

Governor signs state budget

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a 2006-07 state budget June 30 that funds UC enrollment growth, provides state funding to “buy out” student fee increases, and allows the university to offer much-needed salary increases to faculty and staff.

The final budget provides state funding above the minimum outlined in the governor’s 2004 “compact” with UC. The university’s state-funded budget in the fiscal year beginning July 1 will total \$3.077 billion, an increase of \$234 million or 8.2 percent above the 2005-06 level.

For budget details, please see the latest Our University newsletter and video letter from President Dynes online at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/newsletter/issue22.html>

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Mauk named Central Coast and South RD

Peggy Mauk has been named regional director for the Central Coast and South Region, effective Sept. 1. Mauk currently serves as county director and subtropical horticulture advisor for Riverside County.

“As county director for Riverside County, Peggy has worked successfully with members of the county and industry to strengthen our agricultural, natural resources and human resources programs and make them vibrant programs for the community,” said VP Gomes. “Her efficient management style and knack for forging productive relationships among campus, county government and industry will serve the counties in the Central Coast and South Region well.”

“I applied for the position of regional director so that I may have the opportunity to continue the strong and effective leadership of previous directors,” Mauk said. “We need to continue to rebuild Cooperative Extension programs making positive impacts addressing critical issues. My goal is to see the success of Cooperative Extension as evidenced by knowledge at work in each community.”

Mauk will succeed Refugio “Cuco” Gonzalez, who served as regional director since 2002 and retired July 1. Terry Salmon, San Diego County director, has agreed to serve as the interim regional director through the end of August.

See full story at <http://news.ucanr.org/newsstorymain.cfm?story=817>

ANR approves 17 positions for recruitment

VP Gomes has announced approval of 17 county-based and area-based Cooperative Extension Advisor positions for recruitment using resources made available by retirements and resignations. The Division used a rigorous review process involving

campus, county and stakeholder input to determine the highest priority needs.

“We are still dramatically smaller than we were in the 1980s, and are still recovering from the budget cuts,” said Gomes, “but our budget has stabilized to where we can fill some of our more critical needs.”

The positions approved for recruitment in 2006-07 are:

- Floriculture & Nursery Crops Advisor – San Diego and South Riverside
- Environmental Horticulture & Nursery Advisor – San Mateo
- Rice Farming Systems Advisor – Sutter/Yuba
- Vegetable Crops Advisor – Fresno
- Pomology Advisor – Merced
- Agricultural Crops & Weed Control Advisor – Madera
- Environmental Horticulture Advisor – Marin and Sonoma
- IPM/Vertebrate Pest Advisor – Kearney REC
- Vegetation Management/Weed Science Advisor – Napa/Redwood Region
- 4-H Youth Development Advisor – Los Angeles
- 4-H Youth Development/Nutrition, Family & Consumer Sciences Advisor – Imperial
- Nutrition, Family & Consumer Sciences Advisor – Stanislaus and Merced
- Nutrition, Family & Consumer Sciences Advisor – Mariposa and Tuolumne
- Water Management/Resources Advisor – Orange and Riverside
- Dairy Advisor - Stanislaus and San Joaquin
- Natural Resources/Water/Range/Livestock Advisor – Modoc/Intermountain Region
- County Director/ Natural Resources Advisor – Humboldt/Del Norte

Gomes appoints committee to examine CE advisor status

VP Gomes has appointed a blue ribbon committee to examine the status of Cooperative Extension advisors. The committee's charge will be to examine a number of issues — primarily advisor non-salary compensation, academic policies and characterizing pools that affect the status of advisors — and to make recommendations for changes where appropriate. The committee will meet throughout the summer and submit their report to Gomes by Sept. 30.

Recognizing that long-standing issues related to CE advisor salary scales have been reviewed and discussed at great length, this committee will closely evaluate the academic policies for CE advisors and seek ways to acknowledge the important contribution of CE advisors to the UC mission.

AVP Standiford and Gomes have discussed formation of this committee with a number of individuals and groups, including the Cooperative Extension

Administrative Working Group, the Academic Assembly Council, the ANR Regional Directors, and members of the ANR Executive Council.

Gomes charged the committee to:

- Develop a matrix of current academic policies and procedures for CE advisors (i.e., consulting policies, salary equity adjustments, off-scale policies, educational requirements, retention packages, housing allowances, access to mortgage origination program loans, “family-friendly” policies, start-up packages, foreign scholars/visas) and compare these to the CE specialist and AES agronomist series.
- Compare the procedures and processes used to evaluate CE advisors for appointments, merits, promotions and accelerations to campus procedures for CE specialists and AES agronomists.

