**HONORS**

**Distinguished Water Management Specialist Honored with CAST Communications Award**
At its recent Board of Directors’ Meeting held in Washington, DC, the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) honored Dr. R. Wayne Skaggs, William Neal Reynolds Professor and Distinguished University Professor in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department at NC State University, by presenting him with the 2009 Charles A. Black Communications Award. The award was presented by CAST President Dr. Henry L. Shands at a reception preceding remarks by Dr. Skaggs. The audience included members of the CAST Board of Directors, Washington, DC agency personnel, and family and friends of Dr. Skaggs.

**Awards for Excellence**
The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences “Award for Excellence” recipients for the calendar year 2008 are:

- **On-Campus Supervisory/Administrative – Richard Parham**
  Department of Sociology and Anthropology

- **On-Campus Secretarial/Clerical – Rachel McLaughlin**
  Department of Horticultural Science

- **On-Campus Technical – Christopher Niewoehner**
  Department of Soil Science

- **Off-Campus Secretarial/Clerical – Janice Dotson**
  NC Cooperative Extension – Western District

- **Off-Campus Technical/Supervisory – Anthony Cole**
  Department of Soil Science – Fletcher

- **EPA – Paul Rudershausen**
  Department of Biology – Morehead City

A luncheon honoring these recipients will be held on Thursday, April 9 at 12 noon at the University Club on Hillsborough Street. Anyone who would like to attend the luncheon may do so at a cost of $15. Please send your RSVP to Helen_crane@ncsu.edu by noon on Friday, April 3 if you would like to attend. Checks should be made payable to NC State University and mailed to Helen Crane, Box 7601, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.
Our college winners are also being submitted to the University Committee for consideration for the University Awards for Excellence. Unit winners will also be recognized during a Dessert Social scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9 at the Talley Student Center Ballroom, NC State University campus – this is recent change in type of event, time and location. Tickets for the Dessert Social will be for sale in the near future and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Please join us in congratulating our college winners!

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFICE**

**Undergraduate Research and Teaching Symposiums**
The Undergraduate Research and Teaching Symposiums are scheduled for April 16 at the McKimmon Center. The Teaching Symposium will run from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. and the Research Symposium will have two sessions from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. and from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m. Abstracts for the symposiums must be submitted by midnight April 6 to the appropriate website. The Undergraduate Teaching Symposium website is [http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/academic/ugts/](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/academic/ugts/). The Undergraduate Research Symposium website is [http://www.ncsu.edu/ugrs/2009_Spring/index.htm](http://www.ncsu.edu/ugrs/2009_Spring/index.htm). We urge faculty to support the undergraduate teaching and research experience by attending these symposiums.

Congratulations to 2008-09 CALS faculty recognized for outstanding teaching, advising and contributions to academic programs. Please contact Barbara Kirby at Barbara_Kirby@ncsu.edu to add other recognitions to this list.

- Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching: CALS Nominee Sarah Ash, Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences
- Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor Award Brian Farkas, Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences
- Outstanding Teacher Award and Academy of Outstanding Teachers William C. Fonteno, Horticultural Science Lisa Parks, Biology John S. Russ, Agricultural and Resource Economics
- The Gertrude Cox Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching and Learning with Technology Keith Harris, Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences
- USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences Gary Moore, Agricultural and Extension Education

**Celebration of Teaching and Learning**
The Celebration of Teaching and Learning event is re-scheduled for the Fall Academic Programs Meeting, Tuesday, August 18, 2009 due to the extended afternoon schedule for the UG Research and Teaching Symposia on April 16.

**CALS Faculty Professional Development Workshop**
The CALS Faculty Professional Development Workshop is scheduled for May 12-13 (Tuesday and Wednesday) and is limited to 20 participants. New faculty appointed in the last two years will have
priority. The workshop will feature CALS and University faculty sharing teaching strategies and effective tools. Topics include: Preparing for the first day, teaching face to face and with technology, the syllabus tool, integrating writing, motivating students, formative and summative assessment, learning styles and classroom management. McKeachie's *Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research, and Theory for College and University Teachers (College Teaching)* (paperback) is the workshop reference. Registration information will be sent to departments and teaching faculty in early April.

Nominate Outstanding Advisers!
Please encourage your students to nominate their outstanding advisers for the CALS Outstanding Adviser Award. To nominate advisors, students should go to the following url:

http://harvest.cals.ncsu.edu/facstaff/index.cfm?pageid=978&awardid=87

Nominations close April 17, 2009. A call has also been issued from Academic Programs.

CALS Adviser Evaluation
With the close of the Pre-registration, CALS students are being asked to complete the CALS Adviser Evaluation form. The form is on-line. The survey is intended to be a formative evaluation for advisers. Results will be available to advisers at the CALS adviser evaluation site after May 15. Please encourage students to go on-line to complete the evaluation at the following url:

http://ceres.cals.ncsu.edu/studentevalforms/1index.cfm

The site closes April 24, 2009. A call has also been issued from Academic Programs.

