

Report

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Governor signs budget

Governor Schwarzenegger signed the 2005-06 State Budget on July 11. The news is positive for UC with modest increases for student enrollment growth, faculty and staff compensation, the opening of UC Merced, and initial funding for a UC-CSU joint initiative to expand the training of K-12 science and math teachers.

This budget includes a 3 percent funding increase for salary increases, including merit-based increases, and additional funds to help contribute to employee health benefit costs and to address market-based and equity issues. (Specific compensation levels are subject to local programs and collective bargaining agreements where applicable.)

The Office of the President has sent out a press release (http://universityof-california.edu/news/2005/jul11.html) with details on how UC will be affected by the 2005-06 state budget.

A pdf copy of the 2005-06 State Budget can be downloaded from this Web site: http://www.dof.ca.gov//HTML/BUD_DOCS/bud_link.htm. Click on Summary / Veto Message Package – 7/11/05



Richard Smith, on left, discusses lettuce production research with Steve Fennimore, Bill Chaney and Pres. Dynes, who visited the Central Coast recently (see page 3).

ANR defines sustainability for programs

The Executive Council has announced a new strategic direction in sustainability of agriculture and natural resources that will help to direct ANR's long-term planning.

Recognizing the importance of balancing environmental stewardship, economic development and community vitality, ANR research and extension programs have increased efforts to develop and deliver new knowledge to help support and sustain California's agricultural and natural resources. Our programs will continue to cover the spectrum of agricultural production from traditional practices to transitional systems to organic farming, all of which comprise the vibrant mix of industries that make up agriculture today.

A survey conducted by visiting scholar Chulgoo Kang of Korea, SAREP researcher Janet C. Broome, SAREP education coordinator David Chaney, and former SAREP director Sean L. Swezey, indicates that currently about 2 percent,

or \$6.7 million, of ANR funds are spent on personnel and grant projects addressing organic farming research and education. Organically grown farm products represent about 2 percent of the value of all agriculture statewide. The full report can be read at http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu/organic/organicsurvey04.htm.

The issue of how ANR programs address sustainability was a concern raised at listening sessions held around the state in 2004. This new strategic direction on sustainability grew out of two white papers developed by Program Council – Sustainability of Agriculture and Sustainability of Natural Resources.

For the full text of strategic direction in sustainability, go to http://ucanr.org/sustainable.shtml.

Strategic directions have also been issued to address Genomics Research and Education, Management of Invasive Species, Waste Management and Food Safety. To read all of the strategic directions, go to http://ucanr.org/directions.shtml.

ANR requests advisor position proposals

VP Gomes announced there will be a call again this fall for CE advisor positions. These positions will be funded from the pool of funds created by recent retirements and resignations of advisors. The formal call will be issued when the final pool is determined.

"I am pleased that we will continue to strengthen our CE county-based programs by filling critical advisor positions," Gomes said. "The funds for these positions come from existing positions, and are based on expected level funding for CE programs this year."

"We want to ensure the current process continues to be transparent and clear to all ANR members," Associate Vice President Standiford stated. "The ANR resource allocation process has been, and will continue to be, guided by ANR's mission, vision and core values." It will also be guided by four additional principles, calling for resources to be allocated based on

- Merit i.e., assessment of need and potential impact of proposed programs;
- Statewide perspective i.e., local, regional and/or broader needs as assessed and addressed from a statewide perspective;
- Open and participatory process

 having broadly solicited and thoughtfully considered input from Division stakeholders; and
- Transparency with both the process and the decisions known to Division stakeholders.

He added that the process will include increased collaboration among ANR units in the development of the advisor position proposals. The Regional Directors will share their initial lists of proposed advisor positions developed in their regional planning efforts with the Associate Deans and the Program Leaders to help refine and shape the

preliminary list of proposed advisor positions and to identify potential gaps from campus and statewide perspectives. The avenue for other planning groups and units that want to provide input on advisor positions will be through the appropriate Program Leader. The Program Leader will share the information with the Regional Directors and Associate Deans who will then communicate with county directors and department chairs.

Regional Directors will present the final position proposals to the Program Council in February. In March and April, the Program Council will review and rank the proposals using the criteria below. Position proposals should:

- Fill a critical programmatic (or administrative) gap that needs to be addressed immediately.
- 2. Be consistent with current high priority issues/program area needs identified as high or medium priority ANR Core Issues.
- 3. Demonstrate the likelihood of ANR program making a significant impact on current and/or future significant issues' solutions.
- 4. Build on strengths of ANR where Division has strong base of expertise or demonstrated capability to mobilize expertise from outside Division, and where ANR has methodologies, approaches and organizational structures that have yielded the greatest impact.
- 5. Strengthen research-extension continuum.
- Demonstrate consultation and stakeholder input both internal and external, i.e., proposal developed by broadly participatory process including broad consultation with ANR leaders and units statewide.

