



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

Departmental / Unit Reports

2009

Learning
for **Life**

Departmental / Unit Reports 2009

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Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development
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Office of College Advancement
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AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS REPORT OF MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2009 AND OUTLOOK FOR 2010

Faculty Update

There are 10 AAEC faculty with Extension appointments and a total of 6.76 budgeted EFT for FY10 (including .235 EFT on grant funds). Changes during the year include John McKissick (27% AAEC, 63% CAED) retired and rehired to continue as Director of the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development.

This compares to 6.87 EFT for FY09. Several faculty have had their appointments changed—some having Extension EFT increased and research decreased while some have had Extension EFT reduced and teaching and research increased.

With the retirement of John McKissick, we are reduced in personnel from 11 to 10 but, on balance, Extension EFT is relatively unchanged.

Especially Significant Accomplishments

AAEC faculty have been involved in a variety of successful programs and activities to meet our broad clientele needs. The following are a few of the major accomplishments during this year:

- 2008 Farm Bill Education. Agent trainings and trainings for agricultural lenders were conducted previously in 2008. In 2009, in addition to county meetings, 4 area meetings for producers were held at Camilla, Midville, Hawkinsville, and Alma with attendance of 205. A series of 18 Farm Bill Fact Sheets were developed in 2008 and revised as needed in 2009 based on FSA and NRCS final regulations. These publications were used in training, educational meetings, and also posted on the web. Farm bill education was coordinated by Dr. Don Shurley and Dr. Nathan Smith.
- Ag Forecast Publication and Breakfast Meetings. AAEC faculty play a major role in the popular Georgia Ag Forecast annual meetings. In 2009, Department Head Dr. Octavio Ramirez, Dr. Nathan Smith, and Dr. Curt Lacy gave presentations. AAEC faculty also contributed 22 of 37 pages in the *2009 Georgia Ag Forecast* publication.
- Beef Cattle and Forage. Dr. Curt Lacy co-developed and participated in the Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing Schools and Forage Schools. The Marketing Schools were held in Florida, Georgia (3 locations- Statesboro, Douglas, and Moultrie), Alabama, and South Carolina. Forage trainings were held in Georgia (4 locations- Thomaston, Dalton, Ocilla, and Carnesville) and South Carolina.
- Enterprise Budgets and Outlook. AAEC Extension faculty prepare annual cost and return estimates for Georgia row crops, livestock, forage, fruits and vegetables. Budgets are compiled in advance of the production season and used extensively and relied on heavily by producers, lenders, and other clientele for planning and decision making. Budgets are prepared by Nathan Smith, Amanda Smith, Don Shurley, Curt Lacy, and Greg Fonsah. A 2009 survey of County Extension Agents showed that agents received almost 4,000 requests for row crop budget information and almost 3,000 contact hours reported on budgets. Farmers using the row crop budgets accounted for 1.1 million acres in Georgia. A *Crop Comparison Tool* available in print and spreadsheet formats was also very useful to producers. Budgets, Crop Comparison, and market situation and outlook were presented at over 30 county meetings with attendance of over 1,200. The Crop Comparison was updated/revised throughout the winter and spring 2009 to reflect changes in fertilizer and fuel costs and crop price outlook. This was a valuable aid allowing producers to make planting decisions based on the latest costs and market information.
- Peanut Salmonella Outbreak. Dr. Nathan Smith responded to media requests for information and addressed questions and concerns about the salmonella outbreak. Most questions and concern had to do with the impact on markets, farmers, and the peanut industry. Market situation and potential impact were

also discussed at county Extension meetings. Dr. Smith is collaborating with Sharon Kane (CAED) in an economic impact study of the outbreak on peanut consumption.

- Collaborations and Interdisciplinary Applied Research and Extension. Faculty have collaborated with other Departments in Extension and applied research. Examples include but not limited to landscape cost estimation, economics of Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus management and organic blueberry production, beef production and forage systems, analysis of various cotton production practices and production systems, analysis of stink bug control in cotton, analysis of various peanut production practices including crop rotation, seeding rate, and organic production, and collaborations with CAED conducting feasibility studies and business plans.

Challenges

Over the past 10 years (since 1999) we have had 6 retirements (a total of 6.0 Extension EFT). Over this same time period, we have made 5 new hires (currently with 4.14 Extension EFT). We've also had EFT of some existing positions redirected to teaching and/or research (an estimated .52 EFT). In total, this is a net loss of 2.38 EFT in Extension.

Georgia has a diverse production agriculture sector. Many/most AAEC Extension positions have, like other departments, traditionally been commodity oriented—allowing economists to become state, regional, and national experts in a given commodity(s) and collaborate on multi-disciplinary teams. Loss of EFT has had an especially adverse effect on our ability to devote resources along commodity lines. AAEC has lost EFT in grains and soybeans (Shumaker), livestock (Thomas and McKissick), tobacco (Givan), and fruits, vegetables, and pecans (Mizelle and Westberry).

Like all other Departments, funds for travel have been reduced significantly. AAEC Extension faculty currently have little/no Departmental travel and operating support. These expenses are almost exclusively on grant funding. Thus far, this has not posed a major problem but it does place increasing pressure on obtaining grant funds. To be successful at grant funds, faculty work emphasis must match the priorities of the granting agency—which may or may not coincide with the needs of Georgia clientele.

AAEC is in the process of developing and then seeking approval for an Agribusiness degree on the Tifton Campus. This would be beneficial for students, UGA, the College, and Department. Some AAEC Extension faculty at Tifton would teach in this program (Don Shurley already teaches AAEC 3010 in the AES and AgEd degrees). Tifton faculty support this degree and wish to teach-- but realize that having the additional teaching needs on the Tifton Campus will divert some EFT away from Extension.

Anticipated New or Emerging Initiatives

The following are critical issues we see as likely needing additional educational and applied research efforts in the future. To address these needs may require additional hires and/or a redirection of existing resources.

- Natural resources including water-- resource management, sustainability, carbon sequestration, interface between production agriculture and resources/environment, water/irrigation management.
- Farm business management-- whole-farm planning and profitability, records and financial management, inflation-credit squeeze-cost of production, survival, generational transfer, changing structure of production agriculture
- Potential loss/decline in commodity programs-- major shift in policy emphasis away from commodity income support payments to conservation programs and emphasis on resource management.
- Biofuels and energy-- production and feasibility of fuel feed stocks and role of Georgia/SE, alternative energy sources
- Organic production-- increasing interest in organic production practices and markets
- Labor-- immigration, labor policy and practices, human resource management

Major Extension Highlights from the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication

Faculty Update

Dr. Nick Fuhrman joined the ALEC faculty on October 1, 2008 as an assistant professor. He teaches courses in program development and program evaluation and serves as an evaluation specialist for Cooperative Extension. Dr. Fuhrman is the Extension Coordinator for the department and his research interests are in evaluating environmental education programs that use live animals as teaching tools.

