembly Council's Personnel Committee has been working with the Academic Personnel Unit to streamline the peer review document and reduce the amount of reporting. Candidates will use an integrated, thematic approach rather than reporting on each project individually. The four guidance documents have been condensed into a single source of reference.

Details on the new merit and promotion process will be presented in upcoming trainings on Oct. 25 and Oct. 28. For details about the process, visit <http://ucanr.org/meritpromotion>.

Nov. 15 deadline for proposing new positions approaching

The deadline for designated representatives to submit proposals for new advisor and specialist positions is Nov. 15.

Proposals may be forwarded by ANR workgroups, county Cooperative Extension offices, campus departments, and ANR strategic initiative panels. Only the strategic initiative leaders, associate deans of the colleges, county directors and workgroup chairs have access to submit position proposals. The designated representatives can access the restricted site through their ANR portal and can submit proposals by completing the template, which is intended to create a two-page (maximum) position proposal.

West Side REC calls for proposals

West Side Research & Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for the period Jan. 1, 2011, through Dec. 31, 2011.

Located on 320 acres in the San Joaquin Valley, West Side REC has land suitable for growing row, orchard and field crops, turfgrass, landscape and nursery plants. The center also provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical and management support to UC academics and to personnel from cooperating non-UC organizations, such as USDA. Approximately 7,000 hours of labor are available to be awarded to support approved projects.

Proposal forms can be obtained and submitted through UC ANR's Simple Grant System, which is accessible via the ANR Portal (<http://my.ucanr.org>). For information on electronic submission of forms, contact Chris Robles at (559) 884-2411 or csrobles@ucdavis.edu.

Proposals are due no later than Nov. 15, 2010.

All project proposals will be evaluated and support hours allocated at our Research Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled for Dec. 9, 2010.

For questions about the research proposal process or about research opportunities, please contact Bob Hutmacher, center director, at (559) 260-8957, rbhutmacher@ucdavis.edu, or Rafael (Merf) Solorio, center superintendent, at (559) 618-2818, rmsolorio@ucdavis.edu.

EIPD draft plan posted

The Endemic & Invasive Pests and Diseases Strategic Initiative Draft Plan is available for review at <http://ucanr.org/sites/EIPD>.

Anyone with an interest in the EIPD initiative should review the draft plan. Please submit comments about the plan on the survey at http://ucanr.org/sites/EIPD/EIPD_Strategic_Plan_Questionnaire. Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m., Oct. 27.

For more information about the plan or process, contact Ian Gardner, EIPD initiative leader, at iagardner@ucdavis.edu, (530) 752-6992, or Sherry Cooper at slcooper@ucdavis.edu, (530) 752-1581.

ANR policy on firearms updated

Section 420 FIREARMS IN THE ANR ENVIRONMENT has been added to the ANR Administrative Handbook. This new section of the handbook refers the reader to detailed written procedures developed for the Research and Extension Centers.

This new section is an addition to policy to confirm ANR's existing practices – not a change to policy. The firearms section is at <http://ucanr.org/sites/anrstaff/files/50359.pdf>.

Technical questions may be directed to Brian Oatman, manager – Environmental Health and Safety, at (530) 752-6024 or boatman@ucdavis.edu. For administrative questions, contact Stepheny Kellogg at (510) 987-0696 or stepheny.kellogg@ucop.edu.



Master Gardener coordinators gather in Davis

The National Extension Master Gardener Coordinators Conference was held Oct. 6 - 8 at the UC Davis Buehler Alumni Center. More than 110 statewide



Ellen Zagory, director of the UC Davis Arboretum, discusses volunteer management during dinner at the arboretum.

and county master gardener coordinators attended the biennial event hosted this year by the UC Master Gardener Program. The conference theme was education, technology and outreach.

VP Dooley addressed the attendees, who hailed from throughout California and the nation, including Cornell, Rutgers and the University of Minnesota.

"It's impressive to witness the dedication of so many people from throughout California and the rest of the country, all gathered in an effort to improve the quality of work and services they provide," Dooley said, reflecting on the conference. "I feel especially proud of our own academics, coordinators and staff. They have maintained our UC Master Gardener program as a nationally recognized leader and have made our program flourish, even under difficult economic circumstances."

Highlights of the conference included presentations on how other statewide master gardener programs address their state's initiatives and examples of master gardener training by online/video conferencing.

"The conference was very successful," said Pam Geisel, statewide coordinator of the UC Master Gardener Program. "It gave master gardener coordinators the opportunity to share ideas and effective training techniques."



