



Report

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
October 12– November 10, 1999 ■ Vol. 13 No. 4

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Leaders named for UC advisory panel on ag

Three members of President *Atkinson's* Advisory Commission on Agriculture and Natural Resources have accepted leadership positions on the 32-member panel.

Atkinson announced the appointment of *John DeLuca* as chair and *Pamela Marrone* and *Jack Pandol Jr.* as co-chairs at the commission's fall meeting, held Sept. 23 in Oakland.

The commission, formed last year, meets twice yearly and is composed mainly of business, consumer, youth and government leaders. UC members are *Atkinson*, Provost *C. Judson King* and Vice President *Gomes*.

■ *De Luca* is president and CEO of the Wine Institute, a San Francisco-based public policy and advocacy association representing 500 wineries and affiliated businesses in California. He also is co-chair with the California Teachers Association of Californians Advocating Responsible Education and a member of the board of

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UC task force formed to tackle destructive grape disease

President *Atkinson* has named a 12-member UC task force of eminent scientists and educators from the Division to help growers combat *Pierce's* disease, a bacterium-caused infestation that kills grapevines.

Vice President *Gomes* is the chair of the UC *Pierce's* Disease Research and Emergency Response Task Force. The panel is charged with developing a science-based strategy and set of research priorities to guide UC's short- and long-term studies for managing the disease. The task force also will report on efforts by UC to extend technical assistance to

vineyard owners in wine-grape growing regions where the disease is a problem.

"*Pierce's* disease has cost the California wine and grape industries millions of dollars in lost revenues since it began destroying grapevines in Napa and Sonoma counties several years ago," said *Atkinson*.

"We are committed to working with the agricultural community to control this threat to a vital sector of the state's economy."

The task force held its initial organizational meeting in Oakland on Oct. 15.

Other members of the task force are:

• *Donald Cooksey*, UC Riverside department of plant pathology

• *Donald Dahlsten*, Center for Biological Control, UC Berkeley

• *Bruce Kirkpatrick*, UC Davis department of plant pathology

• *Joe McBride*, UCB division of forest science

• *Joseph Morse*, UCR department of entomology and DANR Program Leader

• *Phil Phillips*, area IPM advisor for San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties CE

• *Alexander Purcell*, UCB division of insect biology

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Social, cultural, environmental values needed in future water planning, forum participants say

By *Gabriele Kassner*

Water managers will need to consider a wider range of values—including social, cultural and environmental values—in future water planning and administration, according to participants of a UC-sponsored international conference on water resources.

Gathering under the auspices of the second *Rosenberg* International Forum on Water Policy, more than 50 distinguished water scholars, senior water managers and policy makers,

as well as scores of observers, met in Barcelona Oct. 3-5 to explore ways of managing water more effectively to protect and enhance environmental quality. The forum attracted participants from 20 nations, including Spain, Australia, Chile, China, Egypt, India, South Africa and the United States.

The biennial forum was established in 1996 by an endowment gift to UC from BankAmerica Corporation. It is named in honor of former BofA chairman *Richard M.*

Rosenberg in recognition of his lifelong interest and leadership in water policy.

"Our hope is that the conclusions and findings of each forum will help to inform water planning and allocation processes in semiarid regions around the world," said Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux Jr.*, the forum's co-chair.

The need to introduce social, cultural and environmental values into water resource decisions was one of

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Two SLO advisors pass the torch

By Cheryl Christner

Bill Weitkamp and Michael Smith, two accomplished farm advisors in the San Luis Obispo County Cooperative Extension office, are bringing their UCCE careers to a close.

At a retirement open house hosted by the San Luis Obispo County CE office on Oct. 5, county officials, members of the board of supervisors, colleagues, clientele, family and friends joined in honoring both men and their special contributions to the land-grant mission.

On behalf of Vice President *Gomes*, County Director *Shirley Peterson* announced that each had been granted emeritus status. Each was also presented with a board of supervisors' Resolution of Appreciation in recognition of exceptional service to San Luis Obispo County.

Both men recently served rotating, two-year terms as county director of the SLO office. Here are snapshots of their achievements as farm advisors.

■ Weitkamp has been a CE livestock and natural resources farm advisor in SLO County for 31 years. Prior to that assignment, he served for four years as an advisor in San Mateo County. He retires in November.

