

### Proposals requested for 2013 ANR Competitive Grants

ANR has announced the request for proposals for its 2013 competitive grants program. The RFP is posted at <http://ucanr.edu/cg>.

“Taking into consideration several comments from the Partnership to Advance Cooperative Extension (PACE) effort and others, we have made significant changes to this year’s competitive grants proposal process,” said Bill Frost, associate director of Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station, and director of the ANR Research & Extension Center System.

The program is similar to last year’s, but with the following additions:

- Principal investigators can submit proposals for research and/or extension projects.
- Early-career academics are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Cross-initiative proposals are strongly encouraged.
- Applicants have the option to start their projects in April or August 2014.
- ANR is strongly encouraging the submission of small to mid-size projects, up to \$250,000.
- Applicants may request funding for projects up to \$500,000 for a term not to exceed five years.

The division awarded \$4.46 million supporting 21 projects in 2011 and \$3.8 million supporting 16 projects in 2012. Funding for the 2013 cycle is expected to be roughly the same as the prior two years. ANR continues to invest

in research, education and outreach projects to support high-priority issues that are consistent with the Strategic Vision; encourage collaboration among academics; support short-term, high-impact projects; strengthen the research-extension network; and contribute policy-relevant outcomes that address significant agricultural, economic, environmental and social issues in California.

“We are committed to providing as much support as feasible to address high-priority issues,” Frost said.

Submitting a Letter of Intent (LOI) is the first step of applying for a grant. LOIs are due Friday, July 26. Applicants selected to submit a full proposal will be notified by Monday, Aug. 19. Full proposals will be due Friday, Oct. 4.

### Yudof announces salary increase

President Mark Yudof announced that UC will be implementing systemwide salary increases for the 2013-14 fiscal year for academics and all non-represented career staff employees.

“I have asked Tu Tran to work on the implementation guidelines,” said VP Barbara Allen-Diaz, “and I am pleased that this announcement has been made.”

The increases are intended to acknowledge the fact that non-represented staff employees have received only one general salary increase in the past five years. The increases also are intended to partially offset increased retirement and health benefit costs that faculty and staff have absorbed over the past few years.

For details, read the full announcement and administrative guidelines at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/?blogpost=10706&blogasset=643>.

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## Employment opportunities

### Intermountain Research & Extension Center (IREC), located in Tulelake, is recruiting for a Superintendent of Agriculture.

IREC, a 140-acre research farm located a few miles south of the Oregon border and east of the Cascade Mountain Range, specializes in irrigated crop production, including research with small grains, alfalfa, potatoes, peppermint and onions.

Under the general direction of the center director, the incumbent plans, implements and manages most farming, facility and equipment operations. This position involves several administrative and personnel functions including management of five permanent staff, seasonal labor and center research activities.

Qualifications include experience performing vegetable crop production including planting, pest management, irrigation, fertilization and harvest activities; skills to operate

farm machinery; excellent oral and written communication skills; experience with computers including MS Office and databases; and experience supervising employees and delegating work. The ideal candidate will also have demonstrated abilities to design projects, collect and analyze data, organize workloads, establish priorities, and exercise good judgment as related to budgets, timelines, work requests, policies, regulations and confidentiality.

For more information, contact Shanna Done at (530) 667-5117 or [sldone@ucanr.edu](mailto:sldone@ucanr.edu).

For full consideration, apply by July 12, 2013, at [www.employment.ucdavis.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=65040](http://www.employment.ucdavis.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=65040).

## Communications Advisory Board seeks nominations

The advisory board to ANR Communication Services and Information Technology is seeking to fill positions. Nominations for Communications Advisory Board membership can include, but are not limited to, specialists, advisors, program representatives, academic coordinators and faculty affiliated with the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The board provides advice and support to Bob Sams, director of Communications Services and Information Technology, 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 the ANR associate director of Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station to serve three-year, rotating terms. The board meets on a quarterly basis. The new appointments begin in November. Existing board members whose terms are ending may re-apply.

