Review under way for 107 proposed CE positions

Review has begun for the 107 Cooperative Extension advisor and specialist positions proposed in response to ANR’s 2012 supplemental call for academic positions. Of those proposed, 51 are advisor positions and 56 are specialist positions. (Originally 109 positions were submitted, but two have been withdrawn by the proposer.)

The positions remain posted on the publicly accessible site www.ucanr.edu/callforpositions. All ANR stakeholders and employees are encouraged to offer comments and provide input. The system will remain open to collect comments on the positions until Aug. 7.

Program team leaders, county and multi-county partnership (MCP) directors and each executive associate dean will review the specialist positions that are proposed for his or her college or school.

Reviewers are being asked to consider the general description of the position, justification for the position, the issues it addresses, the role this position will play in strengthening or building the ANR continuum, the support that will be provided and the proposed location for the position.

Reviews are scheduled to conclude on Aug. 7 and Program Council will have their initial discussion of all feedback and prioritizations during their Sept. 4–5 meeting. In the late fall, VP Allen-Diaz will announce the positions approved for recruitment.

ANR statewide conference set for April 9–11, 2013

An ANR statewide conference for academics and staff has been scheduled for April 9–11, 2013, at the DoubleTree Hotel near the Ontario Airport in Southern California. Please hold these dates on your calendar. This all-staff conference will incorporate all of the strategic initiative conferences, in place of individual SI conferences, for 2013. There will be opportunities for the strategic initiatives, program teams and workgroups to meet to share information, coordinate efforts and plan activities. The conference will also include programmatic and administrative discussions and a variety of training sessions.

VP Allen-Diaz has appointed the following people to the planning committee:

- Co-chair Edie Allen, UCCE specialist and professor in the Department of Botany & Plant Sciences at UC Riverside
- Co-chair Morgan Doran, UCCE director in Solano County and advisor in Solano, Napa and Yolo counties
- Peter King, UC public affairs director
- Valerie Mellano, UCCE acting director and advisor in San Diego County
- Tim Paine, professor in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside
- Doug Parker, director of the California Institute for Water Resources and leader for the water strategic initiative
- Mike Poe, media services manager, Communication Services
- Dan Putnam, UCCE specialist and AES agronomist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis
- Kim Rodrigues, executive director of academic personnel
- Ken Tate, UCCE Russell L. Rustici Rangeland Watershed specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis
- Sherry Cooper, program analyst II in the Program Support Unit

Over the next few months, the committee will be meeting to craft an agenda for the conference. Contact one of the committee members if you have suggestions or comments. Details about the ANR statewide conference, its agenda, registration and lodging will follow in future announcements and be posted at www.ucanr.edu/sites/statewideconference2013.
ANR forms CD Council

ANR has formed a County Director Council in order to provide an efficient means for identifying issues and gathering initial information on matters of importance to Cooperative Extension in advance of wider efforts at discussion and input gathering. The council will provide county director perspective on:

- development of policies and procedures
- identification of training needs
- issues and topics to be addressed in monthly county director calls/meetings
- future ANR resource allocation processes

In addition, the council members will be responsible for communicating with their county director and advisor colleagues to gather information, vetting approaches to issues and assisting in distribution of information.

The inaugural council members are:
- Chris Greer
- Greg Giusti
- David Lile
- Valerie Mellano
- Keith Nathaniel
- Jim Sullins

YFC evaluation coordinator

The Youth, Families and Communities Program is recruiting for an evaluation coordinator who will be responsible for providing overall leadership to build the capacity of academics and staff for program evaluation.

The evaluation coordinator will develop and implement statewide evaluations for non-formal youth development programs, curriculum and content delivery. The innovative researcher will also create staff training programs and resource development tools to build capacity in program evaluation and data analysis using the latest evaluation research methods and assist in delivery of ongoing professional development. The successful candidate will effectively convey program outcomes and impacts to stakeholders using a variety of traditional and innovative tools. The evaluation coordinator will also be a collaborator who can develop partnerships and leverage resources to develop and strengthen 4-H program evaluation statewide.