Weitkamp's accomplishments in extension and research have been recognized by various state and regional awards and are known nationally as well. He has been a leader in organizing educational programs and activities for livestock producers on production, quality assurance and conservation practices.

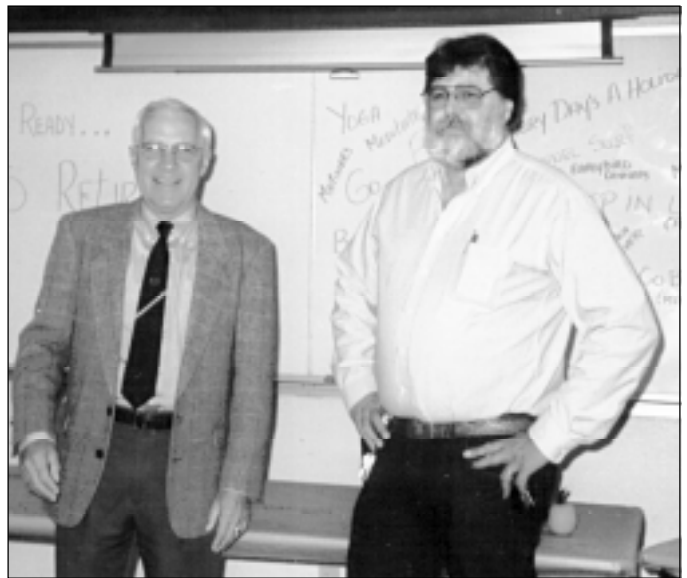
He was, for example, a state leader in planning and presenting water-quality short courses for landowners, where they learned how to implement ranch plans to protect water quality and increase profits.

Weitkamp is principal investigator of a Morro Bay Watershed project funded by USDA to educate landowners and managers about watershed management.

He chaired the UCCE Hardwoods Workgroup and worked statewide to educate public decision-makers and landowners about the regeneration of oak trees and the vital role of oak woodlands in California.

Weitkamp brought together producers and conservationists to develop a voluntary native tree program. He also coordinated prescribed brush burning by local ranchers through the SLO County Range Improvement Association.

■ Smith will retire in January, 2000. He has been the agronomy farm advisor in SLO County since 1979. Smith is an expert in no-till and Ley farming techniques to reduce soil erosion and sustain profitability for non-irrigated grains. He worked closely with growers, environmentalists and government agencies to promote the adoption of best practice methods of planting and harvesting. As a member of a statewide team, he helped develop more productive barley and wheat varieties, disease-resistant garbanzo bean varieties and techniques for early and profitable planting of safflower. Smith led the development of con-



Livestock and natural resources farm advisor Bill Weitkamp, left, and agronomy farm advisor Michael Smith are retiring. Both are based at the Cooperative Extension office in San Luis Obispo County.

servation tillage workshops and equipment shows to educate and demonstrate the advantages of reduced tillage in grain production. He also was instrumental in the establishment of the California No-Till Association.

Smith's variety trials led to the adoption of newer, more disease-resistant, drought-tolerant and more productive barley and wheat varieties in the county. His cereal-crops weed-control field tours helped reduce herbicide usage in the county by 15 percent. Smith implemented

a successful bilingual farm safety educational program for growers and farmworkers. In addition, he was a leader in the development of workshops to control the spread of the toxic yellow starthistle.

"Bill and Michael have had outstanding careers with Cooperative Extension," Peterson said. "They will be greatly missed by colleagues and clientele in San Luis Obispo County and throughout the state."

Christner is office manager for San Luis Obispo CE.

Western SARE offers grants

USDA's Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program is accepting proposals for Professional Development Program (PDP) grants. The grants provide funding for efforts to help Cooperative Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service and other agricultural professionals expand their knowledge of sustainable agriculture. Project subjects can deal with any agricultural endeavor, and may consider the effects of sustainable practices on the quality of life for farmers, ranchers and rural communities. Projects can be designed for professionals working in production agriculture, 4-H/youth development or other areas. PDP proposals are due on Nov. 19 (at the PDP office at the University of Wyoming by 4:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time).

For complete information, visit <http://wsare.usu.edu/>

Pierce's disease task force *(from p. 1)*

- *Richard Redak*, UCR department of entomology
- *Neal Van Alfen*, dean of the UCD College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and a nationally renowned plant pathologist
- *W. Andrew Walker*, UCD department of viticulture and enology
- *Edward Weber*, Napa County CE viticulture advisor

UC Davis plant pathologist *Robert Webster* is serving as staff to the task force. Webster is statewide project director for the UC Viticulture Consortium Research Program and UC California Competitive Grant Program for Research on Viticulture and Enology.