Nominations are due by Aug. 2. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Send nominations, along with the addresses of the candidates, to Communications Advisory Board chair Joe Connell at [jhconnell@ucanr.edu](mailto:jhconnell@ucanr.edu). If nominating yourself, please submit a curriculum vitae and the completed online application <http://ucanr.edu/cabapplication> to Connell.

Current members of the Communications Advisory Board are listed at [http://anrcs.ucanr.edu/Communications\\_Advisory\\_Board](http://anrcs.ucanr.edu/Communications_Advisory_Board).

## Equal Opportunity committee seeks staff representatives

The Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee has three openings for staff employees. Associate Director Bill Frost is asking for ANR staff to self-nominate to serve on the ANR EO Advisory Committee, chaired by Linda Manton, executive director of Staff Personnel and ANR's contact for Affirmative Action.

While the committee has both academic and staff members, the current openings are for additional staff members. To see a list of committee members, visit [http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/DiversityAffirmativeAction/EO\\_Advisory](http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/DiversityAffirmativeAction/EO_Advisory).

The committee meets at least quarterly (face-to-face and conference calls). Its charge is to advise ANR administration regarding affirmative action/nondiscrimination issues, suggest ways to reach out to underrepresented audiences, and recommend ways that affirmative action and diversity efforts can best be integrated into ANR's long-range strategic plan.

If you would like to serve on the EO Advisory Committee, please submit your name to <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=8296>. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. July 15.

To read other news in AffirmativeAction Here & Now, visit <http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/168149.pdf>.

## Names in the News

### Gable to lead Master Gardener Program

Missy Gable is the new director of the Statewide Master Gardener Program, effective June 3. She succeeds Pam Geisel, who retired June 27.

Before joining ANR, Gable had been the program manager for the California Center for Urban Horticulture since 2007 and the public engagement manager for the UC Davis Arboretum since Feb 2013.



Missy Gable

While working with the California Center for Urban Horticulture, she worked extensively with the Master Gardener Program on the “Your Sustainable Backyard,” “Sustainable Landscape Train the Trainers” and “Edible Landscape” workshop series. Gable coordinated the design competition, design selection, garden donors, installation, planting and maintenance of the Haagen-Daz Honeybee Haven garden located next to the Harry Laidlaw Honeybee Research Facility in Davis.

Gable earned a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences with an emphasis in plant biology and a master’s degree in environmental horticulture from UC Davis. Gable participated in Class 40 of the California Ag Leadership Program from 2009–2011. Since graduating, she has served as a regional director on the Alumni Council for the organization.

Gable can be reached at (530) 219-6770 and [mjgable@ucanr.edu](mailto:mjgable@ucanr.edu).

### Lundy named agronomy advisor

Mark Lundy has joined UCCE as the agronomy advisor in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties, effective June 28.

He will focus on forage crops, wheat, safflower, processing tomatoes, dry beans, corn, and hybrid seed crops.

His research and extension will address nutrient management efficiency, integrated pest management, irrigation management, sustainable farming practices, water quality and conservation, integrating technology into production practices and facilitating resolution of agricultural/urban interface issues.



Mark Lundy

Lundy earned a B.A. in English from the University of Arizona and M.S. in international agricultural development and Ph.D. in agronomy from UC Davis.

For his dissertation, he collaborated with UC Davis and U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers and rice growers in Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Butte and Glenn counties to develop and refine integrated fertility and weed management approaches in direct-seeded rice systems.

In 2011–12, he served as an extension educator for the HortCRSP Trellis Program, working with fresh market tomato growers in southern Malawi.

Lundy is based in Colusa and can be reached at (530) 458-0575 and [melundy@ucdavis.edu](mailto:melundy@ucdavis.edu).

### Thompson joins Cal Ag staff

Debbie Thompson has been named the new managing editor for *California Agriculture* journal.

