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## UC endorses increasing federal funding for ag research

UC is applauding efforts by some members of Congress to double federal funding for agricultural research.

Fifty members of the U.S. House of Representatives signed a letter on June 5 calling for a 200 percent increase in USDA's research budget over five years. According to Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux*, the signatories included Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals and urban and rural legislators.

Congressman *Cal Dooley*, who represents California's 20th District, circulated the letter. He is the top-ranking Democrat on the House Agriculture Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management.

At Dooley's invitation, Vaux spoke at a press briefing held in Fresno June 18 prior to a subcommittee field hearing. He discussed the importance of federal support for agricultural

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## Regents learn about Central Coast agriculture

Several Regents and officers of the University donned sterile caps and gowns in Salinas June 28 to observe operations at a vegetable packing plant and then hiked through a nearby field to get a closeup view of romaine lettuce harvesting during a stimulating two-day educational tour of Central Coast agriculture.

The tour, hosted by Vice President *Gomes*, gave the decision-makers a firsthand look at the wide range of agricultural production in the region and a better appreciation of the impact of UC research and extension on the production and delivery of agricultural products.

Along the way Cooperative Extension and Agricultural



Pam Kan-Rice

Regents and other guests observe in-field packing of hearts of romaine.

Experiment Station personnel joined Regents' Chairman *Sue Johnson* and the other tour members to talk about their programs and local agricultural practices.

Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux*, Assistant Vice

Presidents *Lanny Lund* and *Toby Winer* and Executive Director *Steve Nation* were also on hand to provide additional information about the Division's work.

In addition, tour members

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## Division implements training program on planning, conducting effective meetings

Quick! How much time did you spend in meetings last week? Was it productive?

If you attend many meetings, you probably won't be surprised to learn from a recent survey that corporate executives estimate they waste 7.8 hours a week, or 2.3 months a year in needless meetings.

Many of us have had similar experiences: We show up at a meeting only to discover we've wasted our time and energy.

But according to *Jim*

*Brenner*, that doesn't need to happen. There are ways to run meetings to encourage everyone's participation, move decision-making along faster and obtain a high degree of buy-in and follow-through.

Sound too good to be true? It's not, insists *Brenner*, who is coordinator of Strategic Planning and Facilitation Support. He is leading a project in which Division members can learn to plan and run effective meetings, using Interaction Associates' Essential Facilitation model. Interaction Associates is an

international management consulting and human resources development firm with offices in San Francisco, Boston and Dallas.

*Brenner* began using their facilitation model about 30 years ago. "They've developed a process for planning and conducting productive, satisfying group meetings in diverse settings," he says. "Facilitate literally means 'to make easy.' The primary role of the facilitator is to make it easy for people to work together and accom-

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## Facilitated meetings *(from p. 1)*

plish meaningful goals and tasks.

“We use a facilitated approach to build understanding and agreement among people, and to get clear, solid decisions and follow-up actions, so that things come out of meetings rather than just spending a lot of time spinning our wheels,” he says.

He stresses that Essential Facilitation training is not just for people holding leadership positions.

“It’s really for people who want to be more effective participants in meetings,” he says. “It gives them mental models, tools, skills and specific behaviors for looking at problems and working more effectively and collaboratively to analyze situations and solve problems.” The training is also expected to boost overall productivity in the Division.

In Essential Facilitation, every member of the group sees to it that the meeting is successful, he says, and everyone plays an important role in reaching the goals

that brought them together.

This model, tested and refined by Interaction Associates over the years, has been used by hundreds of organizations so far. Brenner says that particularly during the past five to 10 years, more organizations of all kinds have recognized the need to offer this type of training.

To date, 10 members of the Division have been certified as Essential Facilitation trainers, including the three regional directors and several advisors in each region. In turn they have held facilitation workshops for more than 60 others in ANR.

