



Undergrad Ed Updates

OFFICE FOR
UNDERGRADUATE
EDUCATION

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Third Annual College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day 2011

Interested in learning more about the food you eat, the clothes you wear, your car, the gasoline it requires, or the pathogens that cause the common cold or influenza? Join us between the Berkey Creamery and the Greenhouses on **Wednesday, April 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for the third annual College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day 2011.

Ag Day's mission is to inform and educate the Penn State community and the general public through partnerships of College of Agricultural Sciences' organizations and departments about the significance of agriculture in their everyday lives for today and tomorrow.



The event is a joint effort between the Ag Advocate organization and the Ag Student Council (ASC). The organizations and departments will be sectioned according to their 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

Each department and organization will have an activity to promote agricultural literacy. Other activities will include the chance to pet farm animals and a passport system to get free Creamery ice cream.

For more information, contact Sarah Caldwell (slc5210@psu.edu) or Sarah Wickard (saw5089@psu.edu).

Call for 2012 University Teaching Award Nominations

Nominations for the Eisenhower, Atherton, and Teaching Fellow Awards are now being accepted. Students, faculty, staff, administrators, and friends of Penn State may nominate faculty for these awards. The nomination requires general information about the nominee and a brief statement that describes why the nominee deserves the teaching award. Information about the awards can be accessed at <http://www.schreyerInstitute.psu.edu/Awards>.

The deadline for submitting nominees is 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, June 30, 2011**. If you have any questions about the faculty teaching awards or have trouble accessing the web nomination form, please call 814-865-8681 or send an email to SchreyerAdmin@psu.edu.



FTCAP is Coming

May 16 is “opening day” for FTCAP this summer and will continue through July 15. The College of Agricultural Sciences will have students coming on 24 days during this time. Students admitted to the College and their families will report most days to 133 Food Sciences Building (room 252 on 5/16 and 443 on 7/13) 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.

Faculty Senate Approved DF and G Grade Policy Revisions

To eliminate inconsistency and confusion in the policy for deferred grades, the Senate amended its policy to set the deferred grade deadline at 10 weeks following the end date of a course as it appears in the schedule of courses. Additionally, when a grade is not submitted and the symbol NG (meaning “no grade”) appears on the student's transcript, the NG is to be reconciled within five weeks of its posting. Deferred and missing grades that are automatically converted to an F can be corrected later under existing Senate policy. Read the full report at <http://www.senate.psu.edu/agenda/2010-2011/mar2011/appd.pdf>.

Advising Webinar Invitation

A Webinar will be presented titled “Strategies for Increasing Advising Effectiveness with Decreasing Resources” and everyone interested is invited! Just come to 118 ASI Building April 27, 2011, from 2:00 – 3:30 PM for the Webinar and discussion to follow. Bring snacks and friends!

Summer Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Office for Undergraduate Education is once again offering a series of informal brown bag lunch-on discussions this summer focusing on topics suggested by faculty and staff. Everyone interested is invited to gather at the Creamery for a fun and interesting discussion. A list of programs and dates will be sent later in April to all PC's.



New eLion Module: Minor Themes

A new module has just been created on eLion to help students and advisers find potential minors to add to their programs. Check it out under the letter “M” on eLion.





Backpack to Briefcase



Experiential Learning and Career Initiative

Finding summer or full-time employment can be challenging, so attend our **GET HIRED!!** workshops for assistance.

GET HIRED!! Job and Internship Strategies

Thursday, April 14th 6 – 7:00 p.m. in 118 ASI Bldg.

- ◆ Discover how to navigate the hidden job market
- ◆ Improve your resume and cover letter
- ◆ Learn how to market yourself
- ◆ Bring your resume and let's strategize



GET HIRED!! Interview Success

Thursday April 21st 6 – 7:00 p.m. in 118 ASI Bldg.

- ◆ Learn about different types of interviews
- ◆ Discover why employers ask trick questions
- ◆ Develop your arsenal of interview responses
- ◆ Become more comfortable in showcasing your talents

Questions? Contact Cathy McGinnis, 110 Ag. Administration Building, 865-7522, cmm54@psu.edu,

Spring 2011 Commencement

The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2011 Commencement exercises will be held at Eisenhower Auditorium on **Saturday, May 14th at 9 a.m.** Marcos Fernandez, associate dean for undergraduate education, College of Agricultural Sciences, will be our Commencement Speaker.



