

ANR REPORT

University of California ■ Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Aug. 11- Sept. 7, 1998

UCR researcher Harry Shorey dies in accident



Harry Shorey, an entomologist based at UC Riverside — and a world-renowned pioneer and scholar in the study of insect behavior and the chemical cues insects use to communicate with one another — died on Aug. 17 in an automobile accident on Highway 111 in Coachella. He was 67.

Also killed in the collision was *Ryan Mahaffey*, 18, a family friend who was assisting Shorey with his research.

On the day of the accident the two men were in the Coachella Valley to lay traps
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UC budget rises by 11 percent — new funding for ag research

The new state budget provides the University with \$2.519 billion, including an increase of \$270 million in permanent general funds. “This is the best budget of the decade for the University of California,” President *Atkinson* said.

Governor *Wilson* signed the state budget Aug. 21.

The budget bill Wilson received from the Legislature included several augmentations to UC's budget of special interest to the Division.

The governor signed legislation to provide:

- \$2.75 million for agricultural research on campuses, *but he vetoed the component of the budget augmentation that would have provided \$2.75 million for Cooperative Extension programs;*
- \$2.5 million for expansion of UC Davis School of

Veterinary Medicine programs; and

- \$265,000 for viticulture and enology research (industry match required).

The governor vetoed a \$4 million augmentation to give UC's non-Senate academic employees an additional 0.4 percent pay raise.

The augmentations are in addition to the research and extension appropriations for DANR contained in the University's budget.

Of the University's highest priorities for budget augmentations — obtaining state funding for *all* enrolled students, for teacher certification and for the CE and ag research initiative — only the student enrollment and the ag research component of the augmentations were funded.

The final state budget also includes two special

Statewide biological control conference attracts 220 experts

Some 220 experts on biological approaches to pest control in California are up-to-date on colleagues' activities throughout the state and on state and federal regulations affecting their work, since attending a statewide meeting on the subject co-sponsored by DANR and held on the UC Berkeley campus June 10-11.

The California Conference on Biological Control included presentations by researchers

from the three UC agricultural schools at Berkeley, Davis and Riverside, the USDA-Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and other agencies.

“Biological control is a very important component of the research program for many UC, state and federal researchers, said *Michael Parrella*, chair of the ento-

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augmentations to Cal EPA's Department of Pesticide Regulations budget that affect the Division's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension Program. SAREP will receive \$1 million for continuation of the biologically integrated farming systems (BIFS) program and \$1 million for research on alternatives to methyl bromide. SAREP's Acting Director *Bob Reginato* will form a team of researchers systemwide to participate in the methyl bromide research.

“The tremendous support from the University, the Legislature and our friends throughout California indicates that our efforts next year will result in a better outcome for Cooperative Extension,” said Vice President *Gomes*. “We are beginning efforts toward that goal starting now.”

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How to send comments to the Transition Team

The Transition Team has set up an electronic suggestions box to get ideas and comments to them quickly.

Send email to: transition.team@ucop.edu

Or you may fax correspondence in care of *Kay Harrison Taber* (510/451-2317).

The mailing address is: *Kay Harrison Taber*, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland CA 94607-5200.

All comments (signed or unsigned) will be reviewed.

Shorey (from p. 1)

for carob moths, a pest of date crops.

Services for Shorey were held on Friday, Aug. 21 at Harvest Christian Fellowship, in Riverside.

“Dr. Shorey will be remembered by his colleagues and his students and research assistants for his great passion for his field,” said UCR chancellor *Raymond Orbach*. “His legacy will be preserved by those who were trained in his laboratories, were influenced by his work, and were touched by his humanity.

“I know I speak for the UCR community in expressing heartfelt condolences to his family, his colleagues and his wide circle of friends.”

Shorey joined the UCR entomology department in 1959. From 1975 to 1978, he was head of the Division of Biological Control. In

1976, he received the Bussart Award from the Entomological Society of America for his research in economic entomology. In 1977, he was named co-winner of the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Award for his work in natural insect pest control. He left UC in 1978 to operate his own retail nursery and greenhouse in Vashon, Wash.

