



# Undergrad Ed Updates



OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

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## Annual Fall College Open House

The College will hold its annual fall open house for prospective students and families on **Monday, October 11**. The events get underway at the HUB Auditorium at 8:45 AM. After the College Overview and information on Undergraduate Admissions and Student Aid, prospects choose to attend an academic information session. Select facility tour are offered to participants throughout the day. Check in with your Department Program Coordinator(s) and see how you can become involved. Information and registration will be posted at the College website the week after Labor Day Holiday. This event typically draws close to a hundred families.

## Fall College Club and Info Fair



**Thank you** to all who participated in the Fall College Club and Info Fair held Wednesday, September 1 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM alongside the Berkey patio area. We had record turnout of participants this year.

Nearly 500 students registered, 32 organizations were present, and nine academic programs were represented. Ag Advocates, volunteer alumni, and staff and faculty from the Undergraduate Education Office served over 300 ice cream cones. Great event despite the heat!



## Request Funds for Student Activities

**Fall 2010 Semester:**

**Proposals are due September 10, 2010**

**Spring 2010 Semester:**

**Proposals are due December 3, 2010**

Forms and procedures are in place for the 2010-2011 academic school year. For details and proposal forms, go to <http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm>

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

**Register for the Annual Advising Conference**

The Office for Undergraduate Education will sponsor 12 faculty and staff to attend the 2010 Annual Professional Development Conference on Academic Advising (<http://www.psu.edu/dus/fallconf.html>) to be held **October 27** at The Penn Stater Conference Center.



Our own Dr. James Howell will deliver the keynote address for the conference. The \$80 registration fee (group rate) will be paid by OUE for those nominated and selected by a selection committee. To apply for

the registration, email Terry Musser ([txm4@psu.edu](mailto:txm4@psu.edu)) by **September 27** with the name, department, phone number and email address of all nominees. Those selected will be informed by October 1. All advisers are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity for an excellent one-day professional development experience in our own backyard.

**Assign Your Students to An Adviser**

University policy states that all students are assigned to an academic adviser in their unit of enrollment. Please make sure all students either enrolled in your department or intending to enroll in your department are assigned to an adviser.

**Early Progress Reports**

It won't be long before all instructors will be asked to do early progress reports for first-year students in their courses. Last year, the College of Agricultural Sciences had one of the highest compliance rates in the University for submitting these reports.

Watch your email and eLion messages for this semester's deadline to submit these reports and let's try to have 100% compliance this semester. These reports give instructors AND advisers an opportunity to touch base with their students who are struggling to give some extra help and advice.



**IMPORTANT DATES!**

**Ag Career Day**  
**Tuesday, Oct. 12th**  
**9 AM to 4 PM**  
 Bryce Jordan Center

**College of Ag Sciences**  
**Scholarship Banquet**  
**Thursday, Sept. 23rd**  
**5:30 PM**  
 Penn Stater  
 Conference Center

**Undergraduate Research Proposals**

Forms and procedures are in place for the 2010-2011 academic school year. For details and proposal forms, go to <http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm>

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 Denise Connelly ([dcc6@psu.edu](mailto:dcc6@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 the Fall 2010 semester is Friday, September 10**

## Office for Undergraduate Education Campus Visits

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

Wednesday, Sept 15	Penn State DuBois
Friday, Sept 17	Penn State Mont Alto
Thursday, Oct 7	Penn State York
Friday, Oct 15	Penn State Hazleton
Monday, Oct 18	Penn State Altoona
Wednesday, Oct 20	Penn State Berks
Thursday, Oct 28	Penn State Brandywine
Thursday, Nov 4	Penn State Harrisburg



## Student Organization Success for Advisors

Plan to attend the Student Organization Success for Advisors session on **Tuesday, September 14, 2010**, from 1:30-3:30 PM in 118 Agricultural Sciences & Industries Building. The following representatives will tentatively be in attendance: Center for Student Engagement, Associated Student Activities (ASA), Center for Student Activities and Programming (CSA&P), Contracts and Risk Management, HUB Events Management, Office of the Physical Plant, University Park Allocation Committee and Penn State Police Services. This information session is being co-sponsored by the College of Agricultural Sciences and the Center for Student Engagement. Please feel free to come and go as your schedule permits. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Vickie Clauer, [vcc2@psu.edu](mailto:vcc2@psu.edu), by September 10.



## Fall 2010 Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting



Once again this fall, Associate Dean Fernandez will make his way around to our program areas to meet individually with each of our undergraduate program coordinators. Watch for an email soon to get these meetings set up. If you have any issues or concerns, please share them with your program coordinator to bring to the table.

