What’s in a number? The quantitative and qualitative assessment of what we accomplish each day, individually or as an organization, is one of the difficulties we face in determining the value of our activities. When someone close to us prepares us a meal that we have had many times before, the content and taste of that fare is likely very similar to a previous indulgence and likely to invoke a similar comforting reaction. However, it is unlikely we would reply by thanking them for their average effort. Would the best measure of that meal be the cost of ingredients or the time it took to prepare it, and for the meal to improve it would always have to be more expensive and take longer to prepare? What is, or are, the best measure(s) of a program?

Attributed to the late Senator Everett Dirksen is the saying, “A billion here, a billion there, sooner or later it adds up to real money.” Has the measure of success become the size of an award, as it appears that for a grant or contract to be noted in the newspaper it must now exceed one million dollars. What about measuring the outcome of those expenditures and determining the significance of the issue under study? The measure of “impact” of plant pathology programs is always a challenge. The influx of soybean rust into the United States in last the last few years brought the best soothsayers to the forefront, with annual losses (Economic Research Service OCS-04D-02) predicted to be $240 million to $2.0 billion (real money!). As Yogi Berra said, “Prediction is very hard, especially about the future.” To date, producers have been fortunate that losses have been limited. The potential cost for two sprays in the Southeast, where the disease has been most prevalent, is estimated at less than $35 million per growing season if the disease becomes established (http://www.dtnsoybeanrustcenter.com). Growers were not so fortunate with Southern Corn Leaf Blight that was seen in a few locales in 1969, but in 1970 caused yield losses of 50-100% in some areas and total losses of $1 billion (http://lamar.colostate.edu/~jsteph/Historical perspectives.htm). As in predicting disease, it is with similar difficulty and accuracy that departments of plant pathology likely can be ranked as they are from time to time.

In the January 12, 2007 edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education a ranking of academic departments was presented. I am pleased to convey that the Department of Plant Pathology was one of only four departments at the University of Georgia that was indicated to be in the top 10 of their discipline. Of the ten departments of plant pathology listed in the survey, the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Georgia was ranked number nine in the nation. Where the department will be considered amongst its peers in future surveys is difficult to say, as Mr. Berra pointed out. However, I hope you find on the inside pages of this newsletter the efforts underway in the department to continue to be a leader in understanding the cause, nature and management of plant diseases affecting the profitable production of plants in Georgia and elsewhere. Should we be proud of number nine? Is this ranking better than ten or worse than eight; is the differences among departments as wide as the impact expected for soybean rust by the Economic Research Service? Our goal is healthy plants. But imagine if there were no plant diseases, would we be of no value or would it be a job well done? As always, I hope this newsletter finds you and your plants in good health.

John L. Sherwood, Professor & Department Head
caused by Phytophthora capsici, including the use of cultural techniques for detection, identification, and analysis of defense related proteins and genetic diversity of pathogens causing vegetable diseases.

Shavannor M. Smith will join the faculty May 2007 as an Assistant Professor. Her research interests are in plant-pathogen interactions with a focus on the structure and evolution of disease resistance loci, understanding the biological processes for disease resistance and the genetic improvement of crop plants for disease resistance. She is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Genetics at the UGA in Dr. Jeffrey Bennetzen’s laboratory where she conducts research to better understand the expression pattern and evolution of the Rpl (Resistance to Puccinia sorghii) complex disease resistance locus in maize. Shavannor received her Ph.D. in Genetics May 2004 at Kansas State University under the direction of Dr. Scot Hulbert. Her dissertation work focused on the identification and characterization of Rpl genes with novel phenotypes in maize. She received her M.S. from Tennessee State University and worked on the identification and analysis of defense related proteins in soybean cultivars associated with resistance to P. syringae pv. glycinea.

Layla E. Sconyers completed two years of postdoc with Bob Kemerait. She coordinated the Asian soybean rust scouting and epidemiological work as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s sentinel plot system for monitoring this disease. She has accepted a position with Landis International, Inc., headquartered in Valdosta, GA, and began work April 2, 2007. For over 20 years, Landis International has provided quality research and development management for agri-chemical companies across the globe, with branch offices in Japan, Switzerland and Mexico. Landis also works with EPA with product registration and serves as a liaison between agri-chemical companies and regulatory agencies. Layla was hired to consult with industry clients on fungicide protocol development, which will involve formulation development and efficacy evaluation, environmental safety studies, radio-labeled studies, product chemistry studies, toxicology studies, residue chemistry studies, data management, and GLP field and lab audits.

Holly A. Thornton joined the faculty of the Department of Plant Pathology at The University of Georgia (UGA) as a Public Service Representative in September 2006. She will serve as the Homeowner IPM Specialist and Plant Diagnostician for the Plant Disease Clinic. Holly received her M.S. degree in 2005 in Plant Pathology at UGA under the direction of Dr. Harald Scherm. Her thesis focused on the identification and characterization of Rp1 genes with novel phenotypes in maize. Holly worked closely with Dr. David Porter, mycologist in UGA’s Department of Plant Biology, on various projects involving ‘chytrids’, such as the creation of a biogeographical database of all known chytrid species.

