

UC celebrates Morrill Act 150th

This year marks the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Morrill Act, which created America's land-grant institutions, including UC.

On April 30 UC celebrated the sesquicentennial of the visionary legislation, which made public higher education available to the masses and emphasized agriculture and the "mechanic arts," the leading disciplines of the day.

"The right to rise — that is what makes the American experiment so exceptional," Abraham Lincoln impersonator Roger Vincent told the audience, quoting Lincoln on why he signed the Morrill Act.

"California is the poster child for how the act worked to transform the economy of its time, create the future and transform individual lives," said state Sen. Carol Liu (D-La Cañada Flintridge), who co-authored a Senate resolution honoring the principles of the Morrill Act and affirming the value of public higher education.

"The importance of scientific agriculture and the role of land-grant institutions in promoting agricultural productivity on farms and in communities were highlighted during the Progressive Era and the world wars, when agricultural production and food security were viewed as being vital to national security and victory 'over there,'" said Rose Hayden-Smith, UC Cooperative Extension advisor in Ventura County and historian.

Calling the Morrill Act "a catalyst," UC President Mark Yudof said, "It transformed not just California, but the entire United States, from a divided, underdeveloped society into one that is vigorously diverse, competitive and advanced. And perhaps most importantly, it made mass education—which is the bedrock of both national and individual progress—the norm, and not the exception."

Patt Morrison, Los Angeles Times columnist, moderated a panel of UC and agricultural leaders who discussed "A Morrill Act for the 21st Century." The panel's members were UC Davis Chancellor Linda Katehi; Craig McNamara, the president of the California State Board of Food and Agriculture; Daniel M. Dooley, UC senior VP for External Relations; and Larry Smarr, director of the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology at UC San Diego.

Yudof urged continuing support for the Morrill Act.

"If there's one lesson I see from our history," he said, "it's this: Particularly when times are hard, we need to invest in education. Lincoln knew that when he signed the Morrill Act in the darkest days of the Civil War."

See Hayden-Smith's full remarks at http://ucanr.org/sites/news/Rose_Hayden_Smith_speech_-_April_30,_2012.

See Yudof's remarks at http://ucanr.org/sites/news/President_Yudof_speech.



Clockwise from top: Abraham Lincoln impersonator Roger Vincent was introduced by Barbara Allen-Diaz, who emceed the event; UC Provost Lawrence Pitts welcomed the audience; State Sen. Carol Liu discussed a Senate resolution she co-authored; Rose Hayden-Smith talked about the impacts of the Morrill Act; and UC President Yudof praised the Morrill Act as one of the only time-tested frameworks we have for building a prosperous future.

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Yudof discusses UC myths, budget with PAC

“Growth in agricultural productivity has probably been greater than industrial productivity,” President Yudof told his President’s Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources when they met April 26 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville.

And, he continued, that growth is largely attributable to UC research and extension. Yudof has been sharing that message and others in meetings with community groups in Chico, Redding and other towns around the state. The meetings, which Yudof informally calls “the Myths Tour,” are intended to dispel widely held misconceptions about UC.

For instance, some Californians believe UC serves only the students who attend campus classes.

To dispel that myth, Yudof said, “I talk about the importance of UC in their own lives.”

In discussing the budget, Yudof was joined by Dan Dooley, UC senior vice president for External Relations and senior advisor to the president for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Nathan Brostrom, UC executive vice president for Business Operations, and Patrick Lenz, vice president for Budget and Capital Resources.

Yudof said he supports the governor’s tax initiative on the November ballot because it is important to stabilize the state’s budget.

“It’s critically important so we can do long-term planning,” Yudof explained.

Yudof told the PAC members, “I need your help in spreading the word that a strong UC is critical to a strong California.”

Doug Parker, director of the California Institute for Water Resources and leader for ANR’s strategic initiative on water, presented an overview of the UC Davis study commissioned by the State Water Resources Control Board, “[Addressing Nitrate in California’s Drinking Water](#).”

The study found that the majority of nitrate in groundwater in the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley came from agriculture.

“We have a drinking water problem that requires a solution,” Parker said, and went on to describe [projects that ANR currently has under way in nutrient and water management](#). He noted that ANR has 101 academics with expertise in water, irrigation and nutrient management and is actively working to identify additional areas of expertise needed to focus efforts on nitrate contamination solutions.

Parker announced that ANR and California Department of Food and Agriculture will be cohosting community meetings in Sacramento and Tulare this June where they will ask growers, dairy operators, agency representatives and others, “What have we been doing well?” and “What else can we be doing?”

Steve Szalay, special assistant to the vice president, also gave an update about multicounty partnerships. “The goal is not just to save money through savings in administrative costs, but to maintain and even improve services,” Szalay said. He said the county leaders he has met with have been interested in saving money, but they don’t want to see their level of service decline.

