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ANR seeks proposals for advisor & specialist positions

ANR is soliciting proposals for new advisor and specialist positions. These positions should address critical gaps in ANR's programmatic and geographic coverage. Proposals must include: a general description of the position; a statement of the relevance to the *ANR Strategic Vision*; a description of the issues to be addressed (including key extension and research programs); identification of the current ANR continuum and the role this position will play in strengthening/building the continuum; and the support that will be provided. Specific guidelines are outlined in the [New ANR Position Template](#).

Position proposals will be accepted via a Web-based submittal site beginning Sept. 20 and closing on Nov. 15. Proposals may be forwarded by ANR workgroups, county Cooperative Extension offices, campus departments and ANR strategic initiative panels. Only the strategic initiative leaders, associate deans of the colleges, county directors and workgroup chairs will have access to submit position proposals, so it is strongly encouraged that you communicate with your colleagues to provide your input during this process.

The designated representatives will gain access to the restricted site through their ANR Portal and can submit proposals by completing the template, which is intended to create a two-page (maximum) position proposal. County directors, strategic initiative leaders, associate deans and workgroup chairs will receive additional communication with instructions in the coming days.

These proposals will be provided to ANR's Program Council for review and discussion. Program Council will begin reviewing proposals during the January meeting and develop recommendations to the vice president by March. The criteria for evaluating the positions have been addressed in the headings and instructions in the proposal template.

It is anticipated that the advisor and specialist hiring will need to be staggered over a 24-month period. During this period, it is expected that ANR will be able to fund approximately 20 new positions, with the intent of continuing the process and additional hiring quickly following this initial round.

HFC strategic initiative plan refined

More than 100 people attended the three-day Healthy Families and Communities Conference held in August in Davis.

Participants gathered to discuss and develop the draft plan for the Healthy Families and Communities Strategic Initiative.

Sharon Junge, HFC strategic initiative leader, opened the conference by explaining, "We're identifying areas where we can really have impact in the next five years in research, outreach and education."

The three priority areas of inquiry identified by the panel for the HFC Strategic Initiative were childhood obesity, youth science literacy and thriving contributing youth. Junge acknowledged that everyone's work will not focus on those areas, but she added, "All work does need to be grounded in the Strategic Vision 2025."

VP Dooley asked the group to identify broad issues where ANR has a unique capacity to examine issues in ways that they are not being addressed by others.

"Where do we add unique value?" he asked rhetorically. Dooley also encouraged ANR members to collaborate with other UC colleagues outside of the Division.

During the conference, Sen. Alex Padilla (D- Pacoima) spoke about the importance of science to inform policy and urged ANR academics to share policy-relevant information with legislators.

"We look to you for the work on which to base our policy," said Padilla, who introduced bills on menu labeling and removing sports drinks from school vending machines.

Over the three days, conference participants refined the three priority areas of inquiry by discussing potential partners, resources, academic positions, the role of workgroups, interdisciplinary connections and communications and outreach.

On Sept. 13 and 14, EFNEP, FSNEP and other nutrition academics met to improve the connections between their programs and the strategic initiative.

The HFC draft plan is posted at <http://ucanr.org/sites/HFC/>. The plan is being further revised with input from the conference and re-posted on the website.

All four of the strategic initiative plans will be presented to ANR leadership in October. For more information about the initiatives, visit http://ucanr.org/sites/anrstaff/Strategic_Initiatives.



Sen. Alex Padilla, left, greets Vanessa Gomez, center, and Sharon Junge. More conference photos can be seen on Facebook: <http://facebook.com/ucanr>.

Employment opportunity: ASI communications coordinator

The Agricultural Sustainability Institute is seeking a communications coordinator, who would be based in Davis.

The communications coordinator will be responsible for improving awareness of ASI and its units, major initiatives and projects around key issues in sustainable agriculture and food systems; interacting with stakeholders through listening and responding to key audiences; and providing an indispensable information resource for target audiences.