- Determine whether educational requirements for recruiting and appointing CE advisors are appropriate and accurately reflect the pool of top candidates. Evaluate if policies ensure that ANR can offer competitive recruitment packages. Evaluate the types of incentive programs for new hires that could be applied.

Committee members:

Julie Beal, UC Davis
Harry Carlson, Intermountain Research and Extension Center
Keith Gilles, UC Berkeley
Sharon Junge, Placer County
Jim MacDonald, UC Davis
Fe Moncloa, Santa Clara County
Tim Paine, UC Riverside
Terry Salmon, San Diego County
Rick Standiford, chair, UCOP
Steve Vasquez, Fresno County

Butte County extends 4-H advisor recruitment

Butte County has extended the closing date and revised the position number for the 4-H youth development advisor position being recruited.

The full position vacancy announcement for position #ACV 06-01R and required academic application are available at <http://cvr.ucdavis.edu>, or contact Cindy Inouye, UC Cooperative Extension Central Valley Region, 9240 South Riverbend Ave., Parlier, CA 93648; cinouye@uckac.edu, (559) 646-6535. Complete packets must be received by **Sept. 15**.

Farmers can learn Spanish with downloadable audio

There has been a growing interest on the part of farm employers in learning a little Spanish, based on a desire to better communicate with their Spanish-speaking employees.

In response, a Spanish Language Project was begun several years ago by UC Cooperative Extension, based on the following principles: 1) provide tools that will help farmers learn Spanish naturally; 2) focus on learning by first listening; 3) focus on learning by repeating after native Spanish-speakers; 4) preserve the correct use of the Spanish language; 5) avoid the use of slang or “Spanglish”; 6) where several correct words are available, provide words of more universal usage, but if there is no universal word, then provide words used in Mexico; and 7) provide a neutral sounding (audio) Spanish that avoids regional accents.

While the dictionary has been available online for several years, the audio

portion of the project is now taking form. The audio tracks are downloadable from the Internet. Farmers can listen to them either on a computer or burn them onto a disc and play them in a pickup's CD player.

The first lessons are already available on the Web. They include strategies for learning Spanish so learners sound like a native speaker. The lessons also contain several practice audio tracks to work on rolling the *erre* and pronouncing some of the more difficult vowels and consonants.

The project is a public service of the University of California, and is available at <http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/ucce50/ag-labor/spanish/> or <http://tinyurl.com/gmn9w>.

To suggest words or expressions for translation, or to obtain more information about the project, contact farm advisor Gregorio Billikopf at gebillikopf@ucdavis.edu or (209) 525-6800.

UC hosts Western Regional meetings



UC hosted this year's Western Regional Joint Summer Meetings in Monterey, July 9-12.

Participants included deans of agriculture, directors of AES, CE, academic and international programs, and industry members of the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Rick Standiford, Pat Day, Lynne Buenz, Joni Rippee, and Sherry Cooper organized the meeting.

Agricultural tours of the Salinas and Pajaro valleys for the group were organized by Steve Nation, Cheryl Bennett, Peggy Michel, Lobsang WangDu, Lorrie Mandorlao, Jeannette Warnert and Pam Kan-Rice from Governmental and External Relations. Laura Tourte, UCCE Santa Cruz County director; Sonya Varea Hammond, UCCE Monterey County director; Mark Bolda, strawberry and caneberry advisor for Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties; Bill Chaney, entomology advisor for Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties; Carrie Pomeroy, Santa Cruz County marine advisor; Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty, Santa Cruz County 4-H advisor; and Steve Tjosvold, environmental horticulture advisor for Monterey and Santa Cruz counties rode along on the buses to describe ANR programs in their counties and answer questions. Standiford; Neal VanAlfen, CAES dean; Paul Ludden, CNR dean; and Nation each hosted a bus.

The people on the Pajaro Valley-Watsonville tour visited Live Earth Farm, where organic grower Tom Broz talked about his production practices and com-

munity supported agriculture (CSA). He has 550 CSA members, who receive a box of freshly harvested organic produce every week from March to November.

The tour group also visited Maristone, a controlled-environment hydroponic grower of gourmet herbs, salads and edible flowers. Owner David Mariani guided them through his greenhouses, while explaining how he controls pests without using pesticides.

At the UC Davis Watsonville Strawberry Research Facility, Doug Shaw, UC Davis pomologist and strawberry breeder, and Don Yoshimura, senior superintendent of the facility, had the tour participants taste UC-developed strawberries. Shaw described how they test cultivars and develop cultural practices at the facility.