Shannon S. Nix joined the department at the Griffin campus in April 2006 as a postdoctoral research associate working with Dr. Lee Burpee and Dr. James Buck on yeast ecology of turfgrass. In 2002 Shannon was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and conducted part of her doctoral research at the Agricultural University of Norway. Under the direction of Dr. John Dighton, Shannon completed her doctoral research at Rutgers University in 2005 having investigated the patterns and dynamics of the phyloplane fungal community of Vaccinium spp. under different anthropogenic disturbances.
**Current Graduate Students**
(name, degree, major professor)

Stephanie Adams, M.S., Jean Woodward  
Joao Augusto, Ph.D., Tim Brenneman  
Ada Bacetty, Ph.D., Charles Bacon  
Nadia Chacko, Ph.D., Scott Gold  
Weibo Dong, Ph.D., Tim Brenneman  
Bhabesh Dutta, M.S., Ron Walcott  
Sara Gremillion, Ph.D., Albert Culbreath  
Jeremy Haralson, M.S., Brannen/Scherm  
Emily House, M.S., Jean Woodward  
Kameka Johnson, Ph.D., Ron Walcott  
Brijesh Karakkat, Ph.D., Sarah Covert  
Kamalpreet Kaur, Ph.D., undecided  
Yan Li, M.S., Culbreath/Guo  
Katherine Mills, Ph.D., Mike Deom  
Marina Nadal, Ph.D., Scott Gold  
Edwin Palencia, Ph.D., Charles Bacon  
Erika Scocco, Ph.D., Buck/Walcott  
Murat Seyran, M.S., Katy Stevenson  
Johanna Takach, Ph.D., Scott Gold  
Sara Thomas, M.S., Harald Scherm  
Carolina Zuleta, M.S., Tim Denny

**Stephanie Adams** received a student travel scholarship from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) to attend the 2006 ISA meeting in Minneapolis, MN. At the meeting she took first place in the student poster competition for her poster "Recovery and Identification of Phytophthora Species from Water and Soil in Ornamental Nurseries and Forested Areas within Georgia." The award was presented by the ISA and the Arboriculture Research and Education Academy. Stephanie also presented "Sampling for Phytophthora species in water in Georgia" at the Georgia Forestry Commission Cost-Share meeting.

**Anita Castro** received her M.S. degree under the direction of Ron Walcott. Her thesis was “PCR-based identification, genetic diversity and pathogenicity of Cylindrocladium parasiticum in the Southeastern United States.” Anita is now employed by STA Labs in Gilroy, CA as a Bacterial Fruit Blotch and PCR Supervisor.

**Sara Gremillion** will receive her Ph.D. degree under the direction of Albert Culbreath this fall 2007. She has accepted a position with the Department of Biology, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN as a Faculty Fellow where she will teach and conduct research with undergraduates. As part of USAID CRSP, her dissertation research explored integrating multiple strategies to better manage fungal diseases of peanut crops in the U.S. and Bolivia, South America. Sara has received honors at various oral research competitions as well as the UGA Kenneth E. Pap Outstanding Plant Pathology Graduate Student award.

**Emily House** received an outstanding graduate teaching award. She is working on her M.S. degree under the direction of Jean Woodward.

**Edwin Palencia** received his M.S. degree under the direction of Tony Glenn. His thesis was “An ABC transporter gene from Fusarium verticilloides, FVABC1, may confer tolerance to corn antimicrobial compounds.” He is now working on his Ph.D. degree under the direction of Charles Bacon.

**Jason Woodward** received his Ph.D., degree under the direction of Tim Brenneman. His dissertation was “Optimizing efficacy and economic benefits of fungicides for peanut disease control via pre-plant analysis of disease risk and irrigation timing.” Jason is now an Assistant Professor in a joint appointment between TAMU and Texas Tech. Jason received the Dr. George Washington Carver Award from the National Peanut Board at the APRES meeting. This award is for Excellence in Peanut Research and Service to the Community by a recent graduate student and is further demonstration of the commitment of the Board to supporting research. He was also awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student Presentation award given by GAPP during the 2006 Annual Meeting.

**Carolina Zuleta** was awarded the 2006 Cedric Kuhn Outstanding Graduate Student Award. She is working on her M.S. degree under the direction of Tim Denny.

The Society of Aspiring Plant Pathologists sponsored a Fall Picnic for the department. They also had a Halloween party where they competed for best jack-o-lantern. Carolina took the award – her pumpkin is the 3rd one to the right.
What’s New With You? We would like to hear from our alumni. Please supply us with any updated information, comments, and news (career activities, honors and/or achievements, etc.) you care to share by sending an e-mail to pathath@uga.edu. Also if you see an error in our information, please let us know so we can correct our records. Thanks!

**Alumni who graduated in:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Alvin H. Dempsey</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>J. H. Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>J. Danny Gay</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>C. W. Kuhn</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>John C. Cooke</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>R. T. Hanlin</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Samuel J. Rowan</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>E. S. Luttrell</td>
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<td>Toni H. Smith</td>
<td>MPPP</td>
<td>C. W. Kuhn</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Charles B. Morris</td>
<td>MPPP</td>
<td>S. M. McCarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Catherine E. Carter</td>
<td>MPPP</td>
<td>F. F. Hendrix, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Ernest C. Bernard</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>R. S. Hussey</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Bonnie A. Kelley</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>W. K. Wynn</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Lynn M. Pugh</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>R. W. Roncadori</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Kerry Overmier Britton</td>
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<td>R. W. Roncadori</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Phillip M. Brannen</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>R. T. Hanlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Dulce R. Warwick</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>J. W. Demski</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Mandhana S. Bijaiisoradat</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>C. W. Kuhn</td>
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<td>Htay Htay Win</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>D. R. Sumner</td>
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<td>Muhammad Herman</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>R. S. Hussey</td>
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<td>Donald R. Roberts, Jr.</td>
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<td>Walker &amp; Hanlin</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Rajendra Chaubal</td>
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<td>W. K. Wynn</td>
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<td>Scott T. Kendall</td>
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<td>D. M. Wilson</td>
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<td>Felister Makini</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>T. P. Denny</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Guy Boyd Padgett</td>
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<td>F. W. Nutter, Jr.</td>
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<td>Kati Enkerli</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Charles Mims</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Jason Brock</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>David Wilson</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Tianyuan Wang</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Richard Hussey</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Fei Yu</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>C. J. Chang</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>David Green</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Lee Burpee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Elke Sale</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Tim Denny</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Kevin Branch</td>
<td>M.P.P.P.M.</td>
<td>Jim Noe</td>
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<td>Will Lambert</td>
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<td>Diane Bannwart</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Hamado Tapsoba</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Jeff Wilson</td>
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Muhammad Herman (M.S. 1987) also received his Ph.D. degree in Plant Pathology at UGA in 1990. He is currently the Head of the Molecular Biology & Genetic Engineering of the Indonesian Agricultural Biotechnology & Genetic Resources Research Institute (ABSPII) in Bogor, Indonesia. Since 1997, he has coordinated the Plant Group of Biosafety & Food Safety Technical Team in Indonesia. He is currently the Head of the Biosafety Containment Facility, as well as the Secretary General of the Indonesian Society of Agricultural Biotechnology. He is currently Country Coordinator for Indonesia for ABSPII.

