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GWSS update

UC experts to help CDFA fight sharpshooter infestation

California Department of Food and Agriculture selected six scientists—five of whom are from the Division—to help them devise a plan for containing the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS).

CDFA Secretary *Bill Lyons Jr.* announced the appointment of his GWSS scientific advisory panel on May 31.

“The panel will be a valuable resource as we work with local agencies to control the glassy-winged sharpshooter,” Lyons said.

“These scientists will help us formulate and finalize an action plan.”

The panel will initially work on the infestation of GWSS in the community of Porterville in Tulare County.

The six members of the panel are:

- *Elizabeth Grafton-Cardwell*, an IPM specialist and research entomologist from UC Riverside who is

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Richard Malkin to serve as interim dean for College of Natural Resources

Richard Malkin, associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley, has been named interim dean of the college, effective July 1.

Malkin will serve a two-year term, succeeding *Gordon Rausser*, who has been dean since 1994. Rausser is the Robert Gordon Sproul Distinguished Professor in the department of agricultural and resource economics.

Malkin was acting dean of CNR from July through December 1994.

A professor in the department of plant and microbial biology, Malkin joined the CNR faculty in 1979. He served as the first chair of the department of plant biology from 1988 through 1992 and has served as associate dean for academic affairs since July 1992.

Malkin received a doctorate in biochemistry from UC



Richard Malkin

Berkeley in 1967. He is an authority on the biophysical and biochemical aspects of photosynthesis.

Remembering our colleague Steve Mendivil — a big-hearted man

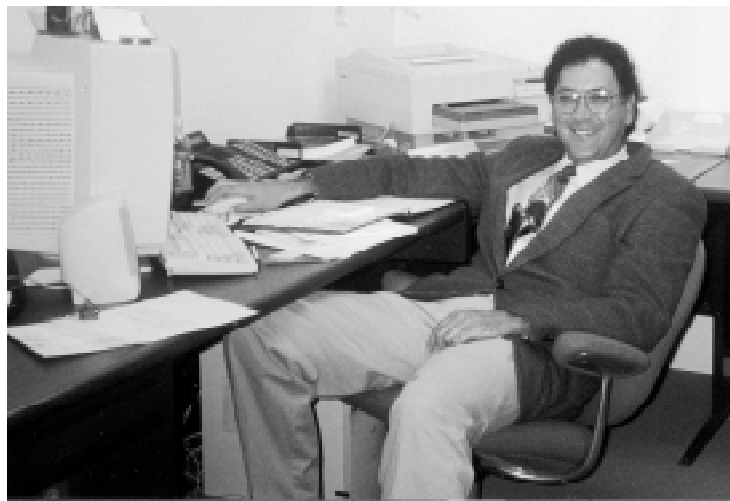
By *Gabriele Kassner*

With the death of *Steve Mendivil* on May 28, the Division lost a respected colleague and accomplished administrator widely admired for his people skills.

Mendivil died at his home in San Jose, surrounded by his family. He was 47. For the past year he had been on medical leave while undergoing treatment for brain cancer.

Funeral services were held on June 2 at St. Victor's Catholic Church in San Jose.

Mendivil's colleagues described him as an unassuming, good-hearted man who had a knack for easing moments of tension with his quick wit.



Steve Mendivil in March 1996

The deep affection he evoked was evident in the steady stream of encouraging calls, cards and letters he received during his illness.

As word spread of how seriously ill he was, his col-

leagues assisted the family by donating in excess of six months of vacation leave to him under UC's catastrophic-leave sharing program.

After joining UC in 1980

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Mendivil (from p. 1)

as a farm advisor for small-scale, Spanish-speaking farmers and farmer cooperatives in Monterey County, Mendivil served ANR in a variety of positions.

In 1985, he was named county director for Santa Clara County Cooperative Extension.

“Steve was appointed county director in Santa Clara County after they had had a tough time,” recalled former Regional Director *Nicki King*. “He got the county-based relationships back on a positive footing, built the local budget back up and related well with the volunteer base. His people skills were just what Santa Clara County needed.”

In 1990 he accepted a two-year assignment in Davis as King’s special assistant. His duties included representing the region in the Council of Associate Deans and Assistant Directors (CADAD) and organizing the region’s civil rights compliance effort.