New Major Initiatives, Funding, and Collaborations

- ❖ **New Major Initiatives:** Dr. Fuhrman has begun offering short (30-45 min.) program evaluation trainings through Wimba called *E-value-mmercials*. These sessions are offered during the last week of every month and are open to Extension faculty throughout the state. He is also in the process of using the online E-value-mmercial format to develop a **Master Evaluator Program** so that Extension professionals can acquire professional development certification in program evaluation.
- ❖ **Funding:** Since joining the UGA faculty in October, 2008, Dr. Fuhrman has been the PI or Co-PI on grants totaling nearly \$506,000. Two of these projects are USDA Higher Education Challenge Grants and relate to environmental education and faculty professional development. Portions of these funds will be used to pay for Master's-level graduate students in the department.
- ❖ **Collaborations:** Dr. Fuhrman has a strong interest in natural resource management and environmental education. As such, he has collaborated with the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and has developed a 3-day program evaluation training component to the Georgia Environmental Education Certificate Training Program. The program is offered to K-12 teachers, nonformal educators, and zoo/aquarium/nature center officials throughout Georgia.

Animal & Dairy Science Extension Programming Highlights Extension Program Planning Week, Fall 2009

The ADS department continues to strive to be a premier recognized center of knowledge creation, student learning, and technology dissemination for information on food-producing livestock, companion animals, and biotechnology among other Land-Grant universities as well as globally. Last year, Dr. Lane Ely (Dairy) and Dr. Gary Huesner (Equine) retired. Both were hired back part time for a year. Two additional positions are vacant, in dairy and beef at Tifton. The following are just some of the ADS Extension program highlights from 2009.

eXtension: eXtension is an interactive learning environment delivering the best researched knowledge from land grant universities across America. ADS has been involved in developing the equine and dairy modules. It has also been involved in the editorial aspects of the reproductive physiology dairy page.

National Animal Identification System: The NAIS has been in development for the past few years. ADS Extension personnel continue to work with the Georgia Department of Agriculture to increase awareness of NAIS and to make producers at all levels aware that a premises ID number will be required for all locations that house or manage livestock.

Double Bridges Farm: Construction has begun on the beef and sheep center. The parlor at the dairy is also being remodeled. The swine center is set for bids this fall. These will be useful for workshops, field days and hands on trainings for Extension personnel, producers and youth.

Youth Programs: ADS faculty members are involved in a variety of events that involve many youth throughout Georgia in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, and equine events. Besides the shows, faculty also assists with other activities, including quiz bowl & project achievement. Over 2600 4-H and FFA members participated last year.

Master Equine Program: The Master Equine Training Program continues to be a success. This program provides horse owners with production and environmental training that will help equine enthusiasts better manage their horses and the environment.

2008 National Dairy Calf and Heifer Conference: A national conference focusing on dairy calves and replacement dairy heifers was developed. Speakers from across the world provided participants with up-to-date information on a variety of topics including: forage production for replacement heifers, basics of milk replacers, use of by-products from the ethanol industry, controlling feed cost, changes in the dairy industry, calf feeding systems, genetics and new DNA tools, business and labor management, beef quality assurance programs, milk pasteurization, and health prevention practices. Representatives of approximately 50 agribusiness companies participated in a trade show to provide participants information on products available to use. More than 500 individuals attended the conference.

Southeast Georgia Beef Cattle Short Course: Provided information and on-farm demonstrations for the cattlemen in the southeastern part of Georgia. This program attracted approximately 60 participants from over 10 countries and gave producers and industry professionals an opportunity to hear presentations given by numerous specialist and industry leaders.

Stocker Cattle Management: A new extension program was developed for stocker cattle for producers, similar to the Georgia Beef Challenge and the H.E.R.D. program. Also, developed the Deep South Stocker Conference, a multistate educational program for producers.

Aquaculture Industry and Management: Georgia fish farmers continue to be impacted by feed costs. Fish feed formulas were developed for the incorporation of less expensive products. Also, water programs continue to be provided for lake and pond management.

Other Events: Agri Security Defense Program, Georgia National Fair, Sunbelt Expo, Corn Silage Field Day, Livestock Judging Contests & Workshops, 4-H Horse Judging Clinic, Pork & Beef quality Assurance, the Bull Test Programs and the HERD Programs at Tifton and Calhoun, the Southeast Dairy Herd Management Conference, Fall Reproductive Techniques Workshops, DaireXNET, Mastitis Field Studies, Dairyfax and Livestock Newsletters, Ultrasound Trainings, Master Beef Challenge Program, Dairy Business Analysis Project, Dairy Management Analysis Program, DHIA, PCDart, Pocket Dairy as well as numerous Advisory Boards & Commodity Groups.

Prepared by Drs. William Graves & Keith Bertrand

Biological and Agricultural Engineering Update

<http://www.ugaengineering.org>

Major Initiatives of Department

Water and energy continued to be the major focus of many of the Engineering programs. With Statewide and regional water planning underway, engineering is very involved in both water quantity and quality issues. Several faculty are involved with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources on major task forces and committees. We are also working with the Water Banner program to continue encouraging water conservation in our partnership with the State WaterSmart program.

Sustainable agriculture is agricultural systems that reduce environmental impacts, improve profitability, and improve the quality of life for farmers and the community. The Sustainable Agriculture Program promotes partnerships within and outside of UGA. Some key partners are Fort Valley State University, the Georgia Conservation Tillage Alliance, and Georgia Organics. New initiatives are the Sustainable Agriculture website – www.SustainAgGA.org, the Organic Production Team, and a planning grant from Southern SARE. Since January, we have conducted 18 trainings with our partners on several aspects of sustainable agriculture, including conservation tillage systems, grafting heirloom tomatoes, and selling to retailers.

Extension Engineering has always conducted programming in energy conservation and our research and outreach programs have participated in numerous projects related to energy conservation, renewable energy development and adding value to the state's biomass industries. Currently, there are numerous requests for energy audits and assistance in reducing energy costs. The UGA Integrated Biorefinery and Carbon Cycling Initiative is focused on developing energy and other products from biomass. Extension Engineering and the Engineering Outreach Service are both very active in this initiative. For expertise in this area, contact Gary Hawkins (alternative energy, on-farm applications), John Worley (energy conservation), Ryan Adolphson (biorefinery, energy from biomass) or Dan Geller (biodiesel and ethanol production).

Engineering is also continuing to support initiatives in animal waste management, safety, and ag mechanization.

