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2009 University Undergraduate Research Expo

Abstract Due Date:
March 6, 2009.



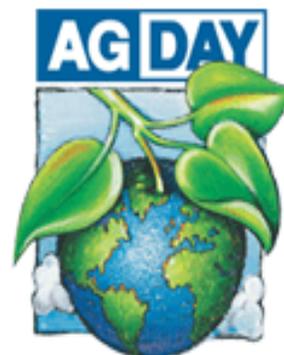
The Office of Undergraduate Education is pleased to announce the following undergraduate research opportunities open to students at all Penn State campuses. Poster and performance entries are invited for the **2009 Undergraduate Exhibition**, to be held Wednesday, April 8th, at the University Park Campus. Abstracts will be accepted beginning January 12th

and must be submitted by Friday, March 6th. Entry guidelines and forms are available at: www.undergradresearch.psu.edu Please share these opportunities with faculty and students in your college. Questions may be directed to Mary Beth Crowe, Assistant Vice President and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education, at mbc5@psu.edu or 814-863-1864.

National Ag Week—March 15-21, 2009

National Ag Week - March 15-21, 2009, and National Ag Day is March 20 this year. National Agriculture Day occurs every year on the first day of Spring to honor agriculture for providing safe, abundant and affordable products, a strong economy, a source of renewable energy, and a world of job opportunities.

This event is organized by the Agriculture Council of America. ACA is a nonprofit organization composed of leaders in the agricultural, food and fiber community, dedicating its efforts to increasing the public's awareness of agriculture's role in modern society. More on National Ag Week 2009 can be found at their website at <http://www.agday.org>.



Gamma Sigma Delta / College of Ag Sciences Research Expo

The Gamma Sigma Delta/CoAS Research Expo will be **March 18-19, 2009**, in the lobby of the Forest Resources Bldg.

This annual expo provides both graduate and undergraduates with the opportunity to share their research with a larger audience -- those not in the same areas of professional interest. The Expo's purpose is to communicate the value of science to a general audience in terms that the public can

understand, and to those in other areas of professional interest.

Undergraduate and graduate students advised by a faculty member in the CoAS are eligible to participate. About \$2,500 in prize monies is awarded annually. Abstracts were to be submitted on-line by February 27, 2008. Information, submission forms and poster guidelines are available at: <http://gsd.cas.psu.edu/ExpoGuidelines.html>.



Above: A student explains her research poster at the 2008 GSD/CAS Research Expo.

If you need more information you can contact Lynne Brown (f9a@psu.edu).

Advising Workshops Reminder

Don't forget to sign up for Advising 101, 201 and 301 workshops offered this spring (dates, times and location announced in January newsletter). E-mail Terry Musser at txm4@psu.edu for more information or to sign up.

Recording Advising Notes. . . . It's easy!

1. Log on to eLion (<https://elion.psu.edu/>) as an "Adviser" and go to Advising Notes under the letter "A".
2. Select the student from your roster or type in a student number for another student you advised and click the "Retrieve student data" button at the bottom.
3. Click on the "Go to Adviser Comments" button toward the bottom.

You can read any notes that are already recorded for this student AND you can enter new notes in the empty comment box. You can even change the date in the date box if you met with the student on a previous day. After entering your brief notes, click on the "Add adviser comments" button under the comment box.

"Why record notes," you might ask? "I don't have time!" Everyone should be keeping notes on what is discussed with students. It helps you stay on top of the student's progress and be prepared for each meeting with the student. Notes can help other advisers who meet with your students understand where the student is coming from. Electronic notes can also be used to show that you have worked with a student to develop an appropriate educational plan OR that the student has not seen you and has self-advised. It doesn't take long to enter the notes and the time spent can save time in the future when preparing to meet with a student.

New Judicial Affairs Procedure for Students Transferring Elsewhere

If a student is transferring to another institution and needs a form signed stating that he/she is in good standing with Judicial Affairs, there is a new procedure in place for obtaining this information.

If the student has a form from the other institution with a signature line on the form, have the student sign that form and fax it to Judy Westley in Judicial Affairs (3-2463). A \$10.00 fee will be assessed to the student account for this process.