One of Mendivil’s hobbies was refurbishing classic Cadillacs, and King recalled that during the two-year assignment he continued to commute from his home in San Jose to Davis.

“The mileage he put on those antique Cadillacs ... was awesome,” she said. “I’ll never forget riding with him to a civil rights review in that banana-yellow Fleetwood Cadillac!”

In 1992, Mendivil was awarded a Management Fellowship to fill a new coordinator/special assistant position in Oakland with ANR’s Administrative Services, headed by Assistant Vice President *Toby Winer*.

Winer, who now leads

ANR’s Development Services, said Mendivil was responsible for a wide range of “difficult and sensitive issues. Steve was highly effective in these responsibilities because he loved to work with people to reach a common goal,” she said. She added that he had a leadership role in developing policies and procedures for the 4-H and Master Gardener programs, including those for conducting background investigations on Division volunteers.

In 1994 Mendivil moved to the newly created post of interim statewide 4-H youth development coordinator. He again reported to King.

“Steve’s strong people skills and belief that anything worth doing can be done by people of good will brought many people of opposing views to the table to begin to reunify the program,” King said. “He laid the groundwork for many of the good things *Dan Desmond* and his office have been able to accomplish.”

In 1997 Mendivil resumed his administrative duties in Oakland. A short time later, Vice President *Gomes* asked him to conduct a statewide

survey on the program needs of the state’s non-English-speaking farmers. He returned to his duties in Administrative Services after finishing the survey.

Under the ANR reorganization plan adopted last July, he was to have been the coordinator of program analysis and special studies in the office of Assistant Vice President *Milton Fujii*, who heads up ANR’s Academic Personnel, Planning and Budget.

“Steve’s passing is a great loss to the Division and to the people whom we serve,” Fujii said. “Steve truly believed in the land-grant mission, bringing the University to the people. He wanted to share the benefits of new knowledge with all the diverse segments of California society. He was a source of creativity and compassion that energized all of us who worked with him. We will miss him dearly.”

While undergoing treatment, Mendivil continued to attend UC-related functions. Last December he made the 80-mile round trip from his home to Oakland to perform in UCOP Singers’ holiday concerts. He also took part

in the annual meeting last fall of 4-H volunteer leaders at Asilomar.

Mendivil told his wife, *Dorothy Cabanyog*, that he hoped he would be well enough to celebrate his 20th anniversary with ANR in June. “That’s how much the Division means to Steve,” she told his friend and colleague *Pam Kan-Rice*.

On May 11, family and friends gathered at Mendivil’s bedside for the presentation of his 20-year service pin. The delegation from ANR included both Fujii and Winer, who recounted the major highlights of his career and the contributions he had made to Cooperative Extension and to the people of California. Special Assistant *Kay Harrison Taber* read a personal message from *Gomes*. Mendivil also received a citation from President *Atkinson* and a gold desk clock from *Tiffany and Co.* commemorating his outstanding service to UC.

Mendivil held a bachelor of science degree from UC Davis and a master’s degree in public administration from Golden Gate University.

Mendivil loved to talk about baseball. He was an avid fan and for many years played on semi-pro teams in Northern California.

“Steve and I shared baseball stories every time we got together,” recalled *Steve Nation*, director of ANR’s Governmental and External Relations. “He never boasted about it, but I learned from friends that he was one of the most dominating pitchers in NorCal for many, many years. He was truly a person of many talents and dimensions.”

Educational fund for Mendivil children

A fund has been established to purchase educational savings bonds for the two *Mendivil* children. “*Steve* and *Dorothy* requested that donations in his honor benefit their children, *Sarah*, age 12, and *Dominic*, age 8,” said Assistant Vice President *Toby Winer*. “Steve was very close to his children and, like all parents, was concerned for their future.”

Checks should be made payable to “Sarah and Dominic Mendivil c/o Wells Fargo” and mailed to *Toby Winer*, ANR Development Services, 1111 Franklin St., 6th Floor, Oakland CA 94607-5200.

Have you checked out ANR's online research and extension news? It's not just for media any more.

