



Undergrad Ed Updates

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OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Advising Corner 2
- Teaching Awards 2
- Experiential Learning & Career Initiative 3
- ENGR 310 Course 3
- Ag LEAP Update 4
- Curricular Affairs Committee Calen- 4
- College Curricular Corner 5
- Provost's Charge for a University Sustainability Council 6
- Schreyer Honors College Distinguished Honors Faculty Program 7
- UG Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule 7
- 2011 NACTA Conference 8

Faculty Roundtable to Incorporate Sustainability

The Center for Sustainability will be hosting a faculty roundtable on ways to incorporate sustainability into first-year seminars throughout the curriculum.

When: May 5, 2011
Where: 309 Sackett Building
Time: 1:00 to 3:00 PM

This workshop is the second in a series of faculty development workshops hosted by the Center for Sustainability to support faculty in building partnerships around sustainability, getting access to sustainability-related resources and exploring new and innovative ways of integrating sustainability into their courses. Please join fellow faculty from across the university in this discussion aimed at introducing strategies for including sustainability discussions in any first-year seminar curriculum.

Participants can expect discussions of:

- Characteristics of first-year students
- The importance of connecting these students with their new environment

- Using sustainability as a lens for examining multiple environmental, social, and economic problems
- Developing critical thinking through assignments on sustainability topics
- Incorporating immersive sustainability experiences into first-year seminar

As first-year-seminar faculty, we have the opportunity to introduce our scholars to the ubiquitousness of sustainability issues. While we always want to encourage critical questioning, this particular issue involves a long-term view of their lives (of all lives!) and provides an opportunity for us to help them develop tools to address the challenges of sustainability and contribute positively to the health of the planet.

For more information regarding this event, please contact Dr. Susannah Barsom at the Center for Sustainability (shb2@psu.edu)

To register: <http://tinyurl.com/66wcmvl>

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 administra-

tors, 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.

To register, please visit agsci.psu.edu/alumni and click on **2011 Spring Graduation Brunch**.



Summer Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Office for Undergraduate Education is once again offering a series of informal brown bag luncheon discussions this summer focusing on topics suggested by faculty and staff. Everyone interested is invited to gather at the Creamery (outside facing Ag. Admin.) for a fun and interesting discussion

Date	Topic	Guest Speaker
TBD	Preparing students for law school	Edward Wangler, Pre-Law Adviser
June 16	New student aid rules	Bonnie Benjamin, Office of Student Aid
July 1	Helping students prepare for advising appointments	TBD
July 15	Building a career/internship database for your department	Cathy McGinnis, Coordinator of Experiential Learning & Career Initiative
July 26	Advising students in academic distress	Terry Musser, discussion facilitator

Celebration of Excellence and Achievement

Please join us for the College of Agricultural Sciences *Celebration of Excellence and Achievement Reception* on **Thursday, May 5, 2011, 3:00 PM** in the Boardroom at the Nittany Lion Inn (lower level).

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.schreyerinstitution.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.





Backpack to Briefcase



Experiential Learning and Career Initiative

Coming Soon!

AgSci Career Network – a career management system for students.

Students will be able to post resumes, find opportunities and search for career information all in one place. More details to follow.

Save the Date!

Ag Career Day – Tuesday, October 18, 2011

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at the Bryce Jordan Center



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

New Introductory Course in Engineering Entrepreneurship Minor

Attention CAS Students! Thinking about starting you own business?

Organic Produce, Wineries, Gourmet Dairy Products, Veterinary Services, Microbreweries, Ecotourism, Tree Nurseries, Plant Genetics, Landscape Design, etc. ENDLESS BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES!

If so, consider taking:

Entrepreneurial Leadership

ENGR-310 Section 3, Course #632428

Fall 2011—Tuesday Nights, 6-9:00 PM, 104 Forest Resources Building

ENGR 310 will provide the basic knowledge to get you on the path to success.

This is the introductory course in the Engineering Entrepreneurship Minor. Students enrolled in this class will meet the first of four core course requirements in the minor.

Don't let the ENGR designation mislead you, this course and the e-ship minor are multidisciplinary and have been completed by many students outside of engineering.

Two other sections of ENGR 310 are also available
For more information, contact either:

Dr. Mark Gagnon (mag199@psu.edu)

Phil Boyer (Pboyer@enr.psu.edu)

Ag LEAP Update



There are still open dates for program activities to promote on-going 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.

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.

I'm also still looking for current students who will be on campus this summer to serve as service learning facilitators for small groups of LEAP students. If you know someone who will be around and do a good job, please have them contact me. Also, if let me know if you are aware of a service learning project in the community that fits well with your academic program.

I have added a schedule to the AG LEAP website – <http://agleap.psu.edu> – to indicate activities occurring outside the classroom this summer. I will be sending an invitation out for your participation in many of these activities once the schedule is complete.

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

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 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.

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 on Page 4. 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 April 21, 2011, College Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee (ICAC) Meeting. See your ICAC unit representative for more information. The next ICAC meeting will be held in **July 2011**.

