

Twice a year, at the times of the fall and spring faculty meetings, this report is generated to provide faculty, staff, and professionals of the college with an update of the major facets of the college.

RESEARCH AND EXTENSION GRANT FUNDING

CANR faculty continue to be extremely successful in competing for external grants and contracts. Active grants currently total approximately \$41.5M in funds, with an additional \$1.1M pending. Major sources of funding include: Agricultural Research Service (\$1.1M), Delaware Department of Agriculture (\$1.1M), National Science Foundation (\$14M), US Department of Agriculture (\$16M), US Department of Energy (\$1.2M). Thirteen of the grants of the current total, along with one pending, are USDA AFRI awards.

The following comprise a large portion of the total:

- Dr. Blake Meyers (PLSC) - \$5.8M NSF
- Dr. Haiqiang Chen (ANFS) - \$2.9M USDA AFRI
- Dr. Harsh Bais (PLSC) - \$1.9M NSF
- Dr. Carl Schmidt (ANFS) - \$1.8M USDA AFRI
- Dr. Randall Wisser (PLSC) - \$1.7M USDA AFRI
- Dr. Nicole Donofrio (PLSC) - \$1.5M USDA
- Dr. Randall Wisser (PLSC) - \$1.3M NSF
- Dr. Pamela Green (PLSC) - \$1.1M DOE
- Dr. Hong Lee (ANFS) - \$967K USDA NRCS CIG

FACULTY & STAFF UPDATE

New Faculty and Staff

- Mark Rieger, Dean
- Jennifer Volk, Extension Specialist I, PLSC
- Linda Brannen, Administrative Assistant II, PLSC
- Amy Shober, Assistant Professor, PLSC
- Summer Thompson, Research Associate I, ANFS
- Rodrigo Vargas, Assistant Professor, PLSC
- Angelia Seyfferth, Assistant Professor, PLSC

Faculty & Extension Announcements

- Robin Morgan has returned to the ANFS faculty
- Harsh Bais, promoted to Associate Professor
- Jules Bruck, promoted to Associate Professor
- Nicole Donofrio, promoted to Associate Professor
- James Glancey, promoted to Professor
- Greg Shriver, promoted to Associate Professor
- Doug Crouse, promoted to Extension Agent III
- Kathleen Splane, promoted to Extension Agent III
- Jinquan Wu, promoted to Research Associate II

Searches in Progress

- Extension Specialist – Plant Pathology

UD's Office of Communications and Marketing publishes two UD Research magazines per year. Submit article ideas to Katy O'Connell kvo@udel.edu.

COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CCIT)

Ag Day 2013 will be held on Saturday, April 27 from 10am-4pm. The student team—under the advisement of Katy O'Connell, Kim Yackoski, and Latoya Watson—has already begun to meet to organize the event. Details will be posted at <http://ag.udel.edu/agday> as they become available, with registration opening in early spring.

As a reminder, in order to provide you with the most efficient service, matched to the CCIT professional with the expertise best suited to respond to your needs, please use one of the following means to request our services. All requests for **IT help or support** are to be submitted through the IT help request form, or by calling 302-831-6000 (M-F 8am-5pm). All requests for **Communications help or support** are to be submitted through the Communications work request form. Forms and information can be found at <http://sites.udel.edu/canrccit>.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Current enrollment in CANR is approximately 702 undergraduates (majority ANFS) and 187 graduate students (130 M.S. and 57 Ph.D., and the majority in APEC). Last spring, 32 students transferred into our college from another major; this fall, 25 students transferred internally. This fall we had 167 new students (144 new and 23 external transfers). We currently have 7 newly admitted transfer students for the spring 2013 semester and Undergraduate Admissions is still reviewing applications at this time. New Student Orientation for spring admits will be held on January 18th.



Thirty students participated in this year's **Exploration Day** program held on Friday, October 12, 2012. Exploration Day provides prospective high school students with hands-on experiences in the areas of Food Science, Plant & Soil Science, and Poultry Science. During their time on campus, students had the unique opportunity to work in the laboratory; listen to student/alumni panels; and engage in seminar discussions. Departments are encouraged to consider participating in Exploration Day to promote their underrepresented majors. On average, approximately 66% of participants apply to the University of Delaware; of those who apply, 83% are admitted.

CANR continues its effort to promote internal and external **internships** to undergraduate students. Details about internal internships (Brazilian Program, DWRC, Creamery, Garden for the Community, Wetlands Restoration, DuPont, Summer Institute, Extension Scholars, Landscape Horticulture, UDBG) are available online: http://ag.udel.edu/academics/current/getenriched_canrinternships.html.

This year, the Animal and Food Sciences Department used their US Poultry Foundation grant to fund their portion of **Exploration Day and Poultry Careers Seminar Series**. The grant will also fund a trip to the USPEA College Student Career Program held in Atlanta, GA in January 2013. Students will have the opportunity to interview with 25 regional, national and international poultry and agribusiness companies as well as network with over 900 companies at the largest international poultry and agribusiness trade show.

The **Current Students and Prospective Students** portions of the <http://ag.udel.edu> website were updated in the fall of 2011. Since those portions of the site were launched, the Current Students landing page ranks 20th overall for all site page views to ag.udel.edu with 7,108 page views (that does not include the various subpages under Current Students of which there are many. During the same time, the Prospective Students portion of ag.udel.edu had 5,631 page views, ranking 24th overall. Again, this does not include the many subpages of Prospective Students (i.e. visit us). Updates to the Prospective Students portion have resulted in an increase of on-campus visits, including 48 students visiting CANR in the fall 2012 semester versus 31 students during the fall of 2011. Since the site was revamped, there were 1676 page views of the Visit Us page.