Below are excerpts from recent press releases—written by our public information representatives and other UC writers—that ANR posts online for the media. The site also offers others a handy way to keep up on all the latest ANR research and outreach news. Simply log on to ANR's "News and Information Outreach" website (<http://danr.ucop.edu/news/>).

Curing sick eucalyptus

California's troubled red gum eucalyptus trees, under attack for the last two years from a fast-spreading insect infestation, may soon get some relief from a tiny Australian wasp discovered by *Donald Dahlsten*, an entomologist in the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley. The wasp, released in small numbers in North Hollywood on June 7, may be able to control the infestation and begin to save the endangered trees.

Trees are under attack in 30 California counties from the redgum lerp psyllid, *Glycaspis brimblecombei*, a small, flying insect that feeds on plant juices. It has caused much concern in the state since it was first found in June 1998 in Los Angeles County. Collected on 16 different varieties of eucalyptus in California, the psyllid is causing the most trouble on red gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, a common ornamental species in the state. After infestation, trees rapidly lose their leaves and begin to produce a sticky honeydew that dirties cars, buildings and sidewalks. It is not known how often the

trees can defoliate and still survive.

Dahlsten has shown that certain species of *Psyllaephagus* parasitic wasps that he collected last summer in Australia may be able to bring the psyllid population under control by laying eggs within the insect bodies and destroying them. The wasps have been under observation for the last year at UC Berkeley.—*Kathleen Scalise*

Guide shows how to grow roses without pesticides

A just-published guide from UC shows the home rose enthusiast how to grow beautiful roses with little or no use of toxic materials.

"Healthy Roses: Environmentally Friendly Ways to Manage Pests and Disorders in Your Garden and Landscape" was written by UC Cooperative Extension experts in entomology and environmental horticulture.

The attractive, easy-to-use guide (ANR Publication 21589) is illustrated with 48 outstanding photographs of elegant roses and many of the good and bad bugs, diseases and disorders that can occur in a rose garden. Also included are handy tables on soil pH and nutrient levels.

The guide is available for \$10 at most CE county offices. Or contact ANR Communication Services (800/994-8849, <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>).—*John Stumbos*

UC innovation helps dairy farmers better manage wastewater

A quick test developed by farm advisor *Marsha*

Campbell Mathews allows farmers to measure nitrogen in dairy wastewater in minutes, giving them an important tool in the complex and environmentally sensitive task of managing wastewater lagoons.

Typically dairy lagoon water is pumped onto adjacent farmland where farmers grow corn or winter forage for cow feed. To ensure a good crop, commercial fertilizer is commonly added. But the practice can result in more nitrogen being applied than the crop can use. The leftover could seep down into the aquifer and pollute groundwater.

Campbell Mathews has found that, with careful monitoring and application procedures, using the nutrients in the wastewater alone produces a top-yielding crop and reduces the risk of contaminating groundwater.

In just four minutes, right on the banks of dairy lagoons, the quick test tells farmers the level of ammonia nitrogen and estimates organic nitrogen in the water.

The ammonia nitrogen is chemically the same as the fertilizer purchased by most dairies. The organic nitrogen also contributes to the nutrient needs of the crop.

"The amount of nitrogen in dairy lagoon water varies widely," Campbell Mathews said. "You can't take a sample in spring and use the same number all season long. With the quick test, we've given dairy farmers a way to calculate the amount of nitrogen in the water minutes before it's pumped onto the field."

—*Jeannette Warnert*

GWSS panel (from p. 1)

stationed at the Kearney Agricultural Center. She is conducting research on the efficacy of insecticides for GWSS and the impact of the insecticides on the San Joaquin Valley citrus IPM program.

■ *Alex Purcell*, professor of entomology at UC Berkeley, with extensive experience in GWSS biology and in other insect carriers of the bacterium causing Pierce's disease.

■ *Phil Phillips*, area IPM advisor based in Ventura County and also serving Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. He has monitored GWSS populations since 1990. He has conducted research on how the insect affects citrus, and he also has a research background in control strategies.

■ *Rick Redak*, associate professor of entomology at UC Riverside, with expertise in insect ecology and pest management. He is chair of the Division's workgroup on IPM of GWSS and the diseases they vector.

■ *Bill Peacock*, farm advisor for Tulare County, specializing in viticulture. He is widely recognized for his expertise in vineyard management.