This Davis-based position is an academic career track appointment. A minimum of a master's degree is required in a discipline related to program evaluation in youth development, nutrition, education, health education, or a closely related field.

For a full position vacancy announcement and application procedures, please visit www.ucanr.edu/Jobs/Jobs_990/?jobnum=265 or contact Karen Ellsworth at kaellsworth@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-7532 and refer to position listing AP#12-06. To assure full consideration, applications should be submitted by July 9. The position is open until filled.
Names in the News

Atwill to lead Vet Med Extension

Rob Atwill, DVM, MPVM, PhD, was appointed director of the Veterinary Medicine Extension program in the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, effective May 1, 2012.

In his capacity as director, Atwill participates and provides leadership on Program Council as the school’s representative. He succeeds Donald Klingborg, who is retiring.

Atwill, a professor in the Department of Population Health and Reproduction and a specialist in Veterinary Medicine Extension, continues to serve as director of the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security. WIFSS’s mission is to conduct research and provide outreach programs that will enhance food safety, water quality and food defense in all sectors of the food continuum from environment to consumer.

Originally based at the school’s Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, he joined the School of Veterinary Medicine faculty in 1994. His position has encompassed duties both as a faculty member in the Department of Population Health and Reproduction and as a specialist in Veterinary Medicine Extension.

Atwill earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1990 from the University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine, followed by a Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine degree in 1991. He received his doctorate in epidemiology from the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University in 1994.

Atwill’s most recent focus is a multidisciplinary and multi-agency partnership designed to clarify the ecology and epidemiology of zoonotic pathogens in produce production regions both within California and across the United States.

— Lynn Narlesky

Hill named 4-H advisor

Russell Hill will be returning to Merced as the UCCE advisor for Merced, Mariposa, Madera and Stanislaus counties for 4-H Youth Development, effective Oct. 1.

Before accepting his current position of state 4-H Military Partnership Programs director in 2010, Hill had been the 4-H Youth Development program representative in Merced County since 2005. The 4-H Military Partnerships held a personal interest for Hill because his father and brothers served in the U.S. Army and his brother Captain Raymond D. Hill II was killed in action in 2005 by an IED while serving a humanitarian mission in Baghdad.

He received his B.A. in anthropology from CSU Fresno in 1998 and a master’s in public administration from CSU Stanislaus in 2003.

After Oct. 1, Hill will be based in the UCCE office in Merced and reachable at (209) 385-7403 and rdhill@ucdavis.edu.

Suslow honored by produce association

Trevor Suslow, UCCE specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, has been awarded the 2012 United Fresh Produce Association Technical Award for his commitment to food quality and safety.

David Gombas, senior vice president of food safety and technology for United Fresh Produce Association, lauded Suslow as the “go-to guy” for the produce industry, providing timely guidance on how best to meet food-safety standards.

“He is best known for his fearless attitude to tackling tough in-field research questions and being able to translate that into a solution that the industry needs in order to make practical, effective improvements,” Gombas said.

Suslow received the award in Dallas in May at a special presentation during the United Fresh Produce Association’s annual conference.

Keatley Garvey wins ACE Gold

Kathy Keatley Garvey, communicator for the Department of Entomology at UC Davis, has won a gold award for photography, the overall Outstanding Professional Skill Award for Photography and the gold award for best news writing from the international Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences (ACE), a professional association for Land-Grant communicators.

Her award-winning photo shows Eric Mussen, CE specialist in the Department of Entomology at UC Davis, being stung by a honey bee. She captured the image as the bee tried to pull away, tugging a trail of its abdominal tissue.

Of the photo, Mussen wrote in his online newsletter from the UC apiaries, “Usually, the break between the sting and abdomen is clean. Occasionally, intestinal tissue remains attached.”

