



OFFICE FOR
UNDERGRADUATE
EDUCATION

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

Advising Corner	2
Campus Visits	2
AG Day 2010	3
2010 Teaching Case Studies in Science	3
Final Exams and Term Projects	4
Curricular Affairs Calendar	4
NACTA Conference 2010	5
Program Coordinator's Meetings	5
Academic Calendar	6

Spring 2010 Commencement

Plans are well underway for the Spring Commencement Ceremony

The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2010 Commencement exercises will be held at Eisenhower Auditorium on **Saturday, May 15th at 9 a.m.** We are pleased to announce that Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Russell C. Redding, will be our Commencement Speaker.

For more information, please visit our website: <http://students.cas.psu.edu/>

New Eco-Friendly Student Academic Regalia



Beginning with the Spring 2010 commencement, the Penn State graduation gown is going "green." Commencement attire will remain blue, but it will be environmentally friendly as well. The new "blue" is noticeably different from the color of the gowns worn at previous commencements. The new "blue" more accurately represents the official Penn State Blue. For that reason, we ask graduating students to refrain from wearing gowns from past commencement ceremonies. For more information on the

environmentally friendly gown, visit: <http://live.psu.edu/story/43562>.

Graduation Brunch

This special brunch, hosted by the Alumni Society, provides an opportunity for our newest graduates and their families to mingle with faculty, administrators, other graduates, and our alumni family. The brunch will be served as guests arrive. We are happy to provide you with one complimentary ticket for the event, and additional tickets may be purchased at \$15 each; however, all tickets must be reserved in advance. There will be no admission at the door without tickets. Please register online at www.agsci.psu.edu/alumni by clicking on the header Spring Graduation Brunch – May 15, 2010. All reservations must be made by **Monday, May 10, 2010**. We look forward to having you with us to celebrate this happy event in the lives of our students.

Digital Commons in ASI 109 is Coming Soon!

Faculty Participation in Needs Assessment Survey Requested

The College of Agriculture and the Penn State Media Commons are currently in the process of planning a new facility in the Agricultural Sciences and Industry Building where faculty and students will be able to

work on and get support for the creation of digital media for teaching and learning. In order to ensure that this facility meets your needs, we are asking that you complete the following short survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P6CPS9Y>

Thank you for your time!

Academic Advising Corner!

FTCAP is Coming

May 17 is "opening day" for FTCAP this summer and will continue through July 13. The College of Agricultural Sciences will have students coming on 25 days during this time. Students admitted to the College and their families will report each day to 133 Food Sciences Building by 1:30 pm for their College Meeting and then students will schedule courses in their chosen departments. More details will be provided as FTCAP draws closer, but contact your Program Coordinator or Terry Musser (txm4@psu.edu, 863-2834) if you have any questions.

Schedule Planning Resources

A new Website is available to students and advisers that includes all of the resources for planning an appropriate schedule. Check it out at <http://www.psu.edu/advising/schedule.htm>.

New Late Drop Policy Passed

The Faculty Senate revised its policy on late course drop so that "WN" will be entered on the student's academic record, indicating no grade. This change starts Fall 2010 semester. The academic record will no longer indicate passing or failing at the time of course drop.

Office for Undergraduate Education Campus Visits

The Office for Undergraduate Education will visit a number of campuses this fall, and department faculty and staff are welcome to come along. This is a great opportunity to connect with Ag Sciences students throughout the state.

The schedule of visits is below. If any faculty or staff would like to attend, please contact Debbie Little (dxm16@psu.edu) at least two weeks prior to the visit date.