The Fall 2010 Program Coordinator Meetings have been scheduled on the following days,

**1:30-3:00 PM:**

- ◆ Wednesday, **September 8**, Room 504 ASI
- ◆ Tuesday, **October 5**, Room 118 ASI
- ◆ Wednesday, **November 3**, Room 504 ASI
- ◆ Tuesday, **December 7**, Room 118 ASI

Meeting notices with 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
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)



Backpack to Briefcase



## 2010 Ag Career Day!

Ag Career Day will be held on **Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** The event will be held at the Bryce Jordan Center.

Please contact businesses and organizations that would allow opportunities for students in your majors and encourage them to participate in Ag Career Day. One of the goals of this event to assist students in not only identifying internship and full-time careers but to learn about the diverse career opportunities in the agriculture industry.

For more information and to see who has already registered go to <http://agsci.psu.edu/business/events/ag-career-fair>. Any questions, please contact Denise Connelly at [dcc6@psu.edu](mailto:dcc6@psu.edu).



## Undergraduate Research at the Capitol

Undergraduate Research at the Capitol is a semi-annual event that highlights the research contributions of undergraduate students at Pennsylvania colleges and universities to our state legislators. The next event will be held on **Tuesday, October 5, 2010**, at the State Capitol in Harrisburg. Penn State is invited to send four posters (each poster may involve up to three student presenters). More information about the event is available at [www.lorl.us/URC-PA](http://www.lorl.us/URC-PA). This is a university-wide event and our college contributions need to be submitted on **September 10**.

This is a great opportunity for your students to gain experience in presenting research and in interacting



with our legislators. Encourage any undergraduate students you have working on research in your lab to submit an abstract by midnight, **September 9** so that abstracts can be reviewed and all the college's entries submitted as a group. Send ab-

stracts to **Karen Vines**, [kvines@psu.edu](mailto:kvines@psu.edu) as an attachment in Word. They must be in English and 150 – 200 words in length, include a title for the poster and the name of the faculty project advisor. If students need encouragement, feel free to direct them to contact Karen Vines at 814-865-3097 or stop by her office in 101 Ag Admin. Students submitting abstracts must be able to attend the event on October 5 with the university delegation.



## Improved Schedule of Courses

The Office of the University Registrar is pleased to announce the release of an improved Schedule of Courses available beginning September 1, 2010. Users will notice a new look and feel for both the

search and results pages. In addition, the single search page expands for more advanced searches with additional options. The results page has a new format and organization that improves read-

ability and navigation. For a detailed list of the changes, please visit [www.registrar.psu.edu/news\\_messages/improved\\_soc.cfm](http://www.registrar.psu.edu/news_messages/improved_soc.cfm).

## Agriculture Future of America — Opportunity to Build Leadership Skills

Dean Fernandez invites fulltime undergraduates in the College of Agricultural Sciences to apply for a full scholarship (travel/registration/hotel) to attend the Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Leaders Conference November 4 -7, 2010, in Kansas City, Missouri.

AFA is committed to helping individuals who are passionate about agriculture develop their talent and to become the human capital organizations desire to hire. Freshmen thru senior applicants will be considered. The annual AFA Leaders Conference is a three-track program designed to offer college men and women three different personal and professional development opportunities spread across and matched to their years in college. Track 1 program is designed for freshmen and focuses on assessment and the development of fundamental skills crucial for success in college and career. Track 2 program is designed for sophomore/juniors and focuses on communication skills and preparing for employment. Track 3 program prepares junior/seniors to live and work in a global market. Sessions include managing personal change, stress management and preparing for employment.

For additional information about AFA refer to: <http://www.agfuture.org/index.html>

Interested undergraduate students may apply as follows: Submit cover letter stating your interest in the program; why you are committed to a career in agricul-

ture, and the natural resource sciences industries and how /why you believe AFA is important in your career preparation. Submit resume including most recent and relevant experiences including internships/work experience, involvement and leadership roles held, education abroad and other relevant extra/co- curricular activities.



Interested applicants should submit cover letter and resume via email to Cindy Teeters, [cit2@psu.edu](mailto:cit2@psu.edu), by noon **Wednesday September 15, 2010**. Applicants must be able to commit to attending the full conference, November 4-7, 2010, plus travel time. Two applicants per track will be selected for a total of six students. Applicants will be notified by October 1, 2010.

## New “W” Grade Change Implemented August 31, 2010

The Senate approved a change to eliminate WF and WP grades for late drops. Effective Fall 2010, WN will be the only valid grade for late drops.

Also starting in the Fall any retroactive late drops that are processed will follow this new policy as well.

The ISIS grade reporting processes – ARUSTG and ARUSEG – have been modified accordingly. The eLion Faculty grade reporting applications - Grade Entry and Grade Change – have been modified accordingly.