Spring 2011 Graduation Brunch

The **Spring Graduation Brunch** will be held on Saturday, May 14 immediately following Commencement Ceremonies in Gym 1 of the Intramural Building. This annual brunch has become a tradition, providing an opportunity for new graduates, parents, families, friends, college faculty and administrators, and Alumni Society members to share memories of good times and plans for the future.

The Alumni Society encourages all faculty and staff that work closely with graduating students to attend the

brunch. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to introduce you to family and friends. To register, please visit agsci.psu.edu/alumni and click on **2011 Spring Graduation Brunch**.

Please contact Tammy Houser at tjb17@psu.edu if you would like a list of graduating students attending the brunch on May 14.

Ag Leap Update

There are still open dates for program activities to promote ongoing research and help our LEAP students this summer get to know more about your program. Go to <http://doodle.com/4knatbib92u8p9qz> to reserve your date/time. If you have places you would like us visit during our tours this summer, please share those with me as well.



There are still openings in both sections (Ag Ethics and Animal Health) as of 3/22/11. Encourage students coming this summer to be a part of AG LEAP so they can take advantage of the many opportunities to network and learn about our college and the Agricultural Industry.

If you know a student who might be a good service learning facilitator for a small group of LEAP students, have them send me their resume and cover letter stating their interest and experience in service learning or community engagement. We need eight of these.

Finally, if you advise a club, encourage them to sign up as co-hosts for one of our networking events at <http://doodle.com/gsys4ri33qh73iv8>. There are still many openings. We encourage clubs to partner with clubs with different interests than theirs to increase appeal to a larger number of LEAP students at each event.

– Karen Vines (kvines@psu.edu; 865-3097)

Summer 2011 Teaching Case Studies in Science Workshop



Workshop Dates: May 16-20, 2011

Workshop Location: University at Buffalo, State University of New York
Registration Fee: \$800

Workshop Content: The case study method is a powerful pedagogical technique for teaching science because it humanizes science and effectively illustrates scientific methodology and values. Moreover, since many of the best cases are based on contemporary science problems featured in the news, the use of cases in the classroom makes science relevant to students.

The five-day 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.

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.

Application: Open enrollment through registration on a first-to-register, first-to-pay basis, limited to 35 people.

Website: Detailed information about the workshop, including online registration and housing options, is available

at: <http://sciencecases.lib.buffalo.edu/cs/training/workshops/>

Questions: Please contact our workshop coordinator, Carolyn Wright, at nccsts@buffalo.edu or at 716-645-4900.

The College of Agricultural Sciences' Office for Undergraduate Education will partially support two (2) of our faculty wishing to attend this program, by agreeing to fund the registration fee for two participants (\$800.00 each) attending this summer's Teaching Case Studies in Science Workshop; the registrants' units would have to cover costs associated with hotel, per diem, and travel to and from Buffalo, NY. Please contact Marcos Fernandez (jmf28@psu.edu; 814-865-7521) if you are interested in or planning to attend this workshop.

College Curricular Corner

The College's Instruction and Curriculum Affairs Committee reviews curriculum proposals submitted by units within the College of Agricultural Sciences for eventual approval by the Faculty Senate. This committee meets regularly throughout the fall and spring semester. A complete list of committee meeting dates are listed below. Instructions on how to submit proposals, who your unit representatives are, etc. are online at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/faculty-staff/teaching-and-learning/college-resources/icac>.



The following proposals were reviewed at the February 24, 2011, College Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee (ICAC) Meeting. See your ICAC unit representative for more information. The next ICAC meeting will be held **April 21, 2011**



Course of Program	Course #	Type of Action	Type of Review	Action
WILDL	106	Change	Re-review	Approved
ENT	315	Drop	New	Approved
ENT	535	Add	New	Revisions needed
CEDEV	452	Change	New	Approved
CEDEV	500	Change	New	Approved

**Curricular Affairs Committee—College of Agricultural Sciences
Calendar 2010-2011**

** Proposals Due in CSCS System	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. 4, 2011	Thurs. Feb. 24, 2011 1:30—3:00 p.m. 244 Ag Eng Bldg	March 4, 2011	March 25, 2011	<i>for the April 12, 2011 Issue</i>	April 28, 2011
Friday April 1, 2011	Thurs. April 21, 2011 1:30—3:00 p.m. 244 Ag Eng Bldg	May 13, 2011	May 27, 2011	<i>For the August 2011 Issue</i>	August 2011 Meeting

**Course proposals need to be completely through all consultation and ready to be sent to the college administrator (K. Pletcher) thru CSCS by this date to be reviewed at the college committee meeting. Also, a PDF of the proposal must be sent to the College Administrator (kjs8@psu.edu) by this deadline. Hard Copies are not required for the college review process. Once the proposal has passed through the College's Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee review process, the appropriate hard copies will be made by the college administrator and sent to the Faculty Senate.