Time and Location for Distribution Of Diplomas

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences** - 1:30 p.m. (except for those marked with an asterisk)
Agricultural and Resource Economics
(ABM, BBM, NRM, ESE Majors/Concentration) ................................................................. 3400 Nelson Hall
Agricultural and Extension Education (AED, AEX, AEC) .......... Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 3500 Edwards Mill Road
Agricultural Science ........................................................................................................ Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 3500 Edwards Mill Road
*Agronomy, Plant and Soil Science, Turfgrass Science,
Crop Science, and Soil Science - 1:00 p.m. ................................................................. 2215 Williams Hall
Animal Science ................................................................................................................... McKimmon Center
Biological and Agricultural Engineering ................................................................. Pavilion, D. S. Weaver Laboratories
*Biology - 3:00 p.m. ........................................................................................................ Reynolds Coliseum
4-H Youth Development and Family & Consumer Science........ Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 3500 Edwards Mill Road
Food Science, Bioprocessing Science, Nutrition Science and Biological Science - Nutrition Concentration
................................................................. Pittman Auditorium, St. Mary’s College, 900 Hillsborough Street
Horticultural Science ................................................................. Ruby McSwain Education Center, JC Raulston Arboretum
Microbiology .................................................................................................................. Cinema, Witherspoon Student Center
*Molecular and Structural Biochemistry - 4:00 p.m. .................................................... McKimmon Center
Plant Biology ................................................................................................................. 3712 Bostian Hall
Poultry Science ............................................................................................................. 106 Scott Hall
Sociology and Anthropology
(Applied Sociology/Criminology) .......... Athens Drive High School Auditorium, 1420 Athens Drive
*Zoology - 3:00 p.m. ....................................................................................................... Reynolds Coliseum
Interdepartmental Graduate Programs (Environmental Sciences,
Genomics, Natural Resources, Nutrition, Physiology) .................. Location of Major Faculty Advisor
Hold the Dates

- The CALS New Faculty Workshop will be held Friday, August 14, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- The CALS Academic Programs Fall Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 18, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.
- New Student Orientation Dates Reminder: Please mark your calendars for NSO. The dates are July 13-14, July 14-15, and July 15-16. If you have questions, please contact either Tricia Buddin or Julie Holder at 919-515-9716.

Upcoming Dates of Importance

- **April 10** - Spring Holiday; no classes
- **April 13** - Classes resume at 8:05 a.m.
- **April 20 to April 24** - "Dead Week" - Last week of classes. In order that students may complete semester projects, take lab tests, and prepare for final examinations, faculty members shall not give any test or quizzes or assign any additional papers or project during the final week of the semester. Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the department head and the dean of the college involved.
- **April 24** - Last day of classes
- **April 27 to May 5** - Final Examinations
- **May 9** - Spring Commencement
- **May 18** - First day of classes for 2009 Summer Session I (SS 1) and 2009 Ten-week Summer Session (10-WK)
- **May 19** – (SS 1 & 10-WK) - Last day to add a course without permission of instructor. MyPack Portal closes for adds at 11:59 p.m. (After this day, adds processed in 1000 Harris Hall.)
- **May 20** – (SS 1 & 10-WK) Last day to register or to add a course. Last day to drop a course, or change from credit to audit with tuition adjustment.
- **May 25** - Holiday (Memorial Day); university closed
- **June 3** - (SS 1 only) - Last day to withdraw or drop a course without a grade at all levels. Last day to change from credit to audit at all levels. Last day to change to credit only. Last day to submit Request for Course Repeat Without Penalty forms. MyPack Portal closes for drops at 11:59 p.m.
- **June 19** – (SS 1 only) - Last day of classes
- **June 22** – (10-WK only) - Last day to withdraw or drop a course without a grade at all levels. Last day to change from credit to audit at all levels. Last day to change to credit only. Last day to submit Request for Course Repeat Without Penalty forms. MyPack Portal closes for drops at 11:59 p.m.
- **June 22 to June 23** – Final Examinations for 2009 Summer Session I
- **June 29** - First day of classes for 2009 Summer Session II (SS 2)
- **June 29 to July 3** – (10-WK only) – No classes.
- **June 30** – (SS 2 only) - Last day to add a course without permission of instructor. MyPack Portal closes for adds at 11:59 p.m. (After this day, adds processed in 1000 Harris Hall.)
- **July 1** – (SS 2 only) - Last day to enroll or to add a course. Last day to drop a course, or change from credit to audit with tuition adjustment.
- **July 3** - Friday No classes; university closed for the holiday (Independence Day)
- **July 15** – (SS 2 only) - Last day to withdraw or drop a course without a grade at the all levels. Last day to change from credit to audit at all levels. Last day to change to credit only. Last day to submit Request for Course Repeat Without Penalty forms. MyPack Portal closes for all drops at 11:59 p.m.
• July 31 – (SS 2 only) - Last day of classes
• August 3 to August 4 – (SS 2 only) - Final Examinations
• August 5 – (10-WK only) – Last day classes
• August 6 to August 7 – (10-WK only) - Final Examinations
• August 19 - First day of classes for 2009 Fall Semester
• August 25 - Last day to add a course without permission of instructor. MyPack Portal closes for adds at 11:59 p.m. (After this day, adds processed in 1000 Harris Hall)