■ *Russell Mizell*, professor at the University of Florida, is the sixth member of the team. He has extensive experience with glassy-winged sharpshooter life history and control strategies.

"Our charge," Phillips said, "is to assist with CDFA protocol in the containment and eradication effort [in Porterville]."

CS now offers faster slide transfer through the internet

By Ann Senuta

Slide imaging clients of Communication Services now have a faster and more economical process for transferring their material for slide imaging—the internet.

Farm advisors and other Division staff planning a presentation have long used Communication Services' slide imaging service to create their slides. In the past, these clients could use one of three ways to transfer information to Communication Services Principal Photographer *Chet Fukushima*: send an email attachment, use dial-up Freemail software or physically mail a computer disk.

As presentations grew in complexity and more images appeared in the files, the disadvantages of these systems became apparent. The email attachments could hold only a limited amount of information, the dial-up system required lengthy long-distance phone calls and the zip or floppy disks mailed to CS took time that people didn't always have.

Now, using high-speed internet connections that the DANR Connect project helped set up in UCCE county offices, slide information can be transferred immediately regardless of size.

"More people are switching over to this route," Fukushima said, "especially those who are more sophisticated in their use of software."

Simple files can still be sent via the dial-up Freemail software or as an email attachment. Both methods are useful for those advisors and specialists who travel with a

laptop or work at home without high-speed internet access. Fukushima cautioned, however, that if a file is transferred via email, the combined attachments for a single email cannot exceed 8 Mb.

To submit slides via the web, clients must first register with Communication Services. Send an email to Fukushima at ckfukushima@ucdavis.edu, and he will assign a user name and password. With that, people can follow the step-by-step instructions—little more than filling out one's name, address and the file specifications—that are found on the slide imaging page of the Communication Services website (<http://danrcs.ucdavis.edu>).

Senuta is production operations manager at CS.

Executive Council sets long-term strategic directions for ANR

The Executive Council invites comments on a document describing the three long-term strategic programmatic areas it has identified for the Division.

The document has been posted on its website (<http://danr.ucop.edu/exec-council.htm>). Comments may be directed to Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux Jr.*, the chair of the Executive Council.

During three meetings held earlier this year, the council "considered, in some detail, potential strategic directions for the Division. ... [and] concluded that there are at least three critical long-term strategic program areas," according to the document.

The programmatic areas are as follows:

- 1) Genomics research
- 2) Management of exotic pests
- 3) Waste management

The criteria the council used in identifying these strategic directions included:

- its importance to the state of California,
- the existence of a significant comparative advantage for ANR in addressing the challenges in question,
- the capacity of ANR to add value in solving the range of problems subsumed in each of the strategic areas,
- the programmatic area is expected to remain important over the long term (more than 10 years).

The council also noted that in each of the strategic areas there are immediate problems or activities that require attention.

The role of the Executive Council is to provide strategic guidance to the Division leadership team in decisions regarding Divisionwide policies, allocation of resources across units and articulation of long-term programmatic directions for the Division.

The next meeting of the Executive Council is scheduled for June 28.

To learn more about the Executive Council, access the Division's homepage (<http://danr.ucop.edu>) and click on "Implementation of the New DANR Organizational Structure."

CNR establishes Henry J. Vaux Distinguished Professorship

The College of Natural Resources is establishing the Henry J. Vaux Distinguished Professorship in Forest Policy.

To date, more than \$900,000 has been raised toward the \$1 million goal. The endowment fund will provide income to the faculty members appointed to the professorship and will also support UC Berkeley forest policy programs and projects.

Professor *Vaux Sr.* began his 30-year career at UCB in 1948 as a lecturer in forestry and later be-

came professor and dean of the School of Forestry. His scholarship and leadership have been pivotal to the development of modern forest practices and the cultivation of generations of California foresters.

He was appointed chair of the California Board of Forestry in 1976. He was subsequently reappointed for a second term and served as chair until 1983.

His honors include designation as a fellow of the Society of American Foresters and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

■ Names in the news

■ **Gordon Rausser**, dean of the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley, has received the USDA Secretary's Honor Award.

USDA Secretary **Dan Glickman** presented the award, the agency's highest honor, to Rausser on June 5 at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.