Gail Cameron Somodi (M.S. 1986) is Natural Resource Specialist with Manatee County. Gail’s duties include coordinating various events such as the regional environment, land judging, farm tours; and providing technical assistance in the development of USDA/NRCS conservation plans. In her spare time, Gail also edits scientific papers (plant breeding/plant pathology) for the University of Florida and is Associate Editor of a local monthly magazine where she has interviewed sports figures (NBA ref, pro football player, college basketball analyst) and medical personnel, among others.

Ernest C. Bernard (Ph.D. 1977) is a Professor at The University of Tennessee in the Entomology and Plant Pathology Dept. His professional interests are the Great Smoky Mountains National Park All-Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI); taxonomy and ecology of Collembola, Protura, and nematodes; biological control of root-knot and cyst nematodes.

Kerry O. Britton (M.S. 1977 & Ph.D. 1987) is a National Pathologist for Forest Health Protection at the U.S. Forest Service in Washington, DC. They are primarily responsible for minimizing the spread of established invasive species and lessening the damages caused by native insects and diseases. They protect and improve America’s forests using cutting-edge technology to rapidly respond to forest health threats.

Bonnie A. Kelley (Ph.D. 1977) is a Professor at The University of North Carolina Pembroke. She teaches Evolution and Marine Biology.

Felister Makini (M.S. 1987) is Kisii Centre Director at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute where she is responsible for the management, administration and developing regional research programs for the Kisii Centre mandate area that included 14 administrative districts in southwest Kenya with about 145 staff. They are mainly involved in developing and transferring agricultural technologies both crops (except coffee, tea and sugarcane) and livestock that are acceptable to the farmers in that mandate region. From 1996 to 1999 Felister undertook a Ph.D. study in Plant Pathology at the Natural Resources Institute that is affiliated with the University of Greenwich, UK.

Guy Boyd Padgett (M.S. 1987) is Associate Professor at the Macon Ridge Research Station, LSU AgCenter in Winnboro, LA. After leaving UGA he received his Ph.D. at LSU and then returned to UGA in 1992 as Peanut, Soybean, & Small Grains Extension Plant Pathologist. In 1996 he moved to LSU as Cotton Extension Pathologist and later was reclassified as a Research/Extension Plant Pathologist for Field Crops.

Lynn M. Pugh (M.S. 1977) is the farmer at Cane Creek Farm in Cumming, GA. In addition to her work on the farm, she also serves as a program coordinator for Georgia Organics, an association which promotes the use of sustainable farming practices in Georgia. Prior to this, she spent 18 years as a high school science teacher, and she has also taught at the college level.

Dulce Regina Dulce Warwick (Ph.D., 1987) is a researcher for the Brazilian company of Farming Research, Center of Farming Research of Coastal Trays acting mainly in the following subjects: peanut, peanut stripe virus, and virus disease.
The 18th Annual E. S. Luttrell Lecture will be held April 25, 2007 on the UGA Athens campus. Our invited speaker will be Dr. Michael Rinaldi who is perhaps best known for his reverent love affair with the fungi. He is currently Professor of Pathology, Medicine, Microbiology, & Clinical Lab Sciences and Director, Fungus Testing Laboratory, Department of Pathology, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He is also Chief, Clinical Microbiology Laboratories, and Director, Department of Veterans Affairs Mycology Reference Laboratory, Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital, San Anonio, TX. He has concentrated on the lab evaluation of antifungal agents and has been involved for many years in work surrounding standardization of in vitro antifungal susceptibility testing. He has also remained keenly interested in taxonomy, nomenclature, and classification of medically-significant fungi. He is perhaps most noted for his oral presentations concerning opportunistic fungal infections, has been invited to speak around the globe and is often termed the international missionary for medical mycology.

From 1966 to 1970 Dr. E. S. Luttrell penned a bulletin in the department. Often included in these bulletins were commentaries by Dr. Luttrell or other members of the faculty. Many of these are as insightful today as they were thirty-some years ago. In keeping with the “number” theme of my introduction to the newsletter, Dr. Luttrell provided this perspective on graduate students, the driving force of much of the accomplishments of a department, in December 1966. How many names do you recognize?

How many graduate students do you have? This is equivalent to asking an African chief how many cows he owns. Graduate students have become the tender of prestige. They are less than numbers; they have been reduced to a collective number. Nobody asks the quality of the individual student, what he is accomplishing, what opportunities he has for accomplishment, the quality of the graduate training programs offered to him, the facilities available for his research, the purposes of his training only how many? But to answer the question: in the 1966 fall quarter we have 17 graduate students listed, 10 candidates for the Ph.D. degree, 7 for the M.S. degree. Of these, only 11 are on campus and, except for work done on assistantships, devoting full time to degree work. The other 6 are on the job and are attempting to complete their degree requirements while working as full-time employees elsewhere. This is a difficult task and circumstances often prevent its accomplishment. Every encouragement should be given these students to complete the remaining requirements as soon as possible.