Undergraduate Admissions Information
The Admission Office will use the same notification dates and application process again this year. The notification dates are:

Application Deadline #1: October 15
Notification Date: December 15 - completed

Application Deadline #2: November 1
Notification Date: January 30 – completed

Application Deadline #3: December 1
Notification Date: March 15th – completed

Application Deadline #4: February 1
Notification Date: March 30 – pending

Of the 2,980 who have applied for entrance into CALS as of March 16, 2009:
• 1,469 have been admitted
• 1,034 are female (70.4%) and 435 are male (29.6%)
• 1,162 are from in-state (79.1%) and 306 are from out-of-state (20.8%) and one applicant’s residency is still pending (0.1%)

Diversity breakdown:
• White 76.4%
• American Native 0.7%
• African American 6.6%
• Asian 6.9%
• Hispanic 3.6%
• Unknown 5.3%
• International 0.5%

Academic Credentials/Test Score Averages are as follows for those admitted to CALS:
• Average SAT Total (math & verbal only) 1207
• Average SAT Math Score 615
• Average SAT Verbal Score 592
• Percent Ranked in Top 10% of HS Class 57.5%
• Average High School GPA 4.30

Students Take Top Awards at Annual Poultry Meeting
A CALS student won the Frank Perdue Student of the Year Scholarship, and the CALS Poultry Science
Club won the Club of the Year Award in January at the annual Poultry Expo in Atlanta. Jenna Bunton, a senior from Hiddenite with a double major in poultry and animal science, was named Student of the Year. She is the daughter of Kathy Bunton, Cooperative Extension area poultry agent stationed in Iredell County. Sponsored by the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, the Poultry Expo is the poultry industry’s major annual meeting.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

Alumni Career Survey
The 2009 Career Survey results are now online (also see attached). All graduates from the year December 2007 to August 2008 were emailed a survey and asked to inform us about their current status. This year we had a 14 percent response rate. Of those respondents, 61 percent were employed, 35 percent were furthering their education, 2 percent were seeking employment, and 2 percent were unknown. The average starting salary for all Bachelor’s degree recipients was $33,338, for Master’s degree recipients $39,663, and for Doctoral degree recipients $53,563. For complete survey results, go to http://harvest.cals.ncsu.edu/career/index.cfm?pageID=1543

Speed Networking
On April 7, Career Services and the Alumni & Friends Society will host Speed Networking. Faculty are invited to attend the reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of Talley Student Center. Visiting alumni and friends will be representing professions in the following categories: Animal Related, Sales & Business, Biotechnology & Laboratory, Physicians, and Health Care. For a complete list of professions to be represented and more event details, go to our home page www.cals.ncsu.edu/career and click on the Speed Networking button. Please encourage your students to sign up in 107 Patterson Hall for this fun event – there are still a seats available!

Alumni Webinar
Career Services, the Alumni Association, and CALS Alumni & Friends Society will co-host a webinar for alumni who have been affected by the recession. “Pack’s Professional Parachute” will be presented by Marcy Bullock, Director of CALS Career Services and Sue Simonds, Director of Alumni Career Services on April 30, 2009 at 1:00 pm EST. Topics will include “Where are the jobs,” “Writing a resume that will be noticed,” “The best ways to network,” “Technology tools,” and “Retraining and retooling.” All participants must register to receive the URL for the webinar. Registration details can be found at http://harvest.cals.ncsu.edu/career/index.cfm?pageid=1544

AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE

Agricultural Institute Visitation Day
The Agricultural Institute hosted a visitation day on Friday, March 27. This day was for high school seniors that have applied or are interested in the Agricultural Institute. We had over 100 in attendance.

Mark Your Calendars
- Agricultural Institute Senior Breakfast -- Wednesday, April 22 in 2405 Williams Hall. The event will begin at 7:15 a.m.
- Agricultural Institute Spring Commencement – Friday, May 8 at 3:00pm in Stewart Theatre.
The mission of the NCALS Research Foundation is to increase funding, raise awareness, and facilitate partnerships in support of CALS research programs.

**Interim Director of the Genomic Sciences Laboratory**
Dr. Jenn Schaff has been named Interim Director of the Genomic Sciences Laboratory (GSL). Anyone needing letters of support for grants or information about GSL services and pricing should contact Dr. Schaff at jeschaff@unity.ncsu.edu or 919-513-3882.

Prices for GS FLX Titanium sequencing are currently being revised to reflect a decrease in the cost of reagents; and new rates will be posted on the GSL website [http://gsl.cals.ncsu.edu](http://gsl.cals.ncsu.edu) as soon as they have been approved.