If the student does not have a form from the other institution with a signature line, the student must go to the Office for Judicial Affairs in 135 Boucke and complete a waiver form there to have their record released to a third party. A \$10.00 fee will be assessed to the student account for this process.

Ag Day: Harvest to Household—April 22nd

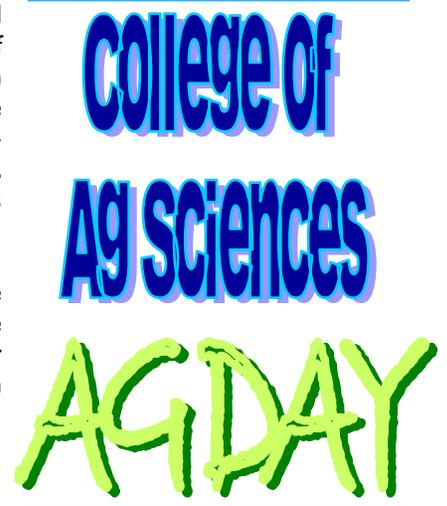
Join us on the HUB lawn on Wednesday, April 22nd from 11 AM to 4 PM for the College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day: Harvest to Household. Help us celebrate the goals and accomplishments of the College, its students and the agricultural field as we follow the production of Creamery ice cream and the many fields that play a role in its making. The event is a joint effort between the Ag Advocate organization and Ag Student Council.

Ag Day 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 related areas of interest. Each area will then present a display on their role and contribution in the production of ice cream. In addition, student clubs will be present, as well as other fun activity areas.

For more information, please contact co-chairs Christine Olarte (cmo5016@psu.edu) or Hilary Peterson (hap5007@psu.edu).

Rain date: Wednesday, April 29th



Nominations Sought for USDA Teaching Awards Program

2009 USDA National Awards Program for Excellence in University Teaching in the Food & Agricultural Sciences New Teachers, Regional, and National Teachers Awards Nominations Sought

It is time to consider applying and nominating outstanding faculty for the “2009 USDA National Awards Program for Excellence in University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences.” These national and regional awards are considered by many as THE highest and most widely recognized and prestigious award available recognizing excellence in teaching. Over the years, we have had a few Ag Sciences folks receive this award (Lowell Satterlee, '92, Jill Findeis, '93, and Paul Heinemann, '04).

Even though the review, selection and final submission of our institution's nomination goes through our college's Faculty Award Committee (Kelli Hoover, Chair) and the Dean's Office, the nomination process starts at the programmatic and unit levels. The college's nominations must be submitted to USDA/CSREES no later than **March 16, 2009**. I hope we will have the opportunity to consider some worthy Penn State Ag Sciences' candidates for these prestigious USDA National and Regional Teaching Awards.

As stated in their recent e-mail... “This awards program honors innovation and excellence in teaching. Recipients receive a stipend, plaque, and national recognition during the national NASULGC convention. Please be reminded this awards program is open to faculty in all the food and agricultural sciences disciplines.

- Teacher nominees must be employed by a college or university that: (1) confers a baccalaureate or higher degree in at least one area of the food and agricultural sciences for which the teacher is nominated, (2) has demonstrated a commitment to the food and agricultural sciences, and (3) attributes a high priority to its education mission.
- A teacher nominee must hold a full-time appointment as an active faculty member as of the nominee submission due date, and have responsibility for teaching in an area of the food and agricultural sciences. Award categories are available for 'new teachers' (those with less than 5 years teaching experience) as well as for regional and national recipients who have taught at least 5 years.

For complete award program description, nomination guidelines, and nomination forms visit: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/other_links/serdteachaward.html

More information, including college target deadlines, will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office (J. Marcos Fernandez, jmf28@psu.edu; 865-7521). Please let us know (e-mail: J. Marcos Fernandez) if you're considering to nominate someone from your academic program or unit so that we can plan accordingly.