According to their website (<http://albc-usa.org/about.html>), ALBC's Mission "The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy protects genetic diversity in livestock and poultry species through the conservation and promotion of endangered breeds. These rare breeds are part of our national heritage and represent a unique piece of the earth's bio-diversity. The loss of these breeds would impoverish agriculture and diminish the human spirit. We have inherited a rich variety of livestock breeds. For the sake of future generations we must work together to safeguard these treasures."

## ALBC 27th Annual Conference

**American Livestock Breeds Conservancy (ALBC) 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: "Healthy Herds -- Healthy Markets"**

**November 12 & 13, 2010  
White Eagle Conference Center,  
Hamilton, NY**

General information on the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual ALBC Conference can be found on their main home page (<http://albc-usa.org/Conference2010/intro.html>). The actual ALBC Annual Conference takes place all day Saturday, November 13, but commences with a Conference Kick-off Friday evening (Conference sessions and agenda are listed at <http://albc-usa.org/Conference2010/workshops.html>)

Any Penn State Ag Sciences students, faculty, and staff interested in attending and participating in the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual ALBC Conference? The White Eagle Conference Center is geographically located in Hamilton, New York, and hence a few hours drive from Happy Valley. If you sense you are genuinely interested in attending the 27<sup>th</sup> ALBC Annual Conference, and/or learn more about "Minor/Heritage Livestock Breeds," please e-mail J. Marcos Fernandez ([jmf28@psu.edu](mailto:jmf28@psu.edu)) by September 10<sup>th</sup> and we will measure the level of interest and determine if we can send a group to the conference.

## AgSci Media Commons Open House

The college is pleased to announce the opening of the AgSci Media Commons in 109 ASI. Open House is **Thursday, September 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Media Commons provides a variety of services to help students and faculty envision, produce, and publish creative and effective multimedia projects. Beginners and advanced users alike can benefit from access to experienced consultants, training opportunities, and audio/video production facilities. Media Commons is a collaborative initiative between the college and Information Technology Services. The Commons is funded in part by the college Student Technology Fee and supports the Resident Education mission of enhancing the student learning experience.

Please join us on the 16<sup>th</sup> for a tour of the facility. Learn about the facilities capabilities and discuss your teaching ideas with technology and multimedia professionals!



## Important Notice to Spring 2011 Instructors



### **An Important Notice from Vice President Pangborn to Spring 2011 Instructors**

#### **Course Resources and the Higher Education Opportunity Act**

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you have experienced a smooth beginning to the new academic year and realize that it will seem very early to be thinking ahead to the next semester. However, I am writing to remind all faculty members and instructors who will be teaching courses in Spring 2011 that your textbook selections are due on September 1. As noted in previous communications, the Higher Education Opportunity Act has mandated that students know the cost of course materials when they register for classes. Therefore, Federal law stipulates that institutions should link the information on course resources to the schedule of courses. At Penn State, the students classified as seniors will begin to schedule spring semester classes on September 16.

We understand there are cases where an instructor of a particular course has not yet been named or other circumstances that may prevent selection of a textbook by the due date. However, it is very helpful for the Bookstore to know as soon as possible whether materials will be specified later or not at all.

Book requests can be submitted via the web, either through the Online Textbook Adoption System (OTAS) that was developed specifically for Penn State or by using the application available by clicking on "Faculty" in the menu bar at the Penn State Bookstore site: <http://psu.bncollege.com>. For either application, to indicate that no materials will be required is as easy as mouse click. You may also enter information about non-textbook resources that students can access through the Bookstore and/or other sources, even if an ISBN and price have not yet been assigned and determined, respectively.

Thank you very much for your understanding and follow-through on this request.

--Rob Pangborn

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## Call for Proposals — 2010 Expanding Your Horizons One-Day Camp



The WISE Institute is currently looking for faculty, students and industry professionals in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) disciplines to conduct workshops on **Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>** for our 2010 Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) one-day camp and adult conference. The EYH Camp will be held at the Penn State, University Park campus on November 13, 2010 for 100 (Students) and 50 (Parents/Guardians & Teachers/Counselors).

All proposals can be submitted online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/eyhproposals>. Questions about the EYH Camp, workshops, and/or the proposals can be directed to the WISE Institute at 865-3342 or [psuwisecamp@gmail.com](mailto:psuwisecamp@gmail.com)

