

Napolitano tours valley ag, discusses food with PAC

President Janet Napolitano and VP Barbara Allen-Diaz met with the President's Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources on April 14 at the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Parlier.

During the flight from Oakland, Don Bransford, PAC chair and rice grower, and Allen-Diaz gave the president an aerial tour of California agriculture. They flew over wine country, rice fields and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta before turning south to the San Joaquin Valley. Doug Parker, director of the California Institute for Water Resources, explained California's complex water system and pointed out signs of the drought—low reservoirs and fallowed fields—to Napolitano. AVP Bill Frost and Roger Duncan, UC Cooperative

Extension advisor in Stanislaus County pointed out the crop varieties and described UC's role in making California a world leader in agriculture.

Napolitano engaged the commissioners in a wide-ranging discussion about the mounting challenges related to food. Building on ideas that surfaced at the UC Global Food Systems Forum held in Ontario in April 2013, they discussed how to make the University of California the world's "go-to" institution for expertise on all food-related issues, including nutrition, food security and sustainability. The president acknowledged differing opinions and brought the focus back to points they could all agree on.

"For instance, I don't think anybody can disagree that healthy food is better

than unhealthy food," said Napolitano. "I don't think anybody can disagree that we need to sustain our resources, our land, our water, with agricultural and consumption practices that ensure these essential resources will be there to serve the coming generations."

After the discussion, Jeff Dahlberg, KARE director led Napolitano and the PAC on a tour of the postharvest facility, followed by UC scientists describing their research at Kearney.

The visit was covered by the Fresno Bee: "UC President Napolitano tours Valley to see drought's impact" <http://www.fresnobee.com/2014/04/14/3877643/uc-president-napolitano-tours.html?sp=/99/406>. UCOP issued the news release: "President Napolitano tours California agriculture" <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/president-napolitano-tours-california-agriculture>.



From left, Jeff Dahlberg points out solar panels to Roger Duncan, Barbara Allen-Diaz, Janet Napolitano and Bill Frost during a tour of KARE.



Bob Ray, left, explains how the REC has reduced energy expenses.



Anton Cornel, right, describes his research to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.



Themis Michailides, left, shows how biocontrol can reduce aflatoxin in nuts.

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VP fulfills Promise for Education

In October, VP Barbara Allen-Diaz promised to "wear" bees if people donated \$2,500 for UC student scholarships. She raised \$3,885 for the UC Promise for Education campaign. On April 30, Norman Gary, professor emeritus in the Department of Entomology at UC Davis, helped her fulfill that promise, luring the pollinators with nectar.

Allen-Diaz met with Gary, who has studied bees for more than 60 years, to learn more about bee behavior and to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators to our food supply and in the wild. About one-third of the food we eat depends on the assistance of bees to pollinate plants so they will produce fruit, nuts or vegetables. Some wildland plants need pollination to reproduce.

"I want to thank everyone who donated to the UC scholarships for undergraduate education," Allen-Diaz said.



Norm Gary, right, drips nectar onto a sponge in the palms of VP Allen-Diaz to attract honeybees

Employment Opportunities

Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties: 4-H Youth Development Advisor

ANR is seeking a 4-H youth development advisor, an innovative researcher and educator who can provide inspiration and guidance to the 4-H Youth Development Program. The advisor will conduct a multicounty-based extension, education and applied research program to develop, implement, evaluate, strengthen and expand local 4-H programming that benefits youth and families in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties.

A master's degree is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, in disciplines such as youth or human development, child development education, agricultural education (including food science or textiles), environmental and resource sciences or a closely related field. Excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills are required. Extension experience, especially in youth development programming and volunteer education,

is desirable. Skills to communicate effectively in a second language are desirable. This position is subject to the requirements and compliance of the California's Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA).

The 4-H youth development advisor position closes May 18, 2014. To read the full job description for position AP #14-04, visit http://ucanr.edu/Jobs/Jobs_990/?jobnum=587.

Riverside and San Bernardino counties: 4-H Youth Development Advisor

ANR is seeking 4-H youth development advisor to conduct a multicounty-based extension, education and applied research program. The primary focus of this position is to develop, implement, evaluate, strengthen and expand local 4-H programming to better serve currently under-represented populations and places, including Latino and/or low-income youth and families in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The headquarters for this position is

located in Moreno Valley, about 70 miles east of Los Angeles.

A master's degree is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, in disciplines such as youth or human development, child development education, youth studies, ethnic studies, or a closely related field. Other requirements include: experience working effectively with low-income youth, underserved ethnic populations (particularly Hispanic/Latino youth), their

families and communities; expertise in independently and collaboratively developing reports, one-pagers, briefs, and presentations; and excellent written, oral and interpersonal communication skills in English and Spanish.