The writing award honors a story Garvey wrote about a new species of wasp that Lynn Kimsey, director of the Bohart Museum of Entomology, discovered in Indonesia.

Garvey shoots with a Nikon D700 camera equipped with a 105mm macro lens, a motor-drive, and a ring flash. Every weeknight, she posts insect photos and text on her Bug Squad blog. Garvey also shares photos on her Flickr account, which includes more than 22,000 photos.

The awards were presented at ACE’s annual conference June 11-14 in Annapolis, Md.
Walter Bentley

A highly regarded member of UC Cooperative Extension’s regional integrated pest management team, Walt Bentley, will retire June 30. The UCCE advisor transferred to Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in 1994 after 17 years as a UCCE advisor in Kern County, specializing in entomology.

Bentley’s success is demonstrated by the numerous awards he has received in the past year. A group of world IPM leaders presented Bentley with its Lifetime Achievement Award March 27 at the 7th International IPM Symposium. He also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the California Association of Applied IPM Ecologists in February. In October 2011, Bentley received ANR’s Distinguished Service Award for Outstanding Extension.

Bentley earned a bachelor’s degree in horticulture and biology in 1969 at Fresno State University, then spent two years in the U.S. Army working on tracing mosquito movement in the 4th Army area of Texas and Oklahoma and later in Utah. He earned a master’s degree in entomology in 1974 at Colorado State University and worked in biological pest control for the Colorado Department of Agriculture before returning to California for the UCCE position in Bakersfield.

As a UCCE advisor in Kern County, Bentley worked with colleagues to develop an IPM program for almonds, addressing problems with spider mites, navel orangeworms and ants. Also working with colleagues, he developed an IPM program for potatoes, emphasizing monitoring for potato tuber moth and postponing pesticide treatment until the pest reached economic damage levels.

Perhaps his greatest accomplishment, however, was the relationship he cultivated with growers and pest control advisers. In particular, Bentley worked closely with pioneer Bakersfield apple grower Lewis Sherrill to combat codling moth in apples.

At KARE, Bentley continued his work on apples and almonds, and began to work extensively in grapes. Mealybug management in grapes, he said, became the most important and impactful part of his job. In peaches, Bentley played a role in developing a management plan to control katydid damage and helped farmers use mating disruption against oriental fruit moth.

During his 36-year career, Bentley authored 65 chapters or sections in pest management manuals and 75 peer-reviewed articles. He also wrote more than 250 articles for trade journals and newspapers.

Bentley’s personal interest in insects will carry into his retirement. One of his goals, he said, is building a teaching collection of insects, spiders, mites and other arthropods at KARE.

To read the full story, go to www.ucanr.edu/news/?blogpost=7602&blogasset=44546.

Don Klingborg

Don Klingborg, director of ANR Strategic Advocacy & UC Partnerships and associate dean for Veterinary Medicine Extension in the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM), will retire June 28.

Klingborg earned his DVM degree from UC Davis in 1972. Following an internship in large animal medicine and surgery at Colorado State University, he entered private mixed-animal clinical practice in Merced. He also was a Fellow in Class XVIII of the prestigious California Agricultural Leadership program, the first veterinarian to participate.

After 20 years in private practice, he was recruited to UC Davis in 1993 to serve as director of the Veterinary Medicine Extension Program and assistant dean for Public Programs, which included the Center for Continuing Professional Education, and managed Vet Med News.

He was instrumental in the political process that brought the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory to SVM and served on its advisory board until he left practice. His work in the State Capitol contributed to the political support needed to fund new buildings and return SVM to full accreditation in the late 1990s.

Klingborg created and maintained relationships with a wide variety of individuals and organizations in support of UC, UC ANR and the School of Veterinary Medicine, including strong connections with many legislators in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and in organized veterinary medicine at the local, state, national and international levels.