Courses offered in 2006:

PATH 2000
Social Impact of Plant Diseases (Walcott)
PATH/FDST 2030
Marvelous & Malevolent Microbes (Denny)
PATH/ANTH/PBIO 3010
Fungi: Friends & Foes (Mims/Gold)
PATH 3530 (L)
Intro Plant Pathology (Noe/Little)
PATH/PBIO 4200/6200(L)
Introductory Mycology (Mims)
PATH 4280/6280
Diagnosis & Management (Walcott)
P ATH 4300/6300
Clinical Plant Pathology (Woodward)
PATH/ENTO 4360/6360
Ornamental Pest Management (Woodward/Horton)
PATH 4400/6400
Plant Pathology for Teachers (Little)
PATH 6290(L)
Plant Pathogenic Bacteria (Denny)
PATH 8000
Field Plant Pathology (Brannen)
PATH 8400
Host-Pathogen Interactions (Denny)
BTEC 4000L
Methods in Biotechnology (Deom/Gold)
CRSS/ENTO/PATH 3500
Turfgrass Pest Management (...Burpee)
CRSS/PBIO 4250(L)
Pesticide Management & Utilization (...Brannen)
ENTO/CRSS/PATH 4740/6740(L)
Integrated Pest Management (...Buck)
PBIO/PATH 8960
Genetics of Fungi (Momany, Gold)

See http://www.plant.uga.edu/courses.htm for more info

Instruction

WHEN RESEARCH EXPERIENCE ISN’T ENOUGH

The material in this newsletter generally features the successes of personnel in the department in research and extension. However, instruction is the other part of our mission and many past and current members of the faculty have been recognized with university, college and scientific society awards for teaching. Somewhere along the line they began having a passion for teaching, so I have asked Sara Gremillion who will be graduating soon and has shown a propensity for the classroom to present how she is preparing for the next step in her career. – John Sherwood

As a college junior, my participation in an undergraduate research project inspired me to attend graduate school with the goal of advancing the discipline of science. My work as a laboratory assistant in a non-majors course at that time also drew me to teaching. I liked being in the classroom, helping students understand biology and how it fit into their everyday lives. As I began to prepare for graduate studies at UGA, I knew that I wanted to evolve as a scientist and as an instructor so that I might one day secure a 50% teaching/50% research position at a small college or university. Fortunately, through UGA and the Department of Plant Pathology, I have gained valuable scientific experience through both basic and applied research and have found many opportunities to develop my teaching skills. While most graduate students within our department are seeking jobs with more of a focus on research, a recent increase in instructional expectations in Plant Pathology departments indicates that graduate students must now have more teaching experience if they are to be qualified and competitive for jobs in academia. The following list includes several options available at UGA that I felt have helped me expand my teaching experience and, ultimately, secure a post doctoral teaching/research fellowship at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. It is my hope that these suggestions will help further the careers of future students as well.

1) Serve as a laboratory teaching assistant. This role should include responsibilities for pre-lab lectures, quizzes and grading, and involve working with students during lab. There are many labs within the department of Plant Pathology that require a T.A., so expanding to work with different labs may be the best way to gain breath in experience.

2) Give classroom lectures. Volunteering to give a classroom lecture will give a graduate student experience in front of a class. Plus, most instructors will be happy to take a break from lecturing (and the undergrads often like the change, too). Asking for written feedback from both the students and the professor can help improve future lectures as well.

3) Take courses focused on teaching. UGA offers a variety of teaching-based courses including GRSC 7770 Graduate Seminar for Graduate Teaching Assistants, PBIO 7360 Teaching Internship in Biological Sciences, PBIO 7510 Special Teaching Projects in Plant Biology and GENE 7360 Teaching Internship in Genetics.

4) Create a teaching portfolio. Combining teaching activities into a teaching portfolio will help organize all of your teaching experiences in one place, making it easy to include in job applications or present at interviews. UGA offers teaching portfolio workshops where grad students can get feedback from master teachers, and students can also submit their portfolio to be certified through the UGA teaching portfolio certification program (http://www.grad.uga.edu/academics/portfolio.html).

Suggestions closely related to our department and UGA:

5) Volunteer as a member of teaching committee. The American Phytopathological Society (APS) has a teaching committee that is always looking for new members, and it is a great way to serve the society while connecting students to others interested in teaching (http://www.apsnet.org/members/com/Cmtes_detail.cfm?Code=TEACHING).

6) Publish in a teaching-based journal. Any labs that you have created can be submitted to the APS Education Center’s Plant Health Instructor, an online peer-reviewed publication (http://www.apsnet.org/education/). This avenue can increase your publications while showing that you are serious about teaching.
The UGA CAES Departments of Crop and Soil Science, Entomology, Horticulture and Plant Pathology, hosted the 2006 Georgia Plant Science Scholars (GAPSS) on June 26-30. GAPSS, an educational camp for high school students, began in 2000 as a 1 1/2 day camp and has since evolved into a week long event in 2005. Thirty-one students from various areas of Georgia began checking in at Myers Hall for their week long stay and had lunch with CAES Dean Scott Angle that was sponsored by Domino's Pizza. The rainy weather forced a change in the program on day one, the walking tour of campus was postponed and students spent time getting to know each other. The educational events began with a tour of the Plant Pathology Department where students were given an introductory session about Plant Pathology and its history by Kisha Shelton. Following this the students were toured through the Plant Disease Diagnostics Laboratory and then allowed to infect potatoes with a bacteria to evaluate the infection process. Students also had the opportunity to explore a multitude of diseased plant specimens and to set up experiments for nematode extraction from soil. The day was completed with a dinner hosted by the Department of Entomology.

