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START modified

The following modifications have been made to the Staff and Academic Reduction in Time (START) Program:

- Extension of the end date of the program to Dec. 31, 2010
- Adjustment of the 5 percent minimum reduction in time
- Eligibility of probationary staff employees to participate in the program

ANR unit heads have the authority to approve all actions related to the START Program and should decide on the review and approval process.

The other START documents (brochure, Q&A, contract, and contract amendment) will be revised shortly to reflect the modifications, and will be available on the At Your Service Web site: http://atyourservice.ucop.edu/employees/policies_employee_labor_relations/start/index.html

For more information, contact Carolyn Frazier at (530) 752-7497 or cvfrazier@ucdavis.edu or Robert Martinez at (530) 742-3467 or ramartinez@ucdavis.edu.

Dear Colleagues:

As 2009 draws to a close, I want to take the opportunity to express my thanks to all of you for your professionalism, passion and dedication to ANR and its stakeholders. I sincerely appreciate the invaluable contributions you have made to ANR this past year. This has been an exceptionally challenging year for all of us and many changes will continue through the coming new year as we transition to the new organizational structure.

I wish you and your families the best for the holidays. I look forward to working with you in 2010 to help prepare California for the future.

Daniel M. Dooley

Vice President – Agriculture and Natural Resources
Senior Vice President – External Relations



Furlough exchange available for advisors and non-campus-based specialists

ANR has received approval to implement the Furlough Exchange Program (FEP) for Cooperative Extension (CE) advisors and non-campus-based CE specialists who are subject to the Salary Reduction/Furlough Plan. The FEP allows eligible ANR academics to devote extra effort to research projects instead of using furlough time. In exchange for not being furloughed, individuals may charge an equivalent amount of effort to extramural funding, subject to granting agency approval. Individuals may elect to begin FEP on Jan. 1, 2010.

Individuals who elect to participate in this program will forfeit their furlough days and therefore will be expected to work during ANR/campus closures. During the period of FEP participation, furlough days forfeited may not be used for any other purpose, including additional consulting days.

Implementation guidelines and the form that must be completed and approved are at http://groups.ucanr.org/Academic_Personnel/Furlough_Information/.

For more information, contact Carolyn Frazier at (530) 752-7497 or cvfrazier@ucdavis.edu.

CS Update

Switch to new Adobe Connect server now

The old “breeze” server is being retired so everyone using Adobe Connect should begin using the new Adobe-hosted server immediately. Access information, including your initial password is on your ANR Portal (my.ucanr.org) under My Links, Adobe Connect. Once logged into the new server, you can change your password by clicking on My Profile in the upper right of your Adobe Connect home page.

Recordings and published Adobe Presenter content on the old server are currently available on a virtual server and will continue to be accessible until the transfer is complete. A process is being developed to transfer old content to the new server at <http://ucanr.org/connect> (aka <http://uc-d/na.4/acrobat.com>). Powerpoint, MP3, JPEGs, SWF and FLV files that you have uploaded will not be transferred. They reside in specific meetings on the old server and you'll need to re-upload them after you create a new meeting room.

“Author” rights for Presenter files are no longer affordable (\$150/per person/year) on the new server. As a result, users of the Adobe Presenter add-in to PowerPoint will need to

publish to one generic account set up for that purpose. For details, please contact ANRConnectPro@ucdavis.edu for access information.

The ANR portal's Adobe Connect link also features an FAQ and more than 40 brief tutorials that demonstrate specific functions of both meetings and use of Adobe Presenter, an add-in to PowerPoint.

Office fire extinguisher training for ANR

UCD Fire Department personnel conducted fire extinguisher training at the Sea Grant office on campus last month. Ray Lucas and Mike Poe, CS producer-directors, captured the training and have made it available to everyone in ANR. The 5.5-minute video covers when to use an office fire extinguisher, the different types, and how to inspect and use them.

The video is at <http://ucanr.org/repository/view.cfm?article=73003>. It can also be found on the CS Web site, in the ANR Repository (search for “fire extinguisher”) and on the ANR Environmental Health & Safety Web site at <http://safety.ucanr.org/>.

Nominations open for 2010 Pedro Ilic Awards

Nominations are open for the 2010 Pedro Ilic Awards, which honor dedication to small-scale farming. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 15.