Dooley described the Master Gardener Program's role in the ANR Strategic Vision.

Administrative reorganization saves ANR \$1.3 million

A year ago, Vice President Dooley made a series of announcements outlining action steps needed to address both unprecedented budget cuts totaling over \$9 million in permanent reductions and unfunded liabilities while also realigning ANR administrative units and procedures to efficiently support the *UC ANR Strategic Vision* and to implement its initiatives.

As a significant part of our response to these challenges, a major effort was launched to maximize administrative efficiency, eliminate duplication, and redirect resources to program support. While minor adjustments are still possible, the major elements of this restructuring are in place and fully operational. Moreover, the actions taken have resulted in substantial savings across ANR.

Maximizing efficiencies:

Steps taken included:

- Closing two executive offices in Oakland ANR
- Closing the North Coast and Mountain, Central Valley, and Central Coast and South regional offices

The closing of the three regional offices accounted for over 34 administrative FTE and over \$2.8 million salary and related expenses. Oakland ANR office closings and other actions generated an additional \$400,000.

Redistribution and streamlining:

To streamline administrative support to our roughly 400 academics and program representatives and to consolidate operations across ANR, we redirected these resources along with those from support units and statewide programs to create three centralized support units:

- The Business Operations Center at Kearney for county needs
- The Business Operations Center at Davis for support units and statewide programs
- The Program Support Unit for support of all phases of ANR program delivery.

Total savings from the administrative reorganization is just under \$1.3 million. ANR business, personnel, and program support activities and workflow are being handled. Also, we benefit from the fact that coverage and business controls requirements are met.

These changes have not been without other costs as well. Many staff have been affected by closures or restructuring. Virtually all staff have adapted to new realities and accepted new responsibilities. The result is that we are now structured to more efficiently conduct the business of ANR and more effectively support our research and extension mission.

California gets \$17 million for specialty crops research

The USDA announced it has awarded \$55 million in block grants to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops around the country, with California receiving more than \$17 million.

Of the 64 California projects, 19 are led by researchers affiliated with ANR.

\$1.4 million will fund nine food-safety projects to be coordinated by UC's [Center for Produce Safety](#).

Management of exotic pests is another issue where USDA provided funding for UC research, according to the listing on [USDA's website](#). For example, grants will support efforts to:

- Release and evaluate four exotic olive fruit fly parasitoids in order to improve sustainable table and oil olive management
- Test the area-wide application of mating disruption of vine mealybug in Napa County
- Evaluate the efficacy of organic pesticides for Asian citrus psyllid control so science-based control recommendations can be made to organic citrus growers
- Survey resistance ratios in olive fruit fly populations from California regions not sampled in a previous study

Funds were also made available to expand and improve the online specialty crop production information now available on the [Fruit & Nut Research and Information Center](#) website and call-in center.

In addition, the new funding will allow UC researchers to work with several school districts and their regional partners to expand their procurement of local seasonal fresh produce, enhance their ability to integrate a specialty crop nutritional curriculum by providing outreach and professional development to school personnel, and assess changes in food preferences and dietary behaviors of children in participating schools.

Other UC projects receiving the funding will look into onion seed production, strawberries' ability to restore impaired insulin, steam injection for soil disinfestation, and mealy plum aphid and leaf-curl plum aphid control in prunes.

To see USDA funding breakdown by state, go to <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5084778>.

– Jeannette Warnert

CS Update

Repository items exceed 50,000

ANR's Repository has crossed the 50,000 item count. Usage of the Repository has been climbing lately, and Karl Krist, who oversees the database, believes the trend will continue.

"We've been starting a lot of special libraries that could grow quite large," Krist said.

This is the document that was 50,000: <http://ucanr.org/repository/view.cfm?article=78994>. It is a good example of the kind of document that really has no other home but needs to be archived. Perfect for the Repository, which can be accessed through the [ANR portal](#).

Please contact Karl Krist at kakrist@ucdavis.edu or (530) 754-3939 if you have libraries of documents you would like to be archived.

ANR outreach needs survey

The Communication Services and Information Technology staff is thankful to the 187 ANR colleagues who took time to complete the ANR outreach needs survey. The information is very helpful as we seek ways of improving our support of the Division's outreach and advocacy efforts.

More than half (54 percent) of respondents were satisfied with their communication with clientele, 40 percent were satisfied with their communication with the general public, but only 30 percent felt they were doing a good job of keeping policymakers informed of ANR activities.