Faculty

Dr. Sheryl Wells has joined our faculty working in the agricultural pollution prevention program in the area of Landscape Water Management. Sheryl recently completed her Ph.D. at Auburn and has past experience in the golf and nursery industries. Sheryl is located on the Griffin campus in the former office of Rose Mary Seymour. She has an 0.80 extension appointment and will work with green industry pollution prevention, stormwater management, landscape irrigation and water conservation. She can be reached at sherylw@uga.edu or 770-229-3214.

Dr. Vaughn Berkheiser has joined the faculty with a joint appointment between Crop and Soil Sciences and Engineering to work in the area of on-site wastewater treatment systems. Vaughn comes to us with considerable experience having been on the faculty at the University of Florida and working as a consultant for several years. He will be managing our training and education programs related to septic system management and has a 0.80 FTE extension appointment. He is located at the Griffin campus and can be reached at vberk@uga.edu or 706-975-5628.

Kerry Harrison and Paul Sumner have retired and each has been hired back on a half time basis. Joel Paz has taken a position at Mississippi State University and we hope to be able to refill this position with the support of the Southeast Climate Consortium.

Crop and Soil Sciences Department
Extension Faculty
Fall 2009
Dr. Donn Shilling,
Department Head

New Faculty 2009

Dr. Jared Whitaker, Extension cotton and soybean agronomist-Statesboro joined the department on April 1st in a Public Service Assistant position. He is responsible for both cotton and soybean education and applied research programming in east Georgia.

Dr. Guy Collins will join the department as an assistant professor on November 1st with state-wide education responsibility in cotton. He will be located in Tifton.

Selected Annual Highlights, etc.

Several new program initiatives began this year to improve and strengthen Georgia growers' profitability and sustainability.

Dr. John Beasley, Extension peanut agronomist initiated an educational program to increase grower adoption of the newest peanut cultivars while at the same time reducing unprofitable acreage. Over 70% of the 2009 peanut acreage was planted to these new cultivars compared to less than 40% the previous year. In addition, there was a 33% reduction in acreage over last year. This action will balance the supply and demand for the 2009 and 2010 crop; hopefully leading to an improvement in prices received per ton.

Dr. Patrick McCullough has developed the "Turfgrass Management" program for cellular phones and portable electronic devices to support the Turfgrass industry. Cellular phones are widely used throughout the United States and are commonly equipped with access to email, internet, and other services. Many cellular phones and other electronic devices, such as iPods, are now capable of downloading software, accessories, and applications that offer end-users comprehensive programs to access information and educational materials. This program provides end-users a portable reference guide. Accessing information from electronic devices reduces the requirements for reference books, hard-copy fact sheets, and internet searches. This new technology has promising implications for agronomists to obtain information on crops, pests, and university research while traveling or in the field. The "Turfgrass Management" program was developed with a local company and is sold as a downloadable application on iTunes and other online stores. This program creates a new medium for extension education at the University of Georgia and will revolutionize how turfgrass professionals, landscapers, and agronomists access information in the field. The program is available to county extension agents for free but will be sold to the public. The "Turfgrass Management" program is a comprehensive application for use on iPods, iPhones, and Blackberry phones that contains pictures, information, and recommendations for managing turf weeds, diseases, and insects. The application combines educational information from numerous books on turfgrass science in one complete program that can be used anywhere, thus, representing

a technological innovation for research and extension in all disciplines of applied sciences. Turfgrass Management will be an essential resource and educational tool for golf courses, athletic fields, landscapers, home owners, and professionals in the green industry.

A "MidSouth/Southeast BioEnergy Consortium" was initiated by a grant this year from the U.S. Department of Energy. This study is a collaborative effort with the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University to develop a bio-energy cropping production system for the southern U.S. Dr. Dewey Lee began a new program comparing five perennial grass species as potential feedstocks for both cellulosic fermentation and co-firing/combustion energy production. In addition, he is providing leadership to the Bioenergy Educational Task Force. This taskforce was created to form a training program for all county agents. Training will be offered in the spring 2010.

The UGA cotton team and the USDA/ARS Cotton Quality Research Unit in Clemson are collaborating on a new project to investigate the effect of cotton fiber properties on yarn spinning in textile mills. Cotton fiber quality in Georgia has had a less than excellent reputation. Team members will examine the spinning characteristics of six commercially available cotton varieties grown in several locations across a wide array of environments from Georgia in hopes of identifying those factors (environment, irrigation, soil fertility, variety, etc...) that are associated with poor spinning characteristics and increasing the scope of UGA cotton quality research and education to encompass a "dirt to shirt" approach.

Dr. Culpepper and Prostko (Extension Weed scientists) have placed major emphasis on the management of glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth in Georgia crops (cotton, soybeans, peanuts, grain sorghum and corn). In addition, Dr. Culpepper is working with the GFVGA creating new herbicide labels for vegetable growers through a third party indemnification program and EPA on fumigant buffer restrictions, herbicide drift and volatility buffer restriction and replacing methyl bromide. Dr. Prostko continues to screen new herbicides for economical weed control and evaluate new peanut cultivars for tolerance to paraquat and chlorimuron.

Dr. J. Michael Moore led a successful effort to obtain an emergency 24 C registration for Temik for use in nematode control due to the shortage of Telone II for Georgia tobacco growers. In addition, he continues to develop educational programs in tobacco production that reduce the incidence of tomato spotted wilt virus, sucker production through alternative chemical controls and leaf and quality loss to excessive chlorine found in the cheaper sources of potassium fertilizers.

The forage team led by Dr. Dennis Hancock initiated three new programming efforts designed to improve profitability of both beef and dairy. An exciting new program is the development of a pasture-based dairy industry. By the end of 2010, it is expected that 20% of Georgia dairies will be pasture based. It has been shown that the overall net return per cow, per acre and per farm operation is higher in pasture based dairies than conventional dairy herds. In addition, new educational programs have been developed to

show cattlemen by retaining ownership of stocker calves and backgrounding on Georgia pastures, they can significantly improve farm profits. Growers are also learning the benefits of “enhanced efficiency” nitrogen fertilizer sources which could cut the cost of nitrogen applications by 10 to 15%. Dr. Glen Harris (Extension soil and plant nutrition specialist) has also expanded this to row cropping systems as well.

Each year faculty members hold shortcourses, workshops, trainings, field days, etc. that extend to other University disciplines. The successful model used in Georgia is the multi-disciplinary extension team with leadership of each team provided by a Crop and Soil Science Department faculty member. Crop and Soils Extension faculty provide extensive input to each team that they share responsibility: Cotton, Forage, Grains, Peanuts, Soybeans and Tobacco in areas of publications, Extension county programming, tours and applied on-farm research projects.