The award is given annually to individuals and groups for "exemplary performance in work relating to USDA's mission, the nation and public service." Rausser was honored in the category of "Expanding Economic Trade Opportunities for Agricultural Producers and Other Rural Residents" for his outstanding accomplishments in the areas of agricultural public policy research and formulation.

Rausser is a leading scholar on the forces driving the dramatic changes under way in agriculture, such as new technologies, globalization, population change and economic growth. He has developed several highly respected research programs in areas such as public policy for food and agricultural sectors, futures and options markets, political economics of policy reform, environmental and natural resource analysis and applied econometrics.

■ **Radio Noticias**, written and produced by **Alberto Hauffen**, senior public information representative in Spanish Broadcast and Media Services, has received two "Excellence in Journalism Awards" from the Society of Professional Journalists, inland professional chapter.

Radio Noticias won first place in "Best Feature Segment" and second place in "Best Newscast Script."

Hauffen researches, writes and produces Radio Noticias. SBMS Program Manager **Myriam Grajales-Hall** was the narrator on one of the winning entries.

■ **Karen Berke**, communications coordinator for ANR Communication Services, is the recipient of the Award of Excellence for 2000, bestowed by the Agricultural Communicators in Education's Distance Education and Instructional Design Interest Group. The award is "in recognition for substantial and creative contributions to our profession, and your leadership and involvement in ACE." The award will be presented at the U.S. Agricultural Communicators Congress in Washington, D.C. in late July.

■ **Arturo Gomez-Pompa**, a UC Riverside professor and authority on tropical forests, has been elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Gordon Rausser



Karen Berke

■ Professor Emerita **Emmy Werner**, an internationally recognized developmental psychologist with the department of human and community development, is the first UC Davis faculty member to win the Universitywide Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award. The award recognizes UC emeritus faculty members for scholarship or educational service of "outstanding character" in any year after retirement. (from CA&ES Currents)

■ **Donald Bell**, Extension poultry specialist in the department of animal science at UCD, was elected a fellow of the Poultry Science Association. He was recognized for his internationally known research in cage layer management, flock recycling, beak trimming, egg quality and egg marketing, as well as for his service to the industry. (CA&ES Currents)

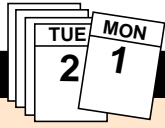
■ **William Lucas**, professor of plant biology at UCD, has been elected a foreign member of France's Academie des Sciences, to honor his research on cell-to-cell communication and the movement of viruses and macromolecules in plants. Lucas has also been invited to hold the prestigious Interuniversity International Francqui Chair in Belgium. During the six-month position, which begins in February, he will teach scientists at Belgium universities about his field of research. (Dateline UC Davis)

■ **James Bartolome**, chair of the department of environmental science, policy and management at UCB, has become a fellow of the International Society for Range Management. He is noted for his research in the ecology, management and conservation of Mediterranean-type rangeland ecosystems. (Breakthroughs)

■ **Dale McCullough**, the A. Starker Leopold Chair in Wildlife Biology at UCB and **Michel Jaeger**, a UCB-based research wildlife biologist with the USDA/Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center, received the 1999 Research Award from the Jack. H. Berryman Institute at Utah State University. They were honored for work they published about research they did on reducing sheep losses due to coyotes. They conducted the research at Hopland REC.

■ **Brian Staskawicz**, UCB, has been elected a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. He conducts research on the molecular genetics of plant-pathogen interactions. Recently, he has been working with a bacterial pathogen that causes disease in pepper and tomato plants. His lab has isolated the disease resistance gene in the pepper and has introduced it into the tomato plant, making the tomato resistant to the pathogen.

■ **Julian Alston**, agricultural and resource economics, UCD, has been elected president of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Inc. for 2001.



