

## News from Academic Assembly Council

As noted in our website, the mission of the Academic Assembly Council (AAC) is “to provide a forum to enhance the impacts of CE programs and address the professional needs of CE academic employees.” It is a representative body for those with Cooperative Extension appointments, and provides a forum for communicating with Administration as well as a structure for administrative tasks, e.g., PR review, where CE members have input. I want to offer news related to AAC, and several individuals have contributed updates (below).

You might find of interest the June, 2012, newsletter of the UC Academic Senate (<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/news/source/senatesource.june2012.pdf>), in particular the article on p. 3 regarding ANR and especially CE. UC is a big system, and it’s interesting to see how we might be seen by campus-based faculty, especially those who are not at Davis, Berkeley, or Riverside.

Also, you might be interested in the half-page advertisement that ran this past summer in the Wall Street Journal, p. R8, June 25, 2012 (shown below, although my scanner clipped the top). Although this ad is now past history, what I see is that whoever wrote and approved the copy saw UC in a holistic way—CE advisors are specifically mentioned—rather than UC as only a campus-based research-and teaching-institution.

AAC is planning to meet in late January, 2013. If there are issues you would like to see Assembly Council address, please send me a note by email, which I will regard as confidential, and I’ll summarize and bring forward the named issues. We would consider a survey of CE academics in the future if certain items are frequently mentioned. A copy of our current bylaws and our history can be found at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/UCAAC/>. The Academic Senate at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/> has a nice site listing issues under review.

—*from John Karlik, current AAC president*

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## PACE Survey and Listening Sessions

I hope everyone offered a response and input through the PACE (Partnership to Advance Cooperative Extension) survey. For those that have not filled out the survey, please go to <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=9003>. In addition, there will be five dialogue sessions beginning in Redding January 8, 2013, followed by the Kearney Ag Center on Jan. 16, Berkeley Jan. 30, Riverside, Feb. 6, and Davis, Feb. 20. Input from the survey and discussions will be brought forward at the ANR Statewide Conference. Frank Mitloehner and Kevin Day are PACE co-chairs.

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## **Your Personnel Committee, from Anna Martin, Chair**

As most of you know, the Personnel Committee is a standing committee of the Academic Assembly Council (AAC). The PC works with the Academic Program Unit (APU) to communicate your concerns to administration and members of the AAC on academic personnel matters. The committee's primary responsibility is to serve as a clearinghouse for the advancement review process and ensure equity in the process. How does this translate to committee tasks and responsibilities? The PC nominates ad hoc review committees, provides training for ad hoc committee chairs, reviews ad hoc reports, and works with APU to address any related issues or concerns. Based on your feedback, PC members review and provide recommendations to APU on the e-books, trainings, and examples that you use to develop your Program Reviews and Annual Evaluations. Most recently the PC has built on previous work and continued the process of more closely aligning and simplifying the program review and annual evaluation process. The goal is for both to be user-friendly, more sensitive to your program's reporting deadlines and less time-consuming. The PC has conveyed your repeated concerns regarding DANRIS-X to administration and eagerly awaits a redesigned system. Please contact your personnel committee if you have any issues or concerns you would like us to bring to administration or the AAC. (Please note all business conducted by the committee is CONFIDENTIAL unless specifically stated otherwise.) The list of current AAC PC members and their contact information can be found at:

[http://ucanr.edu/sites/UCAAC/AAC\\_Committee\\_Membership\\_2012-2013/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/UCAAC/AAC_Committee_Membership_2012-2013/)

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## **APU Updates, from Kim Rodrigues – Executive Director**

The Academic Personnel Unit (APU) recently offered trainings for the annual evaluation (AE) process and the merit/promotion (M/P) process. We had excellent participation, with over 100 participants and active engagement in all trainings. We are offering additional trainings for those academics seeking the promotion from FT V to FT VI on December 12 and a training for those seeking an upper level merit (FT VI and above) on December 14<sup>th</sup>, as well. The trainings are posted on the APU site for easy reference at

[http://ucanr.org/sites/anrstaff/Personnel\\_Benefits/Academic\\_Personnel/](http://ucanr.org/sites/anrstaff/Personnel_Benefits/Academic_Personnel/).

I am committed to working with the AAC to ensure that the review process is fair and equitable and as streamlined as possible. We have many several significant improvements since the centralized APU was developed in 2010 yet we remain open to all opportunities for further improvements. Your active input through your AAC representatives ensures that the academic issues are addressed, as appropriate.

The Peer Review Committee offers a statewide peer perspective for all salary actions, providing recommendations to the Director Frost as the decision-maker. Committee members this cycle include: Chris Greer, Glenn McGourty, Rachael Long, Janet Hartin, Eta Takele, Lynn Schmidt-McQuitty, and Dorothy Smith. There will be two positions open on this committee next year through a statewide application process. Please consider serving on this important committee, if possible.

The APU is also actively engaged in other trainings efforts to support our success and share our outcomes and impacts. Together with Katherine Webb-Martinez, I will be developing and offering trainings to build on our needs and assessment and program development. Stay tuned and check the ANR training site at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrtraining/>

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### **ANR Program Council Participation, from Bill Frost**

The ANR Program Council advises the Vice President on Division-wide planning and delivery of programs and develops recommendations for allocation of Division resources. The Council is comprised of the Associate Director, CE & AES; Executive Associate Deans from the colleges within ANR at UCD, UCB and UCR; ANR Strategic Initiative Leaders; and two representatives from county based UC Cooperative Extension. The term for one county based Cooperative Extension representative, Steve Orloff, will be expiring at the end of the year.

I am soliciting nominations for a member of the ANR Program Council who can provide the perspective of county based Cooperative Extension to inform Program Council discussions and recommendations. The Advisor must have an understanding of multiple program areas, be able to view issues from with a statewide perspective, and be open to new and innovative approaches. Scheduled meetings of Program Council have been set through May beginning the afternoon of the first Tuesday of the month, ending the afternoon of the next day. Self-nominations or nominations of colleagues should be sent to me at [wefrost@ucanr.edu](mailto:wefrost@ucanr.edu) by November 15.

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### **ANR Statewide Conference April 9-11, 2013**

Please mark your calendars for the ANR Statewide Conference, to be held in Ontario. More information will be forthcoming.

# BATTERIES.

Whether you know it or not, the University of California has probably played a part in building your future. Like Alex here, bringing home groceries.



- 1 He's a first-generation college grad who went to UC Santa Cruz with the help of a Pell Grant.
- 2 That helped him land a job at Intel, co-founded by UC Berkeley grad Gordon Moore.
- 3 Which he drives to in his hybrid car with batteries developed at UC-managed Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.
- 4 That he uses to bring home vegetables grown locally with guidance from UC Cooperative Extension advisors.
- 5 While Sophia, future UC Merced grad and robotics engineer, helps out.

*Onward, Alex. Onward, Sophia.  
And onward, California.*

Find out how UC impacts your life and how you—yes, you—can impact UC's future at [OnwardCalifornia.com](http://OnwardCalifornia.com)