Up-to-date educational and research information is the backbone of successful extension programs. Each year CSS extension faculty members provide new production guides that include the latest information in technology, production and utilization of Georgia’s commodities. The following annually updated production guides can be found either in printed form or on-line: **Soybeans, Tobacco, Cotton, Corn, Wheat, Turf grass and Peanuts.**

Entomology Annual CES 2009 Update

1. Faculty Update (New positions/appointments, changes in responsibilities)

- Dr. Mike Toews of the Tifton Campus has no extension EFT but he has graciously provided assistance in the area of stored products insect pest management. Dan Suiter has assisted Mike in this area as well and a new publication is forthcoming in stored products IPM.
- Forest Insect Pest Management, Various individuals (Will Hudson, Wayne Berisford (emeritus) and Mark Dalusky (Research Professional II) have been responding to calls and inquiries from forest industry clientele.
- Elmer Gray (Research Professional IV) continues to provide excellent programming in public health insect pest management

2. New Major initiatives, resources, funding, collaborations, etc.

- We were successful with the participation of colleagues from other Departments in retaining our IPM Funding in the new competitive arena. This competitive award was formerly the 3d IPM formula funding. Additional expertise in IPM programming will be available soon as part of this award.

3. Other News

- Dr. Phillip Roberts has provided excellent leadership for the Cotton Team following the departure of Dr. Steve M. Brown. In addition, Phillip was a winner of the Walter B. Hill Award this past year.
- Dr. Keith Delaplane has continued to expand UGA's national leadership role in honey bee extension and research programming. In addition, Keith was named a Walter B. Hill Fellow last year.
- Dr. Stormy Sparks was recognized by the SE Branch of the Entomological Society of America for Excellence in Extension and is now under consideration for the National Excellence in Extension Award.

FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Extension Outreach Program
2009-2010 UPDATE

FACULTY

No changes have been made to the Food Science Extension faculty and staff. Dr. Bill Hurst holds a 75% Extension, 25% teaching appointment. Dr. Karina Martino has a 70% Extension, 30% research appointment. We have one full-time and one part-time support staff and one graduate assistant.

NEW INITIATIVES AND COLLABORATIONS

Dr. Bill Hurst developed and coordinated a new two-day HACCP short course for the peanut manufacturing industry, co-sponsored by the American Peanut Council. Thirty participants from 12 states and one from Mexico attended the first workshop May 5-6, 2009, in the Extension classroom and lab, here in Athens. An expanded HACCP short course for all nut manufacturers is slated for November 17-19, 2009, and will offer food safety training geared for the peanut, almond, pistachio and pecan industries.

Dr. Karina Martino teamed up with Drs. Scott Russell and Brian Kiepper of the UGA Poultry Science Department to offer a new four-day short course on poultry processing, value-added processing and food safety for the poultry industry, August 25-28, 2009, here at UGA in Athens. The course entitled *Poultry Processing en español* was taught entirely in Spanish and was co-sponsored by the Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Trade, Agribusiness and Food Safety from the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Twelve participants came from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela. Instructors and plant tours were offered by local and international poultry processors, ingredient manufacturers and packaging engineering firms. The next workshop is planned for February 1-4, 2010, following the International Poultry Expo in Atlanta.

A new one-day workshop on *Sanitation SOPs and GMPs presented in Spanish* is planned for October 27, 2009. **Dr. Martino** and Dr. Fletcher Amitt of NC State are coordinators of this event, which is geared for line operators at meat and poultry processing facilities.

Due to popular demand by Georgia food entrepreneurs for FDA-required training in proper canning procedures, the EFS faculty will be teaching a new two-day Better Process Control School (BPCS) for Acidified Foods in the EFS classroom October 7-8, 2009. The full four-day BPCS is offered each March and typically has a waiting list.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Dr. Bill Hurst and Dr. Mark Harrison of the UGA Food Science Department are co-investigators on a National Integrated Food Safety Initiative grant for \$389,261 from USDA/CSREES, titled *Produce Transportation, Distribution and Food Safety*. Other participants in this research are Dr. Keith Schneider and Dr. Jeffrey Brecht of the University of Florida.

Dr. Karina Martino is co-investigator with Dr. Casimir Akoh of Food Science, Dr. Dan MacLean of Horticulture and Dr. Harald Scherm of Plant Pathology on a Specialty Crop Block Grant for \$25,000 under the US Farm Bill, to investigate the pomegranate as a specialty crop for Georgia.

Department of Horticulture Update for Program Planning Week

New Faculty:

No new faculty have been hired since last planning week. The only addition is the department now has an additional 10% of **David Lockwood**'s time for support of commercial peaches.

We have essentially lost ground in most cases in positions and have many critical holes to fill. **George Boyhan** has moved to Athens to shift his focus on general commercial vegetables, certified organics and teaching. We have a tremendous void at this time in commercial vegetables and fruit crops. We have rehired **Gerard Krewer** part time to handle general fruit in the retire/rehire program.

Select Activities of Extension Horticulture Faculty:

Marco Fonseca traveled to Honduras with five other UGA faculty to help set up and train locals in the DDDI system.

Plans are now under way to teach a large segment of the Master Gardener class via Wimba Horizon, cutting down on specialist travel.

Bodie Pennisi received a \$25,000 National Foundation grant to study "Carbon Assimilation in Simulated Environments."

Bob Westerfield is working on some soil solarization trials to see if they are plausible for the home garden. He operates a demonstration vegetable garden at the Griffin Campus. He also received a \$9,000 grant with Todd Hurt to develop training on "Protecting Trees during Construction."

George Boyhan helped coordinate and presented at the annual Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference in Savannah, GA.

Matthew Chappell has been very involved with the Georgia/Florida Green Industry update as well as the GGIA Winter Green Conference. Matthew was also the Master of Ceremonies for the Center for Applied Nursery Research Open House over in Dearing, GA.

Mark Czarnota brought in over \$72,000 in grants and gifts to support his weed science program.

Gary Wade helped develop a training on "Safety for Hispanic Landscape Employees" as part of a \$163,000 grant. He also helped produce two other commercial landscape trainings for the Green Industry that are being used nationwide.

Paul Thomas has been busy assisting with the Young Scholars program, having two students this past year. He has also been invited and spoke at several national floriculture programs.

Dan MacLean received a grant from the USDA-ISE program entitled “Croatia Agriculture Research and Educational Exchange.” This will help pomegranate producers in Croatia link with growers in Georgia; and also assist Croatia with the development of an extension service.

Faculty Awards:

George Boyhan received the Blue Ribbon Commission award for his “Commercial Tomato Production Handbook” at the ASHS-SR conference.

Matthew Chappell received the “GGIA Educator of the Year” award from the Georgia Green Industry Association.

Gerard Krewer received the “Outstanding Sr. Scientist” award by the UGA Tifton Campus.

Gary Wade received a publication award at the ASHS meeting for “Selecting and Growing Azaleas.”