Applications for the 4-H youth development advisor position should be submitted by June 15, 2014 (open until filled). To read the full job description for AP #14-05, visit http://ucanr.edu/Jobs/Jobs_990/?jobnum=596.

Names in the News

ASI honors Bianchi

This year the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis has recognized Mary Bianchi, UCCE director and advisor for San Luis Obispo County, with the Eric Bradford and Charlie Rominger Agricultural Sustainability Leadership Award.



Mary Bianchi

Bianchi "does not hesitate to address the critical needs of her clientele, even if they require extending herself into new subject areas," said Sonja Brodt, ASI academic coordinator. "She is down-to-earth and creates the space in collaborations for each party's concerns to be heard and valued in the process to reach viable solutions."

Bianchi's work focuses on horticulture, pomology, subtropicals, water management and water quality in San Luis Obispo

County and northern Santa Barbara County. In recent years, she has worked with growers, conservationists and food safety professionals to strike a balance between food safety and environmental sustainability. Among her achievements are the development and implementation of a water quality workshop series that required the collaboration of over 100 team members and brought timely and essential information on water quality management to 2,200 growers in California.

Established in 2008 through gifts from family and friends, the Bradford-Rominger award recognizes and honors individuals who exhibit the leadership, work ethic and integrity epitomized by the late Eric Bradford, a livestock geneticist who gave 50 years of service to UC Davis, and the late Charlie Rominger, a fifth-generation Yolo County farmer and land preservationist.

Carey receives C.W. Woodworth Award

James R. Carey, professor in the UC Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology, is the 2014 recipient of the prestigious C. W. Woodworth Award from the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America for his outstanding accomplishments in entomology spanning four decades.



James R. Carey

Carey is considered the world's preeminent authority on arthropod demography. He has published more than 200 scientific papers and three books on this and closely related topics, including the

monograph "Longevity" (Princeton, 2003) and the "go-to" book on insect demography, "Demography for Biologists with Special Emphasis on Insects" (Oxford, 1993). His landmark paper on "slowing of mortality at older ages" was published in *Science* in 1992 and has been cited more than 350 times. Carey is also considered one of the world's authorities on the demography and invasion biology of tephritid fruit flies, particularly the Mediterranean fruit fly.

He received the award and presented a lecture during the plenary session of the 98th annual PBESA meeting in April in Tucson, Ariz.

Harivandi receives rare turfgrass award

Ali Harivandi, UC Cooperative Extension advisor emeritus, was honored by Turfgrass Producers International with the



Ali Harivandi

rarely given Turfgrass Educator Award of Excellence during the 2014 International Education Conference & Field Day held in February in Orlando, Florida.

Delivering the surprise announcement before more than 400 attendees from 13 different countries, Linda Moyer, chair of the TPI Public Relations Working Group, stated that TPI's Board of Trustees had made the decision to honor Harivandi for his

years of service in supporting the efforts of turfgrass producers worldwide. Moyer said that Harivandi's "personal commitment, dedication and positive influence in helping to educate consumers, turfgrass producers, lawn care professionals, golf course superintendents and government decision-makers spans more than three decades."

Harivandi is only the second person to receive this distinguished honor from TPI. The other award was presented in 2008.

"I hope Turfgrass Producers International will continue to interact with and support the turfgrass academic community in our mutual pursuit of economically and environmentally sustainable turfgrass," Harivandi said as he accepted the honor.

ANR STAR Program award nominations deadline extended to May 16

The deadline has been extended to May 16 for ANR directors, managers and supervisors to nominate outstanding staff employees and staff employee teams to be considered for a cash award. Nominations must be submitted to anrstaffpersonnel@ucanr.edu no later than May 16, 2014. Nomination forms were included with the email sent to ANR unit directors. If you have questions, please contact Linda Marie Manton at Immanton@ucanr.edu.

Comments sought on renewing policy to supplement military pay

UC's policy on supplement to military pay is scheduled to end on June 30, 2014. It is the University's desire to continue to provide reasonable assistance to academic and staff personnel who are called to active military duty in the Overseas Operations Contingency campaign. The proposed revisions renew the policy for another four-year period, effective July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2018.

Under the policy, the University provides eligible employees with supplemental payments equal to the difference between the employees' university base pay and their military pay and allowances until the end of an employee's active military duty, or until June 30, 2014, while on active military duty in the Overseas Operations Contingency campaign.

In addition, while employees receive the military pay supplement, the University continues to pay the UC contribution to their health plan premiums. For employees who are not eligible for the supplement to military pay because their military pay exceeds their University wages, and who elect to continue their University plan coverage, the University pays only the UC contribution to health plan premiums. Benefits under the policy are subject to a two-year lifetime limit.

The revised policy reflecting the proposed four-year renewal is posted at http://ucop.edu/human-resources/_files/psmp-draft.pdf.

Employees who wish to provide comments on this policy may submit them to rsgsanchez@ucanr.edu by June 10, 2014.