Even if they haven't used them, the majority of ANR members are aware of the tools – including the [blog system](#), [Collaborative Tools](#), [Adobe Connect](#) and the [ANR brand toolkit](#) – Communication Services has available to facilitate communication. Several said they would like training to use these and other tools.

Most of the respondents have websites and 57 percent are using social media as part of their outreach, with mixed results. In response to the question "Would you use a centralized ANR website writer and content editor?" 34 percent said, "Yes," 36 percent said, "Maybe" and 30 percent said, "No."

Several respondents provided helpful comments about communication considerations for their target audiences. Of the people who need to offer materials in languages other than English, 78 percent need materials in Spanish.

We are continuing to review the survey input and find ways

around obstacles that impede communication. We appreciate all the thoughtful comments and compliments.

If you have other suggestions for Communication Services, please send them to pskanrice@ucdavis.edu.

ANR outreach needs survey respondents

Title	Responses
Advisors	45
Advisor/CD	10
CD	4
Faculty	22
Faculty/Specialist	3
Program rep	36
Specialists	31
Staff	22
Other	12
Undeclared	2
Total	187

Analytical Lab adds new services

The Analytical Laboratory continues to provide a comprehensive array of agricultural and environmental tests, with a strong commitment to high quality.

The Analytical Laboratory recently obtained equipment to facilitate expanded testing services in the future. A gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer (GC/MS) is now set up, enabling the testing of select pesticides and other volatile compounds. By partnering with the ICP/MS Facility at UC Davis, the lab is able to test for metals and salts at low concentrations. The lab's liquid chromatograph/tandem mass spectrometer (LC/MS/MS) is able to test for selected pharmaceuticals and personal care products, carbohydrates and other chemicals of interest.

Testing fees remain low despite increases necessitated by lost funding support. Sample submission procedures also remain essentially unchanged. While support for complimentary testing was eliminated, rush charges continue to be waived for diagnostic samples. The lab continues to provide agricultural chemistry support and project assistance for ANR researchers.

Please contact the lab at (530) 752-0147 or anlab@ucdavis.edu to inquire about these or other new services or to develop testing plans for future projects. The lab's new website is <http://anlab.ucdavis.edu>.

Names in the News

Trzesniewski joins ANR



Kali Trzesniewski

Kali Trzesniewski has joined ANR as associate director of research for the Statewide 4-H Youth Development Program and as Cooperative Extension associate specialist in the UC Davis Department of Human and Community Development.

Prior to taking her new post at UC, Trzesniewski was an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Western Ontario from 2006 to 2010. From 2005 to 2006, she was a postdoctoral research fellow in Stanford's Department of Psychology. From 2004 to 2005, she was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry Research Centre at the University of London.

Trzesniewski is a social-developmental psychologist interested in understanding how personality and social factors influence a person's developmental course from conception to death.

"I am interested in understanding how to raise children to grow up to be healthy, productive members of society, including finding supportive relationships and having a family, supporting themselves and their family, and not bringing harm to others," Trzesniewski said. "As such, I am interested in the developmental origins, developmental course, and interrelations among self-esteem, achievement, and antisocial behavior."

She earned her BS and MS in human development and Ph.D. in psychology, all from UC Davis.

Trzesniewski can be reached at ktrz@ucdavis.edu and (530) 752-2595.

Jordan joins Academic Personnel unit



Tina Jordan

Tina Jordan joined ANR as an academic personnel analyst Oct. 6.

Jordan's duties include assisting with policy development and coordination of the ANR Handbook. She will be developing an online tracking and reporting system for the Sabbatical Program. For academics who do outside consulting, she is supporting the Consulting Program's online tracking system. She also provides support for the annual merit and promotion process, including support for the new Peer Review Council.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in human development from California State University, Hayward in 2003. She was previously the academic personnel analyst with the Department of Chemistry at UCB for three years.

Jordan is located at the ANR Building in Davis. She can be reached at tjordan@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-7961.

NIFA honors National Plant Diagnostic Network

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture honored the National Plant Diagnostic Network with one of its 2010 Partnership Award for being an outstanding innovative program model. UC Davis is one of six land grant institutions leading NPDN. The network developed preparedness programs and interagency partnerships that have enhanced the security of crop agriculture in the United States.

The multi-institutional award acknowledges the efforts of 35 individuals representing UC Davis, Cornell University, Kansas State University, Michigan State University, University of Florida, and Purdue University, and colleagues at USDA-NIFA, USDA-APHIS, and a state department of agriculture.

