ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFICE

Spend A Day At State is underway for the Fall Semester. Students have been registering consistently and we appreciate each of you who have been meeting with the students or having them attend your class. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

October 13 is the university Open House. This is a great recruiting tool for your department. We will have the college booth there as well. The event runs from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If you have registered to participate in the CALS Bostian Breezeway, please contact Tricia asap.

Help us help you with recruiting! What are the top 3 things/events/projects your department is proud of? We want 3 “sound bites” for each department that we can use to grab students’ attention, engage them in conversation about CALS, and then send them on to find out more about what the major means. If your department has sound bites to share, we would love to have them. Please contact Tricia.

New Student Orientation for the Spring Semester will be held on Friday, December 9 and Friday, January 6. Please hold these dates on your calendar. Students may drop by during the 2-5 p.m. timeframe.

If you have questions, please contact Tricia Buddin, tricia_buddin@ncsu.edu, 919-515-2614.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

Our 21st Career Expo was on Thursday, September 27th this year (quite a bit earlier than usual). Over 60 companies attended, as well as, several representatives from student groups and organizations. The event was highly successful. Preceding the Expo was a dinner on the evening of September 26th, where representatives from 13 companies sat with selected students, who were able to ask questions about the company and opportunities that they have available.

Kick Start workshops have gotten off to a great start this year, with a full house and satisfied students. We hope that a large number of students continue to attend these events and receive their Professional Development Certificate at the end of the semester.

Project SUCCESS is a new workshop being offered by the Career Educators. There are several workshops with different goals for freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The general purpose it to help students figure out what they should be focusing on at this point in their college career and to offer support as they work to accomplish it. Several workshops have already taken place with larger than expected turn out, and so far it seems to be living up to its name!
We have been working hard to expand our presence on social media, including Twitter and Facebook. Beginning on Monday, October 8th, we are holding a contest over Facebook in which students can share any valuable experience they’ve had with CALS Career Services, and be entered into a drawing for a bookstore gift card. Our goals for this contest are to allow students to share their experiences in the hopes that other students may be encouraged to utilize the services we offer, and to increase traffic to our Facebook page, where we post updates on programs and events, as well as helpful, career-related information for students to see.

**AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE OFFICE**

Changes in the Agricultural Institute

Dr. Barbara Kirby, Director of the Agricultural Institute from 2007 to 2012, has accepted a position as Associate Vice-Provost of Academic Programs and Services here at NC State. This is a tremendous opportunity for Dr. Kirby and we wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors! We will miss her greatly!

Dr. John Cornwell, Director of the Agricultural Institute from 1997 until his retirement in 2007, has agreed to return as Director on a temporary basis through December, 2012. He has assumed all of Dr. Kirby’s responsibilities as Director of the Agricultural Institute. We are thankful Dr. Cornwell has agreed to serve as Interim Director.

Mark your calendars!

Senior Breakfast
Agricultural Institute Senior Breakfast for graduating seniors will be held Tuesday, November 27, 2012. The breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. in 2405 Williams Hall.

Graduation
The Agricultural Institute commencement ceremony is Friday, December 14, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. The Ceremony will be held at the Jane S. McKimmon Center. All are welcome to attend.

**NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

Volunteers needed for State Fair, Oct. 11-21
Volunteers are still needed to staff the CALS exhibit in the State Fair’s Cultivate a Career tent, especially for evening and weekend shifts. Extension program professionals can use their shift to promote their program effort, under the “Ask Cooperative Extension” sign. To sign up, contact Karla Frizzelleas soon as possible.

Conference helps ag agents hone skills
For Cooperative Extension agricultural agents, keeping skills current and being informed about the industry issues of the day are key to doing the job well. This summer, 64 agricultural agents from around the state came to Raleigh for N.C. Cooperative Extension’s seventh Livestock/Forage/Field Crop Agent Training Conference.
‘In the Garden with Bryce Lane’ enters 10th season
“In the Garden with Bryce Lane,” an award-winning TV show from N.C. State University, kicks off its 10th season Saturday, Sept. 22, at noon on UNC-TV.