ASI's target audiences include farmers and ranchers, policymakers, nonprofit and network organizations, agribusiness leaders (including processors, distributors, food retailers and institutional food service companies), students, the media, consumers and UC collaborators (including colleagues in UC Cooperative Extension).

In collaboration with ASI staff, the communications coordinator will coordinate, plan and implement the ASI strategic communication plan through stakeholder communication and outreach, and media/public relations; revise and maintain ASI program websites; establish and maintain liaisons with the media; and develop a wide range of materials in various media.

The communications coordinator will be a key member of ASI's core support team, offering coordination of communication for all ASI units, including the UC statewide Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP), the UC Davis Russell Ranch Sustainable Agriculture Facility and the UC Davis Student Farm. The position also will lead work teams on communication projects, and supervise contract, temporary and student communication positions.

See the full position description at <http://asi.ucdavis.edu/about/jobs/jobs-at-asi>. For full consideration, applications should be submitted by Oct. 4.

Dooley visits northeastern California

Vice President Dan Dooley and Don Klingborg, director of ANR Strategic Advocacy & UC - County Partnerships, traveled to northeastern California in mid-August to participate in a California Agriculture Leadership reception and meet with local growers and commodity groups.

Shasta County livestock advisor Larry Forero introduced them to Pam and Henry Giacomini, local cattle ranchers, and Glenn Hawes, Shasta County supervisor for District 3.

Dooley and Klingborg visited Driscoll's high-elevation strawberry planting-stock nursery, toured a state-of-the-art sawmill and learned about the importance of public land grazing to local cattle producers.

Academics invited to discuss sustainable ag & food systems

ANR academics working in sustainable food systems are invited to the ASI & CE Joint Symposium: Building Collaborations for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems on Oct. 26, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Putah Creek Lodge at UC Davis.

Cooperative Extension academics and the staff and affiliated faculty of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis will gather to exchange information about programs and explore opportunities for collaboration.

People who intend to attend the symposium should complete the CE & ASI Collaboration Survey to assist the organizers in planning the meeting and future collaboration efforts.

There is no fee to attend and funds are available to assist with travel. Be prepared to estimate your travel when you register. If space or funds become limited, priority will be given to CE academics and ASI members. To register, visit http://ucanr.org/sites/ASI_CEmeeting.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact Janelle Kohl, (530) 752-6996, jmkohl@ucdavis.edu or Sherry Cooper, (530) 752-1581 scooper@ucdavis.edu.



From left to right, Henry Giacomini, Don Klingborg, Larry Forero, Pam Giacomini, Dan Dooley and Glenn Hawes. The group attended the Shasta County Farm Bureau/Fall River Big Valley Cattlemen's Association meeting held at Hat Creek Hereford Ranch.

Dooley noted that the tour made him more familiar with the commodities produced in northeastern California and helped him appreciate the challenges associated with the travel distances and short growing season that agriculturists and natural resource managers face in this remote area.

CS Update



ANR communication tools available

Here are some questions and answers about ANR communication tools available to everyone in the Division.



What is Collaborative Tools and how can I use it?

Collaborative Tools is available on your ANR Portal. It is a discussion tool used primarily for internal projects and collaborative efforts with non-ANR users. It features discussion management tools, e-mail alerts and roster-list creation tools. Collaborative Tools is private, restricted to members only. It can be used to store notes, documents and other reference material for short- or long-term projects and committees. Contact: Dave Krause, (530) 754-3935, djkrause@ucdavis.edu.



Where can I store images, documents or videos that my colleagues can use?

The ANR Repository, also on your ANR Portal, is a statewide document storage system designed to collect and store documents to share with others. Photographs, articles, videos and other documents can all be stored in the repository, tagged for easy searching and made accessible either only to ANR staff or to any Internet user. By using the collection feature you can share materials specifically with colleagues or have those materials feed your Site Builder website. The repository is designed as a long-term, searchable file storage system. Contact: Karl Krist, (530) 754-3939, kakrist@ucdavis.edu.



