



PENN STATE
COLLEGE OF AG

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Fourth Annual College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day 2012

Interested in learning more about the food you eat, the clothes you wear, your car, the gasoline it requires, or the pathogens that cause the common cold or influenza? Join us at the HUB, **Thursday, April 12 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for the fourth annual College of Agricultural Sciences' Ag Day 2012.



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

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

- Animal Sciences and Pre-Vet Studies
- Biomedical and Food Sciences
- Business
- Education and Multidisciplinary Studies
- Engineering and Technology
- Environmental Sciences and Policy
- Forest Resources
- Plant Sciences

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

For more information, contact Lauren Diebel (imd311@psu.edu) or Andy Schlegel (ats201@psu.edu).

2012 Undergraduate Research Opportunities

The offices of Undergraduate and Graduate Education in the college are collaborating to support two opportunities for undergraduate research. In addition to the call for 2012 fall undergraduate research proposals we are extending an opportunity to submit proposals for 2012 summer wage support of undergraduate research.

SUMMER 2102

Proposals for summer undergraduate research wage support(\$3000) are due **April 13th** to Erin Mullen (emullen@psu.edu). Proposal objectives, criteria and the proposal form can be

found at – <http://agsci.psu.edu/students/research>. We will fund five summer wage proposals.

FALL 2012

Proposals for fall undergraduate research are due **April 27th** to Erin Mullen (emullen@psu.edu). Proposal objectives, criteria and the proposal form can be found at - <http://agsci.psu.edu/students/research>. Please note support for \$1500 in student wages is part of the fall proposal award application; a total of \$2000 is available for each award.

Working with At-Risk Students

368 students were dropped from the College for poor scholarship during the 2007 – 2011 calendar years. Thirty-one of those students have since returned to degree status and graduated and an additional 20 are currently in degree status progressing toward graduation. Not a very promising number overall, but 51 students who might otherwise have been forgotten or left to their own ability to make the necessary changes are now successful. Think about your advisees and students in your courses who may be struggling. What can you do? Here are some suggestions for a proactive approach:

1. Complete the early progress report for ALL first-year students in a timely manner;
2. Provide a classroom experience that is inclusive of all students and frequently interact on an individual basis with as many students as possible.
3. Monitor the grades and GPA of all assigned advisees. A GPA of 2.3 or lower at the end of the first semester could indicate the student is headed for disaster. Email and/or call the student to ask what happened and offer a heart-to-heart discussion about the issues. Then, together you can create a plan of action to turn things around.
4. Make appropriate referrals to other staff and resources that might be helpful with the student's specific issues.
5. Follow up regularly with these students in subsequent semesters to monitor progress toward their goals.

You can make a difference and our students are worth the extra effort you put forth to show them you care and that there are options and opportunities for them.

New Resources in the University Undergraduate Advising Handbook

Three new helpful resources have recently been added to the University Undergraduate Advising Handbook. A "Semester Planning Worksheet" is available to help students plan their courses through graduation. A late-drop checklist is now available under the "Late Course Drop" menu to help you make sure to cover all of the areas for discussing late drop with a student. And finally a "General Education Worksheet" is there to help you and the student plan the general education curriculum. The Handbook has everything organized alphabetically, so you should be able to find these resources using the first letter of each.

Entrance to Major Process Almost Complete

Just a reminder, even though students have received the decision about whether or not they have been accepted into a particular major, the Registrar does not move students into the major officially until the grades have been posted for this semester. If you have 3rd-semester or higher students who did not complete the process or for one reason or another just were not part of the process, you can still submit a paper change of major form to 101 Ag Admin.

Toward a Better Understanding of DUS Students Dropped for Poor Scholarship

Monday, April 16, 2012

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

508 Rider

Panelists: **Nicholas Warcholak**, Analysis and Planning Associate, Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment; **Eric R. White**, Executive Director, Division of Undergraduate Studies; and **Alexander Yin**, Senior Planning and Research Associate, Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment

To gain a better understanding of the characteristics of DUS students who fail

out academically and to develop more data driven interventions, the Division of Undergraduate Studies collaborated with the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment. This session will include a discussion of the background leading up to the research, the nature of the research that lead to subsequent interventions, and future initiatives.

To register for this free event call the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment at 814-863-8721 or email psu-pia@psu.edu. Penn State campuses inter-

ested in participating in Quality Advocates via videoconference should contact the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment.

The Quality Advocates Network meets several times each semester to share ideas and examples of improvement and change. To join the Quality Advocates Network mailing list or to [learn more](#) about the meetings scheduled, contact [the staff](#) at psupia@psu.edu.

Career Planning for Students

The AgSci Career Network, available at <https://live-psu-csm.symphlicity.com/>, is a valuable resource for students looking for internships, part-time and full-time employment opportunities.