Pierce's disease is caused by *Xylella fastidiosa*, a bacterium that blocks the water transport tissue of grapevines. Unlike phylloxera, which causes a long, slow decline in production, a vine infected with Pierce's disease usually dies within two years and produces no crop. The bacteria are spread by insects called sharpshooters.

DANR scientists are engaged in research projects in Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake counties to control the blue-green sharpshooter, a leafhopper that transmits *X. fastidiosa* to vineyards near streams and riparian areas. They also are conducting studies to breed resistance to Pierce's disease in grapes. These projects are jointly funded with the American Vineyard Foundation.

"The stakes have increased significantly with the discovery in Temecula [Riverside County] of the glassy-winged sharpshooter,

a highly mobile insect which threatens to spread Pierce's disease to vineyards across California," said Gomes. "If the glassy-winged and blue-green sharpshooters remain unchecked, Pierce's disease could mean significant economic losses for the state's wine, table and raisin grape growers, as well as citrus, almonds and ornamentals, which serve as hosts for the glassy-winged sharpshooter."

The California Legislature will provide a state appropriation of \$750,000 a year for the next three years, with a \$250,000 annual match from industry, to fund Pierce's disease research. The CDFA recently established the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter/Pierce's Disease Task Force to advise the state secretary of food and agriculture on research needs and ways to control this sharpshooter.

"We will be working closely with CDFA and California's growers to develop a research agenda that focuses on control and management of the glassy-winged and blue-green sharpshooters and the Pierce's disease that they spread," said Gomes. "Eventually, we hope to produce resistance to Pierce's disease in grapes, using genetic technologies."

The UC task force will provide information and advice to CDFA on research priorities by early November, and a final report to Atkinson by Jan. 1. Representatives from CDFA, the American Vineyard Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the California Legislature will be invited to participate in UC task force meetings.

Research and extension ... serving California

Battling Pierce's disease

As President *Atkinson* was forming a UC task force on Pierce's disease, *Steve Nation*, director of the Division's Office of Governmental and External Relations, asked DANR's public information representatives to assemble a "tip sheet" for the media on UC's ongoing research and educational outreach work related to the disease. What follows are edited excerpts from that press release, which was distributed to media in conjunction with the task force announcement. The entire tip sheet, with names and phone numbers of the UC experts available to provide more information, is posted on DANR's news and information website (<http://danr.ucop.edu/news>)—check it out!

■ First identified in California in the late 1800s, Pierce's disease is causing millions of dollars in damage to the state's vineyards. UC Berkeley scientists confirmed 20 years ago that the disease is caused by the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacterium. Scientists have long known that the bacterium is transmitted to grapevines by an insect called the blue-green sharpshooter. More recently, the glassy-winged sharpshooter has emerged in California as another *X. fastidiosa* carrier, threatening not only grapevines but also other important crops and ornamentals. Because the insects thrive on a variety of common plants, they have spread rapidly from Ventura to the Mexican border, and recently were found in the San Joaquin Valley. As the glassy-winged sharpshooter's number and range expand, UC scientists across the state are engaged in a race against time to better understand the insect and its relationships to plant hosts. Here are examples:

■ **Employing micronutrients to prevent Pierce's disease.** UC Davis plant pathologist *Bruce Kirkpatrick* is conducting experiments to determine whether infection by the bacterium responsible for Pierce's disease can be prevented by boosting grapevines' levels of essential plant micronutrients, such as zinc, iron and molybdenum. "We've already established in the laboratory what concentrations are toxic to the bacteria," Kirkpatrick said. "What we need is to develop a system that gets those nutrients into the grapevine to protect it from infection." In an experimental vineyard at Davis, Kirkpatrick has been looking at a number of methods of introducing the nutrients into vines—foliar applications to leaves, tiny plastic screws inserted into the vines, hand-held injection devices and irrigation drip lines—*John Stumbos*