The group that toured the Salinas Valley visited Fresh Express' receiving yard and cooler in Salinas, where Randy Hauptmann, director of raw products, described how produce is cooled within four hours of picking to preserve freshness. They donned hairnets and observed an iceberg lettuce harvest near Chualar, where Tim Wexler, harvest supervisor, explained worker safety measures and production practices.

At Paraiso Vineyards in Soledad, owner and grower Richard R. Smith gave a tour of his vineyards, pointing out the different vine spacings and cultural practices he has adopted for pinot noir, chardonnay and other varieties. Smith also talked about the value of research from UC and other land-grant universities before offering his guests a chance to taste Paraiso wines.

About 140 people participated in the two tours.



Clockwise from top left: Wexler, right, shows how to core head lettuce; Shaw, right, leads a strawberry variety taste test; Broz, right, shares organic strawberries; Smith, left, discusses grapevine spacing; and Mariani shows how to grow herbs with little soil.

Cal Ag posts articles to Digital Library; now handling peer review online

California Agriculture, ANR's journal of agricultural, natural and human resources, has begun posting all published, peer-reviewed articles to the California Digital Library's eScholarship Repository. The magazine's new site on the eScholarship Repository can be viewed at <http://repositories.cdlib.org/anrcs/californiaagriculture>. (The full text of research and news articles will continue to be posted in full to the *California Agriculture* Web site, <http://CaliforniaAgriculture.ucop.edu>.)

By joining the "journals and peer-reviewed series" of the Repository, *California Agriculture* will reach a wider audience of scholars, professionals and consumers seeking scientifically sound, accessible research in the areas of agricultural, natural and human resources. Peer-reviewed *California Agriculture* research articles from 2004 onward have been archived to the

Repository; they will archive additional articles as resources allow.

The Repository is a free, open-access database publishing the full range of scholarship. Posted materials are freely available to the public online. Since it opened in April 2002, the Repository has recorded nearly 3.4 million downloads.

With posting on the Repository, *California Agriculture* has also established a new online system for handling manuscript submissions and managing peer review. The new system is also accessed via the *California Agriculture* eScholarship Repository site. Prospective authors for *California Agriculture* can now utilize the Repository's secure server to make submissions, upload revisions and check on the status of articles.



Associate editors can submit reports and suggest reviewers online, and reviewers can post their anonymous reports directly to the site. The site's simple online interface was tailored to *California Agriculture's* needs by Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress) with its EdiKit software.

Submitting authors should visit *California Agriculture* on the eScholarship Repository at the above URL. Click on "Submit Article" and follow the instructions.

For further information, write to Janet Byron, *California Agriculture* managing editor, at janet.byron@ucop.edu or call (510) 987-0668.

Names in the news

Van Gundy honored by Moldovan NAS

Seymour Van Gundy, former dean of UCR College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, with 36 years at UCR, has carried on a relationship with Moldova after retirement, which has yielded great friendships, productive collegial partnerships, and research exchanges for both faculty and students. And now, Van Gundy can count his induction into Moldova's National Academy of Sciences—that country's highest academic body, as another symbol of that relationship.



Moldova is a former Soviet republic sandwiched between Romania and Ukraine that gained its independence in 1991. Van Gundy was inducted during a ceremony June 12 in the nation's capital, Chisinau. The ceremony corresponds with the academy's 60th anniversary celebration.

Although retired from the Department of Nematology at UCR since 1993, Van Gundy has continued working as an agricultural consultant for the University Extension's Natural Sciences Division,

coordinating the Extension's Environmental Education Partnership (EEP), which established ties between UCR and Moldova State University. EEP is part of a larger effort by the University Extension to build educational and research alliances in Russia and the newly formed independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Higher education reform is one of many items on the agenda of Moldova's leaders. The republic's higher education system has followed the Soviet model of keeping teaching and research separated and under the control of separate government ministries, Van Gundy said.

— Ricardo Duran

Churches named interim Tuolumne CD

Ken Churches has been named interim UCCE county director for Tuolumne County. He is filling in for Jay Norton, who left at the end of June to take a position with the University of Wyoming. Churches is also county director, farm advisor and 4-H youth development advisor for Calaveras County.



Retirements

Joanne Ikeda

Joanne Ikeda, Cooperative Extension nutrition education specialist and lecturer in UC Berkeley's department of Nutritional Sciences and Toxicology and founding co-director of the UC Berkeley Center for Weight and Health, is retiring after 26 years with UC.