Lenny Wells received the Hutcheson Extension Award at the ASHS-SR along with a Blue Ribbon Publication Award.

Plant Pathology 2009
John Sherwood, Department Head
For questions/comments: sherwood@uga.edu

Personnel update:

Homeowner IPM / Diagnostics. Ms. Holly Thornton, Diagnostician and Homeowner IPM Specialist left the department at the end of July 2009. In order to try to address IPM programming and diagnostics needs in a budget challenged environment, some changes are underway in assignment of responsibilities. Dr. Elizabeth Little, pending UGA President approval, will join the department as an Assistant Professor on November 1, 2009. In addition to her instructional program, Dr. Little will assume extension programming responsibility for Homeowner IPM. A search is underway to fill a **Laboratory Manager - Diagnostician** position that is supported by IPM funds. Applications are currently under review.

Extension Coordinator. Dr. Jean Williams-Woodward is the current Extension Coordinator for the Department of Plant Pathology. (jwoodwar@uga.edu, 706-542-9140)

Plant Disease Samples:

Mr. Jason Brock at Tifton has responsibilities for field and vegetable crop disease diagnosis, and extension programming for pecans. Although homeowner samples currently are not being processed, the Athens laboratory has responsibility for diagnosing plant disease problems of homeowner, commercial ornamentals, fruits, and turf. Ms. Jan Fowler at Athens is currently working part-time to facilitate diagnosis of samples (see list below) submitted to the Athens clinic. Homeowner samples, both digital and physical, will be accepted once a full-time diagnostician is in place.

How to ship specimens:

Specimens may be sent by regular mail, delivery service such as FedEx or UPS, or by State Courier. Samples which might break down quickly should be shipped by an express mail service. Weekend deliveries are not accepted. Information on preparing samples for shipping can be found at: <http://plantpath.caes.uga.edu/extension/howtosubmit.html>

| Plant Disease Clinics at the University of Georgia | | |
|--|---|---|
| Sample Type | Contact Name & Number | Contact Address |
| Commercial ornamentals, forestry, Christmas trees, legume forages, wood rots, mushrooms, commercial fruit, urban ornamental landscapes, turf, all homeowner samples, small grains. | Jan Fowler (part-time) Ph 706.542.8987 Fax 706.542.4102 | UGA - Plant Pathology Dept. Rm 2317 Miller Plant Sciences Bldg. Athens, GA 30602-7274 |
| Tobacco, pecan, cotton, soybean, peanut, corn, kenaf, commercial vegetables | Jason Brock Ph 229.386.7495 Fax 229.386.7415 | UGA - Plant Pathology Dept. Tifton Plant Disease Clinic Room 116 4604 Research Way Tifton, GA 31793 |
| All samples for nematode analysis | Ganpati Jagdale Ph 706.542.9144 Fax 706.542.5957 | UGA - Plant Pathology Nematode Laboratory 2350 College Station Road Athens, GA 30602-4356 |

Poultry Science Program Report

Retired Faculty:

Dr. Nick Dale—Poultry Specialist, Athens. Dr. Dale has retired, leaving the poultry science extension group short on expertise in practical flock nutrition.

Educational Programs:

The Georgia Poultry Conference— This conference is held annually and is conducted cooperatively with the Georgia Poultry Federation. The conference is located at the Classic Center in Athens, Georgia and attracts over 300 participants. Dates for this year's program are Sept. 29-30, 2009.

Deep South Poultry Conference—This conference is held annually in Tifton, Georgia, in cooperation with the Georgia Poultry Federation and attracts some 125 participants. The 2010 DSPC will be April 7.

Poultry Ventilation School—This school is conducted jointly with the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. Sessions are usually held each year during the late spring and fall.

Spanish Speaking Poultry Processing Workshop – This workshop is a joint effort with the Department of Food Science and is being conducted for the first time at the University of Georgia from Sept. 25-28, 2009. The program is delivered in Spanish to serve the substantial Spanish-speaking population working in the poultry processing industry.

NMP Training, Broiler Health and Management Workshop, Hatchery/ Breeder Workshop and USA Poultry Course—These educational programs are conducted periodically as requested or needed.

Accomplishments:

Agro/Biosecurity Program—Dr. Cunningham, serving as CAES Coordinator of Homeland Security, is heading up the college's efforts in agro/biosecurity. Programs have been delivered to various groups around the state in the past year.

Nutrient Management Programs – Extension Poultry Science faculty and Biological and Agricultural Engineering faculty continue to work with county agents to deliver current information on CAFO regulations and nutrient management plans for poultry producers.

Water Quality and Waste Minimization in Processing Plants – With the hiring of a specialist in a joint appointment with the Dept. of Biological and Agricultural Engineering we have reinstated our commitment to programming in this important area for poultry processing plants.

Ammonia Emissions Measurement and Mitigation – Extension Poultry Science Faculty have conducted extensive work to evaluate ammonia emissions from

poultry houses. This is critical information for the establishment of reasonable ammonia emissions criteria for the poultry industry and has helped to contradict widely held beliefs of the local impact of ammonia emissions from typical poultry houses.

Composting - Extension Poultry Science faculty have been actively investigating the benefits of windrow composting to condition litter between flocks for reuse as bedding and have provided advice to producers on best management practices for mortality composting.

Zoning Regulations—Extension Poultry Science faculty continue to work with county zoning issues relative to poultry production. Faculty provide information on request regarding poultry production and management relevant to environmental and nuisance issues for consideration in drafting prudent county ordinances.

Environmental Control of Poultry Houses—Extension Poultry Science and Biological and Agricultural Engineering faculty are providing educational programs for poultry company personnel and growers regarding best management practices for heating and cooling poultry houses.

Food Safety and Quality Control—Extension Poultry Science faculty are working with poultry processors to help them meet USDA food safety standards. Research is also being conducted to develop rapid detection methods for E. coli organisms.

Animal Welfare and Auditing Programs—Extension Poultry Science faculty are involved in the development of animal welfare guidelines and the implementation of certification programs for poultry producers.

Extension Research Programs—Extension Poultry Science faculty are actively involved in research programs related to poultry environmental issues, production management, food safety, animal welfare and economics.

Youth Programs—Extension Poultry Science faculty have conducted 4-H and FFA programs reaching almost 1200 Georgia youngsters in the past year.

Information on the Department of Poultry Science and Extension Poultry Science programs can be found at www.poultry.uga.edu.

2009 Major Highlights, Agricultural and Environmental Services Laboratories

Faculty and Staff Updates

We are pleased to introduce **Dr. Uttam Saha, new Program Coordinator of the Feeds and Environmental Water Laboratory**. He will lead the Feed and Environmental Testing Program at the laboratories.

Major Accomplishments

The new Trace Level Analysis Laboratory is now well established for low level elemental analysis such as arsenic, selenium, mercury, and many other trace elements in water, soil, and biological materials. Mr. Jake Mowrer leads this laboratory.

