NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Program News

2007 Extension Conference

2007 Extension Conference is scheduled for March 12-14, 2007 at McKimmon Center for Extension and Continuing Education in Raleigh. Please mark these dates on your calendars. More details will be forwarded soon.

North Carolina 4-H Professionals’ Summit

The Department of 4-H Youth Development and Family and Consumer Sciences at North Carolina State University conducted the first-ever North Carolina 4-H Professionals’ Summit from November 29-December 1.

The 2006 North Carolina 4-H Professionals’ Summit brought together all state and county 4-H Youth Development professionals with county, district and state Extension administrators to critically examine the current status and future direction of NC 4-H Youth Development in a dynamic, visionary setting.

Specific Summit objectives included providing NC 4-H professionals and Extension administrators with opportunities to: 1) Examine critical issues facing North Carolina’s youth, and their families and communities, especially as related to education, the economy, and health and wellness; 2) Discuss how 4-H may successfully address these issues through community-based educational programs; 3) Envision new strategies and approaches to better position NC 4-H to address these and other emerging issues in the future; 4) Identify opportunities to strengthen our support of 4-H’s targeted customer groups; and 5) Interact with each other across district boundaries and organizational titles so as to share ideas and build collegiality.

Modeled after the highly successful annual NCSU Emerging Issues Forum, Summit participants were engaged in concurrent and plenary sessions that: (1) addressed broad issues facing our state regarding education, health, and the economy; (2) reviewed current programs and organizations that could serve as partners and resources as NC CES addresses these issues, and (3) introduced the new State 4-H Long Range Focus Areas (LRFAs) that will be initiated as of January 2007.

Farm-City Week Celebrations

From breakfasts to banquets, NC Cooperative Extension Service Centers across the state celebrated National Farm-City Week, November 17-23, 2006. The contributions of America's farmers and ranchers help keep our economy moving forward, and during National Farm-City Week these celebrations underscore the vital partnership between America's rural and urban industries. During
National Farm-City Week, and throughout the year, we honor the farmers, ranchers, and all those working to build strong relationships between our rural and urban communities.

**Personnel Updates**

*Director, Marketing Search*

The interview process is completed for this position.

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFICE**

On Wednesday, January 17, the Faculty Senate will sponsor a campus-wide forum on the Proposed General Education Requirements (GER) from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Stewart Theatre. During the forum, John Ambrose, Chair of the GER Review Taskforce, will present the proposed requirements to the general faculty. A moderated question and answer period among the faculty and the Taskforce representatives will follow. There will also be an opportunity for individual questions and comments. If, however, you would prefer to send questions or comments in advance to be read at the forum, please direct them to either Neal Blair at neal_blair@ncsu.edu or Janet Hudson at janethudson@social.chass.ncsu.edu.


**Agricultural Institute Office**

The Agricultural Institute welcomes Dr. Barbara Kirby as the new Director. Dr. Kirby, Professor of Agricultural and Extension Education, will continue as an Associate Director of Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Her disciplinary background, association with high school vocational agriculture teachers in North Carolina, and prior experience in the Academic Programs office provide her with a foundation to be an effective leader of the Agricultural Institute.

The Agricultural Institute is the largest associate-degree granting program at a four-year institution offering degrees in agriculture in the United States. The Agricultural Institute offers ten-degree tracts and has a current enrollment of 376 students. Faculty in eleven academic departments in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at NC State University provide instruction to students enrolled in the Agricultural Institute.

Dr. John Cornwell served as Director of the Agricultural Institute since 1997. His retirement is effective January 1, 2007.

**Career Services**

1. On January 5, 2007, Career Services will be hosting “The Ivory Tower Meets the Corporate Ladder: A Roundtable Discussion” in Talley Student Center. Faculty and employers will meet to discuss challenges our students may meet in transitioning from the world of academia to the work world. Space is still available, but seats are limited. If you are interested in attending, please go to http://ceres.cals.ncsu.edu/career/site/public/index.cfm?pageID=282 to register or if you want additional information.

2. Our CALS Ambassadors will be traveling to Tucson, Arizona for the National Conference. Tricia Buddin, Assistant Director, and 10 ambassadors will be attending this conference from January 4-6, 2007. The University of Arizona is hosting the ambassadors as they celebrate and
explore “A Vision Beyond Tradition” and the ever-changing role of ambassadors in agriculture, life sciences, and natural resources.

NC AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

NC Agricultural, Tobacco and Dairy Foundation Requests for Proposals and Reports – DEADLINE January 22, 2007
To ensure that all campus and field faculty receive communication regarding the request for these proposals, the Dean’s office is sending an email to CALS ALL.

Please contact Dawn Piercy with any questions at 919-515-6373 or by email, dawn_piercy@ncsu.edu.

