

Two new UCCE specialists to join ANR and locate at UC Merced

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to announce the hiring of two UC Cooperative Extension specialists who will be based on the UC Merced campus. Karina Diaz-Rios, UC Cooperative Extension specialist for nutrition, family and consumer sciences, will join ANR on September 2. Tapan Pathak, UC Cooperative Extension specialist for climate adaptation in agriculture, will start on February 2, 2015.

Karina and Tapan will be located on the Merced campus to take advantage of its Central Valley location and proximity to local UCCE offices. They will help connect UC Merced researchers with local CE academics and local farmers and residents. These two experienced academics will build on research related to climate, food security and nutrition.

UC Merced Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Tom Peterson said, "These positions come with a focus on interacting with the community, conducting applied research, and translating UC

research to help the ag economy and local residents," he said. "We are pleased that UC Merced can partner with UC ANR on these important issues."

Karina will be housed in UC Merced's Health Sciences Research Institute and focus on nutrition research and education and food security. She will connect with a larger team of nutrition researchers and educators throughout the UC system addressing issues related to healthy food and human health. In August, Karina completed a postdoctoral research associate appointment at Texas Tech University. Prior to earning her doctorate, she had a private practice as a dietitian in Mexico.

Tapan, who will be housed in the Sierra Nevada Research Institute at UC Merced, will help farmers and ranchers adapt to new conditions created by variable and changing climate. He will



Karina Diaz-Rios



Tapan Pathak

collaborate with UC colleagues and state and federal agencies in statewide efforts to address climate variability and climate change adaptation

and mitigation. He is currently an extension educator in climate variability at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Serving California agriculture with UC science-based solutions is what we do on an everyday basis. California agriculture is a world-recognized marvel and we'd like to think the university, through ANR's research and outreach, is a big reason why. Adding UC Merced to our existing, thriving partnerships with UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Riverside will only strengthen UC efforts in helping California and the world to sustainably feed itself.

Barbara Allen-Diaz
Vice President

New academics attend programmatic orientation

New ANR academics listened to AVP Bill Frost discuss rangeland research at Chrisman Ranch on Aug. 20.

More than 60 ANR academics who have been hired in the past five years—CE advisors, CE specialists, academic administrators, academic coordinators and AES faculty—met seasoned ANR academics and took a field tour in the San Joaquin Valley during the programmatic orientation.



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ANR forms Capitol Corridor MCP

The UCCE Capitol Corridor Multi-County Partnership (MCP) became operational on July 1, 2014, and is the third MCP to be organized in California.

UCCE Capitol Corridor is a partnership between Sacramento County, Yolo County, Solano County and UC ANR. The MCP's administrative central office is in Woodland and the Sacramento and Solano offices are open and functioning as satellite offices.

The three counties and ANR signed a five-year agreement that specifies the MCP structure, responsibilities, indemnification and how the MCP will be supported. On an annual basis, each county will provide both in-kind

(facilities, phones, etc.) and monetary contributions to support the MCP operations, just as each county has historically supported individual county offices.

"The difference now is that each county sends a check to ANR and these funds are pooled in one UC account to support operating expenses across the three counties, and we no longer have individual county budgets," said Morgan Doran, director of the UCCE Capitol Corridor and livestock and natural resources advisor.

Another aspect of the MCP was the transition of county employees to UC employment.

"The employee transition was smooth for some and complex for others due to individual circumstances," said Doran. "This MCP is expected to create operating efficiencies that will allow ANR to better support existing CE programs and increase the number of programs offered in each county."

The UCCE Capitol Corridor is staffed by nine advisors, 18 community education specialists (formerly program representatives), one financial assistant/office manager, three administrative assistants and two agriculture technicians. Along with MCP director responsibilities, Doran will maintain his programmatic coverage as a UCCE livestock and natural resources advisor for Napa, Solano, Yolo and Sacramento counties.

Employment Opportunities

Hopland Research & Extension Center Director

ANR is seeking an academic administrator to serve as director for the Hopland Research and Extension Center (HREC). The director leads research and extension program development and fosters cooperative delivery across the ANR academic network. The director is also responsible for developing and implementing an applied research and educational outreach program.

HREC provides land, labor, facilities and management for agricultural research and supports public education in natural resource and agricultural matters

relating to range animal production, ecology and management of annual hardwood rangelands, watershed management and water quality, viticulture and associated management, weed control, wildlife, wildfire ecology and management, and a variety of other ecological issues.

A master's degree is required though other advanced degrees are encouraged, with a background in a discipline related to rangeland or watershed management, oak woodland management, animal science, ecology or a closely

related field within natural resource management. Experience in conducting applied research and extension education programs and demonstrated administrative leadership and supervision skills are required.