UC Davis plant pathologist Richard Bostock is the executive director of the national network and director of the western region of the NPDN. The award also acknowledges the western regional center staff members at Davis - Carla Thomas, Richard Hoenisch and Andrew Coggeshall.

There are four categories of Partnership Awards: mission integration, multistate efforts, innovative program models and effective and efficient use of resources. The Partnership Awards were presented to the lead institutions for each project.

For more information about the National Plant Diagnostic Network, visit www.npdn.org.



Retirement

Dean Osburn to retire in 2011



Bennie Osburn

Bennie Osburn, dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, has announced that he will retire in the summer of 2011, when he completes his third term as dean.

Osburn has served 14 years as dean of the veterinary school, which is consistently ranked at the top of the nation's 28 veterinary schools.

A national search for his successor will be initiated during the next few months, according to UC Davis Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Enrique Lavernia.

Osburn became dean in 1996 as the school was approaching its 50th anniversary. He oversaw a successful \$50 million fundraising campaign and was the guiding force behind a \$354 million long-range facilities plan, which will be nearing completion as he leaves the dean's office next summer.

As dean, Osburn also oversees the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System, and the Veterinary Medicine Extension program. Osburn's most visible legacy is the total physical transformation of the school's classrooms, laboratories and surgical facilities.

In 1998, when the American Veterinary Medical Association put the veterinary school on "limited accreditation," due to facilities deficiencies, Osburn and his leadership team quickly rallied the support of elected officials, private donors and the UC system. In the following years, he led the planning and construction of new buildings. The school's full accreditation was restored in 2004.

Osburn joined the UC Davis faculty in 1970. Prior to that, he earned a doctor of veterinary medicine degree at Kansas State University, received his doctorate in comparative pathology from UC Davis and served as a research fellow at Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to his teaching and research activities, he also served as the veterinary school's associate dean for research and graduate education for 20 years and as interim director of the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare from 1996 until 2000.

Osburn noted that he plans to continue to advocate for the school to maintain its position at the forefront of veterinary education and to broaden public perception of veterinary medicine's essential role in animal, public and environmental health.

Read more about Osburn's accomplishments at <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/whatsnew/article.cfm?id=2269>. —Patricia

Bailey & Lynn Narlesky

In memoriam

William Hubert Brooks III, Mendocino County farm advisor emeritus, passed away Oct. 5. He was 88.

Born in Kansas and raised in Colusa, Brooks served in the U.S. Army Air Corp as a navigator, second lieutenant during WWII. After the war, he received his BS in agronomy from UC Davis in 1947. In 1948, Brooks joined UC Cooperative Extension in Mendocino County and began helping ranchers improve their rangelands. He is credited with introducing many subterranean clovers to the area. The subclover improves forage quality and its roots add nitrogen to the soil, increasing grass growth.

"He was great at extending the research information we developed to the ranchers by establishing research and demonstration plots on range land sites throughout the county," recalled Milt Jones, who worked with Brooks for many years as an agronomist at Hopland Research and Extension Center. "For example, we established an experiment on the Cockerin ranch near Bonneville which demonstrated a dramatic increase in subclover growth with the application of sulfur. Sulfur deficiency was not recognized in that area before that time. We found that the form of sulfur was important in high rainfall areas of Mendocino County. Sulfur in the form of calcium sulfate (gypsum) lasted only one year, while elementary sulfur lasted several years depending on the size of the sulfur particles."

Brooks became county director in 1955. After 37 years of UC service, he retired in 1985.

Brooks is survived by his wife of 65 years Betty, daughter Bonnie Brooks and her husband Jim Strong, daughter Babbie Mayfield and her husband Jim Mayfield, and five grandchildren.



Norman MacLeod, Santa Barbara County farm and 4-H advisor emeritus, died Feb. 18. He was 87.

The Berkeley native served as a B-17 pilot in the U.S. Air Force in Europe from 1942 to 1945.

MacLeod earned his bachelor's degree in agronomy from UC Davis in 1949. After graduating, he worked as a lab assistant at UC Davis until 1956, when he became a UC Cooperative Extension farm advisor for Tehama County. Two years later, he was transferred to Santa Barbara County. In 1972, he added 4-H youth advisor to his farm advisor duties, before retiring in 1982.

MacLeod is survived by his wife Lee, his children Norman, Gail, Gwen and Margaret, and his brother Donald.



Bill Brooks

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

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