The response, Brenner says, has been so positive that four more three-day training sessions have been scheduled this year (see sidebar below). He’d like every member of ANR—as well as key volunteer cooperators—to have the opportunity to learn these techniques.

The trainers also provided facilitation at several key events, including the

joint meeting in April of the Executive Council, Program Council and Program Planning Advisory Committees, last year’s Pierce’s Disease Symposium and the State 4-H Leaders Forum.

Brenner, then a 4-H advisor, began using facilitated meetings in the Division more than 20 years ago, primarily at the regional level.

About five years ago, as ANR began the process that eventually resulted in a new organizational structure, he was asked to apply the approach in developing an inclusive planning process, one in which “all the stakeholders’ perspectives were represented, both internal and external,” he says.

More recently, Vice President *Gomes* asked Brenner and *Kay Harrison Taber*, Gomes’ chief of staff, to provide facilitation for a meeting of a NASULGC Board of Agriculture task force charged with reviewing and recommending changes to the board’s structure.

Last year, at the request of Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux*, Brenner and Assistant Vice President *Milton Fujii* provided facilitation for a meeting of the Western Region AES Directors that was held in Oregon.

One reason CE people like the training, Brenner

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**“Essential Facilitation training is not just for people in leadership positions ... It’s for people who want to be more effective participants in meetings.”**

**— Jim Brenner**

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says, is that they are able to use the skills they learn to work more effectively in local communities.

He acknowledges, however, that some people still mistrust this approach, feeling that too much time is taken up “in processing.”

“Some people still snicker when I get up and talk about ground rules,” Brenner says. “But even though some people roll their eyes every once in a while, I think the results are clearly evident, in that their meetings are more productive.”

Brenner is delighted that the Division has agreed to support at least four more Essential Facilitation training sessions this year.

“We encourage both AES and CE people to sign up for one of the four sessions,” he says. “Providing this training is very positive for the Division in that it helps both the organization and the individuals who take it to make the best use of their time and energy.”

### Get the most out of meetings—sign up now

To sign up for one of the four Essential Facilitation training sessions listed below, call or email the appropriate contact person. Each three-day session is limited to 12 people. There is a fee for materials and to cover other costs.

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|----------------|---|
| Aug. 27–29     | DANR Building, Davis. Trainers: <i>Ellen Rilla, Kim Rodrigues*</i> . Contact <i>Sydni Gillette</i> (skgillette@ucdavis.edu; 530/754-8509).                      |
| Sept. 17–19    | University Extension Bldg., Riverside. Trainers: <i>Susan Laughlin, Fe Moncloa*</i> . Contact <i>Catherine Bradford</i> (clbradford@ucdavis.edu; 909/787-2761). |
| Oct. 30–Nov. 1 | Oakland. Trainers: <i>Jim Brenner, Pat Day*</i> . Contact Brenner (James.Brenner@ucop.edu; 510/987-0029).   |
| Dec. 4–6       | Kearney REC, Parlier. Trainers: <i>Linda Marie Manton, Carole Paterson*</i> . Contact <i>Sandi Gumber-Bach</i> (sgumberbach@uckac.edu; 559/646-6543).           |

\* Other licensed trainers in the Division are: Dan Desmond, Shelley Murdock

## California Agriculture art director Fabry retires

By Pam Kan-Rice

Look for the tall, leafy ficus tree. That's how you could always find Pam Fabry's office, whether she was in Berkeley's "Burger Tower," Oakland's Kaiser Building or the Franklin Street headquarters of the Office of the President. The art director for California Agriculture magazine inherited the ficus from her predecessor, and she has nurtured it ever since. But now they have parted ways—Fabry retired on June 26 after 20 years with the Division.

"I have a sense of leaving a community I've lived in a long time," Fabry says. "A lot of good history with a lot of people."

Fabry joined Agricultural Publications in Richmond in January 1981 as a highly experienced graphic artist and illustrator. Three years later she was drafted by then-editor Dick Venne to lay out California Agriculture. Together, Venne, Fabry, former

associate editor *Betsey Tabraham* and former publications assistant *Lorrie Mandorlao* instituted changes upgrading the journal.