April 10 Link UP, a University-wide, day-long transition program at University Park

April 20 Penn State Altoona's Ag Awareness Day

Second Annual College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day 2010

Join us on the **HUB lawn on Wednesday, April 21st 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.** as for the second annual College of Agricultural Sciences' "Ag Day 2010." Help us celebrate the goals and accomplishments of the College, its students and the agricultural field as we look towards the future and the dynamic roles agriculture will fulfill. (*Rain Date: April 22, 2010*)

The event is a joint effort between the Ag Advocate organization and Ag Student Council (ASC) and will be placed along the southern edge of the hub lawn to increase visibility and take advantage of the often busy area. The areas will be sectioned according to the related areas of interest:

- **Animal Sciences and Pre-Vet Studies**
- **Biomedical and Food Sciences**
- **Business**
- **Education and Multidisciplinary Studies**
- **Engineering and Technology**
- **Environmental Sciences and Policy**
- **Forest Resources**
- **Plant Sciences**



The departments within an area are invited to showcase what they believe to be one of their most important contributions to the agricultural issues of today. Student clubs and organizations from the College of Ag Sciences will be invited to participate and represent their organizations with displays and posters. Student organizations will be located with their respective departments if applicable. Additional activities will include games, a scavenger hunt "passport" to get free creamery ice cream, and a few other possible surprises. Be on the lookout for future updates, sign-ups and information through Ag Student Council and Ag Science Student News.

For more information feel free to contact Dustin Brown (dzb134@psu.edu) or Mairén Fitzpatrick (mef5069@psu.edu).

Summer 2010 Teaching Case Studies in Science Workshop



May 17-20, 2010, University at Buffalo, State University of New York

Presented by the National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science, The Summer 2010 Teaching Case Studies in Science Workshop will be held May 17-20 at the University of Buffalo (NY). Past workshops have included faculty from biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, computer science, mathematics, geology, psychology, anthropology, nursing, science education, dentistry, engineering, medicine, and other science-related disciplines.

The workshop focuses on training science faculty (all levels) to teach with case studies, to write their own cases, and to assess their students' learning with cases. During the final two days of the workshop, all participants are required to teach a case before a student audience using a case they have developed during the workshop. In addition, workshop participants are expected to produce a case study within six months of the workshop for our national, peer-reviewed case collection. Workshop Director Clyde F. (Kipp) Herreid is a Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Biological Sciences Department.

ment at the University at Buffalo. He has conducted numerous workshops around the country on case method teaching, team learning, and problem-based learning. He is the author of a column on case studies regularly featured in the Journal of College Science Teaching and directs the work of the National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science.

Registration will open at 9:00 a.m. on January 26th, on our website (see URL below) and will remain open until the workshop is filled (limit 35 people). The Registration Fee is \$750, and it includes many of the workshop and per diem costs. Arrangements have been made for reduced price lodging at the University campus dormitories \$39 (single) and \$32(double) for all attendees as well as at a conveniently located hotel (Ramada Hotel & Conference Center: \$69.00 per night for double bedded queen room).

Detailed information about the workshop, including online registration and housing options, will be available on January 26th at: (the site currently contains the 2009 workshop information):

<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/workshop/>

Questions or would like more information? Please contact the workshop coordinator, Carolyn Wright, at nccsts@buffalo.edu or at 716-645-4900.

Reminder Regarding Final Exams and Term Projects

University Faculty Senate Policy 44-20

As we approach nearer to the final week of classes, please be aware of our University Faculty Senate Policy 44-20 regarding final exams and term projects, which stipulates that any end-of-semester examinations (with the exception of quizzes and narrowly limited tests worth no more than ten percent of the semester grade) are to be administered during the final exam period. Where end-of-semester examinations are not administered, term projects, reports and other integrative assignments worth more than ten percent of the course grade are to be due no earlier than the first day of the final examination period.

Please note that the University Faculty Senate policy includes a provision for exceptions to the ten percent criterion--granting them "for educational reasons and only as recommended by the faculty of the program offering the course and approved by the appropriate dean or chancellor." In addition, Academic Administrative Policy/Procedure F-2 provides for a procedure for students to follow if concerned about a particular class's final exam or end-of-semester assignment.

I appreciate your attention to these policies out of consideration for our students and other faculty, both now and as you prepare your course designs for future semesters.

Robert N. Pangborn, Ph.D.