The Program Council will make recommendations to Standiford in April with final approvals by Gomes and Standiford to be made by May 1.

Veg advisor/REC director sought for Imperial County

The Central Coast and South Region is recruiting for a Vegetable Crops Advisor in Imperial County who will also serve as director of the Desert Research & Extension Center.

The advisor will initiate, develop and conduct education and applied research activities in vegetable crop production, develop information to resolve priority problems, and extend new and existing information to identified clientele groups.

As a REC director, the candidate will provide leadership, direction and management oversight of the Desert REC and provide UC researchers and educators with managed and sustainable resources to conduct quality research and extension programs on high-priority statewide and regional issues. The director will also provide and promote coordination and collaboration with campus- and county-based researchers to facilitate research and educational programs at the center.

Amaster's degree is required in horticulture or a related field, with competency and practical experience in vegetable crop production. The candidate must be able to effectively convey research-based information to the public, conduct issuefocused research, and publish research results. Salary will be in the CE Assistant to Full Title Rank, commensurate with applicable experience and professional qualifications. See CE Advisor salary scale at http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/acadpers/tab0405/table33.pdf. Deadline is Aug. 1 (or open until filled).

To apply, visit http://ccsr.ucdavis. edu for the full position vacancy announcement for #ACCSO-05-02, academicapplication and checklist; or e-mail your request to ccsracadrecruitment@ucdavis.edu. For more information, contact Cheryl Gneckow at (951) 827-2529; fax (951) 827-2328, DANR-CCSR-213, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521.

IREC hosts field day July 28

The Intermountain Research & Extension Center will host its Annual Field Day on Thursday, July 28, in Tulelake from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For details or to visit, contact Linda Woodley, (530) 667-5117 or go to the IREC website: http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/intermountain/home_page.html

Dynes visits state's "salad bowl"

resident Robert Dynes recently got a lesson on salad-making from the ground up, from vegetable crops advisor Richard Smith's description of the soils that salad greens are grown on to watching mixed greens being rinsed and bagged for retail sale. During his visit to the Central Coast, Dynes met with growers, observed a lettuce harvest and toured two very different produce packing facilities. He also spent time on the Elkhorn Slough learning about ANR coastal marine programs and observing the abundant wildlife on one of California's most productive waterways.

As part of his ongoing tour of California regions and communities, Dynes and other senior UC staff visited San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey counties on June 30 and July 1 with Vice President Gomes, UCCE Santa Cruz County director Laura Tourte, UCCE Monterey County director Sonya Varea Hammond, Office of Governmental and External Relations executive director Steve Nation and ANR advisors and specialists.

The tour began with a visit to Earthbound Farm near San Juan Bautista. With more than 24,500 acres in production, the company is one of the world's largest organic growers. En route to the plant, Ramy Colfer, chief organic agricultural researcher for Earthbound subsidiary Mission Organic, talked about organic production and his collaboration with ANR researchers and UCCE specialists and advisors on a variety of pest management and cover crop studies.

On arrival, Dynes and company donned hairnets, hardhats and lab coats for a guided tour of the packing line. Earth-

bound's director of quality assurance Will Daniels pointed out that organically certified fruits and vegetables arrive from the field in white bins, whereas those grown on land not yet certified as organic are moved in yellow bins and kept separate. Color-coded uniforms and hardhats also prevent contamination that might occur from workers

moving from the noncertified line to the organic line. Dynes watched as workers layered radicchio, baby lettuces and other greens in a trough that would fill cellophane bags of mixed greens.

This was followed by a lunch of organically grown salad with Earthbound founder Drew Goodman and vice president for farming Todd Kodet, who related some of the challenges of growing and marketing organically grown produce.

As an organic grower, Goodman noted the importance of UC research and extension to his industry. Kodet echoed this, acknowledging the contributions of Smith and entomology advisor Bill Chaney. Goodman said perchlorate contamination of groundwater was a research priority for Earthbound, along with developing effective, sustainable production practices for organic farming.

The next morning, Dynes met with Tanimura & Antle farm manager Ron Yokota and lettuce general manager Darren Filkins near Spreckles to observe the harvest and field packing of iceberg lettuce. Lettuce is the top crop in Monterey County. Yokota, who works with plant pathology advisor Steve Koike,

weed specialist Steve Fennimore, Smith and Chaney, emphasized the continuing need for UC research to help the agricultural industry prevent crop disease, improve quality and reduce environmental impact. He noted that UC can scientifically verify what growers think they see in the field.



UC research and extension are important to industry, Salinas grower Ron Yokota told Dynes as they watched iceberg lettuce being harvested and field packed.