EPA Summer Opportunities for Students

The EPA Summer Opportunities Website is now up and running! The EPA Jobs Website is located at: <http://www.epa.gov/careers>, and the direct link to the Summer Student Employment Opportunities Website is <http://www.epa.gov/ohr/student>. The EPA Summer Opportunities for Students Website is a hiring tool that will be useful for students looking for summer work and for EPA offices that have summer vacancies to fill. Having a central portal makes it easier for students to find information about specific areas in which they would like to work. Students also will be able to submit a job application directly to the EPA location that has a vacancy. For most offices, students may submit resumes up until May 29, 2009.

The EPA Environmental Careers Program (ECP) ECP, previously named the EPA Intern Program, is a comprehensive, entry-level, professional, full-time, career development program. It involves an intensive two-year assignment to help college and grad school graduates jumpstart their careers and develop their potential for future advancement within the Agency. The ECP seeks graduates with a bachelor's or higher level degree in a variety of academic disciplines, including physical and life sciences, business, finance, computer sciences, policy and public administration.

Spring 2009 PC Meeting Schedule

The Spring 2009 Program Coordinator Meetings have been scheduled on the following days from Noon-1:30 PM. Please note, Dr. Andrew McNitt will take over for Dr. Al Turgeon as the Program Coordinator for the Turfgrass Science Major starting Spring Semester 2009.

- **Monday, March 30 – Room 118 ASI**
- **Tuesday, April 21 – Room 118 ASI**
- **Monday, May 18 – Room 118 ASI**



Harbaugh Faculty Scholars Program for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Call for Proposals due: April 15, 2009

The purpose of the endowed *Harbaugh Faculty Scholars Program Award for Excellence in Teaching & Learning* is to inspire innovative teaching and learning in the College of Agricultural Sciences at the Pennsylvania State University. By providing awards to full-time tenured and tenure track faculty interested in developing new, innovative, non-traditional curriculum, the program aims to enhance student learning and academic performance within the college. Recipients of this award will be known as "*Harbaugh Faculty Scholar*." Awards are for one academic year, and for the 2009-10 academic year, approximately \$5,000.00 is available for funding, with minimum awards to be \$2,500.00.

According to the guidelines, proposals are to be submitted, reviewed and awarded during the Spring semester in order to allow faculty the use of the

funds in the development of their curriculum during the summer and introduction in the subsequent Fall/Spring semester. Award recipients will be selected based on proposals submitted to a review committee consisting of a representative from the Dean's office, two faculty, one student, and a previous Harbaugh Faculty Scholar.

Successful proposals shall include:

- (1) New and innovative approaches to teaching that enhance an existing curriculum or develop a new curriculum;
- (2) Costs associated with the proposed method of teaching;
- (3) Current and future quantity (number) of students impacted by the proposed method of teaching;
- (4) Possible collaborative initiatives with other courses, majors or academic units;

- (5) Methods of evaluation and assessment of proposed teaching method, and mechanism for documenting the results;
- (6) Potential for additional or subsequent funding if proposed teaching method proves successful.

Proposals need to be addressed and submitted by **5:00 PM Wednesday, April 15, 2009**, to: J. Marcos Fernandez, College of Agricultural Sciences, Office for Undergraduate Education, 101 Ag Administration Building, Penn State University (E-mail: jmf28@psu.edu; Ph: 814-865-7521; Fax: 814-863-7277). The Committee's review and selection of submitted proposals will be targeted to allow for award notices by early May 2009.

Symposium on Teaching & Learning with Technology—April 18, 2009

The 2009 Penn State Symposium for Teaching and Learning with Technology

Theme: "Student Engagement and the Culture of Teaching and Learning"

April 18, 2009, the Penn Stater Conference Center

Faculty are invited to learn and share innovative uses of technology to enhance teaching, learning, and research at the 2009 Penn State Symposium for Teaching and Learning with Technology, to be held April 18, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, University Park. During the free event, faculty will present innovative uses of technology in courses to promote learning and help keep students engaged. This year's theme is "*Student Engagement and the Culture of Teaching and Learning*."