■ **Seeking genetic resistance.** Most California grape growers have probably never heard of muscadine varieties such as Southland, Magnolia, Carlos or Dixie, but locked within these grapevines may be the salvation of the state's table, raisin and wine grape industry. While short-term strategies to cope with Pierce's disease focus on management of the sharpshooter and controlling the pathogenic bacteria it carries, the only sure-fire, long-term approach will be to build

continued on next page

Battling Pierce's disease (from p. 3)

disease resistance into the genetic fabric of the commercial varieties grown in California. Varieties like Southland are of the genus and species *Muscadinia rotundifolia*, while the more familiar Thompson seedless, chardonnays, cabernets and merlots are cultivars of *Vitis vinifera*. Muscadine grapes, native to the southeastern United States, taste peculiar and make poor wine, but they are resistant to Pierce's disease. UC Davis professor of viticulture and enology *Andy Walker* reports progress developing a fertile "bridge" hybrid from *M. rotundifolia* to transfer the gene—or genes—of resistance into vinifera grapes. Walker plans to screen seedlings' genes for resistance to Pierce's disease to bypass the field testing process. Genetic screening may reduce the time required for creation of resistant varieties from 30 years to 10 years.—
John Stumbos

■ **Probing glassy-winged sharpshooter's biology.** Five years ago, UC scientist *Phil Phillips* began studying the biology of glassy-winged sharpshooters. "It was more of a novelty back then," he said. "I was concerned because it was known to transmit disease-causing bacteria in the southeastern United States." The IPM advisor said his work has yielded "some very good information in terms of generation times, hosts that it feeds on, key parasites in the egg stage and some level of biological control." The pest, he said, survives cold winter temperatures in its adult stage, making it reasonably hardy. Phillips traveled with colleague *Serguie Triapitsyn* to northeastern Mexico, where they collected a new natural enemy of the glassy-winged sharpshooter. However, he said, the sharpshooter outproduces its enemies. A systemic insecticide, imidacloprid, will kill the sharpshooter, he said, but probably not fast enough to prevent it from transmitting the bacteria that cause diseases. "Right now, we don't know what's going to stop it," Phillips said.—
Jeannette Warnert

■ **Promising use of pruning and freezing.** Researchers in the laboratory of UC Berkeley professor *Alexander "Sandy" Purcell* have found that pruning and freezing may, in some cases, save grapevines afflicted with Pierce's disease. Purcell has found that heavily pruning grapevines in winter helps eliminate the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacterium. "If a grower is faced with an infected crop, heavy pruning in the winter may mean he'll lose some crop, but he won't lose all of the time required to replace the vine," Purcell said. "However, we need more data on how vine age and variety affect the success of pruning before we make specific recommendations." Also in Purcell's lab, graduate researcher *Helene Feil* has found that freezing dormant vines in the lab can rid them of the disease. "Although growers cannot intentionally freeze vines to cure plants of Pierce's disease," Purcell said, "these experiments provided unexpected indications that it is the vine's response to cold temperature, not just the temperature alone, that is necessary to kill the *Xylella* bacteria." His lab is now trying to identify how freezing changes the grapevines so that the bacteria die.—
Jill Goetz

■ **Combating Pierce's disease in the Temecula Valley.** The glassy-winged sharpshooter, first identified as a major carrier of Pierce's disease in the Temecula Valley in 1997, has already caused an estimated \$1.2 million in damage in this southwest region of Riverside County. UC Riverside scientists are evaluating possible natural enemies to the glassy-winged sharpshooter in hopes of controlling the insect without pesticides. In addition to biological control strategies, they are investigating the use of pesticides and physical barriers to prevent the insects from flying into vineyards. Researchers *Matthew Blua* and *Rick Redak* are exploring the use of a soil-applied insecticide that can be used by growers to reduce sharpshooter numbers and alter their feeding behavior while scientists work on slowing the spread of Pierce's disease.—
Kathy Barton, UCR University Relations

■ **Keeping Pierce's disease at bay up north.** UCCE farm advisors are enlisting the help of farmers to quickly identify glassy-winged sharpshooters should the new pest make an appearance in Northern California's famed grape-growing counties. "We have to undertake a strong education campaign targeting growers and ornamental nurseries to ensure they will recognize it and then try to eradicate it as fast as possible," said *Lucia Varela*, UC integrated pest management advisor in Sonoma County. The campaign continues a four-year effort to educate farmers about Pierce's disease symptoms, management and insect carriers. Varela wrote an 11-page reference document for growers detailing the threat. Over the years, UCCE farm advisors have held a series of workshops in North Coast counties. "We have an ongoing extension program designed to teach growers the epidemiology of the disease, the lifecycle of the insect carriers and the movement of the disease from riparian plants to grapevines," said *Rhonda Smith*, viticulture farm advisor for Sonoma County. In the fall, when symptoms of the disease are most evident, the topic of Pierce's dominates the advisors' one-on-one consultations with farmers, according to *Ed Weber*, UCCE viticulture advisor for Napa County. This winter, he said, a new publication will be available to help farmers manage riverbank vegetation to minimize the threat of Pierce's disease.—
Jeannette Warnert