For a full vacancy announcement for position AP#14-16, visit http://ucanr.edu/Jobs/Jobs_990/?jobnum=665 or contact Julie Woodworth at jwoodworth@ucanr.edu or (530) 750-1282. To assure full consideration, applications should be submitted by Sept. 19, 2014, to ANRacademicsearch@ucop.edu.

Fresno and Madera counties: Area Dairy Advisor

ANR is seeking a UCCE advisor to conduct a multicounty extension, education and applied research program focused on dairy science. The dairy advisor will provide programs across a spectrum of industry issues as they relate to the dairy production system, including environmental stewardship, quality assurance, animal welfare, food safety and production efficiency. The program will address environmental management and production issues in an integrated approach that

will consider economic viability and conservation of the resource base to include air and water quality.

The focus of the advisor's applied research program will be based on an industry needs assessment, and may include development of a knowledge base needed to support economically viable management alternatives to minimize undesirable impacts of confined dairy production on land, air, water and food resources. Applied research

in nutrition, milk quality and reproduction is also critical to the resilience and sustainability of the industry.

A master's degree is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, in disciplines such as dairy or animal science, or a closely related field.

For more information about position AP #14-08, visit http://ucanr.edu/Jobs/Jobs_990/?jobnum=657. The deadline for applications is Sept. 14, 2014.

Names in the News

El-Kereamy named viticulture advisor

Ashraf El-Kereamy joined UCCE on Aug. 1 as an area viticulture advisor for Kern, Tulare and Kings counties.

Prior to joining UCCE, El-Kereamy worked as a postdoctoral research associate in the College of Biological Sciences at University of Guelph, studying plant drought and heat stress tolerance in plants from 2013 to 2014, and studying the genotypes variation in nitrogen use efficiency and plant heat stress tolerance from 2008 to 2012. From 2012 to 2013, he held the position of assistant / associate professor in the Department of Horticulture, Ain Shams University, Egypt, where he taught horticultural science and served as



Ashraf El-Kereamy

the principal investigator for a Wyoming University and Ain Shams University project on improving grapevine tolerance to drought and heat stress using safe and eco-friendly technologies. From 2006 to 2008, El-Kereamy also worked as postdoctoral scientist at the University of Guelph, Vineland, where he studied the pathogenesis-related proteins during plum fruit ripening. From 2004 to 2006, he worked as a postdoc at the University of Manitoba, studying the physiological role of ABA in plants.

El-Kereamy earned his Ph.D. in agriculture with emphasis in grape physiology and molecular biology from INP-ENSAT, Toulouse University, Toulouse, France, and a M.Sc. in Pomology and B.Sc. in horticulture, both from Ain Shams University in Cairo.

El-Kereamy is based in Bakersfield and can be reached at (661) 868-6226 and aekereamy@ucanr.edu.

Lewis joins 4-H for evaluation

Kendra Lewis joined ANR on Aug. 1 as 4-H youth development evaluation coordinator. She uses her research in positive youth development, as well as her skills in data management and statistical analyses to work with UCCE 4-H advisors, Cooperative Extension specialists, community education specialists and 4-H volunteers to plan, implement and document the evaluation of the statewide 4-H Youth Development Program.



Kendra Lewis

Before accepting her current position, Lewis worked part time since January as an academic

coordinator for the 4-H Youth Development Program, managing statewide evaluation data, planning and implementing evaluation of 4-H programming in collaboration with others, and managing the collection of statewide data and analysis. Lewis also worked as a postdoctoral scholar at the UC Davis Department of Human Ecology from August 2012 to July 2014, focusing on the 4-H *Thrive!* initiative delivered to 4-H youth throughout California in the 4-H club program.

She earned a Ph.D. and an M.S. in human development and family studies from Oregon State University, and she completed a B.A. in child development from CSU Chico.

Lewis is based at the ANR building in Davis and can be reached at (530) 750-1337 and kmlewis@ucanr.edu.

Scott joins ANR

Sonia Scott is the new administrative officer for ANR, reporting to Tu Tran, ANR associate vice president for Business Operations, effective July 28. As administrative officer, she will provide the Oakland-based directors and managers with administrative support as it relates to human resources tasks, recruitment, employment and benefits, and space management. She will act as a liaison with UCOP Human Resources as well as the Division's HR office in Davis.



Sonia Scott

Scott comes to ANR with more than nine years of experience in managing operational, financial and programmatic functions. Sonia began her UC career in 2004 in the UC Berkeley School of Law

Dean's Office, then moved to the UCOP Business Resource Center as an analyst in 2009.

The former international flight attendant earned a B.A. in French at CSU Northridge and speaks Spanish.

Scott is based on the 10th floor of UCOP in Oakland and can be reached at (510) 987-0084 and sonia.scott@ucop.edu.