David Wiley will provide the keynote address. Wiley is an internationally recognized expert in the area of reusable

educational resources and has authored dozens of books, peer-reviewed journal articles, and magazine columns dealing with educationally effective uses of technology. Wiley believes that higher education needs to align itself with the changes in both society and its student base by innovating in the areas of openness, connectedness, participation, and personalization. Toward that goal, Wiley has been at the forefront of the Open Education Movement, championing for educational materials and resources to be offered freely and openly for anyone to use and under some licenses, such as a Creative Commons license, to remix, improve, and redistribute. He is the founder of OpenContent.org, which released the first open license for course content in 1998. He is also the recipient of the National Science Foundation's prestigious Young Researcher/CAREER award. Media outlets such as the New York Times, The Economist, the London Financial Times, and the Chronicle of Higher Education have covered his work.

Danah Boyd will speak during lunch. In January, Boyd joined Microsoft Research New England, a Boston research lab that seeks to advance knowledge that will benefit the future of computing. Boyd is a fellow at the Harvard University Berkman Center for Internet and Society. At the Berkman Center, she is co-directing the Internet Safety Technical Task Force to work with companies and nonprofits to identify potential technical solutions for keeping children safe online. Her research focuses on how American youth use networked public spaces, including MySpace and Facebook, for social purposes.

The day will also feature demonstrations of social networking Web sites and how to produce podcasts and vodcasts. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information and to register, visit <http://symposium.tlt.psu.edu/>. The symposium is sponsored by Information Technology Services.

Summer 2009 Case Studies in Science Workshop

May 18-22, 2009

University of Buffalo, SUNY

Presented by the National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science

- Workshop Dates:
May 18-22, 2009
- Workshop Location:
University at Buffalo, State University of New York
- Registration Fee:
\$700
- Registration Process:
Registration will open at 9 a.m. on February 9, 2009, on our website (see URL below) and will remain open until the workshop is filled (limit 35 people). We encourage you to submit your registration as early as possible starting February 9, 2009.



Our five-day workshop focuses on training science faculty 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.

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

COST: \$700, which includes all workshop sessions, materials and meals (beginning with breakfast Monday through lunch Friday). Participants must arrange and pay for their own travel and lodging. We have arranged for reduced price lodging at the University campus dormitories for all attendees as well as at a conveniently located hotel (Ramada Hotel & Conference Center).



Detailed information about the workshop, including online registration and housing options, will be available at:

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

WORKSHOP DIRECTOR: Workshop Director Clyde F. (Kipp) Herreid is a Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Biological Sciences Department 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.

QUESTIONS? Please contact our workshop coordinator, Carolyn Wright, at nccsts@buffalo.edu or at 716-645-2363 x111.

NACTA Conference, June 17-20, 2009, Oklahoma State University

Make plans now to attend the **NACTA Annual Conference, June 17-20, 2009**, hosted by **Oklahoma State University**, in Stillwater (<http://nactateachers2009.okstate.edu/>). The acronym NACTA stands for "North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture" (for more information on this organization, go to <http://www.nactateachers.org/>). The theme for this year's conference is "**Making Assessment Work For You,**" but as with all NACTA Conferences, expect three days of educational-focused presentations (oral & posters) and discussions.

Topics will cover the myriad of topics related to effective teaching and advising of students, development of academic programs, etc.

Abstracts for the NACTA Conference are due **March 20th** (check website for details). Once again this year, the Office for Undergraduate Education plans to provide partial travel support (up to \$500 per faculty) for a select number of Ag Sciences faculty from Penn State Ag Sciences submitting abstracts for an oral or poster presentation at the conference. Please let J. Marcos Fernandez

(jmf28@psu.edu) know if you plan to submit an abstract and are seeking travel support from the Undergraduate Ed Office.

By the way, Penn State and Happy Valley will host for the 2010 NACTA Conference!





Backpack to Briefcase



Introducing a new section to Undergrad Ed Updates! Look here for related information about career, internship, and professional development opportunities that may benefit your student programs. If you have ideas or suggestions for programs associated with the Career and Internship Initiative, please contact Debbie McAllister at djm415@psu.edu or 865-7522.

2009 AG CAREER DAY—MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The College of Agricultural Sciences will hold its annual career day on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Bryce Jordan Center. Look for more information coming soon!

