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December 13, 2007

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## **A Message from Dean Neal Van Alfen: CA&ES Support of Graduate Education**

Graduate education was identified as a high priority by our college's Academic and Strategic Planning Committee. Although the primary responsibility for graduate education lies with the Office of Graduate Studies, our college provides significant amounts of funding to support graduate students.

Typically, most of the funding to support graduate students comes from department endowments, gift funds, and faculty grants. In addition to this funding, the college provided about \$1.84 million in support of graduate education in 2007-2008. Most of these funds (\$1.3 million) support graduate students directly through fellowships, non-resident tuition waivers, or graduate research awards.

The college is fortunate to have endowment funds that provide nearly \$1 million of this \$1.84 million total, but we also commit close to \$900,000 each year from our CA&ES budget for graduate students. Some of this is used to provide required matching funds for Office of Graduate Studies fellowships, recruitment, and other programs. But the majority of the funds provided by the college offer unilateral support to graduate programs and groups to assist in their success. One example is the \$81,300 in discretionary support we provided this academic year to graduate group chairs, which will assist them in meeting their responsibilities.

CA&ES is committed to graduate education, and my office is working with our College Executive Committee to explore new ways the college can better support this integral part of our mission. As always, I value your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please e-mail me.

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## **Who**

### **Charles Shoemaker: Chinese Friendship Award**

Charlie Shoemaker, right, with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao

Professor Charles Shoemaker was recently honored by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao with a Friendship Award, China's highest award for foreign experts who have made outstanding contributions to the



nation's economic and social progress. Shoemaker was one of 50 foreign experts from 20 countries honored at a reception held by the State Council in October.



Since the award was established in 1991, a total of 949 experts from 56 countries have been recipients. Premier Wen Jiabao, the third-ranking member of China's highest ruling council since 2003, congratulated honorees and expressed appreciation for their contributions to China's modernization drive.

In 2005, Shoemaker stepped down after two five-year terms of service as chair of the Department of Food Science and Technology. His current research focuses on the study of food texture, the interactions of its components, and the effect of food processing operations on these interactions. His lab is developing new measurement techniques that will provide information on the nature of fundamental chemical interactions of constituents and their effect on the overall texture of foods.

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### **Chris van Kessel: CSSA Fellow**

Professor Chris van Kessel, right; CSSA President Henry Shands, left

Professor Chris van Kessel, chair of the Department of Plant Sciences, has been named a Fellow of the Crop Science Society of America. The society selected 10 new fellows based on professional achievements and meritorious service. van Kessel and others were honored at the CSSA annual November meeting, held this year in New Orleans.



van Kessel received a B.S. degree in agronomy and a second B.S., an M.S., and a Ph.D. degree in biology from the Netherlands. His research program focuses on the management of rice cropping systems and the impact of climate change on crop production and nutrient cycling. The central theme of his lab's research is to understand the basic concepts and unifying principles behind agroecosystems – how they function and how they produce food efficiently in a sustainable manner.

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### **Craig McNamara: Conservation Award**

UC Davis alumnus Craig McNamara received the 2007 Leopold Conservation Award for exemplary environmental stewardship from Sand County Foundation, California Farm Bureau Federation and Sustainable Conservation. McNamara, who serves on the Dean's Advisory

Council for CA&ES, is the president and owner of Sierra Orchards, a 450-acre diversified farming operation in Winters. The farm produces primarily organic walnuts and grape rootstock.

Named in honor of world-renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the Leopold Conservation Award carries a \$10,000 cash award. In 2007, Sand County Foundation presented Leopold Conservation Awards to private landowners in six states.

In addition to farming walnuts, McNamara and his wife, Julie McNamara, outreach coordinator for Agricultural and Resource Economics, founded the Center for Land-Based Learning in 1993. The center runs programs to teach young people about agriculture and the environment and reaches more than 2,000 students in California annually.

Sand County Foundation  
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info@sandcounty.net

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## **Daniel Dooley: ANR Vice President**

Daniel Dooley, ANR vice president

The UC Regents have appointed Daniel Dooley, a distinguished agricultural and environmental attorney with extensive experience in California agriculture, to head UC's statewide Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) program, effective January 2, 2008. Dooley is currently a partner at Dooley, Herr and Peltzer, LLP, a Visalia-based law firm emphasizing agricultural, environmental, business, and water rights law. From 1980 to 2002, he was a partner in family-owned Dooley Farms, a San Joaquin Valley farming operation that produces cotton, alfalfa, and walnuts.



ANR programs and services, including Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station, are located on UC's Berkeley, Davis, and Riverside campuses and in more than 50 regional and county offices throughout the state. ANR has nearly 1,000 faculty, specialists and advisors, with an annual budget of \$300 million, including \$117 million in state funding.