Dynes also met with NewStar Fresh Foods executives David Eldredge, Bob Whitaker and Steve McShane at their year-old Salinas plant to discuss biosecurity and food safety, which begin with visitors checking in at a security guard station before entering the surveillance camera-monitored premises. The UC group watched baby spinach and herbs being washed, sorted and packaged on the highly automated processing line, then observed a demonstration of a new radiofrequency identification tagging system being tested by NewStar. This technology will track produce and monitor its condition from field to retail stores nationwide.

Koike, who oversees a plant pathology lab at the UCCE offices in Salinas, described how identifying the race of disease affecting spinach enables growers to plant resistant varieties and reduce yield losses. UCCE specialist Marita Cantwell from UC Davis described her studies of green onion and spinach to preserve product quality after harvest.

Dynes, Gomes, Tourte and other UC staff also traveled to Moss Landing for a tour of Elkhorn Slough led by Rick Starr, UCCE marine advisor, and Andrew DeVogelaere, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's research coordinator. As the Boston whalers passed sea otters, brown pelicans, resting harbor seals and myriad shorebirds, Starr and DeVogelaere discussed their collaborative projects educating commercial fishermen about marine protected areas and healthy fisheries. Starr also described a project with recreational and sport fishermen in the Bay Area to tag rockfish and lingcod to monitor population sizes and movements. Tourte talked about her work with local dairies and farms to reduce runoff and contamination of this ecologically valuable waterway.

Dynes joined ANR stakeholders, legislators and educators in Salinas the evening of June 30 for dinner and discussion.



Rick Starr, on left, describes marine research and outreach programs to Dynes, VP Gomes, Abby Lunardini, Laura Tourte and Kay Taber.

Names in the news

Casey arrives in Oakland

Christine Casey, ANR's new assistant vice president - Administrative Services, is settling into her office at the Office of the President. She may be reached at christine.casey@ucop.edu or (510) 987-0107. Her executive secretary is Claudine



Casey

Kent, who can be reached at (510) 987-0066 or <u>claudine.kent@ucop.edu</u>.

Mahacek named Merced County director

Richard Mahacek, 4-H youth development advisor, has been appointed county director in Merced County. He succeeds Jim Farley who retired in April. Mahacek can be reached at rlmahacek@ucdavis.edu or (209) 385-7418.



Mahacek

Kelly joins lab advisory committee

Nina Maggi Kelly is the newest member of the Analytical Laboratory Advisory Committee. Kelly will represent UC Berkeley on the committee. Kelly is a CE Specialist in the department of Ecosystem Sciences. Her specialties are geographic information systems, remote sensing, landscape ecology, wetlands, and deforestation.

Marzolla receives coastal grant

Michael Marzolla, Santa Barbara County 4-H youth development and Master Gardener advisor, has received a \$35,000 grant from the California Coastal Commission's Whale's Tail Grant program to continue the development of *Los Pescadores/Agua Pura*, a salmon and steelhead education curriculum for youth.

Vasquez to lead AAC

Stephen J. Vasquez, viticulture advisor for Fresno County, assumed presidency of the Academic Assembly Council on July 1. He succeeds Gloria Barrett, Sacramento County director and community development/public policy advisor. Chris Greer,



Vasquez

rice farm advisor for Colusa, Glenn and Yolo counties, is president-elect and will take office July 1, 2006.

Retirements

Marciel Klenk

Marciel Klenk, the 4-H youth development advisor and nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisor for Napa

County, retired July 8 after a 37-year career with UC Cooperative Extension.

She is well known in the Napa community for leading the 4-H Family Projects workshops, where she empowered



parents as their children's first and most important teacher. As administrator of the Napa 4-H program, Klenk focused on leadership development for adult volunteers and taught a successful teen leadership project for the past eight years.

For over 15 years, Klenk's popular "Living Well... Eating Well" workshops have helped local residents and those with chronic diseases learn practical ways to reduce fat, sodium and sugar and increase fiber in their diets. Her research has focused on diabetes awareness among Hispanics.

Klenk has worked with Napa County Environmental Management to develop a successful food safety and sanitation training class for local food handlers. In the past five years, the program has educated 1,400 food handlers.

After earning a bachelor's in home economics at San Diego State University, Klenk joined UCCE in 1968 as the home economics advisor to 4-H members in Imperial County. Four years later, she transferred to the same position in Sacramento County. She completed her master's degree at UC Davis in agricultural education during a 1978 sabbatical leave. In 1980, Klenk was appointed to the Napa County position.

During retirement Klenk said she plans to stay in Napa and looks forward to having more time to travel with her husband and pursue their passion for fishing.