Shorey returned to UC in 1984 as director of the Kearney Agricultural Center in Parlier. In 1986 he resumed his work as a research entomologist, first at UC Berkeley and then at UC Davis. He transferred to UCR in 1995, where he also taught as an adjunct professor. His laboratory has been headquartered at Kearney Ag Center since 1986. He published more than 150 articles.

Shorey was a leader in

the development and use of synthetic pheromones to disrupt the mating process of ag pests. His development of pheromone “puffers” to control moths and other insect pests recently received widespread media attention in California.

The devices, still undergoing testing prior to their commercial availability, work by releasing the pheromone equivalent of 5 million to 10 million female insects, thereby confusing male insects and preventing them from mating.

At the time of his death, Shorey was also studying the food gathering behavior of ants, with a view toward blocking their foraging by using repellent pheromones or by leading them toward baits containing both pheromones and pesticides.

Shorey was a member of the Entomological Society of

America as well as the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He is survived by his wife, *Ellen*, three daughters, three sons, a brother and a sister.

Memorial contributions can be made to the UCR Harry Shorey Memorial Scholarship Fund. Checks should be made out to UC Regents and sent to UC, Department of Entomology, Attn: Accounting, Riverside CA 92521. Please write the fund’s name on the check.

In memoriam

Kenneth S. Norris, acclaimed marine-mammal researcher, author, co-founder of the UC Natural Reserve System, and a UC Santa Cruz professor of natural history when he retired in 1990, died in San Francisco on Aug. 16. He was 74 years old.

Biocontrol (from p. 1)

mology department at UCD and chair of the conference steering committee. “The quantity of information shared at the conference elevated everyone’s awareness of the amount and quality of the work going on across the full spectrum of pests affecting agriculture in the U.S.” This year’s conference focused on systems of augmentation with examples drawn from insects, diseases and weeds. Future conferences, he said, may address other areas of biological control, such as classical biological control.

The conference evolved from a smaller gathering of biological control experts and regulators held in Sacramento in 1996. That meeting was designed to reinvigorate the

field, which many practitioners believe has suffered because of declining budgetary support. The recent conference aimed to strengthen networks among the state’s researchers, extension specialists, regulators and producers and to stimulate renewed support for biological control research and activities throughout the UC system.

“We were particularly interested in bringing currently active researchers into contact with each other and with the community that uses the products of their research,” said *Mike Stimmann*, statewide pesticide coordinator and director of the Center for Pest Management Research and Extension (CPMRE) at UCD. “I believe we were successful in opening dialogue

between the many active groups.”

Don Dahlsten of UC Berkeley’s College of Natural Resources, who served on the conference’s steering committee, said, “There was tremendous enthusiasm and excitement at the conference — at the lectures, the poster sessions and even just in the hallways.”

The Conference Advisory Committee will meet in the coming months to explore establishing a working group to plan for the next conference.

Conference sponsors also included the three UC agricultural colleges; the California Department of Food and Agriculture; CPMRE; the National Biological Control Institute; the UC Systemwide Center for Exotic Pest Re-

search and the Association for Natural Biological Control Producers.

Thanks to UC Riverside biological specialist *Mark Hoddle*, conference attendees could refer to published proceedings at the meeting, rather than having to wait to receive them after the event. For those who did not attend the conference, copies of the 245-page conference proceedings, “Innovation in Biological Control Research” are available for sale. The publication includes 61 papers and posters. To obtain a copy, visit the conference web site at <http://www.envtox.ucdavis.edu/cpmre/>

This is a shortened version of an article written by public information rep Jill Goetz.

UC budget (from p. 1)

The 1998-99 state budget funds the enrollment of 6,000 more UC students than were previously funded by the state and provides the resources necessary to reduce UC student fees by 5 percent for California resident undergraduates.

Because a portion of the funding increase offsets a loss of student fees, UC's real spending from state funds and fee revenue will rise 11.4 percent in 1998-99.

The budget also includes funding for a 2.5 percent salary equity adjustment for UC faculty, in addition to merit increases and funding equivalent to an average 2 percent cost-of-living increase for all UC employees. The adjustment for faculty is the final step in a four-year plan to restore salaries to the average level at UC's eight comparison institutions.