University Career Services Education Career Day
 Monday, March 30, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON
 Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel—University Park Campus

Zoo Opportunities

Have students interested in gaining experience in a zoo setting? Look below for opportunities and websites to find out more.

Zoo Internships & Positions	Website
Internships at the National Zoo Smithsonian National Zoological Park <i>Summer Application deadline: March 31, 2009</i>	http://nationalzoo.si.edu/UndergradInternships/
Residential Camp Counselor Smithsonian National Zoological Park <i>Summer Application deadline: March 31, 2009</i>	http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Audiences/JobSeekers/FONZjobs/CounselorNatureCamp.cfm
Job Postings at the Association of Zoos & Aquariums	http://www.aza.org/JobListings/
Philadelphia Zoo Internships	http://www2.philadelphiapark.org/getdoc/16b68a6d-0aef-4728-bb39-82d9d82221df/Interns.htm
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium Internships	http://www.pittsburghzoo.com/zoo.asp?ContentID=63
Elmwood Park Zoo Internships	http://www.elmwoodparkzoo.org/support/getInvolved/volunteer.html http://www.elmwoodparkzoo.org/pdfs/volunteer.pdf
Erie Zoo Internships	http://www.eriezoo.org/help_your_zoo.html http://www.eriezoo.org/assets/pdfs/Volunteer%20Application.pdf
Lehigh Valley Zoo Internships <i>Summer Application deadline: March 15, 2009</i>	http://www.lvzoo.org/Education/internship.html http://www.lvzoo.org/Forms/internship%20app.pdf

“Enhancing Student Success” - A Quality Advocates Presentation

The next Quality Advocates is “**Enhancing Student Success**” on **Monday, April 6, 2009, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., in 508 Rider**. The panelists are: Yvonne Gaudelius, Assistant Vice President and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Chair, University Strategic Planning Council Task Force on Ensuring Student Success; W. Terrell Jones, Vice Provost for Edu-

catinal Equity; and Damon Sims, Vice President for Student Affairs.

Enhancing student success is at the core of the University’s mission and is a goal in the upcoming university strategic plan. Strategies for enhancing student success can include strengthening advising, expanding assessment of teaching and learning, and im-

proving key student transitions. Panelists will define student success, identify challenges and opportunities, and discuss processes, programs, and services that will help students succeed.

For more information about upcoming Quality Advocates, visit <http://www.psu.edu/president/pia/advocates/index.htm>.

College-Supported Computer Lab, ASI 109, to Close at End of Fall 2009 Semester



Following the review and consideration of extensive usage data and user feedback received through the survey, the difficult conclusion was made to shut down the ASI 109 Computer Lab, effective the end of the Fall 2009 semester. Thanks to everyone who provided input regarding the current and future status of the ASI 109 Computer Lab. Please know and rest assured that all of your comments and suggestions were very valuable in helping us make critical decisions about the lab and future uses of that space.

The timing of this effort had less to do with the current budgetary constraints our college and university finds itself in, but rather more to do with the fact that this was the last year of a four-year funding cycle and commitment made toward

staffing and computers purchased during the summer 2005. If the college was going to continue operating ASI 109 as a college-supported Computer Lab, it would have to recommit and invest for another four years (at a current cost of approximately \$25,000 annually). We realize that this may result in an inconvenience to some accustomed to using this facility and services, but overall, this decision will allow the college to make more effective use of all of its resources, including budgetary, personnel, and classroom space. By keeping the ASI 109 Computer Lab open and functional through the end of the Fall 2009 semester, it should give faculty time to make any necessary changes and look into scheduling their classes through university-supported computer labs for Spring 2010 classes and activities.

The future reconfiguration and use of ASI 109 (and the adjoining room, ASI 110) are currently being studied and discussed with various university and college colleagues. In the meantime, scheduling for university computer labs is managed through the Registrar's office via your departmental academic staff assistant. University labs may be scheduled for short-term (one day to several

weeks) or long-term (a full semester) periods. Information about the university technology classrooms may be found at <http://clc.its.psu.edu/Classrooms/>. Be sure to review information on the type of classroom as not all technology classrooms include computers for class students.