Over the years, Klingborg chaired a number of task forces for ANR and in 2010 was asked to join the Vice President’s Cabinet and to devote half of his time to leading ANR’s advocacy program and the restructuring of UCCE county-based offices into cost-sharing administrative units called multi-county partnerships, or MCPs.

He has received a number of honors as a practitioner, including Agribusinessman of the Year in the cities of Atwater and Merced and the County of Merced, the Bovine Practitioner of the Year award from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, and the SVM Alumni Achievement Award. Recently, the California Veterinary Medical Association announced it will present Klingborg with its highest honor, the Lifetime Achievement Award, at a ceremony on June 29 at the Pacific Veterinary Conference in San Francisco.

“I’ve had the opportunity to work closely with four VPs during my time with UC ANR and a myriad of assistant and regional directors, associate deans, program leaders, county directors and other fantastic academics and staff,” Klingborg said. “UC ANR is critical to California and Californians and the hard work we’re doing now will uniquely position it for a thriving future. My time with UC ANR has been among the most rewarding experiences I’ve had during my career and I’ll be forever grateful for the opportunity to work with you all.”
Vince Lazaneo
San Diego County is served by more than 250 Master Gardeners due to a pioneering effort by UC Cooperative Extension advisor Vince Lazaneo. The horticulture expert, who initiated the program to expand his ability to extend research-based gardening information to the county’s vast population, will retire June 28.

Since 1977, Lazaneo has been the UCCE advisor for San Diego County urban horticulture.

He has faced physical challenges in his life and career. As a 17-year-old experimenting with fireworks, he shook a jar of chemicals to tragic effect. An explosion took off his right hand at the wrist and most of his left hand. Lazaneo also was born with a degenerative eye disorder that led to blindness in 2002. However these disabilities did not bring him down.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in horticulture at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Lazaneo took a retail nursery sales job in San Jose.

“I discovered that the thing I enjoyed the most was educating customers about plants,” Lazaneo said.

He returned to college, earning a master’s degree in horticulture and a teaching credential in vocational agriculture at UC Davis. At a temporary job with UCCE in Sacramento County, administrators encouraged Lazaneo to pursue a career with UCCE. In 1977, he became a UCCE advisor in San Diego County.

Around this time Master Gardeners, an idea that took shape in Washington, was beginning to garner interest in California. Lazaneo decided to offer the volunteer program in San Diego County. Today, more than 220 Master Gardeners staff well over 40 educational exhibits each year, and answer 5,000 phone and email inquiries annually. Another 55 Master Gardeners will complete the training program before Lazaneo retires.

In addition to working with homeowners, the San Diego Master Gardeners work with schools interested in providing garden-based learning to their students. On May 23, the school gardens program was awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the San Diego Science Alliance.

“Our volunteers currently consult with more than 200 schools in the county each year,” Lazaneo said.

In the last few years, the Master Gardeners have conducted workshops on community gardens and worked with other gardening groups to change zoning to give residents more community gardens.

Lazaneo also collaborated with the horticulture department at Cuyamaca Community College in El Cajon to study vegetable varieties that are best adapted to local growing conditions.

Throughout his career, Lazaneo has written a gardening column for the San Diego Union-Tribune. He said he will continue writing in retirement. He also plans to write answers to local residents’ most frequently asked questions, to be posted on the San Diego Master Gardener website.

“We’re still missing pieces, but the potential and limitations are better understood.”

The next 20 years was the period of rootstock exploration. Over the last two decades, McKenry’s nematological expertise provided industry awareness of three grape rootstocks, RS-9, RS-3 and 10-17A; three fruit and nut rootstocks including Krymsk 1, specifically useful for dwarf plum trees; HBOK-1 and Hansen 536, for peach and almond orchards, plus a new walnut rootstock named VX211.

More recently, McKenry identified the first effective nematode treatment that in very low doses could be sprayed onto leaves of trees and vines. This new chemistry was hidden away as an insecticide. McKenry and his research team reported that if farmers followed a few guidelines, their yields could be boosted 10 percent to 20 percent.