What is Adobe Connect and how can it be used?

Adobe Connect Pro is a desktop videoconferencing solution. Anyone with a computer, browser and Internet connection can participate. One blanket fee has been paid by the Division for you to use Connect. It is accessed through your ANR Portal. As a host, you can create online meeting rooms and display any application or browser window, or specific files including PPT, PDF, JPEGs, Audio or Flash video. Contact: Mike Poe, (530) 754-3905, mlpoe@ucdavis.edu.



How can I get training on software?

If Communication Services and Information Technology created the software, such as tools in your portal, you can always contact us for training opportunities and resources. If you are interested in learning how to better use commercial software like Word, Excel and many others, you have access through your ANR Portal to Lynda.com. The Division has paid the fee for the entire Division to use Lynda.com for online tutorials in software from Microsoft, Adobe and many other brands. Contact: Mike Poe, (530) 754-3905, mlpoe@ucdavis.edu.

Remember to upgrade passwords to passphrases

As part of the ongoing effort to improve privacy and computer security, UC Davis is requiring all UC Davis computing accounts to be updated with a new Kerberos passphrase, which has different requirements from the old Kerberos password.

To upgrade your password to the UCD passphrase, follow the instructions here: http://ucanr.org/sites/anrstaff/Communications/Passphrase_Upgrade/.

If you need assistance, contact Damon DiPietro at dadipietro@ucdavis.edu or the UCD IT Express Computing Services Help Desk at (530) 754-HELP (4357).

ANR communication needs assessment

Communication Services would like to find out how we can better serve ANR's outreach and advocacy communication needs. To assist in the unit's strategic planning, a survey will be sent out by e-mail soon.

Get soil data on the phone with SoilWeb app

UC Davis Ph.D. candidate Dylan Beaudette and his advisor Toby O'Geen, a UC Davis Cooperative Extension soil resources specialist, have developed SoilWeb, a GPS-enabled smartphone application to support on-demand access to soil survey information anywhere (with cell phone coverage) in the contiguous 48 states.

SoilWeb was designed to take advantage of the GPS or cell tower triangulation capabilities of modern smartphones in order to perform location-based queries of soil survey data in the field. The spatial queries are sent to the UC Davis Soil Resource Laboratory's online interface to soil survey information. Query results are presented as a series of soil profile sketches, depicting soil horizons, series names, landscape position and taxonomic classification.

Clicking on a soil name provides the user with information such as depth profiles of soil chemical and physical properties, land classification indices, land-use interpretations and links to a variety of other environmental databases.

The application is available at no cost for iPhone and Android OS platforms. Details of the application appear in the latest issue of Soil Science Society of America Journal at <https://www.soils.org/files/publications/sssaj/abstracts/74-5/s10-0144nabs.pdf>.



Names in the News

Winter appointed to FDA Food Advisory Committee



Carl Winter

Carl Winter, UC Davis Cooperative Extension toxicology specialist, has been appointed to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Food Advisory Committee. Winter, who is also director of the FoodSafe Program, has been appointed for a four-year term ending June 30, 2014.

The committee provides advice on emerging food safety, nutrition and other food- or cosmetic-related health issues that FDA considers of primary importance for its food and cosmetics programs. The committee may be charged with reviewing and evaluating available data and making recommendations on matters such as those relating to: (1) broad scientific and technical food- or cosmetic-related issues; (2) the safety of food ingredients and new foods; (3) labeling of foods and cosmetics; (4) nutrient needs and nutritional adequacy; and (5) safe exposure limits for food contaminants.

Its members may also be asked to provide advice and make recommendations on ways of communicating to the public the potential risks associated with these issues and on approaches that may be considered for addressing the issues.

The Food Advisory Committee roster is posted at <http://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/FoodAdvisoryCommittee/ucm120672.htm>.