Day two of GAPSS was started by the Department of Horticulture where students participated in plant propagation and spent time in discussion with Dr. Tim Smalley. Students spent the afternoon session with the Department of Entomology. Students were given an introduction to entomology by Marianne Robinette before beginning a very unusual activity. They were taken to Lake Herrick and provided equipment to catch insects in water, bushes, the air, and even those found up in the trees. The challenge for many was to catch a dragon fly. Eventually we returned to the lab to identify what they had caught.

Day three the group traveled to the USDA APHIS PPQ PIS at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport to see how America is protected from pests (insects and plant diseases) entering the country. Students spent time with Charles Olsen (Entomology), Julie Orr (Entomology), and Cesar Calderon (Plant Pathology). Students toured the facilities even visiting the huge cooler facility where materials are stored. The group returned to Athens to visit with Dusty Sweat at Sanford Stadium. Students learned about the turf program used at Sanford Stadium while touring the field to get up close and personal with core samples. The group also learned about the stadium history as well. We returned to the dorm for dinner provided by the Department of Horticulture.

Day four saw a return of Plant Pathology, as they once again visited with Kisha Shelton. Students completed their projects of extracting nematodes from soil by making slides to look at the nematodes under the microscopes. Students then made evaluations of their infected potatoes and discussed Koch’s postulates as a tool for diagnostics. Students were then taken to visit with the USDA Forest Service. Students spent time learning about the following areas: Insects and Diseases of Southern Forest, Recreation Unit, and the Disturbance/Management of Southern Pine Ecosystems. Following the lunch students spent time with the Department of Crop and Soil Science. Graduate Student, Greg Parker, and Golden Peanut Company. It was a busy week, but one that was well worth the work put into it. Next year promises to be an exiting and fun event as we already have people signing up.

Other Outreach Activities for the year: Visits with Athens Academy 6th Grade Science Classes, Cedar Shoals AP Biology Class, and Gordon Central High School Agriculture Science Teacher and Wes Jacob (future UGA Junior working at the Georgia Station in Griffin, GA). It was a busy week, but one that was well worth the work put into it. Next year promises to be an exiting and fun event as we already have people signing up.

Kisha L. Shelton
The Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinics are an important component of the extension and outreach programs of the department. With Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinics at Athens (Ms. Holly Thornton) and Tifton (Mr. Jason Brock), diagnosis is provided on the range of plants grown in Georgia. The clinic in Athens has a focus on ornamentals, fruit, turf, small grains and homeowner IPM. Recommendations given to the homeowners are individualized with the goal of homeowners adopting cultural and environmental options to manage the disease so fungicide can be avoided altogether. Web-based materials, such as a monthly Homeowner Diagnostic Report and published articles on various plant pathology-related subjects, are available on our departmental webpage to provide additional information, which will hopefully increase awareness of plant disease problems in the homescape. These useful snapshots of what is happening on a monthly basis around Georgia can be found at: http://www.plant.uga.edu/Extension/Clinics/PDC.htm. The lab at Tifton is home for the many agronomic and horticultural samples submitted each year that includes soybean, peanut, tobacco, cotton, corn, pecan, and vegetables. The primary vegetables with disease problems last year were watermelon, tomato, pepper, cantaloupe, leafy greens, onion, and cucumber. There continues to be dramatic shifts in acreage planted to the many agronomic and horticultural crops grown in Georgia. The change in the tobacco and peanut programs had a dramatic impact on who, where and how much each of these crops is now grown. New producers find quickly that attention must be given to disease management under the weather conditions in Georgia that is generally conducive for disease development. There has been a dramatic increase in the acreage devoted to vegetables in the last few years, crops in which the slightest blemish can be of great concern. With biofuels being a topic in the news each day, and the increased price for corn and soybean, there will likely be a shift again in the acreage devoted to these crops and associated disease issues. These changes leave few dull moments in the Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinics.

We appreciate the support received from the following organizations for our research, extension & instructional programs.

- Ag Chemical Industry
- AgraQuest Inc
- Aresta Corp
- BASF Corp
- Bayer Crop Science
- CAES - UGA
- CARE
- Ceminova
- Center for Applied Nursery Research
- Cerexagri Inc.
- Chemtura
- Cleary Chemical
- Coconut Industry Board, Jamaica
- Cotton Foundation
- Cultivar Development Research Programs
- Dow AgroSciences
- DuPont Crop Protection
- EPA
- FMC
- GACC Peach, Peanuts, Pecans, Tobacco
- GA Cotton Commission
- GA Department of Agriculture
- GA Forestry Commission
- GA Peach Council
- GA Seed Developers Commission
- Golden Peanut Co.
- Gowan
- Higher Education for Development
- IR-4 Biopesticide Program
- Monsanto
- National Peanut Board
- National Science Foundation
- Nicaragua Peanut Growers Association
- OSHA
- Peanut CRSP *(USAID)
- Phillip Morris, Inc.
- Phoenix Environ Science
- SC Peach Council
- Seed Development Program
- SFRFC
- Sipcam Agro USA
- Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium
- Southern Region Canola Research Program
- Syngenta
- UGA Cultivar Development - Wheat
- UGARF
- United Phosphorus
- United Soybean Board
- USDA (CSREES, APHIS, FS, IFAFS, IR4, NRI, NRICGP, RIPM)
- Valent
- Vidalia Onion Committee
Faculty Awards

Tim Brenneman won Best Paper Award at the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association meeting and was nominated for the Bailey Award at the 2006 APRES meeting.

Scott Gold was selected as the 2006 American Phytopathological Society’s Outstanding Volunteer for activities related to Microbial Sequencing.

Dick Hussey and his lab were selected to feature their USDA NRI-funded research project on bioengineering root-knot nematode resistance in crops in the USDA publication NRI Research Highlights. NRI Research Highlights are a series of short articles documenting the impact of NRI-funded research and illustrating the value of fundamental and mission-oriented research and integrated research, education, and extension activities. NRI Research Highlights are published on the CSREES Web site and also are distributed to commodity groups, deans of colleges, extension station directors, and various other interested groups and individuals. Their PNAS paper was selected for comment in the Research Focus section of the journal Trends in Biotechnology.

