



# Undergrad Ed Updates

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2012

OFFICE  
FOR UNDERGRADUATE  
EDUCATION

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## Fall 2012 Commencement

Fall 2012 Commencement will be held on **Saturday, December 22, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Bryce Jordan Center. Visit <http://commencement.psu.edu/> for commencement details.

Our college student marshal for this fall's commencement ceremony is animal science student, Leanna Sollenberger from New Enterprise, PA. After graduation, Leanna plans to attend veterinary school and become a food animal veterinarian.

Faculty are encouraged to attend and participate in the commencement ceremony to honor our College of Agricultural Sciences graduates. Faculty participating in the ceremony can see <http://commencement.psu.edu/1attending.html> for faculty at-large directions.



## Ag Alumni Society—Ag Live Tailgate



The tailgate will be held on **Saturday, November 24, 2012** (3-1/2 hours before kickoff, TBA) at the

SNIDER AG ARENA, prior to the Penn State vs. Wisconsin football game.

The Tailgate is a great opportunity for student clubs to share about the club activities to alumni and to promote student and alumni engagement. Students are encouraged to bring their group fundraising items to sell. Alumni love supporting student groups and buying Penn State related items! Below is the timeline and instructions for the event.

### Registration

Please register your student group online at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/alumni/events/ag-live-tailgate>, choose *Student Club Display Rep* from the drop down box in the *Registration Type* field. One member of your student group may register all four representatives using the *Add Guest* feature, if you are unsure of who will be attending your display please register as Guest 1, Guest 2, etc. You can later modify your registration to include specific names or by contacting Leslie Essy in the Alumni Relations Office at 814-865-2717 or [ldes3@psu.edu](mailto:ldes3@psu.edu). Representative names will need to be confirmed

prior to the event. **The registration deadline is November 19.**

### Display material set-up

This year the various displays will be interspersed throughout the Arena for greater visibility rather than all in the back. Displays can be dropped off on Friday, November 16; we are making arrangements for a secure room at the Arena to store them. Set up will take place either Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup> during the day or Saturday prior to the tailgate.

### Display material pick-up

Displays/materials will need to be removed from the Ag Arena on Saturday anytime between kick-off time and up to ONE hour after the game or on Monday, November 26 between 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### Ag Live Instructions

This is a fun day filled with activity; please dress in your club attire or game day attire. Upon arrival to the tailgate, please visit the check-in table for your nametag, meal ticket, and instructions.

For questions, please contact Naomi Knaub at [nmk107@psu.edu](mailto:nmk107@psu.edu) or 814-867-1819 or Eric Cowden at [ecowden@marcelluscoalition.org](mailto:ecowden@marcelluscoalition.org).

## New Look for eLion—Students Only

All students now have access to the "new" eLion as well as the "old." The "Demo" pages are still being built, so you can't see this new eLion, but here is an article about it with screenshots: <http://onwardstate.com/2012/02/01/elion-gets-a-grand-new-makeover/>

Almost all the applications for the new and improved eLion are still in SmallTalk, so they function in exactly the same way as they always have. You just won't be able to see the new eLion design until later in the spring semester when the "Adviser" link will be updated.



## Webinar on Creating Successful Award Packets for USDA

### SAVE THE DATE –

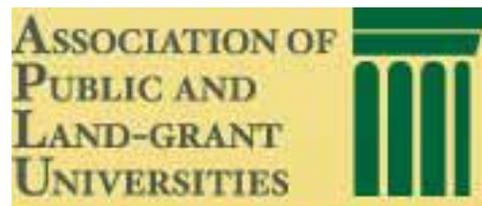
**November 28, 2012, 3:00-4:00 p.m.** Eastern Standard Time

APLU, in coordination with Kirby Barrick of the University of Florida, will host a webinar on creating successful award packets for the USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences. As you may know, these awards are open to faculty "teaching activities concerned with the production, processing, marketing, distribution, conservation, consumption, research, and development of food and agriculturally related products and services, inclusive of academic programs in agriculture, natural resources, forestry, veterinary medicine, human sciences / family and consumer sciences, and other, closely allied fields."

Participants will hear tips from successful nominees, successful nominators, and past reviewers. There will also be an overview of the packet requirements and general suggestions from past lessons learned. Additional information on the webinar, including registration information, will be forthcoming.