Oak conference calls for papers by May 15

The 7th California Oak Symposium, "Managing Oak Woodlands in a Dynamic World," will be held Nov. 3 – 6 at the Visalia Convention Center. Abstracts for oral presentations and posters on scientific studies or management case studies on any aspect of oak woodland management, ecology and conservation in California are due May 15. To submit an abstract, visit http://ucanr.edu/sites/oaksymposium/Call_for_Abstracts.

The symposium is intended for anyone involved in research, education, management, and conservation of California's oak woodlands. This includes foresters, range managers, tribes, arborists, landowners, community groups, land trusts and policymakers.

For more information about the symposium, visit <http://ucanr.edu/oaksymposium>.

UCOP conducts employee survey regarding disability status

As a result of recent changes to federal regulations, all federal government contractors are now required to regularly survey employees regarding their disability status. The regulatory change is intended to address a substantial lag in the employment rate of individuals with disabilities that persists despite technological advancements that have made it possible for people with disabilities to apply for and successfully perform a broad array of jobs.

All University of California employees will receive an email asking them to complete a brief, voluntary survey about their disability status. You may have already received the survey because emailing began in early April.

UC has hired VR Election Service (VRES) to administer the survey. The email will come from the following address: UC_Disability_Survey@vres.us. The email will also include a unique PIN that VRES has assigned to each employee. To respond to the survey, you must enter the PIN and the month and day of your birth to authenticate your identity. UC will use the collected data to assess employment practices and recruitment efforts. The collected information will remain confidential.

ANR's Affirmative Action website has additional information. If you wish to review a sample copy of the email request you will receive, you may go to http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative_Action. The information is listed under Disability Survey.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Marie Manton, executive director Staff Personnel and Affirmative Action contact, at Immanton@ucanr.edu.

Create buzz for May 8

Our May 8 Day of Science and Service to celebrate UC Cooperative Extension's centennial is quickly approaching. Help us create buzz!

1. Schedule a Tweet or Facebook post to be sent on May 8 through our [Thunderclap campaign](#). We need 100 people to schedule by May 7 in order for it to work! Sign up at <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/10528-beScientist>.
2. Plan a local activity on your campus, REC or county office. Watch our [webinar](#) to get more ideas: http://ucanr.edu/sites/100brand/Day_of_Science_and_Service.
3. Have kids or work at a school? Reach out to teachers and have them do a classroom activity on May 8. [Download our lesson plans](#) to share with them, under "Partner Outreach" at http://ucanr.edu/sites/100brand/Day_of_Science_and_Service.
4. Reach out to your local partners and networks. Spread the word! Use our [partner letters](#), [press release](#), [postcards](#) and [fact sheets](#) to help in your outreach efforts.
5. Join our social media campaign on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Tumblr](#) or [Instagram](#)! Use the hashtag #beScientist to join the conversation and spread the word.



For more information, contact Marissa Stein at mpstein@ucanr.edu.

President Napolitano holds webchat with staff

President Janet Napolitano held a one-hour webchat with staff employees from across the UC system on April 16. Conversation topics included campus climate survey results, compensation and benefits, and investments in technology and infrastructure. A recap and video of the president's webchat with staff are posted at <http://link.ucop.edu/2014/04/21/uc-president-janet-napolitano-holds-webchat-with-staff>.

The president fielded questions from a panel of five staff members from UC Santa Barbara, UC San Francisco, UC Davis, UCLA and UC Santa Cruz and from online viewers. Kathy Barton, staff advisor to the regents and executive director of strategic initiatives for the UC Riverside School of Medicine, moderated the discussion.

This is the second in a series of Google Hangouts between President Napolitano and various groups within the UC community to help foster open and ongoing dialogue concerning university issues. The president held a webchat with students in January (<https://plus.google.com/u/0/events/crrgpgk0j00qb22i6land19j80>), and a Hangout with faculty is being planned for later this year.

May 23 deadline for July 1 retirement distribution requests

If you plan on retiring on July 1, 2014, let the Retirement Administration Service Center know if you would prefer a monthly retirement income or a lump sum cashout by May 23, 2014. For members' UCRP retirement elections received by May 23, every attempt will be made to distribute retirement benefit payments by Aug. 1, 2014. In part, this May deadline is earlier than that of previous years because of the complexity of calculating benefits for members with multi-tier benefits.

Retirement elections received after May 23, 2014, will be processed as soon as possible. However, there is no guarantee that you will receive your initial payment by Aug. 1, 2014. If the Aug. 1, 2014, distribution date is missed, your initial payment will be delayed until Aug. 29, 2014.

Cases requiring IRC 415 testing may also delay the process, even if your election is received by May 23, 2014.

For more information, contact the Retirement Administration Service Center at 1 (800) 888-8267.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources.

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