Bob Kemerait won the Award for Excellence, Extension, Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society, UGA Chapter, and the “Outstanding Contribution to Asian Soybean Research” from the Southern Soybean Disease Workers.

David Langston won the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Association Donnie Morris award for Excellence in Extension.

Alfredo Martinez received a Special Diploma of Recognition from the Editorial Committee of the Mexican Phytopathological Society Journal.

Charles Mims received the Roth/Michael Teaching Award presented by the Southeastern Microscopy Society.

Layla Sconyers received an award for outstanding contributions in soybean rust research by the Southern Soybean Disease Workers (SSDW) at the 2006 Annual SSDW meeting.

Katy Stevenson received the Outstanding Presentation Award, Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists and was nominated for the APRES Bailey Award.

Ron Walcott was a Graduate School Outstanding Mentor Award Nominee, Georgia Teaching Academy Member and Lead 21 Fellow.

Presentations

Phil Brannen presented papers at the Georgia Blueberry Meeting, Southeastern Peach Convention, and North American Bramble Growers Association Meeting in Savannah; Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists Meeting in Cordele; 10th North American Blueberry Research & Extension Worker’s Conference in Tifton; American Phytopathological Society Meetings in Canada; and the Southern Professional Fruit Workers Conference in Fletcher, NC. He gave invited presentations at the Alabama Peach Meeting, Clanton, AL; South Carolina Apple and Peach Training; Musser Tree Fruit Station, Clemson, SC; and Alternatives to Methyl Bromide Training for County Agents and Other Professionals, NCSU, Raleigh, NC. Phil attended the Statewide Extension Professionals Conference at Rock Eagle; and was organizer and chair of the Regional Small Fruits Guide Meeting in Fletcher, NC.

Dick Hussey, Thomas Baum and Eric Davis received the prestigious Ruth Allen Award at the annual meeting of The American Phytopathological Society in Quebec, Canada. They were recognized for their pioneering research on parasitism genes of plant-parasitic nematodes. This award honors individuals who have made an outstanding, innovative research contribution that has changed or has the potential to change, the direction of research in any field of plant pathology. Dick has consistently maintained strong parallel research programs in fundamental and applied nematology and collaborates in a soybean cultivar development program. He has authored or co-authored 140 peer-reviewed articles and 39 invited reviews and received several awards for his scientific accomplishments including APS Fellow, Society of Nematologists Fellow, D.W. Brooks Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, and D.W. Brooks Distinguished Professorship.

Tim Brenneman attended the first conference on truffle production and cultivation in North America held in Eugene, OR as well as the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists Meeting at Lake Lanier and the Pecan Workers working group in Orlando, FL. He also attended and authored and/or co-authored papers at the American Peanut Research and Education Society Meeting in Savannah, GA and the Southern Division American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL where also served as President. Tim gave a presentation on plant health effects of headline on peanut at a BASF-sponsored Plant Health Symposium in Tampa, FL and also gave invited presentations to the Alabama Pecan Growers Association on pecan scab management and management of peanut diseases at a meeting in Chinandega, Nicaragua sponsored by the Peanut Growers Association of Nicaragua.

Jason Brock attended the South Regional Pecan Research and Extension Forum and the American Phytopathological Society Southern Division Meeting in Orlando, FL. He was Moderator of the Pest Management Session at the Annual meeting of the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association in Panama City Beach, FL; presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists and a poster at the American Peanut Research and Education Society in Savannah, GA.

James Buck gave invited presentations at the Mid-South Association of Wheat Scientists and at North Dakota State University. He attended the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists Annual Meeting at Lake Lanier.
Lee Burpee attended the Southern Division APS in Orlando, FL and the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists meeting at Lake Lanier.

C. J. Chang presented papers at the American Phytopathological Society Meetings in Quebec, Canada and at the North Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida/IFAS. In-service Training and Workshop in Quincy, FL.

Alex Cisinos presented papers at the Georgia Vegetable and Fruit Conference in Savannah, GA; Southern Division American Phytopathological Society Meeting in Orlando, FL; Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists Meeting at Lake Lanier; Methyl Bromide Alternatives Meeting in Orlando, FL; Georgia Tobacco Commission Meeting; Cucurbitic Meeting in Asheville, NC; and a Farm Bureau Tour Group. Alex chaired a tobacco disease session at the Tobacco Workers Conference in Charleston, SC, and a disease management session at the American Phytopathological Society in Canada. He also attended a Philip Morris Meeting in Valdosta, GA and a Georgia Farm Bureau Meeting at Jekyll Island. Alex served as a representative at the Georgia Commodity Commission for Tobacco Meeting; a Local Arrangements Chairman at the American Peanut Research and Education Society Meeting; and was on the local arrangements committee and treasurer for the Georgia Peanut Tour.

Albert Culbreath presented a paper at the Georgia Association of Plant Pathology Meetings at Lake Lanier; attended the American Peanut and Research Society annual meeting as Program Chairman/President-Elect; and attended the American Phytopathological Society annual meeting as a member of the Scientific Program Board, section chair for Disease Management in Canada.

Tim Denny gave an Invited Keynote Presentation at the International Bacterial Wilt Symposium in York, England. He also gave seminars in the Plant Pathology Departments at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Georgia. Tim also attended the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists annual meeting.

Mike Deom presented a paper at the 5th National Integrated Pest Management Meeting in St. Louis, MO and attended the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists annual meeting and the Plant Center Retreat at Lake Lanier.

Ron Gitaitis presented papers at the Southeast Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference in Savannah, GA; Tobacco Workers Conference in Charleston, SC; 1st Annual National Phytopathogenic Bacteria Symposium in Guadalajara, Mexico; National Allium Research Conference in College Station, TX; and was Poster Session Coordinator at the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists meeting at Lake Lanier.