If you have any questions, contact:

Wendy Fink  
*Associate Director of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources*  
 APLU  
 1307 New York Avenue, NW  
 Suite 400  
 Washington, DC 20005-4722  
 Office: 202-478-6021  
 Email: [wfink@aplu.org](mailto:wfink@aplu.org)  
 Web: [www.aplu.org](http://www.aplu.org)



## Research Project Calculator (RPC)

The University Libraries has recently implemented a Research Project Calculator (RPC) that offers students a simple and comprehensive step-by-step model for navigating the research process. The RPC allows students to enter a due date for a research assignment and, in return, it "chunks" the project into steps, providing sources for help along the way. Students have the option to have the steps emailed to them as reminders throughout the process. The RPC is an instantiation of the University of Minnesota's Assignment Calculator which UM has made open source.

Access the calculator here: <https://ac.libraries.psu.edu/rpc/>  
 Documentation here: [http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/toolswidgets/rpc\\_instruct.html](http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/toolswidgets/rpc_instruct.html)

It is also linked from the "Research" landing page under Quick Links (<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/research.html>).

For now, there is only one type of assignment available (a generic one that works for ENGL 015 or CAS 100 assignments) but we can add other assignments.

### College Coordinator of Experiential Learning and Career Center

We are pleased to announce Dr. Richard Rateau has joined the Office for Undergraduate Education and serves as the College Coordinator of Experiential Learning and Career Center. Dr. Rateau will coordinate internship and career services for students, continue and expand relationships with business and industry partners. He will coordinate the undergraduate research program among other duties. Dr. Rateau has experience in the agriculture industry and most recently was an instructor at Virginia Tech in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Rateau. His office phone is 865-7522 and his email is [rrateau@psu.edu](mailto:rrateau@psu.edu). His office is located in 110 Agriculture Administration Building.

## Announcing Fall 2012 Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The Fall 2012 Program Coordinator Meetings have been scheduled on the following days,  
**1:30-3:00 PM:**

- ◆ Monday, **November 19**, Mann Assembly Room, Paterno Library
- ◆ Wednesday, **December 19**, 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
Dennis Decoteau	HORT
Stephanie Doores	FD SC
John Ewing	AEE and AG SC
Tarrah Geszvain	AGECO
Les Griel	VB SC
Leland Glenna	CED
Pamela Hankey	IID
Jude Liu	A S M
Ellen Manno	FORSC, W F S, and W P
Megan Marshall	B E
Robert Mikesell	ANSCI
Rob Shannon	E R M
Dan Stearns	LSCPE
Jack Vanden Heuvel	TOX
Andrew Mc Nitt	TURF



## Nominations for Student Awards

Union and Student Activities is currently accepting nominations for both the **Student Achievement and Student Leadership and Service Awards**. The awards recognize students for excellence in academics, athletics, community service, leadership, and much more. A listing of awards and their purposes is available at the following web site: <http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/studentactivities/applications.shtml>.

Nominations are due to the Office of Student Activities, 209 HUB-Robeson Center, by **Friday, November 30, at 5:00 p.m.** Students can self-nominate if interested. Contact [studentactivities@sa.psu.edu](mailto:studentactivities@sa.psu.edu) or (814) 863-4624 for further information.

## College Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 27 2012

Course or Program	Course Number	Type of Action	Type of Review	*Action Taken
2 TSM	Major	Change	New	Approved with minor changes
TURF	295	Add	New	Approved
TURF	238	Change	New	Approved with minor changes
HORT	238	Change	New	Approved with minor changes
VB SC	516	Drop	New	Approved with minor changes
CEDEV	580	Add	New	Approved with minor changes
AN SC	Major	Change	Re-review	Not approved, needs revisions and reviewed again
HDNRE	Major	Change	New	Approved
LSCPE	Major	Change	New	Approved with minor changes

\*After our college committee review and approval process, all proposals also need to move forward through the Faculty Senate or Graduate School review and approval cycles