A new **plant analysis reporting program for strawberries** grown under plastic with drip irrigation was released for use in Jan 2009 including the updating the on-line version of the Plant Analysis Handbook for Georgia on the Laboratories' website.

Major new initiatives, resources, funding.

Major contracts continue with the Georgia EPD for analysis of water from the **EPD Stream Water Monitoring program**. Additional collaboration continues with the **EPD Adopt-A-Stream program**. Both of these programs help assure quality in the analysis of water samples for all clients, because EPD has very strict quality control requirements.

The labs continue to receive increasing numbers of research samples from UGA faculty and from faculty at other universities, as well as samples from USDA, Army Corp of Engineers, and others.

Total sample numbers were 102,507 for the fiscal year ending June 30. Given that most samples have multiple analyses, we easily provided over 500,000 individual analysis results in FY 2009, along with recommendations.

CAES Business Office Update

Mark Eason, Director of Fiscal Affairs
CAES Business Office
215 Conner Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
Phone: (706) 542-2373
Fax: (706) 542-2378

New Employees:

| NAME | TITLE | RESPONSIBILITIES |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Barnett, Justin (promoted) | Accountant | Assists Barbara Edwards with Extension budget amendments, and Personnels, budget development, check requests, deposits, and etc. |
| Schueller, Bobbie | Associate Accountant | Contracts and Grants – administers subaccounts, various accounts, royalty accounts and award documents |
| Barner, Lindsey | Associate Accountant | Process college administration check/purchase requests, travel authorities/reimbursements, process monthly, salaried and hourly payroll, reconcile account status, and etc. |
| Ogle, Jason | Senior Budget Analyst | Agricultural Experiment Station and Instruction Budget amendments and personnels, financial reporting, and Budget Development |

Major changes/accomplishments,

- ❖ Worked with Dean and Associate Deans to manage budgets

- ❖ Develop sundry reports in response to budget cuts for the CAES administration, the University Board of Regents, and Office of Planning and Budget
- ❖ Administered FY'09 and FY'10 VERAs
- ❖ Processed record Contracts and Grants proposals
- ❖ And minor things like paying employees and invoices!

Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development
Extension Program Planning – 2009

All referenced materials and/or publications are available at www.caed.uga.edu

Major Initiatives/Accomplishments

Direct Marketing of Food Products: Increased interest in local foods has created opportunities for farmers to sell directly to retailers such as grocery chains and restaurants, as well as to institutions. Workshops were designed for county agents and farmers to learn what farmers need to do to develop profitable business relationships.

A research guide geared towards helping producers or potential producers of value added food products to conduct local market research tailored to their product and market was developed and is available on line. A directory of Farmer Markets and other direct marketing outlets was also developed. (Kent Wolfe, Tommie Shepherd)

Georgia Agribusiness College Educated Needs Assessment – A comprehensive assessment of Georgia's agribusiness demand and requirements for current and future college degreed employment was conducted for the University System of Georgia. Results indicated current and future shortfalls in the supply of graduates and in certain characteristics of graduates. (Marcia Jones)

The Flavor of Georgia New Food Product Contest (new food product enterprise development): an event and educational program providing contestant's evaluation of their products and exposure to potential food buyers. Also provides networking time for finalists with food industry and education specialists. Over 120 products were submitted for this year's contest, with 9 winners named by Governor Purdie at Ag Day event. Four educational workshops were offered in addition to the program. (Sharon Kane, Kent Wolfe, Jim Daniels, John McKissick)

The MarketMaker interactive website, linking producers (35,000 food businesses in Georgia) and consumers, continued in its development by trainings and registrations throughout the year. In addition, well over 100 Georgia farmers in the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (WIC and Senior) registered on the site, furthering consumer awareness and adding to the value of the website. Developed a similar product for Georgia Dept of Economic Development –Georgia Grown, Georgia Made -for non food products. (Sharon Kane, Kent Wolfe, Tommie Shepherd, John McKissick)

Agritourism Enterprise Development: A regional workshop series offered as the result of USDA funding. The training provided tools to help producers develop an agritourism operation. A second training series will provide training to agritourism operators and to those producers considering an agritourism operation across the state. Both of these projects are multi-state and include NC, SC and GA. The in state portion is in conjunction with Georgia Dept. of Economic Development (Kent Wolfe)

Agribusiness Development: As traditional agriculture and economic conditions change, an increasing number of producers are turning to alternative enterprises to sustain economic viability. With this change comes a need for a new skill-set related to agribusiness. More than 10 publications have been developed. In addition, more than 15 workshops have been conducted on the county or regional level. The educational materials include the basic steps in developing an agribusiness from selecting an enterprise to consider, to the steps in determining the economic

and technical feasibility, to assessing market potential, to understanding the importance and development of a business plan, to financing alternatives, and finally, assessing risks and returns. In addition more than 25 detailed feasibility studies have been conducted for new or expanding agribusinesses ranging from all forms of bioenergy to completely new food products. (Audrey Luke-Morgan, Kent Wolfe, George Shumaker, Tommie Shepherd and John McKissick)

Georgia County Guide, Farm Gate Value Report: major data surveys continue to be collected and analyzed for the creation of various decision maker reports (Farm Gate, Georgia County Guide, Georgia Statistics System) and complimentary reports such as the Georgia Ag Snapshots, Georgia Passport and various county, regional and industry economic impact reports. (Sue Boathright, John McKissick)

Economic Impact and Value of Georgia's Grape and Wine Industry: A detailed consumer and producer survey was conducted with vineyards and major producers associations to evaluate the economic impact of this growing industry (including agritourism) to the state's economy. The project was conducted in conjunction with extension agents and the industry producer associations. (Kent Wolfe, John McKissick).

Economic Vitality of County Economies: A major revision and update in an evaluation of each of Georgia's county's economy viability relative to 1980 conditions and other South Eastern and US states was conducted and published for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. (John McKissick, Sharon Kane).