In all, McKenry has written more than 250 research papers, half of them in pest management manuals, the other half peer-reviewed conference proceedings, book chapters and research journals.

In retirement, McKenry said he looks forward to having more time to spend at his coastal home in Cayucos while continuing his worldwide travels.

— Jeannette Warnert

To read the full story, go to www.ucanr.edu/News/?blogpost=7576&blogasset=44547.
Charles Summers

Five years after the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center was dedicated, an entomologist fresh from earning a PhD at Cornell University began working in field crop pest management at the facility.

Charlie Summers, a research entomologist who was first affiliated with UC Berkeley and later affiliated with UC Davis, will end a 42-year career at Kearney when he retires June 30.

Summers earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in zoology and entomology, respectively, at Utah State University and a doctorate in entomology at Cornell in 1970.

Summers has studied a wide range of pest problems in field and vegetable crops. He developed economic thresholds for more than a dozen pests and management strategies for an equal number of crops. Among the most challenging pests was the alfalfa weevil, he said. It has been particularly unresponsive to biological control and host plant resistance.

Silverleaf whitefly also posed a tremendous challenge. In time, Summers and his colleagues developed a protocol for monitoring and managing silverleaf whitefly.

Another major challenge was the corn leafhopper. It became a serious problem at the end of the 1990s, when it was found to transmit corn stunt disease.

“We worked out a strategy for scheduling planting to avoid the most serious damage,” Summers said.

A unique and effective pest management strategy introduced by Summers and his colleague, Jim Stapleton, UC Cooperative Extension advisor with the UC IPM Program, was the use of reflective mulches. Summers and Stapleton planted squash, melons, peppers and tomatoes in beds covered with silvery plastic mulch. The mulch repelled aphids and whiteflies, preventing the insects from infecting the tender, young plants with diseases. It also suppressed weeds.

Although Summers did not have formal extension responsibilities – he was among the last scientists hired to devote 100 percent of their time to research – he has made it a point to work closely with farm advisors and specialists to convey research results to farmers.

“Extension work has been one of the most enjoyable things I’ve done,” he said. “I’ve worked with farm advisors on research projects, farm calls and given hundreds and hundreds of extension talks at their grower meetings.”

Summers has also authored more than 200 articles, book chapters and research papers, most of them peer reviewed.

In retirement, Summers plans to move back to Utah to live near his sister and nephews and spend time pursuing his favorite pastime, fly fishing.

To read the full story, go to http://ucanr.edu/News/?blogpost=7723 &blogasset=44547.

Kay Harrison Taber

After serving in a variety of important administrative roles for ANR over the past 24 years, Associate Vice President Kay Harrison Taber will retire June 28.

“Her extensive knowledge of ANR and UC has been a critical resource to ANR’s leadership team, and she will be sorely missed,” said VP Allen-Diaz.

The Kansas native joined ANR in 1988, starting in a support staff position in Program Planning and Evaluation. Taber moved with her husband, Dennis, to Arizona for her other career as wife of a Methodist minister for a year and worked as a volunteer for ANR’s statewide Center for Pest Management Research and Extension, writing its Plan of Work. Why work for free? “You could say I believed in the Land Grant mission,” said Taber.

After moving back to California in 1991, she went to work for the center in a temporary position and was named its assistant director in 1994.

In 1996, Taber returned to Oakland to serve as executive assistant and then as deputy to ANR Vice President Reg Gomes. In addition to serving as the VP’s deputy, she was assigned oversight of Development Services, guiding ANR’s endowment and gift programs and capital planning.