Dooley officially takes office on January 2, 2008, when acting VP Rick Standiford steps down.

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## **Carl Winter: Distinguished Lectureship**

Carl Winter, Cooperative Extension specialist in food science and technology and director of the FoodSafe Program, has been selected as the inaugural Keiser Distinguished Lecturer in Life Sciences at Ohio Northern University.

The lectureship was created in honor of an alumnus who was also one of Ohio Northern University's longest tenured faculty members. It brings a nationally prominent life sciences scholar to the ONU campus for three days of interacting with the university community, including a large public lecture and classroom lectures. Winter will deliver nine lectures during his visit to ONU in the spring of 2008.

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## **Joseph Cech Jr.: Scholarship Support**

Joseph Cech Jr., emeritus professor of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology, was recognized by the California Fly Fishers Unlimited (CFFU) in November for his support in the coordination of the CFFU Bob Bittner Memorial Scholarship Award Program. The scholarship goes to UC Davis graduate students to recognize research interest and general excellence in the academic pursuit of fisheries biology and/or aquatic ecology benefiting recreational fisheries in California.

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## **What**

### **Chronicle of Higher Education Rankings**

Several UC Davis departments received top 10 berths in the 2007 Chronicle of Higher Education institutional rankings. The "Top Research Universities Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index" compiles information on 375 universities that offer the Ph.D. degree. The index measures the productivity of individual faculty based on books published, journal publications, citations of journal articles, federal-grant dollars awarded, and honors and awards. Data are aggregated prior to publication.

The Department of Entomology and the Department of Soil Science received number one rankings. Nine additional CA&ES departments were listed in the top 10. For more information, visit:

<http://chronicle.com/stats/productivity/page.php?year=2007&institution=544&byinst=Go>.

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### **Dairy Environmental Award**

(Dale Oliver /State Water Board) Linda S. Adams, Secretary California EPA; Michael Payne, director CDQAP; Denise Mullinax,



assistant director CDQAP; Deanne Meyer, environmental module leader CDQAP



The California Dairy Quality Assurance Program (CDQAP) was awarded California's highest and most prestigious environmental honor, the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award (GEELA). The CDQAP was honored in November in the category "Environmental and Economic Partnerships."

Established in 1997, the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program (CDQAP) is a partnership of 17 regulatory agencies, dairy organizations, environmental advocacy groups, and the University of California. The partnership offers classroom and on-farm assistance in meeting regional, state, and federal environmental regulations.

The Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards program was established in 1993. Recipients are selected by a large panel of evaluators and the Secretaries of Cal/EPA, the Resources Agency, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the Department of Food and Agriculture, the State and Consumer Services Agency, and the Governor's Office.

Accepting the award were:

- Michael Payne, director of the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program
- Deanne Meyer, animal waste specialist with Cooperative Extension
- Denise Mullinax, assistant director of CDQAP

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## **Dairy Water Quality Publication Award**

"California Dairies: Protecting Water Quality" has received an Award of Excellence from the American Society of Agronomy. Lead author Stu Pettygrove, Cooperative Extension soils specialist, accepted the award at the agronomy society's annual meeting in New Orleans in November.

The guide outlines dairy management practices and is aimed at lending institutions, consultants and crop management companies that work with dairy producers, as well as local government and regulatory bodies like the regional water quality control boards. It summarizes the practical approaches and technologies that have been implemented by progressive dairy producers to protect surface and groundwater quality.

The 16-page guide was produced with funding from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's "Buy California" Initiative, the USDA, the US-EPA Clean Water Act, and the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. It was developed through UC SAREP's Biologically Integrated Farming Systems program.

A limited number of free copies are available by contacting Tiva Lasiter at [tlasiter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:tlasiter@ucdavis.edu). The guide is ANR Publication 21630 and may also be ordered for \$10 (plus tax and shipping) at

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>.

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## **Arboretum Honor**

The UC Davis Arboretum has won a new accolade, making it onto Hotel Club Travel Blog's list of the "10 Best Botanic Gardens in the U.S." The travel website, which posts a variety of top 10 lists, recently noted the campus arboretum's 4,000 species and mentioned the Carolee Shields White Flower Garden and the Redwood Memorial Grove as highlights of the garden.

Other outstanding gardens included on the list were:

- Denver Botanic Gardens (Denver, Colorado)
- Brooklyn Botanic Garden (Brooklyn, New York)
- Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (Coral Gables, Florida)
- Chicago Botanic Garden (Chicago, Illinois)
- Arnold Arboretum (Boston, Massachusetts)
- National Tropical Botanical Garden (headquarters in Kauai, Hawaii)
- Memphis Botanic Garden (Memphis, Tennessee)
- United States Botanic Garden (Washington, D.C.)
- Missouri Botanical Garden (St. Louis, Missouri)

For a complete listing, visit <http://blog.hotelclub.com/the-10-best-botanic-gardens-in-the-us/>.