Names in the News, cont.

New SPU jobs for Roberts and Wei

Mary Roberts and Fiona Wei have accepted new positions in the Staff Personnel Unit, based in Davis.



Mary Roberts



Fiona Wei

After an open recruitment, Roberts is moving from an HR generalist in the Staff Personnel Unit to the employee and labor relations 3 position, effective Aug. 11. She has

six years of UC experience, more years of total HR generalist experience and a background in policy administration and employee relations. Roberts can be reached at (530) 750-1321 and maroberts@ucanr.edu.

Wei, who joined ANR as an assistant III with the Academic Personnel Unit in 2013, will serve as a human resources generalist 3 for the Staff Personnel Unit, effective Aug. 1. She brings to the new position more than eight years of strategic talent management and recruiting, advertising, policy implementation, training and HRIS management and many years of general HR experience. Wei can be reached at (530) 750-1375 and fwei@ucanr.edu.

Hodel named Horticulturist of the Year

Donald R. Hodel, UCCE environmental horticulture advisor in Los Angeles County, is the recipient of the 2014 Horticulturist of the Year award from the Southern California Horticultural Society. The distinguished award recognizes his lifetime of contributions to Southern California horticulture, including his applied research projects that helped to improve practices in the selection and management of landscape plants and trees.



Donald R. Hodel

"I'm honored to receive this award from the Southern California Horticultural Society," said Hodel. "It's a nice confirmation and recognition of my body of work in and contribution to the landscape and tree care industry."

Hodel, who has been a UCCE advisor for more than 30 years, is an international authority in palm horticulture and taxonomy. He has authored or co-authored more than 500 publications about identification, selection and management of plants. He has also authored or co-authored eight books, including *Exceptional Trees of Los Angeles*.

Hodel will receive the award from the society on Sept. 13 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden.

Tomich appointed to international council

Thomas Tomich, director of ANR's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis, has been appointed a scientific adviser to the world's preeminent agricultural research system, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. CGIAR is a publicly funded research consortium working in more than 100 developing countries to eliminate hunger and poverty, improve food and nutritional security, and sustainably manage natural resources. CGIAR programs around the globe focus on topics as diverse as increasing profitability for small-scale rice farmers in the Philippines and global efforts to adapt to climate change.



Thomas Tomich

Tomich will be a member of CGIAR's Independent Science and Partnership Council, providing expert scientific advice to improve the quality, relevance, and impact of CGIAR's research portfolio of more than \$1.1 billion per year.

Seven scientific advisers compose the Independent Science and Partnership Council representing disciplines in agriculture, environmental sciences, ecology and economics. The other council members are from Australia, Brazil, Japan, Kenya and the United Kingdom.

IREC celebrates UCCE centennial at field day

ANR celebrated the UCCE centennial at the Intermountain Research and Extension Center field day in Tulelake on Aug. 13.

Rob Wilson, IREC director and UCCE advisor, welcomed local officials and other visitors to ANR's northernmost research and extension center. Associate VP Bill Frost talked about UCCE's achievements over the past 100 years and UC scientists gave research presentations about youth development, biofuels, white rot in onions, peppermint pests and alfalfa, wheat, potato and oat production.

Discussing the research they conducted at IREC were Steve Orloff, UCCE director and advisor in Siskiyou County; Jackie Zediker, 4-H program representative in Siskiyou County; Steve Kaffka, professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis; Mike Davis, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at UC Davis; Cal Qualset, professor emeritus in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis; and Wilson.

VP Allen-Diaz, Vice Provost Chris Greer and Lisa Fischer, associate director of the Research and Extension Center System, were among those who attended the field day.



From left, Steve Orloff, Rob Wilson, Barbara Allen-Diaz, Siskiyou County CAO Tom Odom and Pat Griffin, Siskiyou County agricultural commissioner, pose in front of the IREC mint still.



From left, Jake Walden and Skyler Peterson show VP Allen-Diaz symptoms of disease on potato plant.

Employee comments sought for REC use and RAC meetings

The following policies regarding research and extension center use and research advisory committee meetings are available for employee comment.

580 - [USE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTERS](#)

580 [Appendix A](#), Procedural Requirements for Employee Organization Access to the Research and Extension Centers

580 [Appendix B](#), ANR Research and Extension Center (REC) Access Violation Report

581 - [RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEES \(RACs\)](#) at the Research and Extension Centers (RECs)

Links to all of these policies are located at <http://ucanr.edu/p/48355>.

Please send comments and suggestions to Robin Sanchez at rgsanchez@ucanr.edu by Friday, Aug. 29.

For more information about the Research and Extension Center system, visit http://recs.ucanr.edu/About_Us.

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