■ **Protecting stream habitat.** In Northern California, vineyards are often located near rivers and streams, and the vegetation along these waterways is prime habitat for blue-green sharpshooters. Some vineyardists, in their zeal to prevent Pierce's disease from striking their grapevines, have been clearing riparian vegetation, with serious implications for stream health and wildlife. Researchers from UC Berkeley and UCCE in Sonoma County are studying how to reduce the prevalence of blue-green sharpshooters while protecting riparian vegetation. Plants that the sharpshooters favor and should be removed include wild grape, Himalayan blackberry, French broom and periwinkle. Plants not likely to attract the insects include oaks, California bay laurel, alder, maple, ash and red willows.—
Jill Goetz

EFNEP bids farewell to Coordinator Anne Wright

By *Gabriele Kassner*

After 12 years with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, *Anne Wright* has wrapped up her career at UC—although, as she confided to guests at her Sept. 23 retirement party in Berkeley, “I wasn’t thinking of retiring at this stage of life.”

Wright, the highly respected statewide administrative coordinator of EFNEP and the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP), said she began looking at retirement in a new light while reassessing her personal and professional goals. It was then that she decided the time had come to pursue a long-standing desire to relocate to the Midwest. To prepare for the move, scheduled for next year, and other new opportunities, she took early retirement on Sept. 15.

“I’ve worked with Anne



Anne Wright at UC Davis

John Stumbos

from the day she started with the program on April 1, 1987,” said specialist and interim EFNEP Director *Amy Block Joy*, who organized the retirement party. “The words I associate with Anne are integrity, dependable, professional and caring. She has done so much for the program.”

Wright’s first job at UC was to evaluate Adult EFNEP county programs. She was soon tapped for additional responsibilities. She took on budgeting for Adult EFNEP, fiscal management of Youth EFNEP, supervision of the state office, and program oversight for federal reporting, publications and statewide committees. When the EFNEP state office was transferred from DANR’s Oakland headquarters to the UC Davis department of nutrition in 1994, Wright played a key role in ensuring a smooth transition. In 1996, Wright added statewide administrative coordination of FSNEP to her duties.

“Anne is a superb person to work with,” said retired Assistant Director of Programs *Doris Smith*, who oversaw the statewide EFNEP program when it was based in Oakland. “She has the ability to combine technical and

programmatic excellence with good common sense—and that combination is rare,” *Smith* said.

Responding to her colleagues’ accolades, Wright said: “It has been a very rewarding experience to work with all of you—and I thank you.” Turning to *Smith* and *Joy*, she added: “I have especially valued the quality of our working relationship and the support both of you have given me through the years.”

Wright holds a bachelor’s degree from Mount Holyoke College and a master’s degree from New York University. Born in New Jersey, Wright moved to San Francisco in 1972, where she conducted educational research and program evaluation for SRI International for more than a decade before moving to the Federal Reserve Bank for a two-year stint as a product manager prior to joining UC.

■ *Straight ahead*

✓ Mon.-Wed., Nov. 8-10
The National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges holds its annual meeting in San Francisco.

Vice President *Gomes* will share the podium with USDA Under Secretary *Miley Gonzalez* during a session of the NASULGC Board of Agriculture’s Administrative Heads Section. *Gonzalez* and *Gomes* will talk about the “USDA/REE Partnership.”

✓ Thurs.-Fri., Nov. 18-19
Regents meet in Los Angeles for their regularly scheduled meeting.

Plug into the new electronic ANR catalog

By *Cynthia Kintigh*

The ANR Communication Services catalog of publications, videos and slide sets is now online at <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>

More than 850 items are available in a searchable database with the ease of online ordering 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The search feature of the online catalog is a useful, time-saving tool. Now customers can search the electronic

catalog in a variety of ways to find just what they are looking for. Searches can be conducted by topic; by subject category; by media, such as publication, slide set or video and by language. Hundreds of downloadable, free publications are also available from the new website.

The website has been up and running since Sept. 15, and already orders have been re-

ceived from across California and around the world.