Before joining ANR, she worked for several years as a production editor at Public Library of Science (PLOS), where she served as the lead copy editor and managed production for magazine-type articles across six different biomedical journals: *PLOS Medicine*, *PLOS Biology*, *PLOS Computational Biology*, *PLoS Genetics*, *PLOS Pathogens*, and *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*.

Thompson grew up in Pleasanton and earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Washington and master’s degree at Boston University.

Thompson is based in Richmond and can be reached at [dthompson@ucanr.edu](mailto:dthompson@ucanr.edu) and (510) 665-2194.

### Soito joins Budget Office

Teresa Soito joined the Budget and Resource Management team as a manager – budget & resource planning/financial analyst V on June 17.



Teresa Soito

She returned to the Bay Area from San Diego where she spent the past 10 years rising through the ranks at Qualcomm. She started as a staff systems analyst and rose to the rank of senior manager of Information Technology.

Prior to that Soito worked for the UCOP’s IT Department as a programmer/analyst III from 1992 to 2001. She helped create UC’s Corporate Financial System, which consolidated all the campus financial systems into one, then managed the system, keeping it running.

Soito holds a B.A. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley. She also holds numerous computer system certifications.

Soito, who is based at UCOP, can be reached at (510) 987-9307 and [Teresa.Soito@ucop.edu](mailto:Teresa.Soito@ucop.edu).

### Koike earns APS extension award

Steven Koike, UCCE advisor in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, has been awarded the 2013 Excellence in Extension Award by the American Phytopathological Society (APS).

“For the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), county-based extension

advisors are required to perform academically under four rigorous criteria: Applied Research & Creative Activity; Extending Knowledge & Information; University & Public Service; and Affirmation Action Outreach,” wrote the APS. “Steve has performed in outstanding ways under our California system and used his strong organizational skills and initiative to achieve an excellent balance among these four elements.”

In a little over 20 years, Koike has secured more than \$2 million dollars in grants



Steve Koike

## Names in the News, *continued*

to conduct research and to implement his programs. Twice he has been awarded the statewide Distinguished Service Award for Research from UC Cooperative Extension.

For his clients, Koike is a problem solver, identifier of new diseases, leader of efforts aimed at controlling new outbreaks, and primary resource person for coastal plant pathology issues. To help limited-resource growers in his region who speak only Spanish, Koike speaks fluent Spanish and writes extension articles in Spanish. The range of his extension work is demonstrated by his speaking engagements throughout California and Arizona and at national and international forums.

### Chen, Dubcovsky elected NAS members

Xuemei Chen, professor in the Department of Plant Cell and Molecular Biology at UC Riverside, and Jorge Dubcovsky, professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation at UC Davis, have been elected members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences for excellence in original scientific research.

Chen has performed groundbreaking work in the areas of plant meristem development and micro RNA molecules. By uncovering molecular mechanisms that are common in plants and animals, this knowledge can potentially

be translated into designing therapeutic small RNAs to treat human diseases.

Over the years, Dubcovsky has become a national and international leader in wheat genomics research, and has helped distribute improved wheat seeds to countries around the world.

Membership in the NAS is one of the highest honors given to a scientist or engineer in the United States

Chen and Dubcovsky were elected along with 82 other new members and 21 foreign associates from 14 countries. They will be inducted into the academy next April during its annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

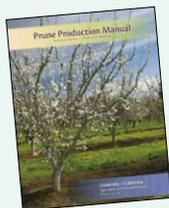
### CAES departments renamed

The UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences departments of Entomology and Nematology have been consolidated and are now the [Department of Entomology and Nematology](#).

Also at UC Davis, the Department of Human and Community Development and the Landscape Architecture Program have joined to become the [Department of Human Ecology](#).

### ANR books win design awards

The "Prune Production Manual," designed by Communication Services art director Celeste Rusconi, has been awarded Bronze in the Reference book category of the PubWest Design Awards, which "recognize superior design and outstanding production quality of books throughout North America."



