Celebrating 100 years of UC Cooperative Extension

Get ready to celebrate a century of Cooperative Extension connecting science to practical uses. On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed the Smith-Lever Act, which established a network of scientists to live and work in local communities to solve economic, agricultural, environmental, youth development and nutrition issues.

Now, 100 years later, UC Cooperative Extension has specialists on three UC campuses and advisors and specialists in every California county, making a difference in people’s lives every single day.

VP Barbara Allen-Diaz appointed a special UCCE Centennial committee to plan a year-long celebration throughout 2014 with statewide events, outreach efforts, local county celebrations, citizen science projects and more. Visit the UC ANR homepage in late January for a link to the UCCE Centennial website with more information.

Is your unit or program interested in getting involved? Contact Marissa Stein, UCCE Centennial coordinator, at mpstein@ucanr.edu for more information or to plan your own event or activity to celebrate the centennial.

UCCE Centennial toolkit

The UCCE Centennial branding toolkit has had a makeover! Check out the new toolkit to download centennial logos, sample messaging, marketing templates and more. The toolkit is still being developed, and new templates are added every day. Keep checking back for more exciting tools to help you incorporate the 100-year anniversary of UC Cooperative Extension into your activities and outreach efforts throughout 2014. Visit the toolkit at www.ucanr.edu/100brand.

UCCE Centennial t-shirts

As part of the UCCE Centennial celebration, the centennial committee will be ordering t-shirts free for all UC ANR employees. If you would like a 100% white cotton t-shirt with a special UCCE Centennial design on it, please use the form below to request one in your size. The only catch? You must wear your shirt on May 8, 2014, for our Day of Science and Service! You’re welcome to wear your shirts anytime you’re out representing the division or at a centennial celebration or activity. To get your t-shirt, you must place your order no later than Jan. 15, 2014. We will not be able to accommodate any late orders. Only one t-shirt per employee. To order your shirt, visit the UCCE Centennial branding toolkit at www.ucanr.edu/100brand.

Nominations accepted for ANR Distinguished Service Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the ANR Distinguished Service Awards, which are sponsored by UC ANR and Academic Assembly Council. ANR academics and staff are invited to nominate their colleagues or themselves for outstanding achievement.

The ANR Distinguished Service Awards recognize service and academic excellence in UC Cooperative Extension over a significant period of time. The awards highlight the use of innovative methods and the integration of research, extension and leadership.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize and reward outstanding accomplishments in six areas:

- Outstanding Research
- Outstanding Extension
- Outstanding New Academic
- Outstanding Team
- Outstanding Leader
- Outstanding Staff

For award criteria and instructions for submission, please visit http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=11706.

All materials in nomination packets must be submitted by 5 p.m., Feb. 21, 2014, online at the bottom of the page at http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=11706. For more information about Academic Assembly Council, visit http://ucanr.edu/sites/UCAAC. 

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The ANR Training Coordination Committee is sponsoring a “Crucial Conversations” training on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 25-26 in Davis. On March 25, the training is from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on March 26 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The training is open to all ANR academics, ANR staff employees, and Cooperative Extension county-paid employees. All expenses related to the training (registration, travel, lodging, meals and training materials) will be reimbursed by ANR funds.

The training class is limited to 20 individuals. Individuals selected to participate in the training will need to participate the full period of the training. Therefore, if you cannot commit to the full 16 hours of training, we ask that you not pre-register for the training.

If you are interested in the training please pre-register at this link: http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=10326.

Individuals who have pre-registered will be notified prior to Feb. 27 as to whether they have been selected to participate in the two-day training. A waiting list of those interested but not selected to participate in the training will be established if individuals cancel from the training.

“Crucial Conversations” provides tools for talking when stakes are high, emotions are strong, and opinions differ. The objectives of the 16-hour training are to provide the participants tools that will assist the participant in

- building greater personal influence and power
- moving “stuck” relationships and projects forward
- improving personal, team and departmental results
- reducing stress from team frustration and blocked communication

Your program trainers Darlene Liesch and Linda Marie Manton thank you for considering participating in “Crucial Conversations” Training. If you have questions contact Manton at (530) 750-1318 or lmmanton@ucanr.edu.

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ANR’s FY 2012 federal Annual Report is now posted on the Divisionwide Planning web page http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Divisionwide_Planning. This reporting is required by USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture for the over $14 million of federal agricultural research and extension formula funds received by the University of California.

These documents provide a statewide overview of how ANR works to turn science into solutions.

The Annual Report includes many of ANR’s research, teaching and service performance measures, including impressive statewide outcomes and specific success stories. You can see how ANR uses the programmatic information entered into its internal system DANRIS-X, UC Delivers and the federal information system (REEport formerly CRIS). The databases give ANR statewide perspective and specific examples for communicating how we deliver science-based solutions to address practical issues.

Summaries of accomplishments for the federal planned programs, which are part of the Annual Report’s executive summary, were provided by program area experts at the request of Bill Frost, associate vice president. The following people contributed:

- Connie Schneider, statewide program director for Youth, Families and Communities, for “Healthy Families and Communities”
- Rose Hayden-Smith, UCCE advisor in Ventura County and strategic initiative leader, for “Sustainable Food Systems”
- Bill Stewart, UCCE specialist in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at UC Berkeley, for “Sustainable Natural Ecosystems”
- Beth Grafton-Cardwell, UCCE specialist in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside and strategic initiative leader, for “Endemic and Invasive Pests and Diseases”
- Maggi Kelly, UCCE specialist in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at UC Berkeley, for “Climate Change”
- Doug Parker, director of California Institute for Water Resources and strategic initiative leader, for “Water Quality, Quantity and Security”

– Kathryn Webb-Martinez
Employee comments sought on UC sexual harassment policy

As a result of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA), signed by President Obama earlier this year, the University’s policy on sexual harassment is undergoing a formal review.