Proposal Submission Deadline: September 17, 2010

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

<b>** Proposals Due in CSCS System</b>	<b>College Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Dates and Locations</b>	<b>Revisions Due in CSCS System and Begin Final Approval Process (required signatories)</b>	<b>* Proposals due to Faculty Senate</b>	<b>* Curriculum Report Publication Date (on Blue Sheets for 30 days)</b>	<b>* Senate Committee Curricular Affairs (SCCA) all day meeting</b>
<b>Friday Aug. 6, 2010</b>	<b>Thurs. August 26, 2010</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. 105 Forest Resources	September 3, 2010	<b>Sept. 10, 2010</b>	<i>for the Sept. 28, 2010 Issue</i>	Oct. 19, 2010
<b>Friday Sept. 17, 2010</b>	<b>Thurs. Oct. 7, 2010</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. 105 Forest Resources	October 15, 2010	<b>October 29, 2010</b>	<i>for the Nov. 9, 2010 Issue</i>	Dec. 7, 2010
<b>Friday Oct. 29, 2010</b>	<b>Thurs. Nov. 18, 2010</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. 105 Forest Resources	December 3, 2010	<b>December 15, 2010</b>	<i>for the Jan. 11, 2011 Issue</i>	Jan. 25, 2011
<b>Friday Dec. 17, 2010</b>	<b>Thurs. Jan. 13, 2011</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. Room location TBA	January 21, 2011	<b>February 4, 2011</b>	<i>for the Feb. 22, 2011 Issue</i>	March 15, 2011
<b>Friday Feb. 4, 2011</b>	<b>Thurs. Feb. 24, 2011</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. Room location TBA	March 4, 2011	<b>March 25, 2011</b>	<i>for the April 12, 2011 Issue</i>	April 28, 2011
<b>Friday April 1, 2011</b>	<b>Thurs. April 21, 2011</b> 1:30—3:00 p.m. Room location TBA	May 13, 2011	<b>May 27, 2011</b>	<i>For the August 2011 Issue</i>	August 2011 Meeting

**\*\***Proposals need to be completely through all consultation and ready to be sent to College Administrator by this date to be reviewed at College Committee Meeting.

**\*** Dates posted by Faculty Senate.



## FastStart Call for Faculty/Staff Mentors

FastStart, a mentoring and career networking program for first-year students sponsored by the Penn State Alumni Association and the Division of Student Affairs, through the Paul Robeson Cultural Center, is accepting applications for faculty and staff mentors.

Since 1996 FastStart has been assisting African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific American, Latino/Hispanic American and multi-ethnic students transition into Penn State. While the program was designed to welcome diverse students, it is open to any first-year student looking to get their college career off to a fast start and all interested faculty, staff, and alumni.

Currently FastStart has students who are reaching out and asking for a faculty or staff mentor. If you are interested in helping a first-year student make that connection to our community, please fill-out an online application at: <http://alumni.psu.edu/network-mentor/faststart/information-for-faculty-staff>.

The role of a faculty/staff mentor is to make campus seem smaller, and to make sure students are getting to the re-

sources that they need. Please take a look at the materials posted on the FastStart on-line mentor orientation page: <https://breeze.psu.edu/mentororientation/>. On the orientation page you will find a: FAQ sheet, How to Guide, Campus Resources list. In addition, you will find the calendar of events for 2010-11.



If you have any questions, contact Teresa C. McGowan, Coordinator, Alumni-Student Programs (FastStart) (W) 814-863-6386 (F) 814-863-5982 (H) 814-235-1252, Email: [tch4@psu.edu](mailto:tch4@psu.edu)

Web site: <http://www.alumni.psu.edu/faststart>

## New Penn State ITS Videos for Our Students

Penn State's ITS has produced three short videos for our students to help provide them information and assist them in protecting their on-line activities. Please distribute these URLs to any and all who can help distribute these.

### Protecting Your Online Accounts:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3uYhVaWuM0>

### Phishing Scams:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRcvlOImKVw>

### Peer-to-Peer:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZYCpfvsGak>

## Scholars Day 2010



The Schreyer Honors College's Fall Open House for prospective students will be held at here at University Park on Monday, **September 27, from 10:00 AM to 4:30 p.m.** The College of Ag Sciences will offer an information session for interested students as part of the afternoon program. Following the afternoon College Overview, prospects will have an opportunity to meet with honor advisors in the College in their area(s) of interest. For more information about the event refer to : <http://www.shc.psu.edu/future/scholarsday/homepg.cfm>.



## Instructor Resources @ UP

Check out these Web sites for more information

### The Undergraduate Information Network

<http://www.psu.edu/ouic/uport/index.html>

### 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/](http://www.testing.psu.edu/)



PENNSSTATE



### Office for Undergraduate Education

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<http://agsci.psu.edu>

ThinkAgain

## FALL 2010 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

August 16 - September 6	Intent to Graduate Activation Period
September 6	Labor Day Holiday - No classes
September 27 - October 17	Final Exam Conflict Filing Period
November 12	Late Drop Deadline
November 22 - 28	Thanksgiving Holiday - No classes
December 10	Classes End
December 11 - 12	Study Days
December 13 - 17	Final Exams
December 18	Commencement