The evolution of the magazine continued under its current executive editor, *Janet White*.

"Since Pam and I started working together in 1991, California Agriculture has undergone one transformation after the other. She has responded to each new situation with swift and capable artistry and technical expertise," White says. "Pam's resourceful intelligence, command of subject matter and ability to present complex subject matter through arresting covers and skillful interior designs have helped us widen the appeal of the journal and present the Division's work to a broader audience."

Fabry says that working on 102 issues of the 56-year-old journal has enriched her experience of living in Cali-

fornia. "It was wonderful to be involved with agricultural affairs," she explains. "I drive around understanding the economic base and the history of California. That knowledge changes the way you look at the landscape and changes the way you read the newspaper."

For several years Fabry also helped design and lay out the Natural Reserve System newsletter. "She did this out of the goodness of her heart ... and because she believes in the value of our program," says Transect editor *Susan Gee Rumsey*.

Fabry also spearheaded two redesigns of ANR Report. "ANR Report has benefited in all sorts of ways from Pam's talents," says editor *Gabriele Kassner*. "Her advice always made the newsletter much better."

Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux* says he gained



Pam Fabry

the highest respect for Fabry's professional expertise and judgment while working with her—and often drew on her wealth of general knowledge and "savvy."

Fabry, an avid hiker who typically logs up to 35 miles weekly, looks forward to exploring her beloved Point Reyes, taking art classes and learning Spanish.

She begins her retirement with a visit from daughter *Jessica*, then travels to her native New England to spend time with son *Ben*, daughter-in-law *Lisa*, and her first grandchild, 14-month-old *Kayla*.

## White welcomes three new staff members to California Agriculture

Executive Editor *Janet White* has announced staff changes for California Agriculture, the Division's bimonthly journal.

■ *Janet Byron* is Cal Ag's new managing editor. She succeeds *Pam Kan-Rice*, who on March 1 became the assistant director for news and information outreach, a newly created position in ANR's Governmental and External Relations unit.

Byron joined California Agriculture more than two years ago as special editor

for its acclaimed, four-part series, "Future in Focus: 2000–2025."

She holds a master's degree in journalism from UC Berkeley and has worked as a freelance journalist, science writer and editor.

■ *Davis Krauter* is the journal's new art director. He succeeds *Pam Fabry*, who has retired (see article at top of page).

Krauter comes to ANR from University and External Relations in the UC Office of the President, where he

worked for 17 years, most recently as a senior artist.

His distinctive graphic designs include the UC systemwide directories, UCOP's first webpage and logo/identity programs for Science Today and the California Science Project.

Before becoming a graphic artist, he earned an undergraduate degree in environmental education from UC Berkeley.

■ *John Fausone* is the unit's publications assistant.

He succeeds *Lorrie*

*Mandorlao*, who was promoted to the newly created position of public information assistant in Governmental and External Relations, reporting to *Pam Kan-Rice*.

Fausone, a computer whiz, recently moved to the Bay Area from Fresno.

California Agriculture is produced by the Office of Governmental and External Relations, led by Executive Director *Steve Nation*. The unit, which also produces ANR Report, oversees ANR's governmental relations and news and information outreach.