For faculty wishing to use their software in the university labs, submit the following information to winlabs@staff.win.psu.edu:

- Name
- Instructor's User ID,
- Software title
- Version number
- Was this version previously installed in an ITS lab?
- Course ID
- Date required for instructional use
- Total number of students
- Any special instructions

ITS will follow up on the request to get the licensing information and a copy of the software so they can begin working on a package for you to test.

Questions regarding ASI 109 scheduling through Fall 2009 may still be directed to AgIT at 814-863-4678.

Fourth Annual Promotion & Tenure Symposium

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. at the Hintz Family Alumni Center.

You are invited to attend the Commission on Racial/Ethnic Diversity's fourth annual Promotion and Tenure Symposium, "**What's Diversity Got To Do With It?**" This event is being co-sponsored by the Commission for Women and the Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Equity.

Panelists include:

- Dr. Blannie Bowen, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Dr. James Stewart, Senior Faculty Mentor; Professor of Labor Studies and Employment Relations, African and African American Studies, and Management and Organization
- Dr. Grace Hampton, Department Head, African and African American Studies; Professor of Art, Art Education, and Integrative Arts.

Topics include:

- 2nd Year Review
- 4th Year Review
- 6th Year Review
- Associate to Full
- Post-Tenure Review
- Career Advancement

Contact Kathy Putt at 863-7696 or kmr3@psu.edu to register. Additional registration details will follow.

Spring 2009 Commencement Mark your calendars!

Mark your calendars! The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2009 Commencement exercises will be held at Eisenhower Auditorium on Saturday, May 16th at 9 AM. Watch for more details about Commencement and brunch in future UEU editions!



Curricular Affairs Committee—

College of Agricultural Sciences Curricular Calendar 2008-2009

Proposals Due in CSCS System*	College Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Dates and Location	Proposals due to Faculty Senate	Curriculum Report Publication Date (on Blue Sheets for 30 days)	Senate Committee Curricular Affairs (SCCA) all day meeting
Friday, April 10, 2009	Thurs. April 30, 2009 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. 105 Forest Resources Bldg.	May 22, 2009	For the June 16, 2009 Issue	August 2009?

* Note: Paper copies of **Course Proposals** no longer need submitted – just entered in CSCS. For **Major/Minor Proposals** - only one paper copy needs submitted along with an electronic copy emailed to K. Pletcher (kjs8@psu.edu) in 101 Ag Admin. For complete information on the College’s Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee and procedure for submitting proposals in CSCS, see the Faculty and Staff Resources site (on the College Home Page) under Teaching and Learning and click on the Instruction and Curricular Affairs link: <http://cas.psu.edu/FacultyStaff/ICAC.htm>

Fourth Annual CAS Ag Ball

The Fourth Annual College of Agricultural Sciences Ag Ball will be held on Friday, April 3, 2009 at The Elks Club in State College. Arrival and seating will be at 6 pm with the program beginning around 6:45 pm. A buffet dinner will be served at 7 pm. Seating is limited and not reserved. This event is for students and club advisors in the Agricultural Sciences; limited tickets for faculty and staff may be available - see an Ag Student Council Rep. The schedule for the evening consists of dinner, announcing the

award winners within the College of Agricultural Sciences, and dancing. Because this event is being sponsored by the College of Agricultural Sciences; alcoholic beverages will not be served and are not permitted on the premises at any time. The evening should be enjoyable for guests of all ages within the college. Ticket information or questions should be directed to an Ag Student Council Representative or e-mailed to Tiffany Morgan, tdm5015@psu.edu.



PENNSSTATE



Office for Undergraduate Education

College of Agricultural Sciences
The Pennsylvania State University
101 Agricultural Administration Building
Phone: 814-865-7521
Fax: 814-863-7277

ThinkAgain

SPRING 2009 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

- February 16 - March 8 Final Exam Conflict Filing Period
- March 9 - 13 Spring Break—NO CLASSES!
- April 10 Late Drop Deadline
- May 1 Withdrawal
- May 1 Classes End
- May 2-3 Study Days
- May 4-8 Final Exams
- May 16 Commencement