Other key UC items funded in the final budget:

- a \$33.5 million increase for outreach programs to K-12 students. Including matching funds, spending on these UC outreach programs is anticipated to reach about \$135 million in 1998-99.

- \$11.4 million to help develop UC Merced.

- a \$7 million increase for the Industry-University Cooperative Research Program.

The budget also includes \$211 million for capital improvement projects on UC's nine campuses, contingent upon voter approval of a bond measure.

UC worked with its partners in the K-12, CSU and community college systems to encourage legislative approval of a bond measure for the Nov. 3 ballot.

Federal research center established at UCB to investigate impact of pesticides on children's development

The UC Berkeley School of Public Health will be the site of one of the first federal research centers devoted solely to studying children's environmental health hazards.

The center will investigate pesticide exposure in the children of California farmworkers.

Brenda Eskenazi, a professor of maternal and child health and epidemiology in the School of Public Health, will direct the new center.

Cooperative Extension specialist *Jim Meyers* and CE advisor *Janice Harwood* are participating in Eskenazi's study, which is being funded by a \$1.18 million award from the EPA and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The announcement that the federal government was funding Centers of Excellence in Children's Environmental Health Research at eight leading research institutions across the nation was made by Vice President *Al Gore* at a ceremony held at the White House Aug. 10. The centers were chosen through an extensive peer review process.

Three centers, including the UCB Center of Excellence in Children's Environmental Health Research, will examine children's vulnerabilities to pesticides. The other five centers will study the causes of asthma.

In recent years, researchers have begun to question whether setting standards for environmental exposure in children based on what is known about adults, a common practice, is appropriate, triggering the call for more studies.

Over the next five years, the UC research team will evaluate the impact of pesticide exposure on growth and development in children under the age of three, as well as illnesses such as respiratory ailments. The researchers will also develop methods to protect children from health risks associated with pesticides. The study will focus on farmworker families living near Salinas.

Eskenazi said that recent preliminary studies show that young children can be exposed to pesticides from residues in their food, as well as from their normal exploration of their environment. She added that farmworker children may be exposed to even higher levels as a result of pesticide drift, tainted breast milk, playing in the fields or tracking pesticides into their homes.

"Children are small, and we have no idea how these chemicals are metabolized in small bodies," said Eskenazi, who is an expert in the developmental and reproductive effects of chemical exposures. "We know nothing about whether there are health effects from chronic, low-level pesticide exposure in children."

She noted that preventing illness in children is of great concern to farm communities and growers, who will reap the benefits of the studies. What is learned will also suggest risk factors for children not living in agricultural settings.

The UCB study will "capture two very vulnerable periods for children," Eskenazi said. "One is prenatal, during the pregnancy of the

mother. The other is when children are very close to the ground and have a lot of hand-to-mouth behavior."

Meyers, a CE agricultural and environmental health specialist in the Division of Environmental Health Science at UCB, will be the principal investigator in the intervention/outreach portion of the study. Harwood, the nutrition, family and consumer science advisor in Monterey County, assisted in the proposal development and will be an associate in the outreach project, Meyers said.

A number of organizations are collaborating with the UC researchers, including Children's Hospital of Oakland; the California Department of Health Services; the California Environmental Protection Agency; Stanford University; the Alameda and Monterey health departments; La Clinica de Salud del Valle de Salinas and La Natividad Medical Center, in Salinas; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio, Texas.

The other seven federal research centers are at USC's School of Medicine; University of Iowa's College of Medicine; University of Michigan's School of Public Health; Johns Hopkins University's Children Center; University of Washington's Department of Environmental Health; Mount Sinai School of Medicine, in New York, and Columbia University's School of Public Health.

This article is largely based on a UCB press release.



COMING UP

SEPTEMBER

Western Regional Conference for Ag Health and Safety

Sept. 13-15; UC Davis; Eleanor Wood (530/752-5253; ewwood@ucdavis.edu)

Forest Products Lab Open House

Sept. 15; Richmond; Janice Montano (510/215-4222; montano@nature.berkeley.edu)

Turfgrass/Landscape Research Conf. and Field Day

Sept. 15-16; UC Riverside; Susana Velez (909/787-4430)

Joint Calif./Nevada Economics Wkshp.