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## **Update of UC Davis Directory Listings**

Campus administrators request that faculty and staff update their individual UC Davis directory listings by January 22, 2008. To help ensure accuracy, please follow the steps below to verify/correct your individual directory information.

- Visit <https://listings.ucdavis.edu/update>.
- Use your UC Davis LoginID and Kerberos password to log in.
- You will be presented with your directory listing.

- If your directory information is correct, you do not need to do anything else.
- If your information needs to be updated, make changes and click Submit.

Faculty members and departmental approvers are encouraged to confirm that the faculty (FAC) publish-setting in the White Pages application is selected for all faculty listings. This will ensure the accuracy of the online and printed faculty directories. In order for these to be correct in the printed 2008 Campus Directory, the publish settings must be set and fully approved by January 22nd, 2008.

For help with LoginIDs, Kerberos passwords, accessing directory listings, etc., contact the campus computing help desk (IT Express) at (530) 754-HELP or [ithelp@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ithelp@ucdavis.edu).

If you have questions about updating your directory information, contact your departmental approver. To find your approver(s), visit <https://listings.ucdavis.edu/cgi-bin/approver/index.cgi>.

The UC Davis online and print directory is available at <http://vpiet.ucdavis.edu/whitepages.cfm>.

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## **Crop Documentary**

ANR has recently published "Cornucopia's Challenge," by Alison Van Eenennaam and Peggy Lemaux, a 30-minute peer-reviewed documentary on DVD that follows the journey of three crops – corn, rice, and cotton – from seed to market. It looks at the variety of methods used by farmers to meet the challenges of growing, segregating, and marketing these crops to meet differing market requirements and consumer preferences.

This program can be viewed via streaming video at <http://stream.ucanr.org/cornucopia/cornucopia.html>. Or it is available for \$35 from the ANR catalog online at: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/InOrder/Shop/ItemDetails.asp?ItemNo=6587D>.

No complimentary desk copies will be distributed. Orders for copies can be placed by calling 1-800-994-8849.

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## **Climate Change Seminars in Sacramento**

A lunchtime seminar series on climate change will be held for non-specialists in Sacramento after the New Year. The coordinated series of talks covering aspects of climate change science relevant to state policy formation will be presented to state agency representatives, legislative staffers, and other policy professionals beginning January 17, 2008. The lectures will be held in the Cal EPA Building at 1001 I St. every other Thursday at noon.

The lecture series is presented by the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources, the John Muir Institute of the Environment, the Air Quality Research Center, and the UC Institute for Research on Climate Change and its Societal Impacts. Time will be allotted for discussion after each talk. Although the topics will be presented in a logical sequence, each lecture is independent. Missing some presentations will not detract from understanding others.

Reservations are not required. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided at a nominal cost.

Dates and topics for future seminars are as follows:

January 17: "Climate Change Overview"

January 31: "Past and Future Climate Change in California"

February 14: "Climate Change Impacts on California: A Survey"

February 28: "Climate Change and the Future of the Delta"

March 13: "Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Flood Risk"

March 27: TBD

April 10: "Climate Change Impacts on Air Quality"

April 24: "Climate Change Impacts on Agriculture"

May 8: "Factors Causing Climate Change in California"

May 22: "We said WHAT? Assembly Bill 32"

June 5: "Short-Term Climate Change Mitigation Strategies for California"

June 19: "Long-Term (2050) Climate Change Mitigation Strategies for California"

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Dr. Philip Duffy  
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## **Focus the Nation: Climate Change Solutions**

UC Davis is inviting the greater campus community to join with thousands of other universities, schools, and civic organizations next month to participate in Focus the Nation, a daylong educational initiative to explore climate change solutions. Focus the Nation is scheduled for January 31, 2008, a date chosen for its proximity to the presidential primary season.

Focus the Nation's national organizer, an economics professor at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, describes the day as the largest "teach-in" in the history of the nation. At UC Davis, events will include:

- seminars on topics ranging from energy efficiency to spiritual life
- an idea fair
- a climate change cultural showcase
- tours of eco-friendly sites on campus
- a World of Ideas Cafe, in which Freeborn Hall will be transformed into an "ideas convention" where teams advocate for climate change solutions.

See what UC Davis is doing, and sign up to commit at <http://sustainability.ucdavis.edu/focus>.

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[swright@ucdavis.edu](mailto:swright@ucdavis.edu)

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## **Podcasting Webinar Series**

"Podcasting Made Easy: How to Create an Engaging Voice for your Institution" is a webinar series that describes practical recruitment and communications applications for podcasts, offers production and publication tips, and provides insider tips on the adoption and optimization of iTunes U.

