Summer 2011 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony

This year’s summer undergraduate commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, **August 13, 10:00 a.m.** in the Bryce Jordan Center. The College has approximately 40 students slated to graduate this summer. Our college student marshal for this summer’s commencement is Rachel Brick. Rachel is graduating with concurrent degrees in biotechnology and immunology and infectious disease. She is also completing two minors, Chinese and microbiology. After graduation, Rachel plans to continue in graduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh.

Faculty are encouraged to attend and participate in commencement ceremonies to honor our College of Agricultural Sciences graduates. Faculty participating in the summer commencement ceremony should report to the Green Room of the Bryce Jordan Center at least 20 minutes prior to the ceremony with your academic regalia. A University Marshal will be present to assist and place you in the academic procession. To get to the Green Room in the Bryce Jordan Center, enter the arena floor via Portal 15. Ushers are available to direct you to the Green Room once on the event floor. ([http://commencement.psu.edu/attending.html](http://commencement.psu.edu/attending.html))

Request Funds for Student Activities

**Fall 2011 Semester:** Proposals are due September 9, 2011

**Spring 2012 Semester:** Proposals are due December 2, 2011

Forms and procedures are in place for the 2011-2012 academic school year. For details and proposal forms, go to [http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm](http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm)
IMPORTANT DATES!

Fall College Student Club Fair
Wednesday, Aug. 31st
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Area Behind ASI Building

College of Ag Sciences Scholarship Banquet
Thursday, October 6th
5:30 PM
Penn Stater Conference Center

Ag Career Day
Tuesday, Oct. 18th
9 AM to 4 PM
Bryce Jordan Center

REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL ADVISING CONFERENCE

The Office for Undergraduate Education will sponsor 4 faculty and staff to attend the 2011 Annual Professional Development Conference on Academic Advising (http://www.psu.edu/dus/fallconf.html) to be held October 26 at The Penn Stater Conference Center. This year’s theme is “Advising for the Global Community” and promises to be an informative and educational program. The $80 registration fee (group rate) will be paid by OUE for applicants selected. To apply for the registration, email Terry Musser (txm4@psu.edu) by September 23 with the name, department, phone number and email address of all nominees. Those selected will be informed by September 30. All advisers are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity for an excellent one-day professional development experience in our own back yard. Office for Undergraduate Education.

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.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Forms and procedures are in place for the 2011-2012 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 Cathy McGinnis (cmm54@psu.edu). The College will contribute up to $1200 maximum for each approved Undergraduate Research projects (The Unit must agree to contribute at least $250). 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 2011 semester is Friday, September 9

FRESH START PROGRAM — August 27 — PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR NEW STUDENTS!

All students new to Penn State are invited to participate in Fresh START Day of Service on Saturday, August 27, at University Park. Fresh START (Students Taking an Active Role Today) is all about making new friends, helping the community, and getting rooted with service. Free food and t-shirts will be offered, too. For more information, visit Fresh START online or send an e-mail to psu-freshstart@gmail.com. To register, visit volunteer@psu.
Fall College Info and Club Fair

The 2011 College Info and Club Fair will be held Wednesday, **August 31, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM** on the grassy area behind the ASI greenhouses and across from Creamy patio. The purpose of the info fair is to introduce our College students new to University Park to college academic programs and clubs, organization and society opportunities. All academic programs and Department clubs, organizations and societies are invited to exhibit. Creamery ice cream will be served. Set up for the Fair is from 9:30 – 10:45 AM that morning. Tables will be provided.

Student Organization Success for Advisors

Plan to attend the Student Organization Success for Advisors session on **Thursday, September 15, 2011**, from 1:30-3:30 PM in 324 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, by September 12.

Announcing Fall 2011 Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The Fall 2011 Program Coordinator Meetings have been scheduled on the following days, **1:30-3:00 PM**:

- Wednesday, **September 21**, Room 504 ASI
- Tuesday, **October 25**, Room 118 ASI
- Wednesday, **November 30**, Room 504 ASI
- Tuesday, **December 20**, 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.
AgSci Career Network is Here!

Students and alumni are able to post resumes, find opportunities and search for career information all in one place. If you would like to see the system, visit https://live-psu-csm.symplicity.com and enter as an alumni with “nittany” as your password.

2011 Ag Career Day — Save the Date!

The College of Agricultural Sciences will hold its annual career day on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Bryce Jordan Center.