The next PAC meeting will be Nov. 1 in Oakland.

Panel discusses Farm Bill

The U.S. Farm Bill is up for renewal this year. UC Berkeley’s College of Natural Resources hosted a panel discussion about the \$400 billion, 5,000-plus page piece of legislation for its Spring 2012 Horace Albright Lecture in Conservation on April 5.

The panel included Michael Pollan, “Omnivore’s Dilemma” author, John S. and James L. Knight Professor of Journalism and director of the Knight Program in Science and Environmental Journalism at UC Berkeley; Karen Ross, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture; Ken Cook, president and co-founder of the Environmental Working Group; and Ken Hecht, former director of the California Food Policy Advocates.

The panel was moderated by Gordon Rausser, Robert Gordon Sproul Distinguished Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley.

Ann Brody Guy, CNR director of communications, wrote about “The U.S. Farm Bill: What’s at stake?” in the [Food Blog](#) at <http://ucanr.org/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=7293> and posted a 90-minute video of the event on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8TGXkYuRV4>.

New rate and recharge training website launched

The ANR Budget Office is pleased to announce the launch of “[Rate and Recharge: Step by Step](#),” a website designed to help units successfully use recharge rates at ANR. Units that currently operate recharge centers or are interested in establishing them will find useful information including:

- Step-by-step instructions for planning, submitting and monitoring rates
- A single location for forms, tools and contacts
- Video examples of how to complete required forms
- An online assessment to test existing skills and knowledge

The website is part of a continuing effort on behalf of the Budget Office to provide training resources and ensure policy compliance. Earlier this year, “[Understanding Rate and Recharge](#),” a basic introduction to the basis for the recharge rates ANR uses was developed. This summer an assessment requirement will be introduced for anyone responsible for submitting rates at ANR.

The website is accessible from the homepage of the [ANR Budget Office website](#) and from the [ANR Training website](#). It was developed in collaboration with Financial Services and CSIT’s Instructional Systems Design team. If you have comments or questions about this training, please contact Joni Rippee at joni.riptide@ucop.edu or (510) 987-0136.

Names in the News

Budget Office welcomes Rañoa, Horne, Smith

Joni Rippee, interim budget director, is pleased to announce the Budget Office is now fully staffed.



Joni Rippee

Rippee is filling in for Jennifer Bunge, ANR budget director, who will return from maternity leave in June.



Jennifer Bunge

Joining Bunge and Raymond Williams, budget analyst, at UCOP are Regina Rañoa, Danielle Horne and Kirby J. Smith.



Raymond Williams

Rañoa is joining the ANR Budget Office as associate director. She has over 20 years of financial accounting and budgetary experience, the

last 10 years gained while serving with UC. She started her UC career at the Office of the President as a budget analyst in the Academic Affairs MESA Statewide Office, then became the principal budget analyst for ANR in the Budget and Capital Resources units. (You may remember her as Regina Bertrand.) Most recently, she worked at the UCSF School of Medicine in the Dean's Office as a principal financial analyst, before rejoining ANR.

She earned a B.S. in accounting and an MBA from Cal Poly Pomona.

Rañoa is located in Room 10121 and can be reached at regina.rañoa@ucop.edu and (510) 987-0053.

Horne is a principal budget analyst. She has spent the past five and a half years in the technology sector working for Symantec in their Controllershship division as a senior financial analyst. Her

experience covers operations, HR and legal, severance and real estate. Prior to her arrival in the Bay Area, she worked as a business manager for a fashion trade show company run by Advanstar Communications in Los Angeles.

Horne holds an MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management and is completing a Master of Arts in Women's Chaplaincy and Leadership from Western Seminary in June.

Horne is in Room 10134H and can be reached at Danielle.Horne@ucop.edu and (510) 987-0049.

Smith, who was born in Philadelphia and raised in northern New Jersey, is a principal budget analyst. Before joining ANR, Smith worked for the City of Oakland for 11 years as database administrator for the city's budget software, revenue analyst responsible for budgeting and monitoring the city's \$450 million general fund and a budget and operations analyst for the Community and Economic Development Agency.

He holds a B.A. in economics from Chico State University and an M.A. in economics from UC Davis.

Smith is in Room 10134J and can be reached at kirby.smith@ucop.edu and (510) 987-9307.

To see a list of their responsibilities, go to http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Administration/Business_Operations/Budget/ and click on each person's name.



Regina Rañoa



Danielle Horne



Kirby J. Smith

Harms joins ANR

Ryan Harms joined ANR as a principal analyst for Administrative Policies and Business Contracts on March 26.

He provides a broad spectrum of contract administration services to ANR clients with an emphasis on real estate contract and document analysis. He will develop agreements in accordance with UC policies. He will ensure that facilities contracted for meet all university requirements and guidelines, lead UC and third parties as necessary to complete transactions and oversee business agreement compliance activities.