There are currently 3,355 registered students and alumni, 507 registered employers, and 112 active job and internship opportunities. Employment positions and internships are being posted every day, so please remind your stu-

dents to take advantage of this resource.

If you would like access to the AgSci Career Network, please contact Erin Mullen, Coordinator of Experiential Learning and Career Services at emullen@psu.edu / 814-865-7522.

Backpack to Briefcase



Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee Schedule

The Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) will meet on Wednesday, **April 18, 2:30-3:30 PM, 432 Food Science Building**

Harbaugh Faculty Scholars Program 2012

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 Scholars*.

Awards are for one academic year, and for the 2012-13 academic year, approximately four \$5,000 awards are available for funding. The Harbaugh endowment will provide \$2500 and \$2500 will be provided from the Office for Undergraduate Education. 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.

Proposals shall not exceed three pages and include the following information: (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.

Recipients of successful proposals will be informed by the end of May and funds transferred to academic units by June 30, 2012. A 300 word summary on the impact of this award is due July 1, 2013. Proposals need to be addressed and submitted by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 11, 2012** to: Tracy S. Hoover – ths102@psu.edu.



College of Agricultural Sciences

Instruction & Curricular Affairs Committee Calendar 2011-2012

Proposals Due to College Administrator in CSCS system**	Send to ACUE Deans (if necessary) Post in ANGEL & notify committee for review	College Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Dates and Location	Revisions Due back in CSCS and begin final approval process	*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. 3, 2012	Feb. 6-7-8	Thurs. Feb. 23, 2012 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	March 2, 2012	March 23, 2012	for the April 10, 2012 Issue	April 24, 2012
Friday April 6, 2012	April 9-10-11	Thurs. April 26, 2012 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Rm 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	May 18, 2012	TBD	Issue TBD	Meeting TBD

Course proposals need to be completely through all CSCS consultation and ready to be sent to the college administrator (K. Pletcher, email: kjs8@psu.edu) by this date to be reviewed at the college committee meeting. Also, a PDF of your proposal must be sent to the college administrator by this deadline. **Hard Copies are not required for the course proposals. A Hard Copy original is only required for the Program Proposals (since they are NOT available via CSCS yet). Once your 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 for their review process.

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

Spring 2012 Commencement — Mark Your Calendars



The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2012 Commencement exercises will be at Eisenhower Auditorium on **Saturday, May 5th at 9:00 AM**. We're pleased to announce one of our own alumni, Mr. James Shirk, will be our commencement speaker. Mr. Shirk, graduated from the College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State, with a degree in Environmental Resource Management. His current position is Northeast Territory Manager with CEVA Biomune.

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.schreyerstitute.psu.edu/Awards>.

The deadline for submitting nominees is 5:00 p.m. on **June 30, 2012**.

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.



Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meetings

The Spring 2012 Program Coordinator Meetings are scheduled at **1:30-3:00 PM** on the following dates and locations:

Tuesday, April 24	Room 504 ASI
Monday, May 21	Room 504 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
Les Griel	VB SC
Harold Harpster	ANSCI
Leland Glenna	CED
Rob Shannon	E R M
Stephanie Doores	FD SC
Ellen Manno	FORSC, W F S, and W P
Dennis Decoteau	HORT
James Howell	IID and TOX
Dan Stearns	LSCPE
Andrew Mc Nitt	TURF & TURF (WD)

Welcome Newly Selected Ag Advocates for 2012-2013

Eleven new undergraduate students will join the Ag Advocate Team of ambassadors for the upcoming academic year to assist the college in recruitment and retention activities.

Joining the organization are:

Samantha Cheese-Thompson, 6th semester standing in Agribusiness Management

Frank Desiderio, 4th semester standing in Environmental Resource Management

Alyssa Dietrich, 6th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Jessica Foster, 4th semester standing in Horticulture

Amy Kraus, 2nd semester standing in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

Elyse McMahon, 4th semester standing in Wildlife and Fisheries Science

Jessica Mitchell, 6th semester standing in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

Carly Schaefer, 4th semester standing in Agricultural and Extension Education

Jena Sigel, 4th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Patrick Thomas, 4th semester standing in Agricultural Science

Caleb Wright, 4th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Ag Advocates returning for another year of service:

Jeanette Blank, 6th semester standing in Agricultural and Extension Education

Sara Calaman, 6th semester standing in Food Science

Sarah Farley, 6th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Erin Fleming, 6th semester standing in Food Science

Olivia Francois, 4th semester standing in Immunology and Infectious Disease

Christopher Gardner, 6th semester standing in Food Science

Kristen Hayman, 6th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Morgan Hetherington, 4th semester standing in Food Science

Allison Hoover, 4th semester standing in Agricultural and Extension Education

Samuel Mohr, 6th semester standing in Horticulture

Sara Mueller, 4th semester standing in Wildlife and Fisheries Science

Hannah Wentworth, 6th semester standing in Animal Sciences

Congratulations to the 2012 Graduating Seniors:

Jason Bankert, Immunology and Infectious Disease and Toxicology

Katherine Cook, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

Courtney Cowden, Agricultural Science

Megan Davis, Wildlife and Fisheries Science

Lauren Diebel, Environmental Resource Management

Justin DiRado, Wildlife and Fisheries Science

Dustin Dreyfuss, Agribusiness Management

D. Brian Gray, Agricultural Systems Management

Amy Hinkle, Horticulture

James Howe, Food Science

Brianna Isenberg, Animal Sciences

Marissa Keys, Agroecology

Jessica Moldofsky, Environmental Resource Management

Orry Pratt, Animal Sciences

Samantha Robison, Agricultural Science

Andrew Schlegel, Food Science

Amy Yeiser, Animal Sciences



Final Exams and Submission of Grades Reminders

A couple of reminders as we approach the final week of classes:

University Faculty Senate Policy 44-20 stipulates that any end-of-semester examinations (with the exception of quizzes and narrowly limited tests worth no more than ten percent of the semester grade) may only be administered during the final exam period. When end-of-semester examinations are not administered, term projects, reports and other integrative assignments worth more than ten percent of the course grade may not be due earlier than the first day of the final examination period.

Please note that the University Faculty Senate policy does include a provision for exceptions to the ten percent criterion—"for educational reasons and only as recommended by the faculty of the program offering the course and approved by the appropriate dean or chancellor." In addition, Academic Administrative Policy/Procedure F-2 provides a procedure for students to follow if she or he believes the Senate policy has been violated.

Senate policy also governs the circumstances in which students may request an alternate exam time—those being either a direct conflict (two exams scheduled at the same time) or an overload conflict (too many exams within a prescribed time period). The official final exam week generally precludes the scheduling of other sanctioned activities that would normally represent excused class absences. Students therefore should not need to request make-up exams because of "other sanctioned activities." There might, however, still be circumstances involving serious illness or family emergency under which a provision for a make-up, or alternative timing, should be made. That does not include a prematurely scheduled flight home or the convenience of an early-week ride offer.

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

I appreciate your help.

Jeremy Cohen
Associate Vice President and
Senior Associate Dean
Office of Undergraduate Education



The **2012 Annual NACTA Conference** will be held
June 26 – 29 at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls

This year's theme is "Celebrating and Sustaining Agriculture."
Continuously updated information can be found on the website:
<http://www.uwrf.edu/CAFES/NACTA/index.cfm>

2012 Student Awards Recognition

2012 President's Freshman Award

This award is presented annually to undergraduate degree candidates and provisional students who have earned a 4.00 (A) cumulative GPA based on at least 12 graded Penn State credits completed by the end of the fall semester of the academic year the award is given.

University Park Campus Recipients

Morgan M. Brown
Marina L. Burka
Christine E. Crawford
Kellen L. Delaney
Rebecca M. Hovingh
Kira L. Hydock
Nancy A. Kammerer
Kiki L. Mullikin

Other Campus Recipients

Harrison W. Boyd (Fayette)
Megan M. Brown (Beaver)
Xavier E. Garcia Molina (Berks)
Johannah E. Lowe (Hazelton)
Hannah R. Masser (Altoona)
Carrie J. Oakes (Harrisburg)
Adam N. Plantz (Greater Allegheny)
Amy R. Rutter (Berks)
Danielle N. Ryan (Mont Alto)

2012 President Sparks Award for Sophomores

This award is presented annually to those undergraduate degree candidates who have earned a 4.00 (A) cumulative GPA based on at least 36 graded Penn State credits completed by the end of the fall semester of the academic year the award is given.

University Park Campus Recipients

Alyssa M. Dietrich - *Animal Science*
Margaret M. Harding - *Food Science*

Other Campus Recipients

Nicholas J. Moore (DuBois) - *Wildlife Technology*
Emily J. Rice (Mont Alto) - *Horticulture*

Evan Pugh Scholar Award

Evan Pugh Scholars are **juniors** and **seniors** who were in the upper 0.5% of their classes at the end of the fall semester of the year the award is given.

2012 Evan Pugh Juniors

Jessica I. Hanlon - *Animal Science*
Ashley L. Moyer - *Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences*

2012 Evan Pugh Seniors

Andrew N. Goga - *Community, Environment, and Development*
Alyssa M. Klein - *Animal Science*
Douglas T. Masser - *Agricultural and Extension Education*

PENNSTATE



Office for Undergraduate Education

College of Agricultural Sciences
The Pennsylvania State University
101 Agricultural Administration Building
University Park, PA 16802-2602

Phone: 814-865-7521

Fax: 814-863-7277

<http://agsci.psu.edu>



ThinkAgain

SPRING 2012 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

April 27	Withdrawal Deadline
April 27	Classes End
April 30-May 4	Final Exams
May 4-6	Commencement