**Washington, DC visit with CARET Representatives**
On March 4, 2009, Drs. Sylvia Blankenship and Steven Lommel traveled with CARET (Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching) representatives, Noland Ramsey and David Davenport to Washington, DC. The CARET representatives stressed the importance of our research to our delegation. Projects discussed included:

- An automated real-time monitoring network to safeguard major North Carolina water supply reservoirs
- Consumer credit: increasing knowledge for behavior change
- Crop pathogens/protection
- Development of management strategies for the invasive white grub, plectris aliena in sweetpotato
- The ipmpipe, a national management tool for economically damaging agricultural pests
- Inter-disciplinary center for forensic sciences
- Regional biosecurity level-p (3) containment facility for plant pathogens support for the NCSU Center for Integrated Biomass Research – CIBR
- Sustainable and economically competitive aquaculture in North Carolina
- Sustainable bioregenerative life support for human space exploration
- Sustainable farming through active management of soil microbial community
- Poultry science center for innovation and global competitiveness
- Tools to comply with EPA emission requirements for livestock and poultry production facilities

**NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

**Successful Gardener will be at Home Show – April 3-5**
Extension's Successful Gardener Learning Center is the place to get your gardening questions answered during the Southern Ideal Home Show, April 3-5 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Hosted by Extension horticulture agents and Master Gardeners, the exhibit will spotlight environmentally-friendly practices, offering tips on how to build a rain barrel, use a worm bin or take a soil sample. Visitors to the learning center also can pick up information sheets about composting, lawn maintenance and the 2009 Showstopper Plants. For more information, visit [www.southernshows.com](http://www.southernshows.com).

**Almanac Gardener Begins 26th Season – April 4**
*Almanac Gardener* begins its 26th season on Saturday, April 4 at noon on the statewide UNC-TV
network. The Saturday show will be repeated at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday. *Almanac Gardener* is a half-hour home horticultural program telecast for 20 weeks from April through August. *Almanac Gardener* is one of the longest running series on UNC-TV and is a co-production of UNC-TV and Cooperative Extension at N.C. State University.

Regular Cooperative Extension panelists include: Karen Neill, horticultural agent, Guilford County; Linda Blue, horticultural agent, Buncombe County; Bill Lord, environmental agent, Franklin County; Lucy Bradley, urban horticultural specialist, N.C. State University; Stephen Greer, horticultural agent, Forsyth County; Charlotte Glenn, horticultural agent, Pender County and Amy-Lynn Albertson, horticultural agent, Davidson County. Mike Gray is a co-producer and host of Almanac Gardener.

**CEFS Farm to Fork Summit Rescheduled**
The Center for Environmental Farming Systems has rescheduled the 2009 Farm to Fork Summit May 11-12 at McKimmon Center in Raleigh. The goal of the summit is to help produce a Statewide Action Plan for Building a Local Food Economy. The day and a half summit conference will explore the outcomes of six regional meetings held last fall, and Working Issues Teams will provide input about “game changer” and “local tool box” ideas. For more information, visit the Web site: [www.cefsfarmtofork.com](http://www.cefsfarmtofork.com).

**UNC-TV Shows Third 4-H Feature**
UNC-TV featured a third 4-H news story on the North Carolina NOW program March 23. The program featured information about N.C. 4-H Dropout Prevention Programs. We invite you to watch these features by visiting the Web site: [www.nc4h.org/](http://www.nc4h.org/).

**CEFS to host 2009 Spring Farm Festival – April 18**
The Center for Environmental Farming Systems’ 2009 Spring Farm Festival will be held April 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the CEFS’ Cherry Research Farm in Goldsboro. The festival will feature childrens’ activities and workshops – many related to home gardening -- educational exhibits, farm tours, live music and locally produced food. Visit the CEFS’s Spring Farm Festival Web site at: [www.cefs.ncsu.edu/SpringFarmFestival2009.htm](http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/SpringFarmFestival2009.htm) for detailed information.

**Extension Agent Training on the Business Side of Agritourism**
A multi-state training session for Extension agents titled "The Business Side of Agritourism" will be conducted April 27-29, 2009 in the Asheville area. Grant funds are available to pay for travel, lodging and per diem. If you are interested in attending, please email Gary Bullen at gary_bullen@ncsu.edu.

**Campfire Delight is Winning Flavor**
Early in March, the ice cream flavor Campfire Delight was named the winner in a “cone-test” to choose the signature ice cream for the NC 4-H centennial celebration. A group of esteemed judges chose the flavor from a field of three ice cream flavors submitted by 4-H groups around the state. The top flavors were Campfire Delight, submitted by Tyrrell County; 100 S'More Years submitted by Johnston County; and Clover Crunch, submitted by Gates County. Pints of the three flavors (the runners-up are in limited quantities) are available for $5 in 512 Brickhaven. Contact Sarah Ray for more information at sarah_ray@ncsu.edu or 919-515-9263.

**Media Relations Made Easy workshop to be held in Guilford County**
The MRME team will hold a workshop May 21 at the Guilford County Extension Center. Registration will be open soon in the Learning Management System, so please register early. For more information, contact training organizer Brenda Morris at brenda_morris@ncsu.edu.
Memorandum of Understanding
A five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into on March 20, 2009 between North Carolina State University on behalf of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM). The MOU outlines the objectives, scope, roles and responsibilities, and time period for the Creating Awareness of Agriculture and Life Sciences Disciplines, Degree Programs and Discoveries Project (CAALS 3-D Project).

