



Undergrad Ed Updates

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 8

MARCH 2011

OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

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20th Annual Undergraduate Exhibition

Entry deadline: Friday, March 4, 2011
Exhibition dates: Tuesday, April 12 (Performances) and Wednesday, April 13 (Poster Sessions)



Penn State's annual Undergraduate Exhibition communicates and celebrates the participation of undergraduate students from across the University in research and creative endeavors. Undergraduate students from all Penn State campuses are invited to enter poster or performance presentations to showcase their work to a general audience. The exhibition is open to the public. Entry guidelines and forms are available at www.undergradresearch.psu.edu

Faculty and graduate student volunteers are urgently needed to serve as Exhibition judges. Volunteers may sign up at <https://undergradresearch.psu.edu/exhibition/judgesneeded.cfm>

2011 Excellence in Academic Advising Award

The College of Agricultural Science Alumni Society is now accepting nominations from alumni, faculty and students for its Excellence in Academic Advising award to be recognized at the spring commencement ceremony.

Agricultural Sciences Alumni, faculty members, students, and administrators.

Nomination information is available online at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/alumni/awards/college/academic-advising/nomination-information>

All College of Agricultural Sciences faculty members who advise undergraduate students are eligible for the award. Selection will be based on the overall effectiveness of the student advisor as reflected by the nominating documents. Excellence in three areas will be emphasized: academic advising, individual student goal-setting and career planning, and personal counseling.

Nominations must be received by the College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society Director, Naomi Knaub, 229 Ag. Administration Building, no later than **Friday, March 11.**

For additional information, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 814-865-2717 or agalumni@psu.edu

Nominations may be submitted by the College of

Harbaugh Entrepreneurship Forum — Save The Date

The College of Agricultural Sciences is pleased to present an Open Forum featuring: Leading Entrepreneurs in Animal & Veterinary Science.

Keynote Event: **March 30th, 4:15—5:30 PM, 101 ASI**

Full Day of Events: **March 31st (Schedule Forthcoming)**

For more information contact Dr. Mark Gagnon (mag199@psu.edu)



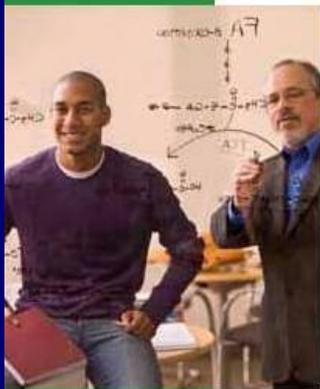
New eLion Parent Access to Student Records

In fall 2010, the Office of the University Registrar released new functionality for students and parents in eLion. With the consent of their student, parents may view their student's course schedule and grades via the eLion Parent/Other menu. Set-up is simple and instructions were included in announcements which were shared widely in September. In addition, information can be found on the Registrar's web site.

Since this functionality is now available, the Office of the University Registrar is discontinuing its option allowing parents to submit a copy of their most recent IRS form 1040 in order to prove dependency. Parents who want to see their students' grades will need to work with their students for access to grades through eLion Parent.

Majors Night

March 16, 2011
6:00–7:30 PM
102 Thomas Building



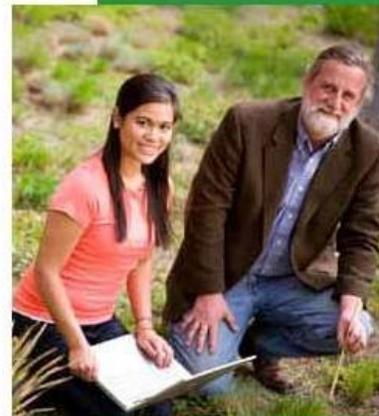
Are you a first- or second-year student at University Park? Join us at Majors Night to explore the possibilities the College of Ag Sciences has to offer! Participate in breakout sessions and speak with advisers for the majors you are most interested in.

A recent USDA survey found that twice as many jobs will be available in agricultural sciences than qualified graduates to fill them. With 19 majors and 24

minors to choose from, Penn State Ag Sciences can help you prepare for a career that makes a difference. Discover how Penn State Ag Sciences could be right for you!

Light refreshments will be served, and there is no registration. Feel free to just stop by!

Questions? For more information, contact Terry Musser at txm4@psu.edu.