"IPM for Rice," designed by Communication Services senior designer Robin Walton, has been honored with a silver award in the Visual Media Alliance Showcase of Print/Design Excellence, which considers both a book's design and printing. The book was printed by Bacchus Press.



### ANR reduces injuries

At the UC Risk Summit on June 7, ANR Risk & Safety Services was recognized for attaining the Largest Reduction in Injury Frequency Rate. This means that on a per-employee basis, ANR has shown the greatest reduction in the number of employee injuries, when compared to our peers at the other UC campuses.

"This award shows that your efforts in preventing workplace injuries are paying off," wrote Brian Oatman, director of Risk & Safety Services, in an email to ANR's safety coordinators.



From left: Erike Young, UCOP Environmental Health and Safety director, Brian Oatman and Executive VP Nathan Bostrom.

## Retiree reunion in Riverside Oct. 8-10

All ANR retirees are invited to attend the 2013 reunion at the Riverside Marriott in Riverside on Oct. 8–10. Reunion plans include a tour of the UC Riverside campus and Agricultural Experiment Station and a reception with Vice President Barbara Allen-Diaz.

The reunion planning committee includes

- Eunice Williamson, Co-chair
- Diane Wallace, Co-chair
- Anne Cotter
- Peggy Mauk (not retired)
- Seymour Van Gundy
- Karen Varcoe

In addition, all retirees who are interested in participating in planning the event are invited to the next meeting of the reunion planning committee at 11:30 a.m. on Sept. 11, at the Riverside Marriott.

For more information, please contact Williamson at [williamsonw@aol.com](mailto:williamsonw@aol.com) or Wallace at [dwallace39@earthlink.net](mailto:dwallace39@earthlink.net).

### New ANR building progressing in Davis

Construction on the new ANR building located at 2801 Second Street in Davis is progressing. Photos of the building taken in April, May and June are posted at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/TheNewANRBuilding>. This website provides updated information, FAQs and provides an "ASK" button for submitting questions about the new location. Davis-based ANR units are expected to move into the new space by the end of this year.



Xuemei Chen



Jorge Dubcovsky

## Retirements

### Ali Harivandi



Ali Harivandi

Ali Harivandi, UCCE advisor for Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties, retired in June after 33

years of providing turfgrass advice to Northern California golf course superintendents, managers of parks, sports fields and cemeteries and homeowners.

The UCCE advisor job required expertise in turfgrass, soils, salinity, irrigation and recycled water irrigation—the same subjects he had studied, first at Shiraz University in Iran, and then at Colorado State University where he earned his master's and doctoral degrees in turfgrass science.

Harivandi expanded his research to include weeds, turf diseases, insect management, erosion control and water quality. He began to promote sustainability before sustainability became a popular topic, and is best known for his research and educational efforts in water conservation and the use of recycled water for irrigation.

When Harivandi came to California, water-loving grass varieties such as Kentucky bluegrass were commonly planted for lawns. He introduced tall and fineleaf fescue species that use less water as low-maintenance, environmentally friendly alternatives. More than 90 percent of Northern California residential lawns are now planted to tall fescue.

Harivandi is recognized nationally and internationally as an expert on recycled water use on golf courses and other landscape sites. In the Southwest, 35 percent of golf courses are irrigated with recycled water; nationally, the percentage is closer to 15.

In the 1990s, to extend the useful life of landfills, the state

Integrated Waste Management Board launched a campaign to reduce solid waste. Harivandi's research showed that leaving grass clippings on the lawn did no harm—in fact, the decomposing grass fertilized the lawn. Grasscycling is now standard practice.

Aside from his wife Sue, Harivandi credits much of his career success to UC Cooperative Extension. "The ambience, the environment, the culture allow a person to do as much as you want to do," he explained. "People help you to get things done."

UC has granted Harivandi emeritus status so he plans to continue his research.

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10669&blogasset=52101>.