The CALS Diversity Council is providing leadership to the CAALS 3-D Project which endeavors to:

- Increase awareness and interest in career fields within the food, agricultural, and life sciences among NCSSM male students from underrepresented groups;
- Increase awareness and interest in cutting-edge research in the food, agricultural, and life sciences among NCSSM male students from underrepresented groups;
- Engage NCSSM male students from underrepresented groups in innovative research with faculty in CALS;
- Expose NCSSM male students from underrepresented groups to committed faculty who can serve as their mentors and role models;
- Develop a model of best practices for university outreach and engagement of male high school students from underrepresented groups.

The first component of the CAALS 3-D Project will be a Summer Research Experience that will be held July 20-23, 2009 in which male African-American, Hispanic/Latino and Native American NCSSM students, who are incoming Juniors (first year at NCSSM), will participate in hands-on experiential research projects in a CALS laboratory. Faculty who are interested in providing a hands-on, experiential session for NCSSM students in their teaching lab or research lab during the CAALS 3-D summer program can contact Dr. Lisa A. Guion, Interim Assistant Dean for Diversity for more information lisa_guion@ncsu.edu or 919-513-0573.

CALS Students Present at National MANRRS Conference
Dr. Leon Boyd, Interim Diversity Coordinator, chaperoned 14 students to attend the national Conference and Career Workshop of the National Society of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) held in Indianapolis, Indiana on March 26-28, 2009. The students gave oral and poster presentations while others served as representatives of the NCSU-MANRRS chapter. The students held several fundraising events to cover the cost of the trip and these included two fish fries, Muscadine jelly sale, and a pancake breakfast.

Keynote Address on Diversity
Dr. Sastry Pantula, President-Elect of the American Statistical Association, gave a keynote address at the Diversity Workshop in San Antonio at the ENAR Biometrics Meetings, March 15-18, 2009. The workshop was attended by high school students, undergraduates, graduates, faculty and professionals from industry and government. In all, about 80 participants were at the workshop. Sastry's talk is titled "Celebrating Diversity," and he spoke about:

- The mentors who helped him, and the importance of being grateful to them
- "Statistics are Lousy"- which showed convincing data on how bad the situation is in statistical sciences when it comes to diversity: only 5% of the Phd's in mathematical sciences go to
minorities and only 2% of the faculty in statistical sciences are minorities, though, in the population, 25% are African American, Hispanic or Native Americans.

- "Statisticians are not Lousy" - showed a number of successful minority statisticians who could be our role models. He celebrated their successes!

The workshop went very well, and received very positive comments about the talk.

**African-American Visitation Day**
Dr. Lisa A. Guion, Interim Assistant Dean for Diversity, made a presentation and provided information to talented high school students and their parents during the African American Visitation Day on Saturday, March 28, 2009 and Latino Visitation Day on Saturday, April 4, 2009. These Visitation Day programs are sponsored by the NCSU Office of Undergraduate Admissions. African American and Latino high school students who have been accepted for admission to NC State receive a special invitation from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to attend these respective events. The purpose of these events is to provide these outstanding students with first-hand information on degree programs, scholarships and financial aid, housing, etc; and encourage them to attend NC State. Dr. Guion makes presentations to students majoring in CALS disciplines and their parents. A panel of current CALS students provides insights on courses, undergraduate research opportunities and student life which is immediately followed by question and answers from the students and their parents.

**Mi Familia Visitation Day**
El Pueblo, a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to strengthen the Latino community, is hosting a visitation day for local Latino high school students on April 17, 2009 in Raleigh, NC. In collaboration with Ms. Tricia Buddin, CALS Coordinator of Recruiting and First Year Experiences, two CALS Ambassadors will be assisting Dr. Guion with this recruitment and outreach event.

**Fellowship Opportunity for Female Scientists**
The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has teamed with L’Oreal to co-sponsor a fellowship program that will award $40,000 for a two year research project to fifteen young women in the life sciences. Candidates must already be engaged in pursuing research at the doctoral or post-doctoral level in life sciences including biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, agriculture, medicine, pharmacy and physiology. Projects involving animal models (i.e. experimentation using vertebrate laboratory animals) are rejected, and proposals in the area of cosmetics research are NOT encouraged; preference is given to non cosmetic research. For more information, go to www.Unesco.org/en/fellowships/loreal.

**National Observances**
There are several national observances during the month of April which includes:

- Alcohol Awareness Month
- National Autism Awareness Month
- National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- National Occupational Therapy Month
- National Parkinson's Awareness Month
- Alcohol Awareness Month
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE

International Visitors
On March 6, 2009 CALS visited with Olee Joel Olsen, Director of Business Development of Sencera and current Board Member of the Fulbright Norway Commission. Drs. Sam Pardue, Frank Edens, and Paul Mueller met with Mr. Olsen regarding relationships with scientists and graduates for fellowships in Norway. The focus of the fellowships would be with bioenergy, fisheries and possibly solar energy and other low impact environmental energy. Please see the link below for more information. Please contact Dr. Paul Mueller paul_mueller@ncsu.edu or 919-515-2818 for more information regarding involvement.

http://www.fulbright.no/Fulbright_Grants/Americans_to_Norway/

Study Abroad Scholarships
CALS has finalized decisions on another Study Abroad Scholarship season. We had 47 applicants for this season. The International Programs Office solicited help from the IPAC to review the applications. We extend a generous thank you to those members who assisted us with the task of reviewing and scoring the applications. We have awarded four deserving students with $1,000 scholarships toward their CALS-sponsored summer program abroad. We wish them safe and studious trips.