CALS Ag Leadership Development Program
The CALS Ag Leadership Development Program will be on a study-tour to Brazil, January 6-18, 2007 under the leadership of Roger Crickenberger, Billy Caldwell, Lanny Hass and Eleanor Stell. Another study tour to California will take place February 3-10, 2007

CALS PERSONNEL OFFICE

Basic Pilot Employment Verification Program
As a reminder, the new Employment Verification Program began January 1, 2007. With this program, all new employees hired after January 1st must have their employment verified through the Basic Pilot Program.

Whenever you complete an I-9, you should now also perform a verification check on the new employee. I-9’s are completed for any new hire and also for rehires when there is a break in service. The only exception is for Graduate Students returning to campus after summer break.

The employment verification check is performed by taking information from a new employee’s I-9 and entering it into the web-based pilot program database. The database will either return a positive “employment verified” in which case the screen is printed and attached to the I-9 or a “tentative non-confirmation”. In cases of tentative non-confirmations, the new employee is referred to the International Employment Office where I.E. will refer the new employee to either the Social Security Administration or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.

The verification checks must be performed within the first three days that the new employee begins to work on campus. If the verification check is not performed in a timely manner, the employee may be removed from payroll.

Program Administrators have been established for every college and division. They are responsible for creating General User accounts and for monitoring program compliance within their college or division. Program Administrators may also perform verification checks. For CALS, the Program Administrators are Sheri Schwab (sheri_schwab@ncsu.edu) for Extension user accounts, and Rebecca Zuvich (Rebecca_Zuvich@ncsu.edu) for Campus user accounts.
General User accounts should be set up by the Program Administrators within each College or Division. Typically, any employee who has authority to complete the I-9 for new employees should be set up as a General User. General Users are responsible for taking information from the I-9 and entering that information into the Pilot Program database. General Users will also refer all tentative non-confirmations to the International Employment Office. Requests for General User accounts should be addressed to the appropriate Program Administrator listed above.

Questions about this new requirement may be addressed to the Program Administrators listed above or to Marc Amos in the International Employment Office (marc_amos@ncsu.edu) 919-515-4518.

NEW COLLEGE HIRE'S – WELCOME!
On Campus:
Ben MacNeill, Extension Services, Extension Information Services Information Technician
Alejandro Amezquita, Food Science, Assistant Professor
Renee Marchin, Plant Biology, Research Specialist
Shelly Owens, 4-H & FCS, Administrative Support Associate
Nikki Kurdys, CALS Personnel Office, Extension Payroll Coordinator
Jessica Tucker, CALS Personnel Office, Extension Personnel Assistant

NC Cooperative Extension:
Jayne Cubilla - Johnston County - Assistant FCS Agent
Mary Helen Ferguson - Randolph County - Assistant Ag Agent
H. Keith Russell - Alleghany County - Assistant 4-H Agent
Chrystal Whitt - Surry County - Secretary II
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Liaison</th>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Meeting of the Plant Food Assoc.</td>
<td>January 9-10, 2007</td>
<td>Carolina Inn, Pinehurst, NC</td>
<td>Winston Hagler</td>
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<td>Blueberry Open House and Trade Show</td>
<td>January 9-10, 2007</td>
<td>Sampson Agri Expo, Clinton, NC</td>
<td>Tom Monaco</td>
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<td>Southeastern Apple Growers Conference</td>
<td>January 10-11, 2007</td>
<td>Crowne Plaza Resort, Asheville, NC</td>
<td>Sylvia Blankenship</td>
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<td>Soil Science Society of NC Meeting (50th Annual)</td>
<td>January 16-17, 2007</td>
<td>McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>Joe Zublena</td>
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<td>NC Cotton Producers Association (56th Annual)</td>
<td>January 16, 2007</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Gateway Center, Rocky Mount, NC</td>
<td>Roger Crickenberger</td>
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<td>Green and Growin' Trade Show</td>
<td>January 17-20, 2007</td>
<td>Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>Sylvia Blankenship</td>
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<td>Sweetpotato Commission Annual Meeting</td>
<td>January 18, 2007</td>
<td>County Extension Center, Wilson, NC</td>
<td>Tom Monaco</td>
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<td>Joint Corn/Soybean/Small Grain Conference</td>
<td>January 18-19, 2007</td>
<td>New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, New Bern, NC</td>
<td>Roger Crickenberger</td>
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<td>Sod Producers Association</td>
<td>January 22, 2007</td>
<td>North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>Roger Crickenberger</td>
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<td>NC Peach Society</td>
<td>January 23, 2007</td>
<td>Days Inn, Southern Pines, NC</td>
<td>Tom Monaco</td>
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<td>NC Crop Improvement Association &amp; NC Foundation Seed Producers Meeting</td>
<td>January 25-26, 2007</td>
<td>McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC; Board Meeting Jan 25; Annual Mtg. 26</td>
<td>Steve Leath</td>
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