The online ANR catalog is a great new source for agricultural information on the Internet for people looking for answers on topics ranging from ants to zucchini.

Point your browser to <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu> and see what is “in store” for you!

Kintigh is the CS market- ing coordinator.

Ag advisory commission (from p. 1)

directors of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance.

■ Marrone is president and CEO of AgraQuest Inc., a Davis-based venture capital and agribusiness-backed firm. Marrone founded the firm in 1995 to discover, develop and market environmentally friendly and effective natural products for farm, home and public health management. She is a board member of the Sacramento Entrepreneurship Academy, co-founder of the Davis Area Technology Association and a board member of Sutter Health's Central Division.

■ Pandol is founder of Grapery, a producer of table grapes in Bakersfield. He is co-chair of the Agricultural Task Force for Resource Conservation and Economic Growth in the Central Valley and served as under secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency from 1993 to 1996.

In other business, the commission endorsed Atkinson's creation of a UC task force on Pierce's disease (see article on page 1). It also supported the reversion of the 17.3 acre Bay Area Research and Extension Center in Santa Clara County to the state of California in exchange for a permanent \$2 million program augmentation for UC Cooperative Extension. The Regents are scheduled to take up this issue later this year. In addition, the commission agreed to expand its membership by adding five to nine new members before its next regularly scheduled meeting in the spring.

This was the third meeting of the commission since its formation. The commission is charged with advising and assisting the University in identifying the educational needs of the state's agricultural, natural and human resources communities and ways to meet them through science-based research, educational outreach and classroom instruction.

'Thank you for doing a difficult job very well'



DANR All-Stars The management services officers from the regional offices, Pam Torrey, left, Linda Bobo and Cherie McDougald, and Assistant Vice President Milton Fujii received 'all-star' awards from the Division in recognition of the contributions they and their staffs made to implementing DANR's new organizational structure. The regional offices had some of the most difficult jobs in the transition, including the complex and time-consuming tasks of consolidating four regions into three and moving the 'backroom' administrative operations, such as payroll processing, of two regions from Berkeley to the Davis campus.

■ Development ... and more

Editor's note: DANR is building its own development capability in coordination with the UC Office of the President and the campuses. Assistant Vice President Toby Winer, reporting to Vice President Gomes, is in charge of this effort.

This new section in ANR Report will provide updates on activities related to development and fundraising.

■ Assistant Vice President *Toby Winer* has announced a gift to UC of over \$66,000 from the Edwin C. Pohle Trust to support UC research on Africanized honey bees. *Edwin Pohle* lived in Escondido in San Diego County, where nine AHB sites had been confirmed as of last May, according to CDFA.

■ An organizational consultant whose extensive experience includes helping universities raise funds is assisting DANR in planning its donor and fund development program.

Over the next several weeks, *Kay Sprinkel Grace* will conduct interviews with selected DANR administrators.

"We want to make sure that our development plans reflect the experiences and needs of those in the Division who will be involved as strategists, collaborators and recipients," said Vice President *Gomes*. "The information gained by her will be used to prepare recommendations to us regarding our developmental goals and will also guide us in planning and setting staffing priorities."

■ Names in the news

■ *Miguel A. Marino*, UC Davis professor of hydrologic sciences and civil and environmental engineering, has been elected to a four-year term as vice president of the International Commission on Water Resources Systems of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences. As vice president he will organize an international symposium on integrated water resources management, to take place at UC Davis from April 9 to April 12, 2000.

■ UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences presented its 1999 Award of Distinction to the following recipients: *Michael Clegg*, dean, UCR College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences; *Dean Cortopassi*, president/CEO, San Tomo Group, and *Joan Cortopassi*, author and businesswoman; *Emanuel Epstein*, professor emeritus, UCD department of land, air and water resources; *Glenn A. Goldsmith*, founder of Goldsmith Seeds; *Walter G. Jennings*, professor emeritus, UCD department of food science and technology; *Norman W. Montague*, agriculturalist; *Robert W. Munyou*, businessman/farmer; *Robert C. Pearl*, Extension emeritus, UCD department of food science; *Amy Rucker*, landscape architect; *Evert. I. Schlinger*, professor emeritus, UC Berkeley department of entomology; and *Chris Floyd Zaiger*, founder/owner, Zaiger's Genetics, Inc.