This publication is available in alternative media, on request. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce. Produced by Ag Communications and Marketing. UST 4/09/11-70



Backpack to Briefcase



Experiential Learning and Career Initiative

Cathy McGinnis (Coordinator of the Experiential Learning and Career Initiative) is here to help you and your students. Our goal is to assist students in enhancing the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom and effectively communicating them to others. By taking advantage of internship or externship programs, joining a student club, volunteering, performing creative work, doing research, studying abroad, participating in service learning or connecting with alumni students will build a lifelong network of valuable experiences and contacts. With the help of our extensive resources students can;

- Explore career options
- Connect with employers
- Build a strong resume
- Translate skills to parallel what employers seek
- Master interview skills
- Navigate the job/internship search
- Gain research skills
- Obtain feedback on graduate or professional school personal statements and resumes
- Tap into additional resources

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 865-7522 or cmm54@psu.edu with any questions. I am happy to meet with students individually or present to your class or group. I look forward to working with you!

National Survey for Student Engagement (NSSE) Participation of First-Year and Seniors Requested

Reminder to faculty: Please encourage first-year and senior students to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). NSSE results provide the College of Agricultural Sciences with data about how our undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college. This information is a key part of our strategic planning and educational assessment efforts, and NSSE findings receive national attention. But the accuracy of that information is directly tied to the number of students who participate.

As of February 21, 2011, our college is leading the university in NSSE participation, with an overall participation rate of 30% (compared with 25% university-wide), but, frankly, we anticipate an even greater participation from our Ag Sciences students! If you haven't already done so, please take a few moments to mention NSSE to your First-Year and Senior students and encourage them to participate. First-year and senior students can find their NSSE invitations in their Penn State email accounts or they may go directly to <https://www.nssesurvey.org/login.cfm> to complete the survey.



Announcement from Faculty Senate & University Registrar

Complete the Online FERPA Tutorial and Quiz

The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 governs how educational institutions control and safeguard their student education records. All employees of educational institutions who have access to student records must abide by FERPA requirements. As a Penn State faculty member who interacts with students and has access to student records as part of your teaching and advising responsibilities, it is vital that you understand your obligations with respect to FERPA. In order to assist you, the Office of the University Registrar has developed an on-line FERPA tutorial and quiz available in ANGEL.

The University Faculty Senate is working with the Registrar's Office and the Privacy Office to deliver the message and to urge all faculty members to complete the FERPA tutorial and quiz. Failure to complete this legal requirement may jeopardize the ability of a faculty member to access student records that may be needed to conduct a course or provide academic advising.

At your earliest convenience, please visit ANGEL to view the tutorial:

1. Go to <http://cms.psu.edu>
2. Press the "Logon" button and log in with your Penn State access account
3. Under My Groups, click on "Find a group"
4. In the Keyword Search box, enter "ferpa" and click on the Search button
5. Click on the "FERPA – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act" link (instructor is Ross Brode)
6. Click on each module, read the material, and when finished, take the quiz

Depending on your prior knowledge of FERPA, the tutorial and quiz should take no more than 45 minutes to complete. A grade of 70% or higher on the quiz is considered acceptable. You may take the quiz as many times as necessary to achieve a satisfactory grade.

Thank you for helping to ensure that Penn State adequately protects the confidentiality of our student records. If you have any questions, or believe that you have already taken the FERPA quiz and passed it and therefore received this message in error, please contact Ross Brode in the Registrar's Office at rbb2@psu.edu or 814 865-6572.

Karen Schultz
University Registrar

Sarah Morrow
Privacy Officer

Jean Landa Pytel
Chair, University Faculty Senate

Summer 2011 Undergraduate Research Proposals



Research is a valuable learning experience for students. If you are involved with research and willing to create an opportunity for an undergraduate student to assist you, please contact Cathy McGinnis (cmm54@psu.edu). Funding

for approved Undergraduate Research projects are at a maximum of \$1275 (2:1 match between University/College and

the academic unit of the faculty adviser). Information for the College Undergraduate Research program is available on the Current Student Web site <http://students.cas.psu.edu/UndergradResearch.htm>

The deadline for research proposals for Summer 2011 is Thursday, March 31

Spring 2011 Commencement

Please Mark Your Calendars!

The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2011 Commencement exercises will be held at Eisenhower Auditorium on **Saturday, May 14th at 9:00 AM.** Watch for more details!



Ag Leap Update

Registration for LEAP opened on Tuesday, February 22. There were a few glitches in the system, but those have been corrected. Our numbers continue to increase. When students register for LEAP, they use the schedule number for the LEAP pride and do not have to register for the individual courses.