Sept. 16; near Truckee; George Goldman (510/642-6461)

3rd Annual Exotic Fruit Fly Symposium

Sept. 16; UC Riverside; Lisa Arth (909/787-7292; lisa.arth@ucr.edu)

UCD Entomology Dept. Outreach Meeting for UCCE Advisors

Sept. 16-17; UC Davis; Mary Louise Flint (530/752-7692; mlflint@ucdavis.edu)

7th Workshop on Seedling Physiology and Growth Problems in Oak Plantings

Sept. 28-30; South Lake Tahoe; Doug McCreary (530/639-8807)

OCTOBER

*Urban Ag Field Day — CNR

Oct. 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Gill Tract—Albany

NOVEMBER

*Sweet Cherry Workgroup Meeting

Nov. 18; UCD; Steve Southwick (530/752-2783; smsouthwick@ucdavis.edu)

DECEMBER

28th Calif./Nevada Alfalfa Symposium

Dec. 3-4; Reno; Dan Putnam (530/752-8982)

Executive Seminar on Ag Issues

Dec. 8; Sacramento; Ag Issues Center (530/752-2320; agissues@ucdavis.edu)

*7th Biennial Nat'l Onion Research Conf.

Dec. 10-12; Sacramento; David Visher (530/752-1748)

1999

FEBRUARY

*DANR Statewide Academic Conference

Feb. 9-10; Sacramento

MARCH

*29th California Nematology Conf.

March 29; Yuba City, Debbie Roberts (530/757-8899)

*New listing

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

New members sought for personnel committee

The Assembly Council Personnel Committee will meet Oct. 27-28 to select potential ad hoc peer review committee members for the 1998-99 salary review cycle.

If you are interested in serving on an ad hoc review committee and will be available to meet in March 1999, please inform *Elizabeth Gomez* in DANR's Office of Academic Personnel (510/987-0082; elizabeth.gomez@ucop.edu) no later than Oct 23.

On the move

■ **New address:** *Stanislaus County CE* has moved to 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite A, Modesto 95358. The new telephone number is 209/525-6800; new fax number is 209/525-6840.

■ **Changing assignments:** *Ellie Rilla* will resume county director/advisor responsibilities full time in Marin County Cooperative Extension on Sept. 1. For the past 7 years, Rilla has also served as CD for Sonoma County CE. *Linda Garcia* has been named interim county director of Sonoma CE, effective Sept. 1.

■ *Richard Smith* has been named the vegetable crops and weed science farm advisor for Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties, effective Sept. 17.

■ **Resigned:** *Kurt Schulbach*, who had been Monterey County's irrigation advisor since 1982, left CE on July 17 to work on a doctorate in food science at the University of Florida.

Approaching Deadline

Oct. 1 is the fall deadline for submitting research project proposals to DANR Analytical Lab. Send by mail, fax (530/752-9892) or email (danranlab@ucdavis.edu).

Questions? Call 530/752-0147.

Job opportunities

■ Senior Writer (two-year position) Forest Products Lab, Richmond
Closing Date: Sept. 8
#1948-98P

Contact *Connie Price-Campbell* at 510/215-4250 for more information.

■ Natural Resources/Livestock Advisor Glenn/Tehama/Colusa counties (headquarters in Orland)
Closing Date: Oct. 16
#AN098-01

Contact *Deborah Maha* (530/754-8495 or damaha@ucdavis.edu) for more information. Job listing at <http://www.ucce-north.ucdavis.edu/personnel/glen-pva.htm>

■ Plant Pathology Farm Advisor - Imperial County,
Closing Date: Oct. 26
#AS098-02

Contact *Donna Duddy* (909/787-3327 or donna.duddy@ucr.edu).

Funding alert

UC Genetic Resources Conservation Program will provide short-term grants of \$1,500 to \$2,500 each for fiscal 1998-99. Proposals are due Sept. 30. For more information, visit the GRCP website (<http://www.grcp.ucdavis.edu/>) or call the GRCP office at 530/754-8501.

ANR REPORT

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources.

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