The awards will be presented March 1 at the California Small Farm Conference in San Diego.

The awards are named for Fresno County small-scale farm advisor Pedro Ilic, whose untimely death in 1994 prompted the UC Small Farm Program to annually honor those who carry out his legacy of personal commitment to small-scale and family farming. Ilic was one of the original advisors when the Small Farm Program was established in 1979.

The annual awards honor an educator and a farmer who embody characteristics that helped make Ilic a success. Each honoree is chosen because he or she:

- Envisions what can be done and has the imagination, energy and intellect to translate that vision into a successful activity
- Is part of the solution, not of the problem; critical in thinking, but constructive in approach
- Is an advocate and risk taker

- Is an effective teacher, instills self-esteem in others and constantly encourages others
- Is a dedicated professional who believes in his or her work
- Has determination, exuberance, high energy and genuine friendliness for all people, with the conviction that the smallest is as important as the biggest
- Has high personal and family values

Last year's honorees were Dan Macon, an innovative Placer County rancher, and Jim Leap, farm manager for UC Santa Cruz Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems.

Nominations are reviewed by a committee from the UC Small Farm Program and UC Cooperative Extension in Fresno County, as well as associates of Pedro Ilic.

Nominations are online at <http://ucanr.org/ilic-award>. More information about the awards, including past recipients, is available at <http://sfc.ucdavis.edu/awards/>. For questions, call (530) 752-8136 or e-mail lmvieira@ucdavis.edu.

Names in the News



Kassim Al-Khatib

Al-Khatib named IPM director

Kassim Al-Khatib has been named director of the Integrated Pest Management Program, effective Jan. 19. His new appointment is 25 percent professor in UC Davis Plant Sciences and 75 percent Cooperative Extension specialist as director of UC IPM.

Al-Khatib has been a professor of weed science at Kansas State University since 1996. From 1989 to 1996, he was an assistant horticulturist/agronomist, then a weed specialist for Cooperative Extension at Washington State University, where he served as director of the Western Washington IR-4 Field Research Center from 1993 to 1996.

He is past president of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology and past president of Western Society of Weed Science. Al-Khatib is a fellow of Western Society of Weed Science, American Society of Agronomy, and North Central Weed Science Society.

He has authored or co-authored three books and 84 peer-reviewed publications and holds two patents related to sorghum.

He earned his Ph.D. from Kansas State and his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from University of Baghdad.

Contracts & Grants welcomes 3 new employees



Heidi von Geldern

Heidi von Geldern joined Contracts & Grants as federal subaward analyst on Oct. 13.

A Sacramento native, von Geldern returned to Northern California after working for the past 12 years in the Washington, DC area on USAID-funded projects that strengthen non-governmental organizations in Bosnia, Albania and Montenegro. She

monitored some elections in Bosnia, Ukraine & Indonesia during this time period. In the last 2½ years, she worked at the Office of Research Administration & Advancement at the University of Maryland as a contract administrator.

She earned a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Sacramento State and a master's in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

von Geldern can be reached at (530) 754-8481 and hvongeldern@ucdavis.edu.

Bernadine Smith joined Contracts & Grants as a principal analyst on Nov. 25. Smith oversees the analytical and administrative activities associated with the (1) institutional review and approval of proposals for extramural funding; (2) review, negotiation, acceptance and amendment of extramural awards on behalf of The Regents of the University of California; (3) drafting and issuance of subagreements for research collaborations; and (4) timely closeout of contract and grants.

Smith joined UC in 2001. Prior to joining ANR, Smith worked as a contract and grant officer with UC Davis Office of Sponsored



Bernadine Smith

Programs and a principal auditor with UC Davis Internal Audit Services. Smith completed her bachelor's degree in business management/accountancy at California State University, Sacramento, and is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor.

Smith can be reached at (530) 754-3944 and bersmith@ucdavis.edu.



Soheil Jadali

Soheil Jadali has been named Senior Analyst, effective Dec. 21. He earned a bachelor's degree in criminology & psychology from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC, Canada. He has been working as a Grants and Contracts analyst in the UC Davis Office of Research's Sponsored Programs.

After Dec. 21, Jadali can be reached at (530) 754-2976 and sjadali@ucdavis.edu.