Pre-recorded, web-based presentations from industry experts include:

- Podcasting 101: How to record and produce your podcasts with ease
- Give voice to your recruiting efforts: How to engage prospective students and their parents with podcasts
- To be or not to be an iTunes U(niversity)?

For more information, visit:

[http://urelations.ucdavis.edu/wiki/index.php/Podcasting\\_Made\\_Easy](http://urelations.ucdavis.edu/wiki/index.php/Podcasting_Made_Easy).

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## **WCAHS Monthly Seminar Series**

The Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety will host monthly seminars on topics related to agricultural health. The presentations will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. in 3201 Hart Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

Dates and topics for future seminars are as follows:

- January 7, 2008: "Infectious Diseases in Agriculture: Concerns Grow, Numbers of

Veterinarians Shrink."

- February 4, 2008: "Regulatory Impacts on Southeast Asian Small Farms in Fresno: Pesticide, Labor, OSHA, and Water."
- March 3, 2008: "Pesticides in the Homes of Farmworkers: Latino Mothers' Perceptions of Risk to their Children's Health."

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## **Visiting Vietnamese Scholar Program**

Applications will be accepted beginning December 15, 2007, for the Vietnam Education Foundation Visiting Scholar Program 2008. Eligible to apply are Vietnamese nationals proficient in English who already hold a doctorate in a field of science, technology, engineering, or math. This year, the foundation will fund 10 visiting scholars for periods of time ranging from five months to one year.

Online applications will be available at [www.vef.gov](http://www.vef.gov) from 8 a.m., December 15, 2007, to 8 a.m., February 12, 2008 (Vietnamese time zone). The Vietnam Education Foundation is an independent federal agency created by the U.S. Congress and funded annually by the U.S. government. For details, visit <http://www.vef.gov/news.php?id=184>.

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## **Call for Applications: Management Skills**

Applications are being accepted for the Management Skills Assessment Program – a University of California-sponsored program for staff. This program is designed for participants to gain personal knowledge and insight that can help them make prudent career decisions and identify areas for skill development. Participants will be given the opportunity to demonstrate and evaluate their management skills and receive feedback on their performance from university managers.

The program will take place at Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA, from April 28 –May 2, 2008. The departmental cost for this program is \$850, plus transportation expenses.

More detailed information and downloadable application materials can be found at <http://msap.ucdavis.edu>. Submit applications to the Staff Development and Professional Services Office on campus by noon on Thursday, February 14, 2008.

Staff Development and Professional Services  
(530) 752-1766

[sdps@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sdps@ucdavis.edu)

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## **Arboretum Events**

For more information, visit the arboretum website: <http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu>.

*"Folk Music Jam Session"*; Friday, December 14, noon to 1 p.m., Wyatt Deck.

The arboretum's folk music jams are held outside on the Wyatt Deck next to the redwood grove. Campus and community folk musicians are invited to play together informally during this acoustic jam session. Bring your fiddles, guitars, mandolins, penny whistles, pipes, flutes, and squeezeboxes, and join fellow musicians for bluegrass, old-time, blues, Celtic, klezmer, and world music. Listeners and musicians of all skill levels welcome.

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## **When**

### **Alfalfa and Forage Symposium: December 17–19, 2007**

Mark your calendars for the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Alfalfa and Forage Symposium to be held December 17–19 at the Portola Plaza Hotel in Monterey Bay. The trade show, haygrowers' auction, and exhibitor social will be in the adjacent Monterey Convention Center. In conjunction with the theme, "Alfalfa – Back to the Basics," the program will feature up-to-date information about alfalfa production and utilization.

For registration and more information, visit <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu/>.

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### **Rice Technical Working Group Meeting: February 18–21, 2008**

Mark your calendars for the 32nd Rice Technical Working Group meeting, hosted by UC Davis, to be held February 18–21 at the Westin San Diego. The Rice Technical Working Group brings together those involved in rice production – scientists, extension personnel, government and industry representatives, and growers – to share information and coordinate research.

The meeting will feature a half-day symposium, six technical sessions, a poster session, and committee meetings. For registration and more information, visit <http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/rtwg>.

Janice Corner

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## **California Small Farm Conference: February 24–26, 2008**

Mark your calendars for the next California Small Farm Conference, "Growing Opportunities," to be held February 24–26 in Visalia, California. The three-day educational conference will cover new techniques for production, marketing, business management, farmers markets, and more. For more information, visit <http://www.californiafarmconference.com/joomla/>.

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<http://caes.ucdavis.edu/NewsEvents/News/Currents/default.aspx>.

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Writing: Robin DeRieux, Neal Van Alfen  
Editorial review: Ann Filmer, Thomas Kaiser

Some Web links cited in this newsletter may be inaccessible to off-campus sites. If you want to view the full stories on the Web from off campus, you will need to provide a username and password the first time you try to view a story.

Username: clips  
Password: newz

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