In 2007, Taber was named Assistant Vice President for Administrative Services. Since 2009, she has served as Associate Vice President for Business Operations with responsibility for the ANR Budget, Controller & Business Services, Contracts & Grants, Development Services, Staff Personnel, and Business Operations Center units. She created and chaired the Administrative Review Council, which seeks ways to achieve greater efficiency, effectiveness and compliance within ANR’s administrative structure and policies. Taber led the 2010 administrative restructuring effort to consolidate administrative service units. Using her extensive knowledge of the UC and ANR budgets and ANR operations, Taber provided sound budget strategies and advice to ANR leadership during the recent difficult budget years.

“Restructuring business operations to provide program-infused delivery has been a major focus in my career,” Taber said. “It is critically important to have an efficient and effective business structure to support our academics’ work and I’m proud to say that we have that in ANR.”

Prior to joining UC, Taber worked in research administration at the University of Arizona and as marketing director for a consortium of universities delivering graduate education.

Taber earned her bachelor’s degree in management at Saint Mary’s College of California.

In retirement, Taber looks forward to devoting more time to an international support group for women whose husbands, partners, fathers, sons or brothers have prostate cancer and volunteering with a non-profit agency in Sacramento that supports women re-entering the workforce.
**Employee comments sought on ERIT, military pay**

The voluntary Employee-Initiated Reduction in Time (ERIT) Program and Policy on Supplement to Military Pay are up for renewal and open for employee comment through June 25, 2012.

Both are set to expire on June 30. UC is proposing to renew them for two additional years from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2014.

UC developed ERIT as an optional tool to help locations address budget reductions resulting from the state’s continued disinvestment in public higher education. Each UC location would decide whether to offer this tool.

ERIT allows career staff — except senior management group members — to voluntarily reduce their hours and pay to help campuses gain temporary salary savings. In exchange, employees would receive certain advantages, such as accrual of vacation and sick leave at their pre-ERIT rates.

UC is also proposing to renew its Supplement to Military Pay policy to continue to support employees called to active military duty.

The university would compensate eligible employees for the difference between their university base pay and military pay and allowances until the end of an employee’s active military duty or until June 30, 2014, whichever comes first.

Those not eligible for supplemental pay because their military pay and allowances exceed their university wages would be able to continue their health plan coverage while on military leave. The university would continue to pay the UC contribution to those plans.

Both ERIT and the Supplement to Military Pay policy would be subject to collective bargaining for represented employees.

ANR staff members are invited to submit their comments on ERIT and the Supplement to Military Pay policy to Linda Marie Manton, executive director, Staff Personnel Unit, at lmmanton@ucdavis.edu.

**CAB 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, program representatives, academic coordinators and faculty affiliated with ANR.

The board provides advice and support to Bob Sams, director of Communication Services and Information Technology, 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 are appointed by VP Allen-Diaz and serve three-year, rotating terms. The board meets on a quarterly basis. The new appointments begin in November 2012. Current board members whose terms are ending may reapply.

Nominations are due by Aug. 1. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Send nominations, along with the addresses of the candidates, to Joe Connell, Communications Advisory Board chair, at jhconnell@ucanr.edu. If nominating yourself, please submit a curriculum vitae and the completed online application www.ucanr.org/cabapplication to Connell.

**UCCE displays historic photos at Marin County Fair**

An exhibit of photographs taken by UCCE Marin County’s first farm advisor will be on display at the Marin County Fair June 30–July 4.

M.B. Boissevain, who became a UCCE advisor in 1920, took approximately 500 photos of Marin agriculture and its people during his 30-year career. Ellie Rilla, UCCE advisor in Marin County, and David Lewis, UCCE director and advisor in Marin County, have written a book about the agricultural history of the county based on Boissevain’s photos and farm reports.

The 126-page book “Marin Agrarian Roots” contains 82 images photographed by Boissevain.

The book will be available for purchase at the fair for $25. It also will be available at Book Passage, Toby’s Feed Barn, Point Reyes Books, Tomales Regional History Center and Jack Mason Museum of West Marin History.

Read more about the exhibit and the book at http://marinfair.org/fair-preview/library.