Companies have been directed to visit the College of Agricultural Sciences Business and Industry web site, http://agsci.psu.edu/business/recruitment. We still have plenty of room and need more companies to participate. Registration and more information about the event is available online at the Ag Career Day cVent site: http://agsci.psu.edu/students/opportunities/ag-career-day

In order to provide opportunities for all of our students, we request that you encourage industries and organizations that you work with to participate in Ag Career Day. You may direct them to the web site or contact Cathy McGinnis if you would like Ag Career Day information sent to specific industries.

Please mark this date on your calendars and fall course syllabuses, and encourage your students and industry connections to attend!

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

Fall 2011 Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) Schedule

The Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) meetings have been scheduled on the following dates at 1:30-3:00 PM in the conference room of 101 Ag. Administration Building.

• Thursday, September 8
• Thursday, November 10
• Thursday, October 13
**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. Also, a PDF of your proposal must be sent to the College Administrator (kjs8@psu.edu) 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](http://www.senate.psu.edu/senate_activity/newsletters.htm)
Invitation to Compete for $5000 - PSU Ag Business Springboard Competition

The College of Agricultural Sciences is sponsoring a business pitch competition this fall called Ag Business Springboard. Teams of 2-5 students* will present an investor pitch that addresses an AgSci business idea. The winning team will receive a $5,000 award. See http://agsci.psu.edu/springboard for additional details.

Contact Mark A. Gagnon, Entrepreneurship Coordinator (mag199@psu.edu) for additional information or to be placed on a list of students who are interested in forming a team.

*At least one team member must be a student in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Teams that bring together students across colleges at Penn State are encouraged. Team business ideas must address some aspect within the array of disciplines offered by AgSci from biological systems to food to alternative fuels, etc. Penn State undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to compete.

2011 College of Ag Sciences Teaching Recognition and Awards

To recognize and promote excellence in teaching, we invite you to nominate faculty (tenure-track and instructors) from your units for our three college-wide award programs: The Community of Teaching Excellence Award (est. 2000), and the NACTA Teaching Award of Merit (reinstituted in 2007) and the Paul R. and Joan M. Shellenberger Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (est. 2010).

Nominations and awards for these three are based on accomplishments during the past academic year (comprising the summer, fall, and spring semesters of 2010-11) in formal undergraduate and graduate instruction, including resident instruction and online instruction.

The Community of Teaching Excellence Award is offered solely through the college and can have multiple recipients on any given year. This recognition can also be received by an individual for multiple years, potentially leading to the induction of the individual into the Academy of Teaching Excellence.

The NACTA Teaching Award of Merit is awarded by the college to one individual each year as part of our institutional membership in the NACTA Association. In an attempt to properly recognize and encourage excellence in teaching in faculty early in their careers, tenure-track faculty and instructors with less than five (5) years of teaching experience at Penn State will be considered for the NACTA Teaching Award of Merit.

The Paul R. and Joan M. Shellenberger Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching is awarded by the college to one individual for one academic year. This award is to honor and recognize a full-time instructor who is an outstanding teacher contributing significantly to undergraduate education in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Consideration for this award shall be given to all full-time instructors with teaching appointments (non-tenure and not on tenure track) in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

Complete nomination packets for these teaching awards are available from your Unit Leader and must be submitted to Tracy S. Hoover, Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, College of Agricultural Sciences, 101 Ag Administration Bldg. by 5:00 PM on Friday, October 21, 2011.

Please feel free to contact Tracy Hoover (tsh102@psu.edu; or 865-7521) if you have any questions. All programs carry financial award and recognition.
Instructor Resources @ UP
Check out these Web sites for more information on…

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
https://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/

Specialized Software Installation
http://clc.its.psu.edu/labs/Instruction/

File Storage Options
http://clc.its.psu.edu/DiskSpace/

Collaborative Learning Spaces
http://tlit.its.psu.edu/learningspaces

Podcasts at Penn State
http://podcasts.psu.edu/

Penn State Testing Center
www.testing.psu.edu/

FALL 2011 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

August 15 - September 5  Intent to Graduate Activation Period
August 22  Classes Begin
August 31 - September 1  Drop/Add Period
September 5  Labor Day Holiday - No classes
September 26 - October 16  Final Exam Conflict Filing Period
November 11  Late Drop Deadline
November 20 - 26  Thanksgiving Holiday - No classes
December 9  Classes End
December 10 - 11  Study Days
December 12 - 16  Final Exams
December 17  Commencement