### Manuel Jimenez



Manuel Jimenez

Manuel Jimenez, UCCE advisor who worked with small family farmers in Tulare County for 33 years, retires in June.

Jimenez earned a bachelor's degree in plant sciences at Fresno State University in 1977. After graduation, he was named senior agronomist for the North American Farmers Cooperative. While working for the cooperative, he met the late Pedro Ilic, a UCCE advisor in Fresno County, who encouraged him to apply for a new small-farm advisor position in Tulare County.

Jimenez was hired in 1980 and made his first mark by experimenting with a novel pest control strategy for tomato pin worm on cherry tomatoes. Working with UCCE specialists at UC Riverside and UC Davis and other UCCE advisors, Jimenez conducted research proving that

dispensing a non-toxic insect pheromone was an effective and economical alternative to chemical treatment.

Small-scale growers in Tulare County, most of whom were Latino, were unlikely to read newsletters or magazine articles to learn about agricultural technology. But they did listen to the radio. Jimenez established a relationship with Fresno-based KGST "La Mexicana," one of the oldest radio stations in California, and developed a morning radio program in Spanish. Later he regularly appeared on a question and answer program, *Entrevistas y comentarios*, for 30 years, until host Estela Romo retired.

During the 1980s, the number of small farms in Tulare County dropped from 400 to 70. Jimenez began to look at new market opportunities for small-scale production. In 1998, he established blueberry variety trials at the UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center. Each year, the planting attracts hundreds of people for the annual Blueberry Day.

For his work both on the job and in Woodlake, Jimenez has received numerous awards. Among them was the first-ever Tom Haller award at the California Farm Conference in 2008. Jimenez was named the 2000 Citizen of the Year in Woodlake. He was one of three recipients of the California Peace Prize in 2011.

Jimenez plans to work with potential blueberry research successors to maintain the research plot at Kearney, and he is considering invitations from overseas' companies to share his agronomic and community building expertise with a wider audience. — Jeannette Warnert

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10681&blogasset=52101>.

### Marshall W. Johnson



Marshall Johnson

After a successful tenure as an entomology professor and researcher at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, Marshall W. Johnson added a

10-year capstone to his career as UC Cooperative Extension specialist and research entomologist in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside, based at the UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center. He retired at the end of June.

Johnson earned bachelor's and master's degrees in entomology at North Carolina State University and in 1974 completed a Ph.D. in entomology at UC Riverside. He moved to Hawaii in 1983 to serve as a professor and to study biological control.

Johnson's arrival coincided with the introduction of olive fruit fly in California. To the relief of valley olive growers, Johnson and Kent Daane, UCCE specialist in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at UC Berkeley, found that the valley's summer heat depresses olive fruit fly populations. But that didn't provide a statewide solution. Johnson and Daane worked together to introduce natural enemies of the pest from Africa.

Johnson ended his career with a video project designed to raise awareness about integrated pest management. The videos are posted on the website [Extending Orchard IPM Knowledge in California](http://www.ExtendingOrchardIPMKnowledgeinCalifornia.com).

Johnson has received numerous honors over the years. Most recently, he was named "Distinguished Scientist of the Year" by the International Organization for Biological Control. He is an elected fellow of both the Entomological Society of America

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## Retirements, *continued*

and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.  
– Jeannette Warnert

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10615&blogasset=52101>.

### Scott Johnson



Scott Johnson

Not long after Scott Johnson, UCCE specialist, joined ANR in the early 1980s, he began working with a brand new giant underground weighing lysimeter, an instrument that would become his signature tool. Johnson retired June 30.

A native of Utah, Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in biology at the University of Utah. He earned a Ph.D. at Cornell in 1982 and that year moved his family to the San Joaquin Valley to begin a 31-year stint as UCCE specialist in the Department of Pomology at UC Davis, based at UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

Johnson studied peach trees growing in the lysimeter, which allowed him to calculate precisely how much water evaporates from the soil and transpires from the tree on an hour-by-hour basis. Results of this research helped growers properly manage their irrigation strategies to improve fruit quality and yield.