Floyd Thompson, a retired UC San Francisco contract & grant officer who has been filling in as senior analyst since August, will be leaving Dec. 18. He will become a senior contract associate with Medtronic, a medical device company, in Santa Rosa.

De la Vega joins NOS

Norma De la Vega has joined News & Information Outreach in Spanish as a senior writer as of Dec. 1. She brings to ANR 25 years of experience in newspaper, radio and television reporting.

Prior to coming to NOS, De la Vega was a staff writer for Enlace, the San Diego Union-Tribune's Spanish-language publication, for 10 years. She has also reported for La Opinión, Excélsior, Radio Monitor, Hispanos Unidos, XEW-Channel 12 in Tijuana and El Mexicano.

De la Vega has won several awards for her reporting. Most recently her Enlace series "Diet, What Diet?" was honored by New American Media as the best in the 2009 National Ethnic Media category of Health Care.

She earned her BA in communication science from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

De la Vega is based in Riverside and can be reached at (951) 827-3371 and norma.vega@ucr.edu.

Sigala moves to Statewide Master Gardener Program

James Sigala has become a program representative for the UC Statewide Master Gardener Program. He joined UC Cooperative Extension in Mariposa County in January 2009 as the Master Gardener Program coordinator, before transferring to the statewide position in October.

In his new position based in Orland, Sigala does training, manages events and maintains the Statewide Master Gardener Web sites. Prior to coming to UC, the Fresno native worked for a landscape contractor in the San Francisco Bay Area as an account manager/landscape designer.



Norma De la Vega



James Sigala

Names in the News continued from page 3

Sigala has a bachelor's degree in horticulture from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and an M.A. from Fresno State in history.

He can be reached at (530) 865-1261 and jsigala@ucdavis.edu.

Filmer and Klonsky appointed to state advisory committee



Ann King Filmer

Ann King Filmer and Karen Klonsky have been appointed by California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura to three-year terms on the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC).

Filmer, communications director for UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, is serving as the environmental representative on COPAC. Klonsky, a Cooperative Extension specialist in the UC Davis Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, is serving a second term as a technical representative on COPAC.

COPAC board members advise the Secretary of Agriculture and CDFA staff members in the California Organic Program on issues

Small Farm Conference set for Feb. 28 to March 2 in San Diego

More than 400 small-scale farmers and their supporters are expected to attend the 2010 California Small Farm Conference, Feb. 28 to March 2 in San Diego. Key-note speakers for the event will include USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan, LA Times food columnist Russ Parsons and SlowFood USA President Josh Viertel.

New topics addressed in workshops will include social media marketing for farms, restaurant partnerships with farmers markets, urban beekeeping, alternative energy options and niche crops such as coffee and tea. The conference will include 25 workshops in five tracks organized around resource management, marketing, production strategies, farmers market management and agricultural hot topics.

Short courses at this year's conference will address topics related to greenhouse production, water conservation strategies,

agritourism, organic certification and value-added products at farmers markets.

ANR experts, including Ramiro Lobo, Penny Leff, Mark Gaskell, Ben Faber and Shermain Hardesty are organizing tours and workshops on topics from new crops to agritourism to niche meat production. Hardesty and Linda Vieira serve on the conference's board of directors.

Scholarships are available for farmers, ranchers, farm workers, market managers and agricultural students. Scholarship applications are due Jan. 8. Early registration is \$100 and ends Jan. 15.

The UC Small Farm Program is an organizing sponsor of California Small Farm Conference, the state's premier gathering of small farmers and those who support them. For more information about the California Small Farm Conference, visit www.californiafarmconference.com.

related to the California Organic Products Act and the federal Organic Foods Production Act in an effort to protect consumers, producers, handlers, processors, and retailers of agricultural products and foods that are labeled or sold as organic.



Karen Klonsky

Cobey receives distinguished service award



Susan Cobey

Susan Cobey, UC Davis bee breeder-geneticist, has received the 2009 California State Beekeepers' Association's Distinguished Service Award for her service to the honey bee industry.

Cobey, who accepted the award at the beekeepers' recent conference in San Diego, drew praise for improving stock, teaching advanced beekeeping courses on queen bee rearing and instrument insemination, and pushing to develop import protocol to diversify the U.S. honey bee populations.

Register trips for travel insurance and security protection benefits

The university provides travel insurance and assistance for all ANR employees traveling out of state or out of country on UC business. While this insurance coverage is always available, travelers must register their travel information to use the services.