Agribusiness recruitment, retention, and expansion. A contracted project with the University's Fanning Institute is examining the state of the Life Sciences Industry, which includes elements of agribusiness. Phase I assesses the current state of the industry in Georgia relative to other states. It also examines the supply and demand for labor and potential growth scenarios. Phase II is expected to identify Georgia's competitive strengths and weaknesses in retaining and attracting new businesses. (Tommie Shepherd)

New/Expanded or major funded initiatives:

The Development of a Food Agricultural Risk Assessment for the State of Georgia: Systematically identify vulnerabilities to Georgia's food and agricultural industries. The vulnerabilities identified will be ranked according to the potential impact on the economy and population of the state in order to begin the process of matching the need for protection with the resources available to do so. The project is being carried out in cooperation with the National Center for Food Protection and Defense (A Homeland Security Center of Excellence), and the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) who will develop a system for communicating impending threats and other relevant information to the food and agriculture sectors in Georgia. In 2010 the project will expand to a regional effort involving states from Texas to North Carolina

Discontinued and/or reduced initiatives:

With the loss of faculty, county and regional demographic and economic profile development and requests by counties will be limited as will industry economic impact study.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Resignation – Dr. Archie Flanders 2009 to accept a position offer at The University of Arkansas
Retire/ Rehire – Dr. John McKissick, Director CAED 2009

Center for Urban Agriculture Highlighted Activities

The **Georgia Certified Landscape Professional program** entered into its sixth year under the administration of the Center for Urban Agriculture. Since that time we have more than doubled the number of graduates from 100 to 249 certified professionals.

In July of this year the Center added the **Georgia Certified Plant Professional program** to its training program. In the administration transfer of this program from the Georgia Green Industry Association to the Center a database containing 30 years of data and 2,200 names and addresses. There are 1,366 graduates of this program and a couple of hundred interested applicants in process. The Center has developed an advisory task force of 12 industry and university representatives, begun development of an online study site, and created a logo for the program in the first 6 weeks of administration

eXtension - The Center continues to provide leadership in this national effort through Todd Hurt's role as Institutional Chairman for UGA. A pilot project was coordinated with OIT and the district directors in seven urban counties to test the Ask An Expert Widget on local Extension web pages. The widget provides a way to load-balance incoming questions to multiple staff and utilizes the national database to optimize answers to repetitive questions. The national website provides usage tracking to allow for review of information provided by the individual agent and reporting options for accountability.

The Landscape Alert is a landscape, nursery and turf industry e-newsletter that identifies timely topics & teachable moments during the year and then sends UGA CAES information to address these needs. There have been 25 releases since January, 2009 with very good response readers. Often industry associations re-print articles in their publications. Alerts are also sent to Agents and can serve as an agent training tool.

Tech Tips is an Extension newsletter that highlights innovative and practical info tech tips that faculty can use to make their teaching and training efforts more efficient. Tech Tips are archived online at <http://www.caes.uga.edu/?tiny=URC546>

County Agent resources through the Center website includes the following: 272 Fact sheets categorized in 16 subject areas; 607 commonly asked Questions & Answers categorized in 12 subject areas and by month; and 761 news articles on available for modification on lawn and garden-related topics.

Office of College Advancement Department Highlights

Fundraising Total for FY 2009 was \$7.2M
613 Personal contacts by development staff

- This year we once again championed student scholarships with our *Celebration of Student Support* scholarship luncheon at the Georgia Center. We had over 130 attendees representing all 10 CAES departments and the event featured Coach Vince Dooley as keynote speaker
- Southscapes was mailed to over 20,000 alumni (fall and spring); beginning in fall 2009 we will only mail to donors with gifts of \$35 or more
- Hosted 18 CAES Alumni Association events with approximately 1600 attendees
- Hosted the first CAES Alumni Association International Tour to Ireland with 30 participants
- Hosted *An Alfresco Evening on the River* fundraising event to support a viticulture and enology professorship
- Raised funds for a gazebo in the Griffin Campus Research and Education Garden in honor of Mrs. Joyce Heck Thomas
- Received an in kind donation of two tractors for use on our Research Farms
- Established the Dr. Manjeet S. Chinnan Graduate Student Support Fund to benefit graduate students in the Department of Food Science and Technology
- Established the Gary Couvillon Student Enhancement Endowment Fund to benefit students in the Horticulture Department. This endowment fund was fully funded by the Horticulture Club in the department
- Hosted several corporate stewardship/cultivation events including groups from Delta, Philip Morris and McCormick International

Report for 2009 Program Planning Week Office of Communications

The CAES Office of Communications had a productive year on behalf of UGA Cooperative Extension.

The unit had several staff position changes this past year. Sadly, John Harrell, radio news editor for 30 years, passed away in October, 2008. On July 1, 2009, the four Web designers in OC, Cindy Tucker, Ruth Jarret, Emily Pitts and Robin Pratt, were moved into the Office of Information Technology. This move was to make the college Web team more efficient and effective and to eliminate duplicate administrative functions. The business manager, Stephanie Rittenberry, resigned and was replaced by Jill Morris.

Major accomplishments include:

- The OC's publications office began a comprehensive review and update of Extension ANR and Forestry numbered publications in October 2008. At that time, 998 publications were available to the public, although only 126 (12.6%) were up-to-date within their three-year review. With the assistance of college faculty, the publications office now offers 517 revised, up-to-date publications resources to the public. College faculty are currently in the process of revising more than 240 more. In March 2009, Dean Angle convened a five-person publications advisory committee (Doug Bailey, Chair; Elizabeth Address, Judy Hibbs, Dan Suiter and Nick Fuhrman) to update the publications guidelines, policies and procedures, which went into effect in June 2009, and to guide development of a new publications Web site, which is set to launch in September 2009.
- The last Saturday in October, Georgia Public Broadcasting will air the final episode of *Gardening in Georgia*, ending an outstanding 10-year run for the CAES-produced television show featuring retired UGA Extension agent, Walter Reeves. Beginning in April 2010, *Gardening in Georgia* will be replaced with the new regional show, *Your Southern Garden*, which CAES produces in a partnership agreement with University of Florida Extension. The show began airing in Florida in May. It is getting excellent reviews from viewers and UF administration. The show will air throughout the GPB market from Chattanooga through Georgia, edges of Alabama and South Carolina, across north Florida to a line from Tampa to Daytona Beach. We continue to work with Auburn and Clemson to get the show on the air all across Alabama and South Carolina.
- The Office of Communications, in conjunction with the Office of Information Technology, recently launched the new and improved Extension website. Suggestions received from a review team, surveys of various client groups and ongoing input from faculty and administration were utilized. Two OC staff members collaborated with the review team, which completed reviews of all 50 state extension websites. The new site is much more

consumer focused and features a Spanish section and dynamic content that rotates. Check in out at www.ugaextension.com. Your comments are welcome and appreciated.