Vice President & Dean for Undergraduate Education

Curricular Affairs Committee — College of Agricultural Sciences

2009-2010 Curricular Calendar

Proposals Due in CSCS System *	Send to ACUE Deans (if necessary) Then to Committee Members for review	College Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Dates and Locations	Revisions Due in CSCS System and Begin Final Approval Process (required signatories)	Proposals due to Faculty Senate	Curriculum Report Publication Date (on Blue Sheets for 30 days)	Senate Committee Curricular Affairs (SCCA) all day meeting
Friday Feb. 12, 2010	Feb. 15-16, 2010	Thurs. March 4, 2010 1:30-3:00 p.m. 342 Food Science Bldg.	March 19, 2010	March 26, 2010	for the April 13, 2010 Issue	April 27, 2010
Friday April 9, 2010	April 12-13, 2010	Thurs. April 29, 2010 1:30-3:00 p.m. 342 Food Science Bldg.	May 14, 2010	May 28, 2010

* **Note:** for course proposals submitted in CSCS, paper copies no longer need to be submitted.

For PROGRAM proposals (not done in CSCS), **you must submit one paper copy and a PDF file of the proposal** by the due dates listed above (first column) to: K. Pletcher, 101 Ag Admin. Bldg.



Announcing the 56th Annual NACTA Conference, June 22-25, 2010

“Collaborate, Communicate Celebrate” Hosted by Penn State University, University Park, PA

Make sure you hold the dates now for the 56th Annual Conference of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA; www.nactateachers.org), which will be hosted right here at Penn State University **June 22-25, 2010**, at the Penn Stater Conference Hotel and Center. Join us for an engaging week of oral presentations, poster sessions, roundtable discussions and exciting tours as we **“Collaborate, Communicate, Celebrate”** teaching and learning around agricultural, human, and renewable natural resources. The annual NACTA conference is a wonderful venue focusing on the educational mission of agricultural institutions, including issues related to teaching, learning, co-curricular opportunities, student recruitment, advising and retention, programmatic assessment, etc.

The college’s Office for Undergraduate Education provides partial funding toward registration costs to college instructors presenting oral and/or poster presentations at the conference (abstracts are normally due in early-March); more information will be made available in the Spring, so make sure you check future editions of Undergrad Ed Updates!



Spring 2010 Undergraduate Program Coordinators’ Meeting Schedule

The Program Coordinator Meetings for Spring 2010 are scheduled on the following days, **1:30-3:00 PM**:

- ◆ Tuesday, April 13, Room 324 ASI
- ◆ Monday, May 10, Room 118 ASI

Meeting notices and reminders containing tentative agenda items will be emailed to Program Coordinators before each meeting.

We welcome your input and ideas for agenda items, so please feel free to contact us at any time to add an item for discussion.

Jim Dunn	AG BM, and 2 AGB
John Ewing	AEE and AG SC
Paul Heinemann	A S M and B E
Kate Butler	AGECO and ESOIL
Les Griel	ANBIO and VB SC
Harold Harpster	ANSCI
Jill Findeis	CED and E RRE
Rob Shannon	E R M
Stephanie Doores	FD SC
Ellen Manno	FORSC, W F S, and W P
Charles Heuser	HORT
James Howell	IID and TOX
Dan Stearns	LSCPE
Andrew Mc Nitt	TURF
Al Turgeon	TURF (WD)



Instructor Resources @ UP

Check out these Web sites for more information

Technology Classroom Overview

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/Classrooms/>

Reserving a Technology Classroom

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/Classrooms/Scheduling/>

Getting Help and Reporting Problems

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/SendMail/hotline.aspx>

Faculty Learning Opportunities

<http://its.psu.edu/training/>

<http://digitalcommons.psu.edu/>

Assistive Technology & Physical Access

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/AssistiveTech/>

Student Response Systems

<http://clc.tlt.psu.edu/classrooms/prs/>

Using Personal Laptops

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/Authentication/>

Specialized Software Installation

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/labs/Instruction/>

File Storage Options

<http://clc.its.psu.edu/DiskSpace/>

Collaborative Learning Spaces

<http://tlt.its.psu.edu/learningspaces/about.html>

Podcasts at Penn State

<http://podcasts.psu.edu/>

Penn State Testing Center

www.testing.psu.edu/



PENNSSTATE



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ThinkAgain

COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

SPRING 2010

April 9	Late Drop—Deadline
April 30	Withdraw—Deadline
April 30	Classes End
May 1—2	Study Days
May 3—7	Final Exams
May 14—16	Commencement