Prior to joining ANR, Harms worked at UC Santa Cruz where he was focused on real property agreements, which will be one of his main duties for ANR.

He earned a B.A. in literature from UC Santa Cruz.

Based at UCOP in Oakland, Harms can be reached at (510) 987-0696 and Ryan.Harms@ucop.edu.

UC receives Two Chiefs' Partnership Award

Yana Valachovic, UC Cooperative Extension advisor in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, and David Rizzo, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at UC Davis, received the Two

Chiefs' Partnership Award from Kathleen Merrigan, USDA deputy secretary, on behalf of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and Forest Service on May 16 in Davis.

The annual Two Chiefs' Award, which is given jointly by the NRCS and the Forest Service, highlights projects from across the country, recognizing exemplary partners who have worked collaboratively to support conservation and forest stewardship. The award was given to the federal, state, tribal and private partners involved in a [sudden oak death control project](#) taking place in northern Humboldt County.

Valachovic, whose expertise is in forestry, and her staff working in collaboration with Rizzo, have been at the forefront of SOD monitoring and management efforts since the first detection of the disease in Humboldt County in 2002. Their monitoring strategy led to the 2010 detection of the new infestation east of Arcata in Redwood Valley, more than 50 miles from the nearest known disease location and farther north than it had ever been detected in California. UCCE staff coordinated a swift management response, collaborating with the Forest Service, NRCS, CAL FIRE, tribes, local timber companies and private landowners to remove infected plant material and halt the spread of the disease.

Rizzo helped with diagnostics and matching funds to qualify for federal funds.



Ryan Harms



From left, Barbara Allen-Diaz, Kathleen Merrigan, Yana Valachovic and David Rizzo. Allen-Diaz congratulated Valachovic and Rizzo on their work.

Names in the News continued from previous page

The first phase of the project – the largest SOD management project ever to occur in California – is currently nearing completion, but federal and state agencies will continue to be invaluable partners for Valachovic and her team.

In addition, Valachovic was given the 2011 Partnership Award from CAL FIRE Director Ken Pimlott for her work with sudden oak death in the North Coast. The annual Partnership Award recognizes individuals and organizations that make significant contributions to CAL FIRE and collaborate to advance the agency's mission and goals.

Winter wins CAST communication award

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology has announced it will present its prestigious 2012 Borlaug CAST Communication Award to Carl Winter, director of the FoodSafe Program and UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Food Science and Technology at UC Davis.



Carl Winter

His research and outreach work focus on pesticide residues and naturally occurring toxins in foods, food chemical and

microbiological risk assessment, and food safety education using music.

The award honors the legacies of Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug and Charles A. Black, the first president of CAST. It is given annually to a specialist who communicates the importance of food and agricultural science to the public, policymakers, and the news media.

"Winter's noted ability to communicate credible scientific information has made him a respected expert in his field and a popular speaker at agriculture

and science events," CAST wrote in its news release.

An accomplished musician, Winter writes, records, produces and performs musical parodies of contemporary popular music, modifying the lyrics to address food safety issues. Winter has given nearly 200 live performances. He has also distributed more than 30,000 of his audio CDs and animated music DVDs, while his food safety music website at <http://foodsafes.ucdavis.edu> and YouTube page at <http://www.youtube.com/foodsafetymusic> have attracted nearly 1 million visitors.

The award will be presented at a side event of the World Food Prize Symposium on Oct. 17 in Des Moines, Iowa.

Tate honored for leadership in ag sustainability

Ken Tate, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, has received the Eric Bradford and Charlie Rominger Agricultural Sustainability Leadership Award, created to honor exceptional leadership and integrity in the field of agricultural sustainability.



Ken Tate

"Ken epitomizes what this award is all about," said Tom Tomich, professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at UC Davis, W.K. Kellogg Endowed Chair in Sustainable Food Systems, and director of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. "He is not interested in recognition, but with outcome. He's able to bring people together to find solutions that work for everyone."

Tate is a Russell L. Rustici Endowed Chair in Rangeland Watershed Sciences. He came to UC Davis in 1995 to join the UC Cooperative

Extension Rangeland Watershed Program, which Mel George, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, spearheaded in the early 1990s to address concerns with cattle grazing and water quality.

"Ken brought a wealth of knowledge and a singular ability to pull people together, to get people working towards the same goal," said George. "The Rangeland Watershed Program really took off after Ken came on board."

The praise for Tate comes from all corners—from ranchers, forest managers, water districts, government agencies, conservationists, fellow scientists, and many, many others. People describe him with words like modest, passionate, genuine and generous—words also used to describe the late Charlie Rominger—a fifth-generation Yolo County farmer and land preservationist—and the late Eric Bradford, a livestock geneticist who gave 50 years of service to UC Davis.