Ikeda, a nationally recognized expert on pediatric obesity and the dietary practices of ethnic and immigrant populations, is a strong proponent of obesity approaches that emphasize health rather than weight loss. She is widely known for her pioneering research on the food habits and dietary quality of California's "nutritionally vulnerable" low-income, immigrant and ethnic populations, and has developed culturally sensitive and relevant educational programs for these groups. "Cultural and age appropriateness has been the hallmark of her efforts," said Sharon Fleming, UC Berkeley professor of Nutritional Sciences.



— continued on page 5

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By understanding the valuable dietary practices of cultural minorities, Ikeda is able to win their trust. For example, said Leonard Bjeldanes, UC Berkeley professor of Nutritional Sciences, “When Joanne approached Native American communities, she emphasized the many positive Native American practices that her previous research had identified. Tribal leaders, who were inundated with grim statistics about health problems in their communities, were delighted to hear ‘good news’ and enthusiastically endorsed a nutrition education project that she developed in collaboration with their communities.”

Ikeda advocates the concept of “health at any size.” According to Fleming, Ikeda’s “remarkable ability to understand and accept the full range of persons, communities and cultures that comprise our world probably led to her taking a strong and effective stand regarding body weight acceptance.”

Ikeda has authored or co-authored several books and many training manuals designed to help health care professionals, paraprofessionals and parents instill healthful eating habits and encourage physical activity in children and adolescents. She has chaired the Weight Realities Division of the Society for Nutrition Education, is past president of the California Dietetic Association, and was formerly the California delegate to the American Dietetic Association. Recently, she has served as scientific advisor to the National Organization to Advance Fat Acceptance.

She earned her BS in Human Nutrition and Food Science at Cornell University and her MA in Nutrition Education at San Francisco State.

— Cyril Manning

George Leavitt

Madera County viticulture advisor George Leavitt retired June 29 after 34 years with UC.

Leavitt was born on an Arizona Indian reservation where his grandfather taught farming to Native Americans. After World War II, the family settled on a five-acre nectarine farm in Reedley. He earned a bachelor’s in botany at Brigham Young University.

While completing a master’s in biological sciences at BYU, Leavitt started working as a staff research associate at Kearney REC. Under the direction of legendary viticulture specialist Fred Jenson, Leavitt began working on grapevines and became the Madera County viticulture advisor in 1975.



In the early 1980s, Leavitt completed a Ph.D. in plant pathology at UC Riverside. He studied and advised growers on bot canker, phomopsis, powdery mildew and, one year, downy mildew.

A recent innovation for powdery mildew control is a project Leavitt undertook with Fresno County viticulture advisor Stephen Vasquez to monitor weather conditions and to post the information on the Web. Growers check online to find out whether the conditions are optimal for the disease. If not, they can postpone the usage of fungicides and save hundreds of dollars in treatment costs.

Leavitt received a Distinguished Service Award for Research from UC in 1987 and he was honored by the California Association of Pest Control Advisers last year for his contribution to California agriculture.

During retirement, Leavitt said he will complete several projects, including a study using DNA technology to distinguish various bot canker species, and the revision of UC’s Grape Integrated Pest Management Manual. Leavitt plans to move to Spanish Fork, Utah, where he and his wife will be close to some of their 24 grandchildren and can enjoy hunting, fishing, snow skiing, gardening and the local cultural arts.

— Jeannette Warnert

Alexander “Sandy” Purcell

Alexander “Sandy” Purcell, professor of entomology at UC Berkeley’s College of Natural Resources, retired July 1 after 35 years of research and teaching.

Purcell was instrumental in first culturing *Xylella fastidiosa* and demon-

strating the bacteria as the cause of Pierce’s disease, whose devastating effects on grapevines gravely threatened California’s vineyards. Much of Purcell’s work has focused on the understanding and mitigating the impacts of the glassy-winged sharpshooter, *X. fastidiosa*’s most dangerous vector.



“Sandy wrote the book on understanding the process by which many important agricultural diseases operate,” said UC Berkeley collaborator and microbial biology professor Steve Lindow. “His work has been unique and incredibly important because it looks at both the process of plant pathology via insect vectors, and also the epidemiology of disease, understanding how a disease moves around.”

Rodrigo Almeida, an assistant professor of insect biology at UC Berkeley and Purcell’s former graduate student, said that in addition to his research contributions, Purcell was also a great mentor. “Members of the lab group could always try their own ideas. He never said ‘this is a bad idea,’ but instead subtly directed people to where they would find their own success,” Almeida said.