This fall, CCIT worked with Undergraduate Admissions to produce a "**Major Finder Video**" video for Entomology, adding to the college's collection of videos about our undergraduate majors that are highlighted on the Admissions and CANR webpage, and corresponding YouTube channels (www.youtube.com/UDcanr). Additional majors are now under consideration for spring filming.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Through a grant from the 21st Century Learning Centers, **Delaware 4-H Afterschool** and the Delaware State Housing Authority have impacted the lives of children in six DSHA communities. Since the establishment of the partnership in 2009, DSHA staff has reported an increase of children attending school regularly. Crime during the time period when afterschool takes place is down significantly, as is other times during the day. 4-H Afterschool staff has seen detentions and suspensions for the enrolled children fall. Children have completed in county and statewide contests with great self-respect.

4-H program **Operation: Military Kids** provides support to military kids before, during, and after the deployment of a loved one. Nearly 200 campers (ages 6-17) participated in the Family Camp aspect of the program this year, along with their family, particularly the military parent. 97% of campers responded that they agree or strongly agree that through the camp, they have social support to deal with deployment. 93% of campers responded that participating in the camp reduced their stress levels in dealing with parental deployment (7% neutral, 1% disagreed). Delaware campers placed above the norm nationally in perception of improvement in friendship, independence, competence, responsibility, and teamwork, as a result of the camp.

On Tuesday, August 21, 2012, Mark VanGessel, conducted a field tour for 25 EPA officials to raise awareness of **herbicide-resistant weeds** and view real-time challenges growers in the region face with weed control. The tour participants were surveyed at the end of the tour: 83% rated the overall educational portion of the tour as very informative; 74% indicated that they have a better understanding of issues related to herbicide-resistance; 65 % indicated that they will use the information gained during the tour in their duties with EPA.

Thus far, in 2011 and 2012, we have worked with and educated more than 500 community members in a **Grow your own Food initiative**, aimed at teaching urban communities to grow, eat, and demand, fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables. Additionally, in March 2012, a *Community and School Garden Information Session* was offered, for those starting or maintaining a community or school garden, attracting more than 50 participants from across the state. As a result of this session we continue to work closely with community and school gardens statewide. A similar community and school garden session will be offered in the winter of 2013.

During the last two years, UD Extension has reached over 350 quantity foodservice workers in both the **ServSafe® and Dine Safe programs**. As a result of the program, 86 percent passed the *ServSafe®* certification examination. Additionally, participants indicated that they would personally, or have their staff, wash hands more frequently (89%), improve personal hygiene (70%), calibrate thermometers on a regular basis (80%), keep foods above 140°F (74%), cool foods more rapidly (68%), use sanitizers correctly (71%), and thoroughly wash and sanitize work surfaces (81%). Likewise, *Dine Safe* participants indicated that they would improve food safety practices with 87 percent reporting the intent to wash hands more frequently, 71 percent keeping foods hot and cooling food rapidly, and 76 percent thoroughly washing and sanitizing work surfaces before preparing food.

Joy Sparks, former State 4-H program leader, was inducted into the **National 4-H Hall of Fame** posthumously on October 12. The Delaware 4-H Foundation inducted 27 pioneers of 4-H work in the state into its inaugural **DE 4-H Hall of Fame** class in a ceremony on October 5. This initial class of inductees represents people who made notable contributions to Delaware 4-H in its first 50 years of existence from 1914-1964.

ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT

Seven graduates of the college were honored for their professional achievements at the college's Distinguished Alumni ceremony on Friday, October 19 as part of UD's Homecoming festivities. The 2012 CANR

Distinguished Alumni are:

- Bruce Cobb, a 1984 graduate, is the founder and owner of ARC Greenhouses in Shiloh, N.J., where he markets microgreens, herbs and lettuce under the Mr. McGregor brand name.
- Carol Long, a 1990 graduate, is the associate curator of Gardens at Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, where she began as a horticulturalist 18 years ago, overseeing a 60-acre historic garden created by H.F. du Pont.
- Daral Jackwood, a 1978 graduate, is a professor in the Department of Veterinary Preventative Medicine at the Ohio State University.
- Mark Jackwood, a 1978 graduate who received a master's degree in 1982, is a professor and the department head of the Department of Population Health in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Georgia.

The 2012 **Distinguished Young Alumni** are:

- Jennifer McEntire, a 1999 graduate, is a senior director for food and import safety at Leavitt Partners LLC in Washington, D.C.
- Jennifer Walls, a 2001 graduate, is a principal planner with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Watershed Stewardship, Watershed Assessment and Management Section, where she works on a variety of science-based projects related to sustainability.



In addition, the **George M. Worrilow Award** was presented to Ronald Ritter, a 1975 graduate. Ritter is a faculty member at the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources where he has a research and extension appointment in the area of weed science.

In November, Dan Sarkissian began as **Director of Development** for the college. He has been with UD for nearly three years, having previously worked as the Associate Director of Development for the College of Engineering. Dan can be reached at djs@udel.edu.

As a reminder, the **UD Alumni Association** is currently accepting nominations for the following alumni volunteer positions and awards, as well as several student awards: member of the UD Alumni Association Board of Directors, Alumni Wall of Fame Award, Emalea Pusey Warner and Alexander J. Taylor Senior Awards, Milton Draper Award. Please see Dan Sarkissian if you have suggestions for the alumni awards or Kim Yackoski for suggestions for the student awards. Visit www.Udconnection.com for a more information about the awards.

Please hold May 31-June 2, 2013 for the University's fifth annual **Alumni Weekend**. The college is already planning a Friday evening alumni reception and several Saturday showcase events. More information will be forthcoming.