Hammond named interim Santa Clara CD



Fe Moncloa

Beginning Sept. 15, 2010, Fe Moncloa, who has served as UC Cooperative Extension county director and 4-H youth development advisor for Santa Clara County will assume a 0.5 FTE youth development assignment through December 2010, when she will take a

sabbatical leave to complete courses in pursuit of a Ph.D. Sonya Varea Hammond, county director for Monterey County, will add the Santa Clara County director position to her responsibilities.



Sonya Varea Hammond

Retirements

Darlene Alari



Darlene Alari

Darlene Alari, administrative assistant to the regional director in the ANR Central Coast and South Region Office for seven years, retired on June 1. She served as support to the administrative team in a variety of duties.

Her previous employment included a variety of support positions predominantly in the construction industry and sales.

While she was employed with ANR, Alari completed her Master Gardener certification and continues to volunteer her time in a number of arenas involving gardening and community work.

In retirement, Alari is looking forward to spending time with her family, and continuing her interests in sewing and gardening.

Jane Craig



Jane Craig

Jane Craig, payroll assistant III in the ANR Central Coast and South Region Office, retired from UC on March 1, following 14 years of service.

Craig joined ANR as a payroll assistant III in 2006.

She began her career with UC in 1995 working as an office assistant for the UC Riverside Honors Program. The following year, she became an administrative assistant in the UCR psychology department working for the Healthy Families project for three years before moving to the UCR College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences Cooperative Extension Department as an administrative assistant II.

She will continue her career at California Baptist University in Riverside.

Debora Felix



Debora Felix

Debora Felix, administrative specialist for Academic Personnel in the ANR Central Coast and South Region Office, retired April 7 after nearly 22 years at UC.

From 1988 to 1997, Felix worked in the UC Riverside biochemistry department for Alexander McPherson, protein crystallography professor. She transferred with his lab to the Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Department at UC Irvine, where she stayed for eight years. In 2006, Debora returned to UC Riverside working in the Department of Botany & Plant Sciences, completing her career at the CCSR office in Riverside.

Felix and her Grammy award-winning husband have been performing music worldwide for more than 35 years. In retirement, Felix plans to devote more time to musical performances.

Cheryl Gneckow



Cheryl Gneckow

Cheryl Gneckow, administrative analyst for Academic Personnel in the Central Coast and South Region Office, retired June 29 after a 28-year career with UC Cooperative Extension.

Gneckow began her career in 1981 supporting Cooperative Extension specialists in the UC Riverside Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences. She transferred to the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences in 1982 again supporting CE specialists. In 1991, she transferred to the CCSR office where she worked in several positions.

Gneckow plans to spend more time with her twin granddaughters, gardening and enjoying the outdoors.

Susan Hackbarth



Susan Hackbarth

Susan Hackbarth, administrative specialist in the ANR Central Coast and South Region Office retired June 29, following 15 years of service.

Hackbarth began her career with UC in 1995 as an administrative assistant II at the UC Riverside Air Pollution Research Center, where she worked for 11 years. She left the center to join the CCSR as a payroll assistant III in 2002. She was reclassified to administrative specialist with the human resources team in 2005 and continued in the position until her retirement.

She looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren and exploring new opportunities in her retirement.

Karen Renne



Karen Renne

Karen Renne, administrative assistant III in the ANR Central Coast and South Region Office, retired June 29 after 10 years of UC service.

Before joining the university, Renne worked in the optical field both as an optician and later as a sales representative. In 1999, she joined UC Riverside as an administrative assistant for Upward Bound. In 2001, she accepted a promotion to work in the Theatre Facilities unit. In 2005, she joined ANR in the regional office to assist with the purchasing functions and fiscal responsibilities in accounts payable.

Two years ago, Renne was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. Once her situation is stabilized, she plans to provide support to a nonprofit organization that distributes blankets for cancer patients undergoing treatment. She also volunteers for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

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

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