Course or Program	Course #	Type of Action	Type of review	Action Taken
FORT	100	Change	New	Approved
AEE	100	Change	New	Approved
AEE	Major	Change	New	Approved
ENT	318	Add	New	Revisions needed
FOR	339	Change	New	Approved with minor revisions
CEDEV	430	Change	New	Approved with minor revisions
ENT	445	Add	New	Revisions needed
VB SC	451	Change	New	Approved with minor revisions
CEDEV	560	Add	New	Approved with minor revisions





Provost's Charge for a University Sustainability Council

In May 2009, Penn State's Board of Trustees adopted *Priorities for Excellence—The Penn State Strategic Plan* as its framework of goals and strategies for the 2009–10 through 2013–14 period. The plan outlines seven critical goals and strategies “to improve teaching and learning, advance discovery and creativity, and serve our many constituents—while becoming a more efficient and effective institution.” The University's leaders stated that one key to Penn State's continuing success will be “creating a sustainable university, not just in conventional environmental terms, but in a wide array of resource dimensions, including fiscal sustainability.”

To help create that sustainable university, we are charging a University Sustainability Council to draft a *Strategic Plan for Sustainability at Penn State: 2011–12 through 2015–16* that will identify broad goals and opportunities to leverage and link the many sustainability initiatives already occurring across the University and to recommend new thrusts. The Council, which will be co-chaired by Steve Maruszewski and Denice Wardrop, will be comprised of faculty, administrators, and staff from across Penn State to provide leadership and guidance to operational initiatives, academic programs, and administrative services associated with sustainability.

The *Strategic Plan for Sustainability* will build upon the imperatives identified in *Priorities for Excellence—The Penn State Strategic Plan*:

“[I]ncreasing pressures on global resources and environmental conditions make it imperative that Penn State embrace sustainability in its many dimensions in ways that would position the University as a leader nationally and internationally. . . . The University can demonstrate its leadership in terms of the incorporation of sustainability in its educational programs. . . . Numerous academic colleges at Penn State have identified sustainability as a strategic focus area in their newly developed strategic plans, encompassing agriculture, business, earth sciences, engineering, and the natural sciences. We must find the resources to support existing strengths and integrate these grassroots efforts toward the applications of existing knowledge and the search for new information.”

The *Strategic Plan for Sustainability* will provide the roadmap for ensuring that the *Priorities for Excellence* goal of increasing the number of academic offerings that incorporate sustainability into the curriculum is met and that “sustainability is researched, taught, promoted, and practiced.” It will follow the University's strategic planning framework, and specific strategies and metrics will be developed concurrently at the college, campus, and unit levels. The University Sustainability Council will draft the plan, present it to the wider University community for review/feedback, coordinate its dissemination, and monitor its implementation and progress annually.

The Council will be assisted by the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment and by key individuals elsewhere in the institution who are most familiar with University financial resources, academic offerings, student affairs, and outreach. We would like the Council to develop a draft plan by the end of the 2011 calendar year.

To learn more about the process and/or participate in the dialogue, join the team by e-mailing sustainability-plan-subscribe-request@lists.psu.edu.

Schreyer Honors College Distinguished Honors Faculty Program

Application Deadline is May 13, 2011

The Schreyer Honors College invites applications from interested faculty members to be a part of the newly created Distinguished Honors Faculty Program (DHF).

The creation of the Distinguished Honors Faculty program closely aligns with the college's mission to provide our students with a dynamic environment in which they will achieve academic excellence with integrity, build a global perspective, and embrace opportunities for leadership and civic engagement. Our goal is to graduate Schreyer Scholars who will have an important and ethical influence in the world, affecting academic, professional, civic, social, and business sectors.

We also recognize that at Penn State we have outstanding, world-renowned faculty engaged in often groundbreaking research. It is our belief that bringing together Schreyer Scholars with this group of eminent researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and intellectuals through innovative programs is an ideal fit between students and faculty who share a passion for learning, exploration, and achievement; therefore, we have created this new program to increase academic engagement between our high-performing Scholars and outstanding faculty members.

The role of the Distinguished Honors Faculty will be to engage with a broad spectrum of Schreyer Scholars in an academic setting. While we can think of many ideas and programs, we want to leave it up to the Distinguished Honors

Faculty to decide what type of program would have the greatest impact on exposing Scholars to their interests. If you have ever thought about working with Schreyer Scholars and have ideas on how to engage them, or if you just want to learn more about the program, please feel free to contact me.

Details

This will be a two-year position with possibility of renewal for one extra year. You will have access to \$4,250 per year to spend on your program.

In addition to whatever ideas you might have on engaging the Schreyer Scholars, we do require at least one fireside chat each semester, in which you sit down with a group of Schreyer Scholars in either of the honors residence halls, Atherton or Simmons, and discuss in an informal setting your favorite topic. All of the other ways in which you engage the Scholars will be your choice. We will help you with the organization of the events and logistics (booking of facilities, ordering food, etc.). All we want is for you to engage with the Schreyer Scholars in meaningful, interesting, and academically focused activities.

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Distinguished Honors Faculty, please send Dr. Arun Upneja (contact information see below) a two- to three-page proposal on how you wish to engage our Scholars along with a copy of your Curriculum Vitae (CV) by **Friday, May 13, 2011**.

Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The last Spring 2011 Program Coordinator Meeting is scheduled on ***Wednesday, May 11, 1:30-3:00 PM in Room 504 ASI**.

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

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.*

Please note the new date and location on your calendars.

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

Thanks for a terrific Spring Semester!

We hope everyone has a great summer and look for the next issue of *Undergrad Ed Updates* in August.



PENNSTATE



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ThinkAgain

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Spring 2011

May 2-6 Final Exams

May 13-15 Commencement

Summer 2011 (first six-week session)

May 16 Classes Begin

May 20 Late Drop Begins

May 30 Memorial Day Holiday—No Classes

June 15 Late Drop Deadline

June 24 Classes End

June 27 Final Exams