Thank you again, IPAC for your help this season.

Lectures -- Think Globally, Eat Locally
The Science Café is an ongoing event series inviting anyone to participate in discussions with leaders in the field of science and technology on a variety of topics. It is hosted by the local Sigma Xi chapters and the Museum of Natural Sciences and takes place in local coffee shops and restaurants. The program works to promote discussions of science in an informal community setting. This month’s topic is on the local foods movement and understanding where food is grown and how it gets to your local markets. The discussion will also focus on the economies and benefits of using local farmers and how it relates to improved land and animal stewardship and reduced fossil fuel dependency. This month’s speaker is Dr. Jeana Myers, soil scientist with the NCDA and NCSU graduate. Come to the Irregardless Café on Tuesday, April 21 to listen or make your point heard.

Tuesday, April 21, 2009
6:30 -8:30 p.m. – Discussion beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed by Q&A
Irregardless Café
901 W. Morgan Street, Raleigh, NC

COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

Tax News: The IRA Rollover Legislation is back for 2009
Under the IRA rollover, gifts will be excluded from your gross income (a tax-free transfer).

To qualify for benefits under the IRA Charitable Rollover:
- The transfer must be from a regular or Roth IRA
- You must be 70 ½ or older at the time of the gift
- Transfers must go directly from your IRA custodian to the NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
- Your transfers cannot exceed $100,000 per year
- Gifts must be outright and cannot fund planned gifts.
To support a CALS program through an IRA Rollover gift, please contact Sonia Murphy at 919-513-0637 or sonia_murphy@ncsu.edu

2009 US Tobacco Forum
The NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc. is proud to be hosting the 2009 US Tobacco Forum scheduled for July 16-19, 2009 at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach, SC. We are planning an exciting program that will provide a public opportunity to explore the varied interests in tobacco. For more information and to register, please visit: http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ustobaccoforum09.htm

NC Centennial 4-H Lifetime Achievement Awards Celebration
The NC Centennial 4-H Lifetime Achievement Awards Celebration is set for April 23, 2009 at the Embassy Suites Hotel Resort & Conference Center Charlotte-Concord. This event provides an outstanding venue to highlight today’s 4-H youth development program and the outstanding job it does helping young people become competent, caring, and contributing members of society. This year’s theme will focus on the 4-H Centennial anniversary, with a “Showcase of Excellence” highlighting 4-H science and technology, community service and excellence in utilizing university-based curricula to develop future leaders.

We will be recognizing Mr. Tommy Burleson with the 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award. Family Legacy Awards will be presented to the Teeter Family and Vanderbilt/Cecil Family. You will be interested to know that in the 1920s Mrs. Vanderbilt paid the first-year salary for Mr. L. R. Harrill, our first Buncombe County 4-H Agent, and also established the first 4-H camp on the Biltmore Estate. All award recipients are being recognized for their outstanding involvement and support of North Carolina 4-H. http://www.nc4h.org/donors/nc4h-lifetime-achievement.html

Gala in the Garden is May 3
On Sunday, May 3 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., the JC Raulston Arboretum will hold its annual Gala in the Garden. Themed "An Enchanted Garden Party," the gala is open to the public. In addition to the silent auction, guests also will enjoy live music by the Southern String Band and gourmet hors d’oeuvres, including a special dessert reception. Gala tickets are $60. Proceeds from the event will benefit the JC Raulston Arboretum, a working research and teaching garden of N.C. State University.

Honorary Chairs: Linda and Rufus Edmisten
Gala Chairs: Cyndy Allison and Tori Callanan

To become a corporate sponsor or to purchase tickets, contact Anne Porter at 919-513-3826 or anne_porter@ncsu.edu.

Going…Going…Almost Gone!
Available in print for the very first time, Dr. George T. Barthalmus' original murder mystery, Revenge Through Me. Dr. Barthalmus is donating all proceeds from the sale of the book to the George and Marina Barthalmus Life Sciences Scholarship Endowment. In addition, he will personally sign all copies purchased through this initial offering! Single editions are just $25, with discounts for purchases of three or more books. Hurry – we have very few first editions left and our prices must be increased after this special offer! To order your personalized first edition(s), just click here. For more info, click here.

Got Gifts-In-Kind? If not, think about this:
In tough economic times, we have to adapt and become more entrepreneurial as we try to find support
for our programs. Often, companies and individuals are able to continue donating equipment, materials, supplies or services, even if they must cut their cash contributions. If you receive any non-cash gifts, please complete the form BA-151 (http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ba151.doc) and forward to chris_wessel@ncsu.edu. We will make sure your donors are sent University receipts and acknowledgment letters showing how important their support is to CALS. If you have any questions about non-cash gifts, please call Chris at 919.515.7678.