## College of Agricultural Sciences Instruction & Curricular Affairs Committee Calendar 2012-2013

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 Oct. 26, 2012	Oct. 29-30-31	Thurs. Nov. 15, 2012 1:30 -3:00 p.m. 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	Nov. 30, 2012	Dec. 14, 2012	for the Jan. 15, 2013 Issue	Jan. 29, 2013
Friday Dec. 14, 2012	Dec. 17-18-19	Thurs. Jan. 17, 2013 1:30 -3:00 p.m. 244 Ag Eng. Bldg.	Jan. 25, 2013	Feb. 6, 2013	for the Feb. 19, 2013 Issue	March 12, 2013
Friday Feb. 8, 2013	Feb. 11-12-13	Thurs. Feb. 28, 2013 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Room TBD	March 8, 2013	March 22, 2013	for the April 9, 2013 Issue	April 23, 2013
Friday April 5, 2013	April 8-9-10	Thurs. April 25, 2013 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Room TBD	May 13, 2013	May 24, 2013	for June 11, 2013 Issue	August 20, 2013

\* Dates posted by Faculty Senate.

\*\*Course proposals need to be completely through all CSCS consultation and ready to be sent to the college administrator (K. Pletcher) by this date to be reviewed at the college committee meeting. **Hard Copies are not required for the Course Proposals submitted via CSCS.** Once a course proposal has passed through the College’s Instruction and Curricular Affairs Committee review process and been approved for submission to the Faculty Senate, the appropriate hard copies will be made by the college administrator and sent to the Senate for their review process. **A Hard Copy original and a PDF copy is required for all Program Proposals**—since they are NOT submitted via CSCS yet.

Senate Newsletters are posted to their website at: [http://www.senate.psu.edu/senate\\_activity/newsletters.htm](http://www.senate.psu.edu/senate_activity/newsletters.htm)

### Request Funds for Student Activities



**Spring 2013 Semester: Proposals are due December 7, 2012**

New forms and revised procedures are in place for the 2012-2013 academic school year. It is important to carefully follow new procedures and accurately complete the forms to ensure the proposal will be reviewed and considered for funding. For details and proposal forms, go to <http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm>

## USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum: Student Diversity Program Participation



USDA's Agricultural Outlook Forum provides producers, policymakers, business, government, and industry leaders with a unique opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, and discuss timely issues at the forefront of America's agriculture. In an effort to increase the present and future diversity participation in the Forum, USDA created a program that provides sponsorship opportunities for junior-senior baccalaureate and this year has been expanded, for the first time, to include graduate students to attend this annual event.

**The 2013 Agricultural Outlook Forum will be held Feb. 21-22 in Arlington, Virginia, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel.** USDA will host an introductory briefing and discussion of career opportunities on Feb. 19. On Feb. 20 students will tour USDA's Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the National Plant Materials Center. The USDA Outlook Forum Diversity Program is designed to expose students to contemporary agribusiness, future trends, scientific research, and agricultural policy in today's real world environment.

**TARGET:** The program targets 30 agriculture, agricultural economics, agricultural communications, agricultural business, nutrition and food science or pre-veterinary junior or senior and graduate students. Students (20 undergraduate and 10 graduate) will come from Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources institutions.

**UNDERGRADUATE SELECTION CRITERIA:** Students first submit their one-page essay titled "Agriculture as a Career" to their respective institution representative (i.e.,

academic dean/department chair). Each institution performs a "pre-selection" process by choosing the final best two essays among the applicants selecting two undergraduate students. **Undergraduate essays** are submitted with individual letters of recommendation from the institution's dean to Lisa Purnell ([lisa.purnell@osec.usda.gov](mailto:lisa.purnell@osec.usda.gov)) by Nov. 9, 2012. Ms. Purnell and Ms. Brenda Chapin, Information Officer with USDA's Office of the Chief Economist, will make the final selections.

**GRADUATE SELECTION CRITERIA:** Students first submit their essay (2-page maximum) titled "The Greatest Challenge Facing Agriculture Over the Next 5 Years" to their respective institution representative (i.e., academic dean/department chair). Each institution performs a "pre-selection" process by choosing the final best two essays among the applicants.

**Graduate essays** are submitted to Lisa Purnell ([lisa.purnell@osec.usda.gov](mailto:lisa.purnell@osec.usda.gov)) with individual letters of recommendation from the institution's dean to by Nov. 9, 2012.

**ESSAY SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 9, 2012:** Essays must include student's name, student's major, year in school, address, phone number, and e-mail. Final selections for undergraduates will be made by Lisa Purnell, USDA/1890s Program Liaison, University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Graduate students will be selected by Harry Baumes, Director, USDA Office of Energy Policy and New Uses.