Employees covered by this policy who wish to provide comments may submit them by Jan. 13, 2014, to the ANR Portal under the comments section or directly to Linda Marie Manton at lmmanton@ucanr.edu.

The University of California is committed to creating and maintaining a community where all persons who participate in University programs and activities can work and learn together in an atmosphere free of all forms of harassment, exploitation or intimidation. Every member of the University community should be aware that the University prohibits sexual harassment and sexual violence, and that such behavior violates both law and University policy.

VAWA will take effect on March 7, 2014, and includes several provisions to improve and expand how institutions address domestic and sexual violence.

You can read the revised policy at http://atyourservice.ucop.edu/employees/policies_employee_labor_relations/proposed_policies/prop_rev_policies.html.

Lindcove REC hosts citrus tasting

Lindcove Research and Extension Center hosts a citrus display and tasting annually. Growers and other agriculture professionals were invited on Dec. 13 to tour the facility, talk with researchers and see and taste more than 150 citrus varieties that are grown at Lindcove. Georgios Vidalakis, UCCE specialist in the Department of Plant Pathology at UC Riverside and director of the Citrus Clonal Protection Program, led a tour of the Citrus Clonal Protection facilities that produce budwood. Tracy Kahn, principal museum scientist in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences at UC Riverside, discussed new citrus varieties.

The following day, members of the public were invited to see and taste the fruit. Master gardeners and UCCE advisors were there to answer questions from backyard gardeners.

William C. Clark to speak Jan. 14 in Davis

Harvard University Professor William C. Clark will speak about linking knowledge with action for sustainability at UC Davis on Jan. 14 at 5 p.m.

Clark is Harvey Brooks Professor of International Science with the Public Policy and Human Development Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government in the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

His research focuses on sustainability science: understanding the interactions of human and environmental systems with a view toward advancing the goals of sustainable development. Clark, who co-directs Harvard’s Sustainability Science Program, is particularly interested in how institutional arrangements affect the linkage between knowledge and action in the sustainability arena.

This free event is open to the public and will be held in the Multi-purpose Room of the UC Davis Student Community Center.

His talk is part of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute’s Distinguished Speaker Series. The event is co-sponsored by UC ANR and the UC Davis College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences.

For more information, visit http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/newsroom/events/professor-william-c.-clark-at-asi-distinguished-speaker-series.
Crawford honored for public health contributions

Pat Crawford has received the California Center for Public Health Advocacy’s 2013 David Kessler Award for Extraordinary Contribution to the Public’s Health. Crawford is director of the Atkins Center for Weight and Health, College of Natural Resources, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Nutritional Sciences & Toxicology and adjunct professor in the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley.

This award recognizes a researcher whose visionary work has had an extraordinary impact on public health, particularly in relation to obesity and diabetes.

The person who nominated her for the award wrote that Crawford is “a warm and charismatic leader and researcher who has worked tirelessly to bring resources and attention to the issue of childhood obesity. Dr. Crawford’s legacy is not only her direct contributions to public health nutrition research and policy, but also her dedicated mentoring of others that will sustain progress in obesity prevention for years to come.”

Crawford is a widely recognized national leader, innovator and researcher in the field of child health and nutrition. Decades before obesity was recognized as the nation’s leading public health threat, she was dedicated to identifying factors that contribute to the development of obesity among youth. Her research has generated strong evidence implicating sugar-sweetened beverages in the development of obesity, which has supported changes in policy locally and at the state level. Additionally, she was influential in the USDA’s decision to modify WIC policy to allow WIC providers to include discussions of physical activity in their education services and also in the USDA decision to revise the WIC food package to address concerns about childhood obesity.

ANR associate editor for youth development needed

Recruitment is now underway for an ANR associate editor in human and community development – youth development (4-H). ANR associate editors are nominated for this university service by the Communications Advisory Board and appointed by the associate vice president, Bill Frost. The term will be effective immediately following appointment and will continue until July 1, 2018.

Associate editors manage the peer-review process for ANR publications. In doing so, they ensure that the content of ANR publications is as scientifically accurate and up to date as possible. Associate editors also encourage authors to write needed publications and revise older ones, and they serve as a link between ANR Communication Services and Information Technology and the Division’s programs. Through their efforts, associate editors significantly contribute to the quality of extension and outreach programs statewide.

Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty, the previous associate editor in this area, coordinated peer review for the popular Toddler Express and Happy Healthy Families series and a number of online publication series including Bio-Security in 4-H Animal Science, 4-H Bloco Drum and Dance, Youth Development through Veterinary Science and Rabbits: From the Animal’s Point of View.

To nominate yourself or a colleague for associate editor in human and community development – youth development (4-H), please provide the following information by Feb. 7, 2014, to David Lewis, chair of the Communications Advisory Board’s recruitment subcommittee: candidate’s name, address, phone number, email address, areas of expertise, length of service with ANR, workgroup or continuing conferences to which candidate belongs, and description of candidate’s prior involvement with both Communication Services and Information Technology and with ANR and other peer-review processes. Lewis’ email address is djllewis@ucanr.edu and his mailing address is Cooperative Extension Marin County, 1682 Novato Boulevard, Ste. 150-B, Novato, CA, 94947.

If you have questions about the responsibilities of ANR associate editors, contact Mary Louise Flint, associate editor chair, at (530) 750-1240 or mlflint@ucdavis.edu, or Ann Senuta, Communication Services and Information Technology publications manager, at (530) 750-1224 or aesenuta@ucanr.edu.