**Save the Dates for Upcoming CALS Alumni & Friends Events**

- Tuesday, April 7 – Speed Networking – NCSU Campus, Raleigh, NC
- Saturday, April 18 – Fisheries and Wildlife Reunion – Harrill Center, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC
- Saturday, September 19 – Tailgate – Dorton Arena, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC
- October 9 - Alumni Awards Reception – University Club, Raleigh, NC
- Saturday, December 5 – Retired Faculty/Staff Luncheon – McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC

For more information on these events, please contact arsheph2@ncsu.edu or call 919-515-7222 or 919-515-6212.

**CALS Chronicle Enewsletter!**
The official enewsletter of CALS Alumni and Friends Society is sent quarterly. Please send your announcements, departmental events, updates and departmental news for the next issue to calsalum@ncsu.edu. If you wish to subscribe to the enewsletter, email calsalum@ncsu.edu.

**The Silver Wolf Newsletter**
The Silver Wolf (bi-annual publication) is a hard copy newsletter for CALS Retirees and their spouses. If you have departmental information, retiree information, announcements, events, printed material you would like to insert, resource information, or a "departmental ad" to submit for our next edition, please send to Anna Shepherd, arsheph2@ncsu.edu

**Employee Retiree List**
We need your help! We request that all departments and county offices please continue to send us your updated retiree lists with all contact information available. Once an employee retires, just send Anna Shepherd arsheph2@ncsu.edu a quick e-mail letting her know so that she can add them to our list.

**CALS Gift Legacy Web Site**
In an effort to better serve faculty and staff with helpful information, we have created a comprehensive gift planning Web site. We have an increasing number of friends of the College who now are benefiting from life income gifts, gift annuities and other charitable vehicles. Thank you for taking the time to explore the benefits of gift planning at http://www.calsgiftplanning.org/.

You may support any area of the College and join or renew your Arboretum membership online using our secure website. Visit http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/givenow for safe, convenient online giving!

**Advancement Advantage Guide to Services**
College Advancement is pleased to announce the availability of our Advancement Advantage Guide to Services on-line. This information is designed to educate CALS faculty, staff and administrators about the resources available through these divisions. By doing so, we hope to expand access to our services, and increase support of and service to departments and college-wide initiatives. This web site is a work in progress and will be updated on a regular basis. To access this information, just click on the following...
CALS PERSONNEL

Many Will See Changes in Paychecks/Federal Tax Withholdings Beginning with Their April Paychecks

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act signed by President Barack Obama in February included a Making Work Pay Credit (MWPC), prompting the IRS to issue revised federal income tax withholding tables. This means that many employees will have less federal income tax coming out of their paychecks for the remainder of 2009. (There will be no change to state income tax amounts.)

- *When will it become effective?* As instructed by the IRS, Payroll will start using the new rates for the bi-weekly payroll that pays on April 3, 2009 (20092R20) and the monthly payroll that pays on April 30, 2009 (20091R10).

- *What effect will it have?* The new tax rates are intended to provide a tax credit estimated at $400 for taxpayers filing as single -- and $600 for taxpayers filing as married -- by the end of 2009. *For example:* An individual filing as single who is paid monthly will have around $44.00 less deducted each month for federal income tax starting in April than they did for the first three months of the year. This means that for the nine month period from April to December this individual will have paid approximately $400 less in federal income tax ($44.00 X 9 months) than they would have before the MWPC took effect. For an individual filing as married who is paid monthly, that amount will be around $66.00 less that will be withheld each month.

- *Who is going to be affected?* Many employees will see a decrease in the amount of federal income tax they are paying, but the MWPC does not apply to everyone, especially at higher incomes. Per the American Payroll Association’s (APA) March 2009 newsletter “…the differential is phased out as the combination of wages and withholding allowances suggests a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of at least $75,000 for single individuals ($150,000 for joint filers), disappearing completely at a MAGI of $95,000 ($190,000 for joint filers).”

- *How do I make changes to my W-4 withholdings?* If you are concerned that this may lead to under withholding of taxes, it is easy to update your W-4. For those who wish to change the federal withholding status on their W-4, please use Employee Self Service in the MyPack Portal [http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/hr/payroll/tax_earnings.asp3](http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/hr/payroll/tax_earnings.asp3)

Change in Open Enrollment – Will Be Different Than Prior Years

The dates for Annual Enrollment have not yet been finalized. In order to avoid two enrollments, the State Health Plan will wait to conduct Annual Enrollment until after the State Health Plan’s bill is signed into law. Communication will be issued via email as soon as the details are known. Enrollment kits will be posted on the State Health Plan’s web site and will be mailed to all currently enrolled members shortly after the bill is signed.