Scott Gold presented papers at the Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in Canada; and was an invited participant and speaker at the “Advances In The Scientific Research On Yeasts” held in the City of Valencia, Spain. He also gave an invited presentation at the 3rd International Ustilago Conference in Guanajuato, Mexico.

Dick Hussey attended a meeting at the USB funded Soybean Tissue Culture and Genetic Engineering Center in Athens; a CREES-NRI Project Director Workshop in Tucson, AZ; the annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in Canada and a meeting of research collaborators on nematode parasitism genes in Columbia, MO. He also gave an invited seminar at Valent BioSciences Corporation in Long Grove, IL.

Bob Kemerait presented papers at the Beltwide Conference of the National Cotton Council in San Antonio, TX; Annual meeting of the Southern Division of the American Phytopathological Society in Orlando, FL; Annual meeting of the Philippine Phytopathological Society in Davao City, Philippines; Annual meeting of the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists at Lake Lanier; Annual Meeting of the American Peanut Research and Education Society in Savannah, GA; and the Annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in Canada. Bob was an invited speaker at the Annual meeting of the Georgia Crop Consultants’ Association in Perry, GA; Annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Agronomic Education Society in State College, PA; Tri-state Grower Meeting in Atmore, AL; Georgia Crop Improvement Association in Perry, GA; Annual meeting of the United Soybean Board in Savannah, GA; Small Grains Expo in Statesboro, GA; BASF Crop Consultant Symposium in Orlando, FL; Annual meeting of the Southeastern Peanut Growers’ Federation in Panama City Beach, FL; National Soybean Rust Symposium in St. Louis, MO; Annual meeting of the National Seed Trade Association in Chicago, IL; and the Annual meeting of the Indiana Crop Consultants’ Association in Indianapolis, IN. He presented a fungicide report to the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Corn in Macon, GA and facilitated peanut production meetings in four Amerindian villages of Guyana.

David Langston presented and/or co-authored papers/posters at the 2006 Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference in Savannah, GA and the Joint Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, Canadian Phytopathological Society and the Mycological Society of America in Canada. He presented an educational program for the Georgia Watermelon Growers Association in Blackshear, GA and the Mar-Del Watermelon Growers Association in Ocean City, MD as well as attended and presided over the annual Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists meeting held at Lake Lanier. David also attended the North American Greenhouse Tomato Disease Workshop in Orlando, Florida; Southeast Vegetable Workers Conference in Fletcher, NC; IR-4 Food Use workshop in Indianapolis, IN; and the GACAA Annual Meeting in Albany, GA.

Alfredo Martinez presented talks at the Turfgrass Institute and Trade Show in Duluth, GA; Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association Assistant Course Superintendents Seminar Series in Kennesaw GA; Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference, National Association County Agricultural Agents in Cincinnati, OH; GGIA Regional Seminars in Waycross and Rome, GA; The Children, Youth and Families at Risk (CYFAR) Conference in Atlanta GA; Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter in Perry, GA; Greater Birmingham Landscape Association in Birmingham, AL; Georgia State Pest Management Update in Marietta, GA; and the CES-Winter School at Rock Eagle. Alfredo participated in the Georgia Association of County
Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Albany, GA and the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists meeting at Lake Lanier. He was the keynote speaker for the Exploring Cultural Differences and Overcoming Communication Barriers in Managing the Hispanic Workforce at the Virginia Tech Sloan Foundation in Princeton WV.

Charles Mims presented talks at the Joint Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, the Canadian Phytopathological Society and the Mycological Society of America and organized a symposium entitled "Teaching Non-traditional Mycology/Plant Pathology Courses for Undergraduates" which featured some of the premier instructors in the fields of mycology and plant pathology. He was also invited to participate in a symposium entitled "Career Counseling for the Budding Plant Pathologists" where he invited one of our graduate students, Sara Gremillion, to give a portion of the oral presentation.

Hunt Sanders co-authored a poster presented at the National Allium research conference in College Station, TX.

Mark Schell gave invited seminars at the DOE Joint Genome Institute in Walnut Creek, CA; Georgia State Univ. Symposium on Microbial World: Bacterial Physiology to Biotechnology in Atlanta, GA; and at the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center, UGA, Athens. He also attended the Southeastern Branch Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in Kennesaw, GA where his student, Lyla Lipscomb won the President’s Award for the Outstanding Graduate Student Poster Presentation.

Harald Scherm was invited to present his research at the Southeastern Fruit & Vegetable Conference in Savannah, GA and also presented papers at the Southern Professional Fruit Workers Conference in Fletcher, NC; APS Annual Meeting in Canada; N.A. Blueberry Research & Extension Conference in Tifton, GA; and the GA Association of Plant Pathologists meeting at Lake Lanier.

Layla Sconyers was invited to give a presentation on her perspective of U.S. soybean rust monitoring progress, co-authored a poster, and headed the rust scouting protocol committee for USDA-PIPE at the 2006 2nd Annual American Phytopathological Society’s Asian Soybean Rust Symposium held in St. Louis, MO; invited speaker at the AL, GA, FL, SC, GMAC Crops and Soils School sponsored by Southern States Cooperative in Perry, GA; invited speaker at the Georgia Plant Food Educational Society’s Pesticide Training Conference in Perry, GA; presented and co-authored papers at the 2006 Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists annual meeting in Lake Lanier, GA and 2007 Southern Division American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting in Mobile, AL.

Katy Stevenson presented papers at the Bayer CropScience Peanut Cooperator Meeting in Atlanta, GA; Annual meeting of the Southeastern Pecan Growers Association in Panama City Beach Fl; Annual meeting of the American Peanut Research and Education Society in Savannah GA; Annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in Canada. Katy gave invited presentations at the Annual meeting of the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists in Lake Lanier Islands GA and at the Department of Plant Pathology, North Dakota State University. She coauthored a paper at the Annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering and attended the semi-annual National Pecan Shellers Association meeting in Washington, DC.