Rosenberg Forum (from p. 1)

a number of general conclusions on which forum participants reached consensus after two days of presentations and intense discussions. The other major findings were these:

■ “There is a lack of quality, comprehensive data on the physical and biological attributes of aquatic ecosystems over time and on the implications of water projects and water management schemes for the health of aquatic ecosystems,” Vaux said. “We lack understanding of how aquatic ecosystems function and what their requirements are. This makes it very difficult to plan for the protection and rehabilitation of aquatic ecosystems.”

■ Forum participants agreed that water markets are a promising means of harmonizing water use but emphasized that markets require appropriate oversight. “This is to ensure that non-market values are recognized and third parties to water exchanges are protected,” Vaux explained.

■ Negotiation and mediation are becoming increasingly important in settling water disputes, but forum participants point out “there is a need to get parties to bring creative solutions to the negotiating forum rather than simply acting to protect existing interests,” Vaux said.

On the first day of the conference, the participants toured the Ebro River Basin delta for a firsthand look at local water management. Local sponsors of the forum were the province of Catalonia and the Sociedad General de Aguas de Barcelona, S.A.

At the opening of the general session the next day,

Vice President *Gomes*, attending as UC’s senior representative, welcomed the participants on behalf of the University. The UC delegation also included UC Vice Provost for Research *Robert Shelton*.

Presentations by leading experts addressed the environmental and agricultural uses of water and the legal, economic, social and cultural means of harmonizing them.

The papers, which included a number of detailed case studies, were followed by small breakout sessions aimed at stimulating in-depth discussions.

“We worked about half of the time in small groups, and they were enormously successful,” Vaux said. “It was extremely rewarding to see people from those diverse backgrounds all contributing.” The sessions were facilitated by DANR members *Jim Brenner*, *Carolyn Frazier*, *Fe Moncloa* and *Ellen Rilla*, all highly experienced in facilitating technical discussions.

At the end of the conference, many participants exchanged email addresses in order to continue their discussions. “That kind of interchange is exactly what we’re trying to encourage,” Vaux said.

The findings, conclusions and core papers from the conference will be published in a form yet to be determined.

Current plans call for the next edition of the forum to be held in Israel in 2001. The first Rosenberg Forum took place in San Francisco in 1997. It focused on ways of resolving water resource disputes.

John Stumbos contributed to this article.

In memoriam

Bill McKeen, an emeritus area farm advisor-poultry who was headquartered in San Bernardino County, died of cancer on Oct. 8. He was 63.

McKeen was hired in 1964 as the county’s poultry advisor and served in that capacity for 29 years. By the time he retired in November of 1993—he was among 73 Division people who took voluntary early retirement at that time under VERIP III—he had also taken on program responsibility in adjoining Los Angeles and Riverside counties.

McKeen’s contributions were centered on poultry nutrition, alternative foodstuffs, flock health, parasite intervention and fly control.

“Bill’s research during his long and successful career focused on eggshell quality and on controlling northern fowl mites on laying hens,” said San Bernardino County CE Director *Nyles Peterson*, who worked with McKeen in San Bernardino County during the 13 years preceding McKeen’s retirement. “Bill also dedicated great energies to researching aerobic digestion of poultry manure. He was recognized by his peers for his command of biometrics.”

Poultry specialist *Ralph Ernst*, who also worked closely with McKeen, said: “Bill had been a member of the PePa Scientific Advisory Committee for many years, and had remained an active participant on this committee until his death. He will be greatly missed by his many friends in the poultry industry.”

McKeen was born in San Luis Obispo and graduated from Cal Poly SLO in 1963. He earned a master’s degree from Oregon State two years later.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions be made to the PePa Scholarship and Research Foundation, to create a scholarship in McKeen’s name, or to the American Cancer Society.

Personnel news

Proposed new definition of family and medical leave year

Under current policies and collective bargaining agreements applicable to staff and academic personnel, the University grants eligible employees up to 12 workweeks of family and medical leave during the leave year. Currently, the leave year begins on the date leave is first taken. Consequently, every employee who takes a family and medical leave has an individualized leave year.

Subject to the conclusion of the HEERA notice process, all eligible employees will have the same leave year effective Jan. 1, 2000: It will begin on Jan. 1 of every year instead of on the date that leave is first taken. The change to a calendar year definition of the leave year is intended to eliminate confusion and simplify the calculation of the leave year. Please direct any comments or questions to Coordinator *Virginia Vogel* at virginia.vogel@ucop.edu.