Program teaches participants to ‘Shop Smart’
With just $10 to spend on food, a mother and her teenage daughter came away from a Durham Food Lion recently with quite a bit of food: two yogurts, bananas, lettuce, strawberries, cucumbers, salad dressing and bread. The two were among a group participating in Durham County Cooperative Extension’s “Shop Smart, Eat Smart and Move More” program.

New scholarship endowment honors 4-H’s Thearon and Vanette McKinney
The endowment will provide opportunities for N.C. 4-H members to attend the American Youth Foundation Leadership Conference.

NCSU Lawn Care app now available for Android
With categories like “grasses,” “pest problems” and “irrigation,” the North Carolina State University Lawn Care app is a convenient, valuable tool for homeowners and commercial landscapers alike. Developed by the university’s Turfgrass Program, the app is now available for Android devices.

Butterfly bushes, redbud recognized
New types of butterfly bushes and redbuds developed by a North Carolina State University plant breeder are attracting attention around the world.

N.C. 4-H’ers awarded more than $68,000 in scholarships
Students from across the state have received 4-H scholarships from the North Carolina 4-H Development Fund to attend institutions of higher learning. The foundation has awarded 76 scholarships to students from 45 of North Carolina’s 100 counties. The total amount of 4-H scholarships awarded this year, including renewable scholarships, cash awards through 4-H cumulative records programs and scholarships to attend national 4-H competitions, amounts to $68,450.

NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

NEW PLANT SCIENTIST

N.C. State Snags New Plant Scientist, Continues Growth at N.C. Research Campus
N.C. State University’s Plants for Human Health Institute continues its expansion efforts by adding another established scientist to its team at the N.C. Research Campus in Kannapolis. Dr. Tzung-Fu Hsieh (pronounced: “Zung Foo Shay”) joined the institute in August 2012 and is developing a research program centered on the biological systems of flowering plants, including fruits and vegetables. With the addition of Hsieh, N.C. State now employs nearly 50 faculty and staff in Kannapolis.

Dr. Tzung-Fu Hsieh specializes in systems biology, a relatively new field of research that studies the interactions between the components of biological systems, and how those relationships impact the functions and behaviors of the systems. His area of focus is known as epigenetics, which aims to understand changes in gene behaviors that are caused by factors other than mutations in DNA. Epigenetics plays an important role in plant development.

For example, Hsieh studies the development of endosperms, the placenta-like tissue inside the seeds of most flowering plants that nourish the embryo. Endosperm plays a critical role in human nutrition and health, accounting for more than 75 percent of the world’s food supply, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). That’s because cereal crops like corn, rice and wheat – some of the most widely produced crops in the world – are harvested for their grains, which are mostly endosperm.

Hsieh is working to better understand endosperm development, including the role imprinted genes play. Like humans, plants receive two copies of a gene (one each from the mother and father). Imprinted genes are those whose behaviors are determined by the parent that contributed them, and they dictate traits like birth weight in babies and the size and color of grains of corn.

Using systems biology approaches, Hsieh and colleagues have already identified certain epigenetic processes as critical regulators for plant reproduction and endosperm development. His studies will provide new opportunities for investigating how the environment can exert influences on plants through epigenetic changes.

“Dr. Tzung-Fu Hsieh brings a dynamic research focus to our organization,” said Dr. Mary Ann Lila, director of the Plants for Human Health Institute. “His focus on plant epigenetics will serve as a valuable interface with other research programs at the N.C. Research Campus, creating opportunities with both academic and industry partners.“

Ultimately, Hsieh would like to collaborate with campus partners using the techniques he and colleagues have developed to decipher how plant epigenetics may impact human health. He also plans to study how epigenetics regulates the production of plant secondary metabolites, organic compounds that are not directly involved in the normal growth, development or reproduction of an organism.

Hsieh is an assistant professor in N.C. State’s Department of Plant Biology. He holds a Ph.D. in biology from Texas A&M University, where he also completed a postdoctoral fellowship and worked for four years. He most recently held a senior research scientist position at the University of California, Berkeley. Hsieh has published nearly two-dozen research articles and holds four scientific patents.