* Dates posted by Faculty Senate. Senate Newsletters are posted to their website at: http://www.senate.psu.edu/senate_activity/newsletters.htm.



University Faculty Senate Policy Reminders

A couple of reminders as we approach 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 does include 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.

With regard to students, Senate policy governs the circumstances in which students can request an alternate exam time—those being either a direct conflict (two exams scheduled at the same time) or an overload conflict (too many exams within a prescribed time period). The official final exam week precludes the scheduling of other sanctioned activities that would normally represent excused class absences, like participation in scheduled athletic contests, so students should not be requesting make-ups for these reasons. There may be some circumstances involving serious illness or family emergency where some provision for a make-up or alternative timing should be made, but that does not include a student having prematurely scheduled a flight home or the convenience of an early-week ride offer.

Finally, I would also like to use this opportunity to stress the importance of getting grades in promptly. Per Senate policy, deferred grades (DF) and no grades (NG) prevent students from graduating; timely submission of grades will avoid disadvantaging our students unintentionally.

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

- Rob Pangborn
Vice President & Dean for Undergraduate Education

Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) allows institutions to designate limited information about students as “directory information” which we are permitted (but not required) to share with external requestors without the student’s prior consent. Penn State’s list of directory items is outlined in AD-11 Policy on Confidentiality of Student Records.



In light of growing concerns regarding privacy and identity theft, the Registrar’s Office recently reviewed Penn State’s list of directory items and recommended some changes, which were approved by President’s Council on February 21, 2011. Effective immediately, two items have been REMOVED from the list of directory items: (1) date and place of birth and (2) name and address of parents, guardian, spouse. In addition, one item has been ADDED to the list of directory items: class level (semester classification or level: first-year, sophomore, junior, etc).

If you have any internal documents or web pages that list directory items, please update them immediately. In addition, I would appreciate any assistance you can offer in getting the word out to the University community on this important change.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and thank you for your support in ensuring that our students’ FERPA rights are protected.

Karen Schultz
 University Registrar
 114 Shields Building
 (814) 863-3681 kls2@psu.edu

Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The Spring 2011 Program Coordinator Meetings have been scheduled on the following days,
1:30-3:00 PM:

- ◆ Monday, **April 18**, Room 118 ASI
- ◆ Monday, **May 11**, Room 504 ASI*

*To avoid conflict with FTCAP, the May 2011 meeting date and location has been changed to **Wednesday, May 11, 1:30-3:00 p.m. , Room 504 ASI Bldg.**

Please note the new date and location on your calendars.

We welcome input and ideas for agenda items, so please feel free to add an item for discussion at these meetings.

Jim Dunn	AG BM, and 2 AGB
John Ewing	AEE and AG SC
Megan Marshall	B E
Jude Liu	A S M
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)

2011 NACTA Conference



The **2011 Annual NACTA Conference** will be held **June 14 – 17** at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

This conference will be a joint meeting with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Division of Community and Education (DOCE-formerly SERD).

Travel to Edmonton, Alberta for the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture annual conference at the University of Alberta and “get engaged...” about the scholarship of teaching and learning in agricultural, environmental, natural, and life sciences. Explore student engagement, faculty engagement and much more!

Conference Highlights:

- ◆ Oral presentations, poster sessions and roundtables with a focus on engagement
- ◆ Undergraduate and graduate student sessions on teaching and learning
- ◆ Industry tours for animal science, food sciences, natural resources and more
- ◆ Opportunities to tour the Devonian Botanic Gardens and the U of A agricultural facilities
- ◆ Pecha Kucha presentation event
- ◆ Guest and family activities

For more information visit: www.ales.ualberta.ca/nacta2011

Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee

Spring 2011 Schedule for Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) will meet on **Tuesday, May 3**, from 10:30 – noon, in 101 Ag. Admin. Conference Room



PENNSTATE



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<http://agsci.psu.edu>

ThinkAgain

Spring 2011 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| April 8 | Late Drop Deadline |
| April 29 | Withdrawal Deadline |
| April 29 | Classes End |
| May 2-6 | Final Exams |
| May 13-15 | Commencement |