COMING UP

NOVEMBER

Sweet Cherry Workgroup Meeting
Nov. 17; UCD; Steve Southwick
(530/752-2783)

DECEMBER

SVJ Grape Symposium
Dec. 8; Easton; George Leavitt
(559/675-7879x206; email:
gmleavitt@ucdavis.edu)

UC Executive Seminar on Ag Issues
Dec. 13; Sacramento; Ag Issues Ctr
(530/752-2320; email: agissues@
ucdavis.edu)

Prune Workgroup Meeting
Dec. 14-15; UCD; Steve Southwick
(530/752-2783)

JANUARY 2000

***TMDL Workshop**
Jan. 18; Stockton; Joe Dillon
(909/787-4327; dillonjo@ucrac1.
ucr.edu)

***Plant and Soil Conf 2000: Farming in
Crisis—Sustaining Ag in California**
Jan. 19-20; Stockton; Bill Raines
(530/772-1711; deraines@ucdavis.edu)

South Valley Dairy Day
Jan. 20; Tulare; Tom Shultz
(559/733-6488)

Mid-Valley Dairy Day
Jan. 21; Modesto; Marit Arana
(209/468-9492)

FEBRUARY

Conservation Tillage Conference
Feb. 10; Five Points; Jeff Mitchell
(559/646-6565; email: mitchell@
uckac.edu)

Conservation Tillage Conference
Feb. 11; Davis; Jeff Mitchell
(559/646-6565; mitchell@uckac.edu)

***Weed Science School**
Feb. 23-25; Feb. 28-March 1 (held 2x)
UC Davis; Nancy Muller
(530/752-7091; muller@vegmail.
ucdavis.edu; <http://wric.ucdavis.edu>)

MARCH

19th Vertebrate Pest Conference
March 6-9; San Diego; Terry Salmon
(530/752-8751; email: tpsalmon
@ucdavis.edu; <http://www.davis.com/~vpc/welcome.html>)

**Farming and Ranching for Profit, Stewardship
and Community (Western SARE)**
March 7-9; Portland, OR
<http://wsare.usu.edu/2000>

* New listing

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

Kearney REC issues call for project proposals

The Kearney Research and Extension Center announces a call for new research project proposals for calendar year 2000. Resources for support of new projects are limited. Principal investigators should discuss project plans and support issues with Superintendent *Fred Swanson* prior to formally submitting a proposal.

The deadline is Friday, Nov. 19.

For more information, contact Swanson at 559/646-6060 or by email: Fswanson@uckac.edu

DANR welcomes ...

On Sept. 20, *Sujaya Udayagiri* began her duties as farm advisor for strawberries, caneberries and vegetables in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. Udayagiri also works closely with small-scale farmers in both counties. She is headquartered at the Santa Cruz CE office in Watsonville and can be reached at 831/763-8040.

Udayagiri received a doctorate degree in entomology from the University of Minnesota. She subsequently worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Delaware and at UC Berkeley. At Berkeley, she was involved with evaluation of a biological control program for pest management in strawberries. Her research expertise is in examination of the behavioral and chemical ecology of plant-insect interactions pertaining to the development of IPM programs in agroecosystems.

Udayagiri is a native of India.

Read ANR Report online

Why wait for the mail? For your convenience, *ANR Report* is posted on DANR's website as soon as it goes to press.

Contributors to this issue of *ANR Report* include: *Pam Fabry, David Flattery, Jason Joseph, Pam Kan-Rice and Lorrie Mandorio*.

Job opportunities

- Cooperative Extension Advisor—
Wood Building Durability
Forest Products Laboratory
Richmond, CA
Closing Date: Jan. 5
#ACCSO99-05

For more information, contact *Cheryl Gneckow* (909/787-3604; fax: 909/787-2328; email: cheryl.gneckow@ucr.edu).

Professional society reimbursement requests

It's that time again: Cooperative Extension specialists and advisors wishing to apply for Professional Society Meeting Reimbursement Funds for meetings that will be held between January-March 2000 must have their requests (form MF-117) to *Mary Lu McGuire* by Monday, Nov. 8. The grant is now \$450.

The form can be obtained from McGuire by calling 510/987-0067 or via email: marylu.mcguire@ucop.edu

The completed form can be faxed to her at 510/832-8612.

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 the DANR website: <http://danr.ucop.edu>

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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