Most importantly, Almeida said, “Sandy always emphasized the importance of field work, and of linking basic research to real-world problems.”

Purcell earned his BS from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado and his Ph.D. in Entomology at UC Davis in 1974. He began teaching at UC Berkeley in 1974 and served as chair of the department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management from 1993 to 1994 and as head of the Environmental Biology division the following year.

— Cyril Manning

In memoriam

Robert W. Brazelton

Robert W. Brazelton, Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, died June 18 at age 87 from complications of Parkinson's disease.



A farm safety specialist, Brazelton was born in Colorado. He taught elementary school and then wrote aircraft manuals for Douglas Aircraft Company during World War II.

He went on to earn a degree in agricultural engineering in 1950 at UC Davis. He worked in farm equipment manufacturing for five years and spent 10 years working in the aerospace industry before joining the UC Davis faculty in 1965.

As a Cooperative Extension specialist, Brazelton worked with county farm advisors and 4-H organizers to promote safe practices with farm equipment and pesticide handling. He went on to earn a master's degree in safety engineering from the University of Southern California in 1975.

He was active in the American Association of Agricultural Engineers and was a licensed professional engineer and mechanical engineer. He retired from UC Davis in 1986.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dorothy Brazelton, two children, and two grandchildren. — Pat Bailey

Harold P. Olmo

Harold P. Olmo, professor emeritus in the Department of Viticulture and Enology, died June 30 at the age of 96 from complications of a hip fracture. Olmo was a world-renowned grape geneticist, who developed some 30 grape varieties and improved or authenticated many more. Born in San Francisco, he earned a bachelor's degree in horticulture from UC Davis and UC

Berkeley, then joined the viticulture and enology department at UC Davis in 1931. He earned a doctoral degree in genetics from UC Berkeley in 1934.

During his career, he traveled the world in search of rare or endangered grapevines, bringing cuttings back to UC Davis to be studied and propagated. Wild grapevines that he brought back from Afghanistan during the 1940s were grown in UC Davis vineyards, and cuttings from some have recently been sent back to Afghanistan because they are now extinct there.

The varieties he developed include the perlette, his first tablegrape, as well as the ruby cabernet, emerald Riesling, centurion, carnelian symphony, rubired, carmine and flora wine grapes. Colleagues note that his work on the chardonnay grape was responsible for developing it from an insignificant variety into California's most important wine grape variety, now grown on nearly 100,000 acres throughout the state.

By developing varieties that would grow and ripen at various times and under different environmental conditions, Olmo was responsible for greatly expanding California's agricultural industry.

He retired from UC Davis in 1977 but maintained an office on campus and continued his research until very recently.

His many awards include the Laureate and Medal for Outstanding Contributions to World Viticulture from the Office International de la Vigne et du Vin; the Papal Medal, Benemerenti, from the Catholic Church; and the Rockefeller Spirit of Service Award. He was a Guggenheim fellow, Fulbright scholar and a consultant to the United Nations for more than 20 years.

He is survived by three children and six grandchildren. — Pat Bailey



Snapshot of VP & AVP activities

Over the past four weeks, VP Gomes engaged in the following meetings:

- 6/21-23 California Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors Retreat, Monterey
- 6/2 State Board of Food and Agriculture, Sacramento
- 7/8-10 2006 Western Regional Joint Summer Meetings, Monterey
- 7/10-14 American Dairy Science Association (ADSA)/American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) 2006 Joint Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN-ADSA Fellow Award Recipient
- 7/16-18 Agricultural Heads Section Fly-In, Chicago, IL

Every Monday
President's Cabinet

Twice monthly
UC VP Cabinet with the President

Every Monday
ANR VP Cabinet

Over the past four weeks, AVP Standiford engaged in the following meetings:

- 6/18 Ron Vargas's retirement dinner, Madera
- 6/19 Vice Provost Larry Coleman, Oakland
- 6/20 Interview Central Coast & Southern Region director candidates, Oakland
- 6/21 Central Coast/South Region County Director meeting, Ontario
- 6/22 North Coast and Mountain Region County Directors, Redding
- 6/22 Executive Council Conference Call
- 6/23 CAES Dean Van Alfen & Jim MacDonald; Leadership Development Oversight Committee, Davis
- 6/27 Dept. of Pesticide Regulation; 4-H Foundation Board, Sacramento
- 7/6 CAES Dean Van Alfen & Jim MacDonald, Davis
- 7/8-12 Host Western Director's Meeting, Monterey
- 7/14 CE Advisor Status Task Force

ANR REPORT

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