Holly Thornton attended the Annual Southern Nursery Association Research Conference in Atlanta, GA; Annual Georgia Turfgrass Field Day in Griffin, GA; Ornamental Workshop on Diseases and Insects in Hendersonville, NC; Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Albany, GA; and the Georgia Turfgrass Institute and Trade Show in Gwinnett, GA.

Ron Walcott presented papers at the USDA Vegetable Laboratory in Charleston, SC; Department of Seed Pathology and Pharmacology, Chinese Agricultural University, Beijing China; UGA Spring Semester Graduate School Professional Development Seminar Series in Athens GA; American Seed Trade Association Vegetable and Flower Seed Meeting in Amelia Island Florida; UGA Department of Plant Pathology in Athens; Annual Meeting of the American Horticultural Society of America; and the American Phytopathological Society annual meeting in Canada. He attended the UGA Academic Affairs Symposium in Helen GA and The National Academies Leadership Summit to Effect Change in Teaching and Learning - Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, National Academy of Sciences in Washington DC.

Jean Williams-Woodward was an invited speaker at the Annual CSRA Tree, Ornamental, and Turf Seminar in Augusta GA; New England Growers Conference in Boston MA; USDA-APHIS Phytophthora ramorum (SOD) in Soil and Water Science Panel in Orlando, FL; Annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in Canada; SNA Research Conference and Trade Show in Atlanta, GA; Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators’ Society, Southern Region of North America in Charlotte, NC; USDA Forest Service, SOD debriefing meeting in Atlanta, GA; and the Woody Disease Update in Apopka, FL. She also attended and/or presented papers at the Annual Meeting of the International Plant Propagators’ Society, Southern Region of North America; ISA Conference; Extension Winter Conference and Agent Training at Rock Eagle, GA; GGIA WinterGreen Conference and Trade Show in Athens, GA; USDA Forest Service SOD survey debriefing meeting in Atlanta, GA; Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists (GAPP) meeting, at Lake Lanier; SNA Research Conference and Trade Show in Atlanta, GA; and the GTA Turfgrass Institute and Trade Show in Duluth, GA.


Kamper, J., Kahmann, R., Bolker, M., Ma, L.J., Brefort, T., Saville, B.J., Banuett, F., Kronstad, J.W., Gold, S.E., Muller, O.


**Foundation Info**

As a recipient of our newsletter you are aware of the vigorous programs in teaching, research and extension in the Department of Plant Pathology at The University of Georgia. Although we receive support from the public and private sectors for our mission and client directed programs, we rely on gifts to our Foundation accounts to facilitate our activities in recruiting the best and brightest students, to have outstanding scientists visit our institution and share their work with our students, staff and faculty, and to enhance the interaction of our faculty, staff and students to improve productivity. I hope you will give some consideration to helping us in our efforts to attract quality graduate students, to continue to have world class scientists visit the University of Georgia to interact with the faculty, staff and students, and to continue to improve the cohesiveness of our plant pathology programs. Please consider assisting us in these endeavors and do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information. Our current portfolio of giving opportunities include:

**Gwendolyn Burton Caldwell Plant Pathology Graduate Scholarship**

The newest of our endeavors, this fund was established with a bequest from the estate of the late Ms. Gwendolyn Burton Caldwell in 2005. Ms. Caldwell was a member of the faculty in the early 1940s, a colleague and co-author with Dr. Julian Miller on several seminal papers that provided a new basis for the classification of the Ascomycetes. Interest from this fund will provide the department the flexibility to assist excelling students to become better prepared to be competitive for employment in today’s highly competitive work environment.

**Plant Pathology Scholarship & Award**

This fund is used to recruit graduate students and provide an annual scholarship to graduate students who will be joining or are enrolled in our programs. Growth in this endowment will allow us to enhance our recruiting activities and provide a larger scholarship.

**E. S. Luttrell Lectureship**

The Luttrell Lectureship was established to honor E. S. Luttrell, a leader in the study of plant pathogenic fungi. While our current resources permit annual support of a lecture from an exceptional scientist based in North America, we hope the endowment will grow to insure our ability to bring world renown scientists to campus, regardless of their country location.

**Plant Pathology Development Fund**

These resources are used to enhance the development of the programs in plant pathology. Outreach programs are an important activity supported through this fund. We must find ways to inform the public about the opportunities and value of plant pathology. If you are uncertain which activity of the department you wish to support, I hope you will consider a contribution to this fund.

Additional information on giving to the Department can be found at [http://www.uga.edu/externalaffairs/development.html](http://www.uga.edu/externalaffairs/development.html) or contact John Sherwood (sherwood@uga.edu, 706.542.1246).
South Campus is Changing!

The two poplar trees on the side of the building were cut down due to infection by *Xylella* sp.

The Horticulture greenhouse will soon be removed for a Pharmacy School expansion.

The Boyd Graduate Studies Research Center moved downtown in March 2007 to the Michael Brothers Building on the corner of Jackson and Clayton Streets.

The Paul D. Coverdell Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences, which opened in March of 2006, is the centerpiece of the University of Georgia’s interdisciplinary biomedical enterprise. This handsome, state-of-the-art facility is a fitting memorial to the late U.S. Senator from Georgia, whose career was distinguished by a commitment to education and the biomedical research enterprise. The Coverdell houses internationally recognized biomedical researchers and scientists-in-training whose research programs address the health needs of the state, nation and world. The building sits directly across the street from the Vet School close to where the tennis courts used to be.

The expansion of Stegeman Coliseum is almost complete. It will be the future home to the gymnastics program as well as a practice gym.