The Plants for Human Health Institute now includes seven lead research faculty, with seven more expected to be hired in the future. The institute employs nearly 50 total faculty and staff, including postdoctoral researchers, graduate students and Cooperative Extension employees.
Dean Richard Linton and Commission of Agriculture Steve Troxler welcomed nearly 250 guests to the celebration of the Tidewater Research Station 100th anniversary. The event, held in the Vernon James Research and Extension Center, included a tractor tour of the station and a program on the history of the station and North Carolina’s blackland region. Attendees included many local growers, business people and elected officials in addition to research and extension personnel from NC State University and employees of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The 2012 North Carolina Cotton Field Day and Exhibition was held at the Upper Coastal Plain Research Station in Rocky Mount on September 17. With about 275 people in attendance, this was the best attended cotton field day in several years. Research programs highlighted on the tours included: insect management, weed management, cotton diseases, cotton varieties, defoliation strategies, tillage and rotational considerations.

Dr. Sylvia Blankenship welcomed nearly 50 enthusiastic chicken producers to the Small Scale Egg Production in a Range Setting Field Day held at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) on the Cherry Research Farm. This full day program included discussions on forages, egg production, food safety, flock health and construction of mobile paddocks and range huts.

The North Carolina Cotton Producers voted to provide $217,000 in funds to NC State faculty working with cotton. The committee reviewed 17 research and extension proposals from 10 Project Leaders related to a wide variety of subject matters.

PHHI Newsletter


INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY

COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

Save the date! Tuesday, October 9 at 4:00 pm at the NC State University Club – Chancellor Woodson and Dean Linton cordially invite you to a celebratory event recognizing a significant milestone for NC State University, the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences and the Department of Poultry Science. To register to attend, please click on the below link:
http://go.ncsu.edu/poultry_announcement

CALS Advancement News Items

From the JC Raulston Arboretum:
Memberships Make a Difference! Please consider supporting "Raleigh’s Garden -- Your Garden" by joining today!
Friends of the Arboretum Lecture
"Esoteric, Exotic, or Enigmatic: Plants of Questionable Merit"
Richard T. Olsen, Research Geneticist, Floral and Nursery Plants Research Division, USDA
October 4, 2012 @ 7:30 PM-9:00 PM

Friends of the Arboretum Annual Plant Distribution
Annual Plant give away -- for MEMBERS ONLY. This is a great reason and a great time to join today!
Join today!
October 6, 2012 @ 9:00 AM-9:15 AM (Be sure to be on time, as the plants go fast. Snooze & you loose!)

Plantsmen's Tour
"New and Noteworthy"
Mark Weathington, Assistant Director and Curator of Collections
October 9, 2012 @ 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Friends of the Arboretum Lecture/North American Rock Garden Society (Piedmont Chapter) Lecture
Sponsored by the North American Rock Garden Society (Piedmont Chapter) and the JC Raulston Arboretum
"Rare Plants of the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program"
Misty Buchanan, Natural Areas Inventory Manager, N.C. Natural Heritage Program
October 20, 2012 @ 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

Children's Program
"October Garden Storytime"
October 26, 2012 @ 10:30 AM-11:30 AM

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 and supplies, 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.

Gift Planning: If you would like to add a section in your print, electronic or any other written piece regarding gift planning, contact Sonia Murphy (513-0637 sonia_murphy@ncsu.edu). Sonia can draft a short piece making your alumni and friends aware of how they can support your programs through a bequest, gift of retirement plans, trusts, etc.

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.legacy.vg/ncsucals.
CALS Chronicle Enewsletter: The official enewsletter of CALS Alumni and Friends Society is sent quarterly. Please send your announcements, departmental events, and updates for the next issue to calsalum@ncsu.edu. If you wish to subscribe to the enewsletter, email calsalum@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. When employees – faculty and staff – retire, just send Julia Bernabi (julia_bernabi@ncsu.edu) a quick email letting her know so that she can add them to our list.

CALS PERSONNEL

2012 COMMODITY MEETINGS

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