## COMING UP

### AUGUST

**Pesticide Illnesses & Injuries Workshop**  
Aug. 10; St. Helena; <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPMPROJECT/workshops.html>

### SEPTEMBER

**Calif. Communities Coordinating Conf.**  
Sept. 11-12; Davis; Dave Campbell (530/754-4328; [dave.c.campbell@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dave.c.campbell@ucdavis.edu))

### Cotton Field Day

Sept. 18; Shafter REC; Brian Marsh (661/868-6210; [bhmarsh@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bhmarsh@ucdavis.edu))

### Trainers of Pesticide Handlers and Ag Fieldworkers

Sept. 19 (English); Sept. 20 (Spanish) Winters; <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPMPROJECT/workshops.html>

### Table Grape Tour

Sept. 20; Tulare County; William Peacock (559/685-3309, ext. 217)

### OCTOBER

### Oaks In Calif. Changing Landscape

Oct. 23-25; San Diego; Joni Rippee (510/642-0095); <http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/symposium.html>

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

## Names in the news

■ **Inez Fung**, professor in the UC Berkeley department of environmental science, policy and management and director of the UCB Center for Atmospheric Sciences, was elected in May to the National Academy of Sciences. It is one of the highest honors a U.S. scientist can receive. She specializes in climate and biogeochemical cycles.

■ **Bruce F. Eldridge**, professor emeritus of entomology at UC Davis and former director of the UC Mosquito Research Program, has been elected a fellow of the Entomological Society of America.

■ **Stephen T. Russell**, 4-H youth development specialist in the UC Davis department of human and community development, received a William T. Grant Foundation Faculty Scholars Program Award. It provides \$60,000 annually for five years to support his research project, "Adolescent Sexual Orientation, Health and Competence."

## Regents learn about Central Coast agriculture (from p. 1)

met scores of agricultural and community leaders at receptions in Salinas, Watsonville and the Carmel Valley.

The tour began on the morning of June 28 with a visit to Mann Packing in Salinas and to lettuce harvesting and in-field packing operations at Dave Costa Farms in Chualar. Community leaders met the group at the National Steinbeck Center for lunch, co-hosted by the Monterey County Business Council.

In the afternoon, the group traveled along the base of the Santa Lucia Mountains to Soledad and a tour of Paraiso

## Ag funding (from p. 1)

research, extension and education.

"There has been no growth in the agricultural research budget for more than 15 years and, when inflation is accounted for, the real value of our investment in agricultural research is declining," Vaux said. "Agricultural science, extension and education are the keys to keeping our farmers the best in the world."

President **Atkinson** also supports boosting agricultural funding. In a letter to Dooley he wrote: "As the Congress begins deliberations on the next Farm Bill, I am pleased to learn of your commitment to strengthen the federal investment in agricultural science and education. ... For far too long, we have taken for granted the success of our food and fiber production system, without sustaining the investments in research needed to keep our nation's farms economically viable and environmentally friendly in a rapidly changing world."

The House Committee on Agriculture expects to finish its work on the 2002 Farm Bill by next September.

## Deadline approaches

Aug. 7 is the last day for CE specialists and advisors to request reimbursement funds for professional society meetings held between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 2001.

For more information, contact **Mary Lu McGuire** (510/987-0067).

Springs Vineyards. Local winemakers and grape growers later joined the group for a tour of Chateau Julien Winery and a reception and dinner.

The first stop the next morning was in Watsonville at the greenhouses of Kitayama Brothers, a major grower of cut flowers. Next was a visit to certified organic fields farmed by Dick Peixoto Co., a diversified grower with organic and conventional operations throughout California. The final stop was at strawberry fields owned by Royal Oaks Farms to pick fruit and learn about the challenges facing berry growers, including foreign competition and the loss of methyl bromide. The trip concluded with a luncheon with community leaders at Skillicorn Ranch.

Joining the tour at various stops were County Directors **Laura Tourte** (Santa Cruz) and **Sonya Varea-Hammond** (Monterey), farm advisors **Bill Chaney**, **Richard Smith** and **Steve Tjosvold**, and UC Davis strawberry geneticist **Doug Shaw**. The itinerary was arranged by ANR's Office of Governmental and External Relations, with assistance from UC advisors and the agricultural commissioners in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties.

## ANR REPORT

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources. We invite you to visit ANR's website: <http://danr.ucop.edu>, where you can also access the current issue of **ANR Report** as well as back issues by clicking on the publications button.

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