— Jeannette Warnert

In memoriam

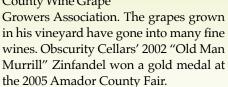
Frank DeVane Murrill

Frank DeVane Murrill, Kern County dairy advisor emeritus, died at his home in Sutter Creek on June 11. Murrill was born in Plant City, Fla, on Oct. 25, 1925. One of seven children, he grew up on a strawberry farm and was an active participant in 4-H.

During World War II, Murrill served in the U.S. Army and attained the rank of Technical Sergeant. He married Ruth in 1948 and they moved to UC Davis, where Frank received his B.S. and M.S. degrees. He served as Kern County dairy farm advisor from 1957 to 1968, then moved to UC Davis where he worked as a dairy specialist. He retired from UC in 1989.

Frank and Ruth retired to Sutter

Creek, where Frank served as president of the Amador County Farm Bureau and was a member of the Amador County Wine Grape



He is survived by wife, Ruth, and their children, Steve and Wendy Murrill of Sacramento, Kathy and Dave Jones of Roseville, and John and Terry Murrill of Sutter Creek and three grandchildren.

Communications Advisory Board seeks nominations for 3 members

ANR Communication Services is seeking to fill three positions on its advisory board. Nominations can include, but are not limited to, specialists, advisors, and faculty affiliated with the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The board provides advice and support to Director of Communication Services Bob Sams 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 Associate Vice President Rick Standiford and serve three-year, rotating terms. The board meets on a quarterly basis. The new appointments begin in November.

Nominations are due by **Aug. 12**. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Send nominations, along with the addresses of the candidates, to Communications Advisory Board Chair Ed Weber (e-mail: eaweber@ucdavis.edu).

If nominating yourself, please indi-

cate your interest in this position, areas of expertise, what prior involvement you have had with Communication Services, and your membership in workgroups, continuing conferences or other coordinating bodies.

Current members of the advisory board are Marianne Bird, 4-H youth development advisor, Sacramento County; Leslie (Bees) Butler, agricultural economics specialist, Davis; Joe Connell, farm advisor, Butte County; Beth Grafton-Cardwell, associate CE IPM specialist/research entomologist, Kearney Agricultural Center; John Harper, county director, Mendocino County; Frank Laemmlen, farm advisor, Santa Barbara County; Rachael Long, farm advisor, Yolo/Solano County; Shirley Peterson, county director and extension advisor, San Luis Obispo County; Dennis Pittenger, environmental horticulture advisor, Riverside; Ellen Rilla, county director, Marin County; Kim Rodrigues, regional director and administrative liaison RREA. Davis; Rick Roush, director statewide IPM program, Davis; Jim Thompson, Cooperative Extension agricultural engineer, Davis; and Weber, farm advisor and county director, Napa County. Steve Nation, executive director, Governmental and External Relations, Oakland, is an ex-officio member.

Kellogg gives UC Davis \$1.5 million for sustainable agriculture endowed chair

Intent on enhancing the safety, health-fulness and accessibility of the nation's food supply, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has given \$1.5 million to establish an endowed chair to support the new Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis. The gift will fund the W.K. Kellogg Endowed Chair in Sustainable Food Systems within the institute.

The foundation also has provided a \$95,000 grant to help the institute initiate and host an annual symposium series for the nation's academic leaders in the areas of the sustainability of agriculture and food systems.

"We are pleased that the Kellogg Foundation shares our vision for establishing UC Davis as an international hub for research and training in sustainable agriculture," said Neal Van Alfen, dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. "These two gifts will enable us to bring in top-quality leadership to guide the institute and hold annual meetings with experts in this field so that they are better equipped to advise policymakers, agriculturists, foundation leaders and community advocates."

The institute, established this year, is under the leadership of interim director Cal Qualset, a professor emeritus of agronomy and range science, and former director of the Genetic Resources Conservation Program at UC Davis. Qualset is overseeing the search for a permanent institute director, expected to be hired by early 2006, and is assisting faculty in

developing an undergraduate major in sustainable agriculture.

"The time is ripe for the formation of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute," Qualset said. "Consumers want to buy healthful foods, producers are committed to protecting natural resources and university researchers are keenly interested in the serious science behind the concept of sustainable agriculture."

The new institute director will also direct the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, which will remain part of ANR.

The new institute draws together UC Davis faculty members whose research and teaching interests span a broad spectrum of fields. Their work focuses on crop and animal sciences, pest and disease sciences, natural resource conservation, food science and nutrition, economics, sociology, education, agricultural environmental policy and community development.

The institute will include the campus' 20-acre Student Farm, and will be associated with the California Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program.

The institute will work collaboratively with the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and with the California Food and Fiber Future (CF3) Project, an educational partnership currently funded through the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Food and Society Initiative at UC Davis.

- Pat Bailey

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