Perhaps his greatest impact on growers' practices has come from Johnson's research on nitrogen fertilization. Many growers, he said, were overfertilizing their stone fruit orchards.

Much of that fertilizer stimulated vegetative growth, which shaded the fruit and prevented the desired reddening, and required more pruning in the winter, labor that added to the expense of growing fruit. In addition, the high fertilizer rates caused more problems with fruit

quality, insect pests and diseases.

"Today, farmers are using about a half or a third of the fertilizer they did decades ago," Johnson said.

Johnson worked closely with his colleagues Ted DeJong, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, and Kevin Day, UCCE farm advisor in Tulare County, on many orchard research topics, including rootstocks, pruning, training systems, thinning, girdling, irrigation and fertilization. In 2011, Johnson took a sabbatical leave to organize and aggregate all the research findings on a comprehensive website called [The Fruit Report](#).

"Everything is there on the website for growers establishing and managing fresh market peach, plum and nectarine orchards," Johnson said.

Johnson plans to move back to Utah, where two of his children have settled with their families. The Johnsons will volunteer, travel, garden and embark on a humanitarian mission with their church. Johnson has been honored with emeritus status and plans to continue work on orchard fertilization management.

— Jeannette Warnert

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10533&blogasset=52101>.

### Kris Lynn-Patterson



Kris Lynn-Patterson

When UC decided to provide geospatial support to its scientists at Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in 2000, they tapped Kris Lynn-Patterson to lay the groundwork. Geographic information systems academic coordinator Lynn-Patterson retired in June.

Lynn-Patterson earned bachelor's and master's degrees in geography/climatology at Fresno State University and taught weather, climate landforms and global information systems classes there as a full-time lecturer for five years and part-time at State Center Community College for 10 years.

She broke ground by introducing geospatial technologies to agricultural research at Kearney. Geospatial technologies now allow scientists to take a broader view of landscapes than is possible from the field level.

Recently, Lynn-Patterson and her staff, in collaboration with the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Program, have been engaged in mapping cropping patterns in the Central Valley citrus belt. This geographic database will provide information needed to ensure quick action when Asian citrus psyllids or huanglongbing disease is found.

Last year, the Kearney GIS program became part of ANR's [Informatics and Geographic Information Systems](#) statewide program. – Jeannette Warnert

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10606&blogasset=52101>.

### Doug Munier

Doug Munier, UC Cooperative Extension advisor in agronomy, retires in June following a 34-year career split equally between the Northern California offices serving Glenn, Butte and Tehama counties and the southern San Joaquin Valley's Kern County.



Doug Munier

Munier always enjoyed working outdoors – both the working and the outdoors, he said. He developed an interest in agriculture as a high school student employed

part-time and during the summer on a dryland barley and cattle farm near Banning.

Munier earned bachelor's degrees in chemistry and biology at UC Irvine in 1975 and a master's degree in soil science at UC Davis in 1977. He joined UC Cooperative Extension in 1979 as the farm advisor for field crops, soils and irrigation in Kern County.

The opportunity to help farmers and pest control advisers with crop production and help consumers by contributing to a low cost and healthy food supply drew him to the UCCE career. He attributes his success over the years to the collaborative relationships he developed with others.

"I couldn't have done this without the help of many progressive farmers, PCAs and industry organizations," Munier said. "I'm also thankful for all of the support from my UC colleagues."

The specialist/advisor team approach was at its best for him, he said, in the 1990s when he was a part of the statewide cotton extension team under former UCCE cotton specialist Tom Kerby.

"Tom was a very effective leader who understood the importance of sharing ideas, resources and credit with everyone on the team," Munier said.

Over his 34-year career, Munier was a part of some very useful and practical research and extension developments including cotton growth regulator use on variable height cotton, Temik pesticide soil applications for nematode control, analyzing the accuracy of cotton degree-day forecasting, controlling wheat stripe rust disease with varietal resistance and fungicide applications, canola seed dormancy in volunteer plants, and identifying the effectiveness of a new herbicide, Alion,

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## Retirements, *continued*

for Roundup-resistant ryegrass control.