Voluntary Early Retirement Program for Employees With Federal Retirement Benefits

At the request of Cooperative Extension, the CALS Personnel Office has made application to the Office of Federal Personnel Management (OPM) for approval of a Voluntary Early Out Authority (VERA) for up to 75 potential retirement slots. A response from OPM is expected in the early part of April for a
retirement window of June 2009 – September, 2009. The VERA only applies to those individuals who have federal retirement benefits (FERS, CSRS, or CSRS-Offset) who meet certain eligibility criteria. (Those specific individuals have already received more detailed correspondence on the VERA.) Once the request has been approved, a notice will be sent. In anticipation of the approval of the request, we have established the following timeline. Once we receive final approval, we will communicate to confirm the final authorization and to adjust any timelines as necessary.

- Tuesday, April 2, 2009 at 10:00 am – CALS Personnel will host an Elluminate session and conduct an overview of the Federal VERA/retirement process
- Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 10:00 am – Window opens to submit VERA notification of intent to participate to the CALS Personnel Office via email

If you feel that you are eligible for a VERA and have not received earlier correspondence from Dr. Ort covering these points in more detail, please contact Sheri Schwab or Steve Norris in the CALS Personnel Office at 919-515-2708.

**CALS Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure Process**

We have scheduled **CALS "RPT-101"**, a college session where we cover information and questions about the reappointment, promotion and tenure process. We will also address details concerning the dossier formatting and content requirements and bring you up to date on any new changes to the process. RPT-101 is open to anyone in the college. Faculty who will be undergoing the review process in the 2009-10 cycle, are especially encouraged to attend. Department Heads and staff involved with the process, as well as faculty considering a non-mandatory review for promotion, are also invited and encouraged to attend. Dr. Sylvia Blankenship will lead this session. The meeting is scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, May 6, 2009  
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
512 Brickhaven Drive, Conference Room 203

Please RSVP by May 4 to Meredith Blair meredith_blair@ncsu.edu 919-515-1379 if you plan to attend so that we may prepare the appropriate number of handouts. If you have any questions about this session or the RPT process, contact Rebecca Zuvich rebecca_zuvich@ncsu.edu 919-515-2641.

**New Campus Employees**

Nora Ansara, Research Technician, Biological Resources Facility  
Heather Lessig, Research Technician, Biology  
Amber Polk, Administrative Support Specialist, Center for Environmental Farming Systems, Horticultural Science  
Margaret Lowe, Accountant, Dairy Records Processing  
Elizabeth Clevinger, Research Specialist, North Carolina Research Campus, Kannapolis, NC  
Henrietta Nichols, Research Assistant, Plant Biology

**New County Employees**

Deborah Kelso, Assistant Extension Agent, Dare County  
Larry Kent, Program Assistant, Onslow County  
Sally Southard, County Extension Secretary, Surry County
## COMMODITY MEETINGS

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<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Liaison</th>
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<td>NC Potato Association Meeting (81st)</td>
<td>May 18, 2009</td>
<td>Fairfield Inn, Elizabeth City, NC</td>
<td>Tom Melton</td>
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<tr>
<td>NC State Beekeepers Association Summer Meeting</td>
<td>July 8-10, 2009</td>
<td>Charlotte/Wilkesboro</td>
<td>Joe Zublena</td>
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<tr>
<td>NC Seedsmen's Association</td>
<td>July 26-28, 2009</td>
<td>Hilton Riverside, Wilmington, NC</td>
<td>Winston Hagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crop Protection Association of NC Meeting (Summer)</td>
<td>July 29-30, 2009</td>
<td>Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Wrightsville Beach, NC</td>
<td>Tom Melton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Plant Food Association</td>
<td>August 2-4, 2009</td>
<td>Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC</td>
<td>Winston Hagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>NC Muscadine Grape Association Summer Meeting</td>
<td>August 6-7, 2009</td>
<td>Bus Tour: TBA</td>
<td>David Monks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Green Show &amp; Power Expo</td>
<td>August 12-14, 2009</td>
<td>Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>Tom Melton</td>
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<tr>
<td>42nd Annual NC Poultry Federation Membership Meeting</td>
<td>August 13, 2009</td>
<td>Grandover Resort and Conference Center, Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>Roger Crickenberger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern NC Christmas Tree Growers Association (Fall)</td>
<td>September 24-26</td>
<td>Boone, NC</td>
<td>Ed Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>NC Christmas Tree Assoc. Summer Meeting/50th Anniversary</td>
<td>September 25-26, 2009</td>
<td>Boone, NC</td>
<td>Ed Jones</td>
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<td>NC Irrigation Society</td>
<td>November 4, 2009</td>
<td>McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>Winston Hagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast Strawberry Expo</td>
<td>November 8-10, 2009</td>
<td>Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park, Durham</td>
<td>Tom Melton</td>
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<tr>
<td>72nd Annual Convention of the Carolina Feed Industry</td>
<td>November 9-11, 2009</td>
<td>Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park, Durham</td>
<td>Winston Hagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Annual Meeting</td>
<td>November 16-19, 2009</td>
<td>Myrtle Beach Convention Center, Myrtle Beach, SC and Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel</td>
<td>David Monks</td>
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Please check this URL periodically for updates.