- Walk Georgia, a free 8-week program sponsored by UGA Cooperative Extension, is entering its third fall session. It is designed to increase physical activity in a fun, interactive, community-oriented way. Participants can take part individually or as part of a four-person team. When logging physical activity, the participant takes a virtual “walk” through the 159 counties in Georgia, learning interesting facts and figures about each. The system also teaches new ways to improve health and allows the participants to see how their activities compare to other individuals and teams. Through three 8-week sessions (one offered each spring and fall) Walk Georgia has motivated over 14,000 people who logged more than 1.5 million miles of various types of physical activity.
- This year, Georgia FACES news editors released six special sections for media and agents: Spring Gardening, Back to School, Fall Gardening, Holiday Food, Year in Review, and National 4-H Week. Along with the 2009 Back to School Special Section, OC worked with the College of Family and Consumer Sciences Extension specialists to develop a Back to School Newsletter that agents could use with local schools, parents and teachers. The Georgia Department of Education helped distribute the newsletters to schools across the state.
- Revisions continue to be made to Georgia FACES to update services offered to media and other subscribers of the CAES online news service. Broadcast news and public service announcements will be integrated into the new system, resulting in one consolidated news center. We expect the new site to be launched before the end of the calendar year. We appreciate the assistance and expertise of members of the OIT staff to bring this project to fruition.
- OC public affairs team members are working with UGA Extension pecan specialists to produce a DVD to train pecan producers on a technique to help manage their crop for higher, more consistent returns per acre. Shooting is underway and the DVD is expected to be available later this year.
- The OC public affairs staff held training sessions in Athens and Savannah to pilot a new national curriculum training model to help land-grant university faculty and local producers to be more effective spokespeople during a crisis. Two members of the OC public affairs team were writers and editors on the curriculum development team funded by a USDA grant to Kansas State University. CAES faculty as well as communicators and faculty from across several UGA colleges and units were trained. The Savannah training was held in conjunction with and funded by the Southeast Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association.

CAES Office of Diversity Relations

New staff member in the CAES Office of Diversity Relations:

Ms. Melanie Hudson was recently hired as a Program Specialist/Administrative Assistant. Ms. Hudson previously worked as a recruiter in the UGA Office of Admissions. She will be actively involved in minority student recruitment and will provide general support for the activities in the Office of Diversity Relations.

2009 Accomplishments and new Initiatives

I. GA Daze recruitment event (January 31, 2009 and April 25, 2009)

Goal: To recruit minorities to CAES from amongst students that have been admitted into UGA but have not yet decided on a major

Outcome: Students participated in a program organized by ODR and Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) to showcase majors in CAES. Faculty, staff, alumni and students shared information about different CAES programs and celebrated outstanding minority CAES alumni. Students also had the opportunity to tour the Animal and Dairy Science and the Food Science and Technology facilities.

II. Event for Latino Students in Hall County (March 31, 2009)

Goals: To establish a connection with Latino populations to facilitate student recruitment

Outcome: CAES faculty, staff, students, including Hall County Extension office staff participated in a program to expose Latino High school students and their parents to majors and career paths available through CAES.

III Emerging Scholars Program (Summer 2009)

Goal: Create a pipeline of minority students into CAES graduate programs through summer undergraduate research internships

Outcome: One student from Florida A&M University participated in a summer undergraduate research internship in the laboratory of Dr. Mark Harrison. The student learned about Food Microbiology and the UGA graduate admissions requirements.

IV Young Scholars Program

Goal: To expose High School students to food and agricultural science

Outcome: 74 high school students participated in the 2009 YSP on the Athens, Griffin and Tifton campuses, and 14 students travelled to Costa Rica. Of the 2009 participants, 7 seniors enrolled in CAES majors this Fall.

V. Increased participation of Latino students in YSP

Goal: To improve recruitment of Latino students in CAES

Outcome: Obtained \$4,500.00 grant from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund/University Alliance to provide scholarships for room and board for 3 students from Hall County to participate in YSP

VI Academic scholarships for minority and multicultural students

Goals: To secure extramural funds for student scholarships

Outcome: In collaboration with the CAES Office of Academic affairs, \$120,000 in competitive grant funds were obtained from the USDA CSREES Multicultural Scholarship Program to provide scholarships for 5 multicultural students to pursue CAES majors. Five outstanding students were selected and began classes this Fall.

VII Improving the pipeline of minority student into science technology engineering and mathematics disciplines

Goal: To provide CAES faculty and staff the tools to recruit, retain and mentor diverse students in STEM

Outcome: Through a USDA CSREES Higher Education Challenge grant, a CAES cultural climate survey will be conducted in Fall 2009. Additionally a series of lunch and learn workshops will be conducted in collaboration with Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. These workshops will be facilitated by Dr. Kecia Thomas who is a Professor of Applied Psychology and the Senior Advisor to the Franklin College's Dean on inclusion and diversity leadership. Workshops will be conducted in Athens and broadcast via Tandberg to the Griffin, Tifton and Statesboro campuses. The first workshop entitled "Diversity as a Strategic Advantage" will be conducted on September 2 at noon.

Other initiatives:

CAES Welcome reception for new for multicultural students

CAES Diversity engagement awards

CAES Office of Information Technology

Staff Update:

The following personnel were transferred from The Office of Communications to OIT: Cindy Tucker (Web Developer Principal), Emily Pitts (Instr. Tech. Dev. Prof. Specialist), Ruth Jarret (Web Developer Assistant), Robin Pratt (Web Developer Specialist).

Sylvia Marrotti was promoted to IT Manager and is now responsible for Tifton Campus IT Services. She moved from Field Service Operations and her old position remains vacant.

Janet Sylvia was moved off the Information Systems & Web Services Team and now reports directly to the OIT Director.

We lost one Application Developer employee off of the Information Systems & Web Services Team. This position remains vacant.

Major Accomplishments:

Continued expansion and support of video conferencing and web conferencing technologies for distance teaching, learning, engagement, and collaboration

Integration of Bomgar remote desktop support appliance into overall IT support services allowing us to more effectively deliver desktop support and maintenance and reduce travel costs

Improved security management at Tifton Campus by moving to Symantec Endpoint Protection for all systems

Replacement of core network fiber optic cabling, replacement of core communications switches, and expansion of wireless networking for Griffin Campus.

Provided primary strategic and logistical IT consulting and services for the design and development of the Griffin Campus Student Learning Center

Began the initial discovery and consulting process to modernize Tifton Campus data communications infrastructure

Multiple trainings provided on use of Horizon Wimba, Microsoft Excel, Goto Meeting, and Contribute.

Over 3,600 customer service events were processed through the OIT Help Desk Remedy Ticket System

CAES OIT datacenter: Upgrade of the storage area network (SAN) and other hardware and software which allowed virtualization of servers, reducing the power/electrical/HVAC needs of the datacenter by 40%; Expansion and improvement of the HVAC environmental controls; Implementation of a disaster recovery system which uses Griffin campus OIT datacenter as an off-site facility; SAN data storage space was increased from 3 to 20 terabytes; implemented a virtual private network to facilitate secure remote access for systems and applications development, maintenance, and services; Hosting of Bomgar remote desktop support appliance which facilitates remote desktop support for CAES on and off campuses offices; these upgrades made all CAES OIT offered & hosted services more robust and reliable.

Future Projects:

College wide implementation of a comprehensive email, calendar, and collaboration suite.