In retirement, Munier said he looks forward to volunteering and spending more time with his wife, Patti, and his children and grandchildren. He also hopes to do some part-time work where he can continue to contribute to agricultural production.

—Jeannette Warnert

### Ellie Rilla



Ellie Rilla

After 25 years of advising Bay Area residents on land use policy, agricultural diversification and water quality issues, Ellie

Rilla, UC Cooperative Extension advisor in Marin County retired in June.

“The best thing about Ellie is that she is inspirational,” said Marin County rancher Sally Gale. “She was the kind of leader that inspired you to try things.”

The Marin native earned a B.S. in biology from California State University at Chico, then an M.A. in political science from Sonoma State University.

She served as the executive director at a nonprofit in Sonoma and had just completed a multi-year stream restoration project funded by the Coastal Conservancy working with ranchers along the Sonoma coast when she learned of the UCCE opening in Marin County.

Rilla joined the university in 1988 as UCCE advisor and director in Marin County. She worked with farms to prevent water pollution and with the UC Master Gardeners to promote water conservation among homeowners. After David Lewis was hired as a UCCE advisor specializing in water issues in 1999, Rilla turned

her focus to community development through agritourism. She published the book “Agritourism and Nature Tourism in California,” which sold out. A second edition was published in 2011.

Rilla served on the board of Select Sonoma County, the first county-based marketing program in the U.S., and she created and funded the Grown in Marin program.

In 2010, she stepped down as UC Cooperative Extension county director to devote her time to community development in the North Bay Area.

“She listened to us too,” said Gale, who recalled that after someone opined that cheese was the future, Rilla brought together people who were interested in making cheese. In 2010 she helped develop an artisan cheese certificate program at College of Marin’s Indian Valley campus. In 2011 she coauthored the book “Farmstead and Artisan Cheeses: A Guide to Building a Business.” Rilla was also involved in creating the Sonoma-Marine Cheese Trail map, which was recently featured in the New York Times and Los Angeles Times and has generated worldwide interest in the region’s products.

Read the full story at <http://ucanr.edu/?blogpost=10704&blogasset=52101>.

## In Memoriam

### Bill Dost

William Dost, UCCE specialist emeritus in forestry, passed away May 26. He was 82.



Dost earned his B.S. in forest products from the University of Washington and his M.S. in wood science and technology from UC Berkeley. The Seattle native began his career at the UC Forest Products Laboratory in 1962 when the laboratory was seven years old. Over his 30-year UC career, Dost played an important role in helping develop the Forest Products Lab into a premier wood research laboratory. He wrote more than 90 research papers prompting improvements in wood processing and worker safety, and co-authored the book “Wood: Detailing for Performance.”

“The strong relationships he developed with the California forest products industry and his academic colleagues across the country were instrumental in strengthening financial support, student interest and the reputation of the academic program,” said John Shelly, UCCE advisor in Contra Costa County who worked with Dost at the lab.

“Bill was an important mentor to me,” said Rick Standiford, UCCE specialist in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at UC Berkeley. “He was the head of the old forestry and wood products unit when I joined CE. He was a very creative guy, who pushed CE into some new areas—wood in use, wood design. He broadened the clientele mix to include architects, engineers, structural pest control applicators and homeowners. Bill developed an important interface between consumers and the environment. He was a great problem solver.”

“Around the lab, Bill was admired by all for his applied research skills, enthusiasm and generous support of students,” recalled Shelly.

Dost is survived by his wife Janice, sons Conrad, Richard (Berrin), daughter Laurel and sister Eleanor Thiemann of Elizabeth, Ind. He also leaves stepsons Matthew Burrows (Kathy) and Christopher Burrows (Adrienne) and nine grandchildren.

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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