Additional information can be found at: [http://www.usda.gov/occe/forum/diversity/diversity\\_program.htm](http://www.usda.gov/occe/forum/diversity/diversity_program.htm)

### Fall 2012 Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee

The Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) meetings have been scheduled on the following dates at **9:00-10:00 AM** in the conference room of 101 Ag. Admin. Building.

- ◆ Wednesday, November 7 - CANCELLED
- ◆ Wednesday, December 5



## Request for Proposals—Student Engagement in Pittsburgh

Faculty are invited to apply for a mini-grant of up to \$5,000 to support a student engagement project in 2012-2013, in partnership with the Penn State Center – Engaging Pittsburgh. Between 10-15 projects will be selected, depending on funding availability.

### About the Penn State Center:

The Penn State Center began work in 2009 as an effort to demonstrate a new approach to engaging urban areas and bringing university resources to bear on critical regional issues. We actively build partnerships with local individuals and organizations to identify needs and develop key strategic relationships to connect Penn State research and programming with these partners.

### Who may apply for funding:

Faculty from any college may apply for funding, with the approval of the department chair. Projects must involve students from the University Park or World Campus.

### Types of projects to be supported:

There is no pre-conceived outline for a successful project; creativity is welcomed and encouraged. Proposed projects must include a meaningful engaged learning component that brings students to Pittsburgh and takes advantage of the unique assets of the city. Projects may include (but are not limited to) on-site research, service learning, community-based research, studios, consultative projects with local organizations, etc. The project may be part of a course or a free-standing initiative.

### Costs eligible for support:

Any direct costs that would be incurred in the course of the project are eligible, including transportation or materials. Proposals with matching resources are encouraged. This may include graduate assistant support and other forms of effort. When a project has been awarded, a cost center will be created so that expenses can be tracked. A monthly status report is required by the fifth of the following month with brief details in both activities completed and funds expended. A simple reporting form will be provided upon grant award.

### Timeline:

Proposals for activities scheduled for the **2013 spring semester are due by 4:30 pm on November 30, 2012**; all applicants will be notified no later than 4:30 pm on De-

ember 7, 2012. Projects must be completed within the 2012-2013 year and can span one or more semesters but must be completed by June 15, 2013. Successful recipients will be also expected to work with Penn State Center staff to share their work to other faculty and interested stakeholders. The intent is to begin creating a community of interest around engaged scholarship in general and urban engaged scholarship in particular.

### Application Guidelines:

Please submit a brief proposal (3 pages maximum) via email to [ean14@psu.edu](mailto:ean14@psu.edu). The proposal should be a PDF attachment to the email and must include:

- the name of the project or course
- learning objectives
- rationale for a Pittsburgh setting for the project
- the number and level (e.g., first-year, graduate, etc.) of students to be involved
- how outcomes will be measured/documented
- budget and budget narrative
- who will oversee the project and relevant contact information

If the project involves any partners other than the Penn State Center, letters of support must be attached. Matching funds other than faculty time will enhance the possibility for funding. A letter or email of approval from the applicant's department chair must be included with the proposal.

### Questions?

Email Liz Nilsen, Coordinator of Special Initiatives, at [ean14@psu.edu](mailto:ean14@psu.edu).



## ScholarSphere

**WHAT is ScholarSphere?** A secure service for collecting, preserving, and sharing the scholarly work of the Penn State community.

**WHEN did it launch?** September 24, 2012

**WHY does it matter?** ScholarSphere:

- Provides flexible access controls for your content. You may share your research with the world, or you may restrict access to certain users or to yourself – **you** decide
- Ensures safe, secure storage of your content
- Meets funding agency requirements for sharing research data
- Enables your data to be linked to journal publications
- Creates a citable, durable record of your scholarship
- Tracks versions of the content you deposit
- And more!



**WHO can use it?** Anyone can search and browse content in ScholarSphere. To upload content to ScholarSphere, you must have a Penn State Access Account.

**WHERE do I find out more?** Go to [scholarsphere.psu.edu](http://scholarsphere.psu.edu), or contact [ScholarSphere@psu.edu](mailto:ScholarSphere@psu.edu)

PENNSSTATE



### Office for Undergraduate Education

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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

## FALL 2012 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

November 16

Late Drop Deadline

November 18 - 24

Thanksgiving Holiday - No classes

December 14

Classes End

December 15 - 16

Study Days

December 17 - 21

Final Exams

December 22

Commencement