– Diane Nelson

Firm partners with Kaffka to develop biofuel

The California Energy Commission has awarded Biodiesel Industries of Ventura a \$2 million grant for research and development of biodiesel fuel.



Steve Kaffka

A key issue with biofuel production has been the need for inexpensive feedstocks that do not compete with agricultural land use or the food production.

To develop low-impact feedstock suitable for underutilized land, the company is partnering with Stephen Kaffka, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis.

"I will do the agronomic work on new oilseed crops for my part of

the grant, but there are a large number of other activities in the grant as well," Kaffka said. "My goal is to be of service in support of emerging bioenergy groups in California."

California Agriculture wins 3 ACE awards

The California Agriculture team has won three awards from the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences (ACE), a professional association for land-grant communicators (www.aceweb.org).

The awards are:

Technical publications, bronze; Janet Byron, Robin Meadows, Will Suckow, Hazel White and Janet White: "Food as Medicine: Can what we eat help cure what ails us?" (July-September 2011).

Writing within a specialized publication, bronze; Robin Meadows: "Biofactors in food linked to health benefits" (July-September 2011).



Janet White



Robin Meadows



Janet Byron



Hazel White



Will Suckow

Names in the News continued from previous page

Editing, silver; Janet Byron: "California agritourism operations and their economic potential are growing" by Ellie Rilla (April-June 2011).

Janet Byron, managing editor, will accept the awards during the 2012 ACE conference in Annapolis, Md., on June 13.

Walton wins design award

Robin Walton, senior artist in Communication Services and Information Technology, has received a Silver Award in the Academic/Non-Trade Book category of the 2012 PubWest Book Design Awards.



Robin Walton

The prestigious award recognizes Walton's superior design and layout of the book "Organic Vegetable Production Manual" by Milton E. McGiffen, Jr., Jeri Ohmart, David Chaney, et al.

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In Memoriam

Fred Jensen

Fred Jensen had a gift for grooming future UC Cooperative Extension advisors. Many current and now-retired farm advisors began their careers working with Jensen when he was a UC Cooperative Extension specialist at the Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center. The viticulture specialist passed away April 18. Jensen was 91.

During his 15 years at Kearney, Jensen identified recent agricultural science graduates and hired them as staff research associates to work with him in the field and in his lab. He trained them on the most recent plant science research techniques, imparting skills for their future careers as farm advisors.

UC Cooperative Extension advisors who worked with Jensen include Madera County viticulture advisor emeritus George Leavitt, Fresno County tree crops advisor emeritus Harry Andris, Kings County tree crops advisor Bob Beede, Monterey County viticulture advisor Larry Bettiga, Sonoma County viticulture advisor Rhonda Smith and San Luis Obispo County horticulture advisor Mary Bianchi.

"Jensen was soft-spoken, had a good sense of humor and honest to a fault," said Fred Swanson, the former director of KARE. "He was an outstanding researcher, an accomplished photographer and has made a greater impact than anyone I've known by investing himself in other people."

Jensen was raised on a farm in Weedpatch, Kern County. He earned a bachelor's degree in soil science at UC Berkeley in 1942, then served for three years in the U.S. Army. He later earned a master's degree in horticulture from UC Davis.

In 1947, Jensen was hired as an assistant farm advisor by UC Cooperative Extension in Tulare County at a salary of \$3,600 per year. In 1972, he was promoted to UCCE viticulture specialist at Kearney.

As both an advisor and specialist, he worked to develop and obtain registration for commercial products to benefit the state's grape

growers, such as plant growth regulators and many other critical agricultural chemicals. Jensen's detailed research on gibberellic acid applications helped identify optimal rates and timing that had eluded previous UC researchers. His work on bloom time applications have become the basis for an industry standard. Jensen also did the initial work on ethephon, a plant growth regulator used to enhance and improve fruit color. He developed the use of ethephon to enhance raisin maturity, which almost eliminated the loss of raisin crops from early rains.

Jensen researched cultivar selection, vine spacing, trellising and integrated pest management. An early promoter of IPM practices, his contributions were instrumental in production of the UC "Grape Pest Management" manual. He was the author or co-author of more than 250 publications and his scientific work is referenced in textbooks, journals and other viticulture publications. Jensen was a longtime editor of the scientific journal *American Enology and Viticulture* and was an international authority on table grape production.

Jensen retired from UCCE in 1987, but continued to conduct research and extension work for decades as an emeritus viticulture specialist and private viticulture consultant. In honor of his life-long body of work, Jensen received the Merit Award from the American Society for Enology and Viticulture in 2001. He was recognized for his contributions to California's table grape industry at the 6th International Table Grape Symposium in 2010.

Jensen is survived by his wife of 27 years, Thelma Lile Essex, two daughters, three stepchildren and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

– Jeannette Warnert