COMING UP

JUNE

*European Pear Workgroup Summer Tour and Meeting

June 29; Mendocino County; Rachel Elkins (707/263-6838; rbelkins@ucdavis.edu)

JULY

2nd California Conference on Biological Control

July 11-12; Riverside; Lisa Arth (909/787-7292; website <http://biocontrol.ucr.edu>)

*Lake County UC Pear Research Field Day (English & Spanish sessions)

July 13; Kelseyville; Rachel Elkins (707/263-6838; rbelkins@ucdavis.edu)

*Mendocino County UC Pear Research Field Day (English & Spanish sessions)

July 14; Ukiah/Talmage; Rachel Elkins (707/263-6838; rbelkins@ucdavis.edu)

*Insect Toxicology 2000 Conference

July 16-19; UCB; John Casida or Gary Quistad, (510/642-5424; ectl@nature.berkeley.edu)

*Forestry Landowner Institute

July 16-22; Humboldt State University; Claralynn Nunamaker; (800/738-8733, ncsaf@mcn.org)

SEPTEMBER

*Shafter REC Cotton Field Day

Sept. 19; Brian Marsh (661/868-6210; bhmarsh@ucdavis.edu)

*West Side REC Cotton Field Day

Sept. 21; Dan Munk (559/456-7571; dsmunk@ucdavis.edu)

*New listing

To list events, call 510/987-0631 or send to ANR Report

Organic conference

UCCE is teaming up with California Certified Organic Farmers and Reedley College to offer a conference on organic farming from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on June 29 and 30 in Reedley. (Reedley is about 25 miles southeast of Fresno.) The conference will educate and motivate San Joaquin Valley farmers who reject synthetic farm inputs in favor of strictly natural fertilizers and insect and weed control systems.

Contact *Richard Molinar* (559/456-7555; rhmolinar@ucdavis.edu).

In memoriam: former County Director Ron Knight

Retired County Director *Ron Knight* died unexpectedly on May 19, at the age of 69.

Knight retired nine years ago after leading Tehama County CE for almost 20 years. And he continued to be a very active supporter of the program, said County Director *Rick Buchner*.

"Ron did a lot for Extension on the job—and after he retired. He was a huge asset," Buchner said. "We will feel this loss personally and programmatically."

Knight received emeritus status after he retired in October 1991 in what was to become UC's first voluntary early retirement program of the decade.

He joined CE as a junior agriculturist in Solano County in 1957. He moved to Tulare County as a 4-H advisor in 1964 and was appointed county director in Tehama in 1972.

Early on, he concentrated on developing 4-H, an experience he wrote about shortly before retiring:

"I feel I was responsible for developing a strong core of active, productive volunteer leaders ... The results are that we developed many outstanding graduates of the 4-H program. Today I see many of these people ... now successful in a wide variety of professions. Many are leaders in their respective businesses and communities. I will always consider this one of my very significant accomplishments during my Extension career."

Later he became influential in the livestock industry, working closely with the annual Red Bluff bull sale.

Emeritus Farm Advisor *Bill Richardson* talked to the Red Bluff Daily News about the man he had worked with for 20 years:

"He was a leader in the range area who did some of the leading research on livestock and range," Richardson said. "He was a very good boss to work under and a very good farm advisor ... a wonderful and excellent person."

Knight helped organize the Beef Workgroup in 1984. The group published the "Beef Crisis Report" in 1988. He chaired the animal, avian, aquacul-

ture, veterinary science division planning group in 1990-91. He also served as chair of the Assembly Council's Personnel Committee, in 1986-87. As a result of his work with the county board of supervisors, a new office was built for CE in 1990.

The Red Bluff Daily News reported that Knight was active in many organizations during his retirement.

"He was involved in the fair and Future Farmers and 4-H and on the livestock committee," said *Joan Hemsted*, whose husband *Jerry*, is president of the California Cattlemen's Association. "He was much loved and respected, a most wonderful man."

Memorial contributions can be made to the 4-H Council in Red Bluff, the Presbyterian Church in Red Bluff or the Animal Science Memorial Fund at UC Davis.

ANR REPORT THANKS THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRODUCTION OF THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER: *Pam Fabry, David Flattery, Jill Goetz, Jason Joseph, Pam Kan-Rice, Cyndi Lukk and Lorrie Mandorlao.*

ANR REPORT

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And we invite you to read ANR Report online, at <http://danr.ucop.edu/anr-report/>

Send news items and comments to Gabriele Kassner, ANR Report editor, Office of Governmental & External Relations, 1111 Franklin St., 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200. Telephone: 510/ 987-0631; fax: 510/ 465-2659; email: gabriele.kassner@ucop.edu

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