Coverage also extends to spouses, domestic partners and dependents when traveling with university employees as personal travelers. The benefits include Security Extraction, Medical Evacuation and Travel Assistance, in addition to other services.

Unfortunately, only a small percentage of UC travelers complete their online travel profile, which contains key emergency contact and travel itinerary information. Failure to enter this information may result in communication delays or difficulties in the event of an emergency.

When OP-based employees book work-related travel through UC Travel (www.travel.ucla.edu), the travel

insurance registration is automatically transmitted to iJET.

Employees who use Davis-based systems (such as MyTravel) or book their own travel using Connexus or any other system, must register their trips at <http://www.uctrips-insurance.org>.

Registered UC travelers will receive direct e-mail notices from iJET/Worldcue regarding political unrest, natural disasters, war activities, health warnings, etc. The iJET/Worldcue system notifies ANR Risk Services about travelers and their itineraries, thus providing critical information in the event of an emergency.

For more information, please review the ANR Business Travel safety Web page at <http://ucanr.org/travel>, or contact Linda Harris, Risk Services analyst, at olharris@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-7481 or Brian Oatman, Environmental Health & Safety manager, at baotman@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-6024.

Lindcove celebrates 50 years



Lindcove REC combined its annual citrus tasting with a lab dedication and a 50th anniversary celebration on Dec. 11. VP Dooley and AVP Barbara Allen-Diaz, shown tasting fruit, were among the participants. Dooley said Lindcove's working relationship with the citrus industry and growers is a perfect example of a successful UC partnership with the private sector that is yielding results, not just for citrus growers but for all of those folks who love to eat the fruit.

Retirements

Larry L. Strand

Larry L. Strand retired Dec. 5 after 25 years as UC Integrated Pest Management Program's principal editor.

Strand came to UC Davis in 1976 as a postgraduate research scientist in the departments of Plant Pathology, Vegetable Crops and Pomology from 1976 to 1984, working with Joe Ogawa, Shang Fa Yang, John Labavitch, and Leonard Morris.

In 1984, he joined UC IPM. Working with UC specialists and advisors, Strand researched, wrote and revised integrated pest management manuals for specific crops. He also worked closely with photographers to obtain photos for IPM products and supervised the UC IPM photo collection.

"Larry Strand pulled together a number of the classic UC IPM manuals," said Frank Zalom, UC Davis entomology specialist who was UC IPM director for 16 years. "His low-key approach coupled with solid academic credentials and a true understanding of IPM made him a pleasure to work with, and the quality of the products speak for themselves.

"Most people probably don't know that Larry spent many hours in the field with Jack Kelly Clark to help produce the unique photo catalog that will remain a key resource for UC extension publications for years to come," Zalom added. "Larry cared for the photo collection, painstakingly inventorying Jack's photos so that they can be readily accessed. Larry also became an excellent photographer in his own right."

Strand earned his B.S. in zoology and his Ph.D. in plant pathology & biochemistry from Oregon State University. He worked as a postdoctoral research scientist at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research in Yonkers, NY prior to coming to UC.



In Memoriam



Lon Clair Christensen

Lon Clair Christensen, community development specialist emeritus, died Nov. 16 in Davis. He was 81.

Christensen was born in Thatcher, Utah, and was a member of 4-H and FFA. While earning a bachelor's degree in agronomy from Utah State University, Christensen

raised 5,000 turkeys each year to help pay his way. He also earned a master's degree in economics from North Carolina State University. He began his career as an extension specialist for Utah State and then University of Nevada. He worked for UC Cooperative Extension as a rural community development specialist based at UC Davis from 1972 until retiring in 1997.

Christensen was the executive director of the California Rural Affairs Council. He was also a task force chairman for the Small Farm Viability Project report of 1977, and directed the development of the Small Farm Program for nearly a decade. He helped organize the first California Small Farm Conference in 1982, now convening for its 23rd year.

"Clair always tried to do things the nice way," said former colleague Manuel Jimenez, Tulare County small farm advisor. "He had a way of trying to wedge himself into other groups, bringing them into the loop to help small farmers throughout the state. He was not just trying to make a program work; his heart was in it, his soul."

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Verona Christensen, their three sons and a daughter, 20 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

— Brenda Dawson

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources.

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