At this time we are still searching for AG LEAP **mentors**. Please have anyone expressing interest contact me.

A doodle poll has been set up at <http://doodle.com/4knatbib92u8p9qz> for programs to indicate their preferences for dates/times for **program activities**. Also indicate the contact person. Program activities will be held on Friday mornings again, during second summer session. Talk to your colleagues and determine the best way to introduce the students to what you represent in your program. Hands-on activities and tours of research sites have been good experiences for the students in the past. Please indicate your program's preference by **May 1**.

I also visited with Ag Student Council to get the ball rolling for the club and organizations **networking cookouts** they will host for AG LEAP. If you serve as an advisor for a club, please encourage them to participate and to team up with organizations that are different than themselves to provide greater diversity for each event. They are also responding to a separate doodle poll at <http://doodle.com/gsys4ri33qh73iv8>.

– 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.



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.

Ag Sciences / Media Commons Brown Bag Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16th 11:30 AM in 118 ASI

Join us for ... The Media Commons and the College of Agricultural Sciences are hosting a Brown Bag luncheon on Wednesday March 16th at 11:30am in 118 ASI.

Lunch will be provided and followed by an open forum for an exchange of ideas and an opportunity for faculty and Media Commons staff to discuss digital media technologies and their impact on teaching and learning. Several of our Ag Sciences faculty and staff will share how they are using the Media Common's services. Join us to hear their ideas and brainstorm some of your own ideas. Have we piqued your interest? Do you want to learn more? Check out this

magazine article: <http://agsci.psu.edu/thinkagain/blog/2010/tell-your-stories-with-the-help-of-the-media-commons>



If you are planning on attending the luncheon please let us know so that we may order enough food for everyone. Looking forward to seeing you on March 16th! If you have questions or want to talk about this, contact Peg Shuffstall (pshuffy@psu.edu) or Jon Cofer (jcc17@psu.edu).

Office for Undergraduate Education Campus Visits



Once again the Office for Undergraduate Education will hit the road and visit several Commonwealth campuses this spring. Department participation is welcome! If you or a colleague would like to jump on the van, please email Debbie Little, dxm16@psu.edu, ASAP.

March 24	Penn State Altoona
March 30	Penn State Beaver
April 7 & 8	Penn State Brandywine and Abingdon
April 12	Penn State Altoona—Ag Awareness Day

Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

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

- ◆ Tuesday, **March 22**, Room 504 ASI
- ◆ Monday, **April 18**, Room 118 ASI
- ◆ Monday, **May 16**, Room 118 ASI

Please mark your calendars and note the room locations.

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)

NACTA 2011 Call for Abstracts—Deadline March 20



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).

The theme for the 2011 NACTA Conference is **“Get Engaged”**. Accepted abstracts that address the theme will be given first priority for oral presentations. Approximately 90 oral presentations and 84 poster presentations will be schedule throughout the conference. Authors will be given the option to request an oral

presentation, but it will be up to the host committee to make the final selection & timetabling of oral presentations. All other abstracts will be poster presentations. The 2011 NACTA Conference will serve as a venue for faculty in agricultural, environmental, natural, and life sciences to share their information on the theme of **“Get Engaged”** as well as to share innovative teaching or advising ideas, scholarship of teaching, and other pertinent information. Abstracts are to fall within one of the four following topic areas:

1. *Engaging through Experiential Learning*
2. *Engaging through Teaching*

3. *Engaging Faculty and Students in Assessment and Performance Matters*
4. *Engaging in Ethical Issues*

All abstracts must be submitted at this website: <http://nactaabs.expressacademic.org/login.php>

If you have any questions contact the NACTA Journal Editor, Rick Parker, at NACTAeditor@pmt.org.

Deadline: March 20, 2011. The author submitting the abstract will be notified of its status three weeks after the deadline. The NACTA website address is: www.ales.ualberta.ca/nacta2011

Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee Schedule

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

Tuesday
Tuesday

April 5
May 3



PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY



Office for Undergraduate Education

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University Park, PA 16802-2602
Phone: 814-865-7521
Fax: 814-863-7277
<http://agsci.psu.edu>



ThinkAgain

Spring 2011 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

March 6-12	Spring Break—No Classes
April 8	Late Drop Deadline
April 29	Withdrawal Deadline
April 29	Classes End
May 2-6	Final Exams
May 13-15	Commencement