



THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Spring 2009 Commencement

The College of Agricultural Sciences Spring 2009 Commencement exercises will be held at Eisenhower Auditorium on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

We are pleased to have our very own Dr. Robert Steele

give the commencement address as this will be his final commencement as Dean.

Faculty are strongly encouraged to participate in the ceremony! Faculty should plan to arrive at Eisenhower Auditorium

at 8:30 a.m. and report directly to 310 Conference Room of Eisenhower Auditorium, with your academic regalia. More information is available at <http://students.cas.psu.edu/Commencement.htm> or <http://commencement.psu.edu/>.

## Ag Alumni Society Graduation Brunch

The Ag Alumni Society is pleased to invite you to be their guest at the Graduation Brunch on Saturday, May 16, 2009, in Gym I of the Intramural Building immediately following commencement ceremonies.

This special brunch, hosted by the Alumni Society, provides an opportunity for our newest graduates and their families to mingle with faculty, administrators, other graduates, and our alumni family. The brunch will be served as guests arrive.

We are happy to provide you with one complimentary ticket for the event, and additional tickets may be purchased at \$15 each; however, all tickets must be reserved in advance--there will be no admission at the door without tickets.

Please register online at [agalumni.cas.psu.edu](http://agalumni.cas.psu.edu). All reservations must be made by Monday, May 11, 2009. For more information please call 814/863-2822.

We look forward to having you with us to celebrate this happy event in the lives of our students!



## Spring 2009 PC Meeting Schedule

The remaining Spring 2009 Program Coordinator Meeting is scheduled from Noon-1:30 PM on:

- **Monday, May 18 – Room 118 ASI**

### Summer Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Office for Undergraduate Education is 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 except for May 20) for a fun and interesting discussion.

Date	Topic	Guest Speaker
May 20	The eLearning initiative – Room 133 Food Sciences Building	Suzanne Bienert
June 4	Recruiting and advising student athletes	Sandy Meyer
June 16	Interpreting the new SAT	Brett Hoffman
June 22	Recruiting and advising students from underrepresented groups	Randi Congleton
July 15	Developing and approving internships	Debbie McAllister
July 28	Petitioning for course substitutions	Kathy Pletcher

### Requesting Funds for Student Activities: Fall Semester Deadline is September 1, 2009

The Office for Undergraduate Education is here to serve the students and the various activities they participate in to represent the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. Funding is available to help cover travel, lodging, registration, and hosting costs associated with student activities. Procedures and forms are in place for the 2009-2010 academic school year and can be found at

<http://students.cas.psu.edu/RequestingFundsforStudentAct.htm>.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\***

**The deadline for requesting funds for the Fall 2009 semester is September 1, 2009.**

When requesting funds, please designate which category, competitive or non-competitive, the activity is and fill out the according paperwork. Funding for competitive events is reserved for judging teams and other competitive intercollegiate teams only. Non-competitive funding supports activities that foster

the professional and educational development of students involved in clubs and organizations in the College.

If you have questions about Requests for Funds proposals, contact the Office for Undergraduate Education at 814-865-7521, or Denise Connelly at [dcc6@psu.edu](mailto:dcc6@psu.edu).



## New Officers for Ag Student Council 2009-2010

The following officers have been elected to Ag Student Council for the 2009-2010 school year:

<b>President</b>	Tiffany Morgan	tdm5015@psu.edu
<b>Vice President</b>	Corey Chelko	ccm173@psu.edu
<b>Secretary</b>	Anne Hartman	axh5043@psu.edu
<b>Treasurer</b>	Brett Pifer	bhp5011@psu.edu
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Philip Slusser	pls176@psu.edu
<b>Web Master</b>	Samantha Greives	sjg5051@psu.edu
<b>Faculty Senate</b>	Corey Chelko	ccm173@psu.edu
<b>UPUA Academic Affairs Delegate</b>	Camila Roces	cxr5008@psu.edu
<b>UPUA General Assembly Rep</b>	Noah Creany	nec5044@psu.edu
<b>Academic Standards</b>	Elizabeth Beck	eab268@psu.edu
<b>Instruction and Curricular Affairs</b>	William Nichols	wrn5003@psu.edu
<b>Student Activities</b>	Robyn Bechtel	eb5135@psu.edu
<b>Senior Advisor</b>	Burt Staniar	wstaniar@psu.edu
<b>Junior Advisor</b>	Naveen Chikthimmah	nxc154@psu.edu

# Congratulations!

## EPA Summer Opportunities for Students

The EPA Summer Opportunities Website is now up and running! The EPA Jobs Website is located at: <http://www.epa.gov/careers>, and the direct link to the Summer Student Employment Opportunities Website is <http://www.epa.gov/ohr/student>. The EPA Summer Opportunities for Students Website is a hiring tool that will be useful for students looking for summer work and for EPA offices that have summer vacancies to fill. Having a central portal makes it easier for students to find information about specific areas in which they would like to work. Students also will be able to submit a job application directly to the EPA location that has a vacancy. For most offices, students may submit resumes up until May 29, 2009.

The EPA Environmental Careers Program (ECP), previously named the EPA Intern Program, is a comprehensive, entry-level, professional, full-time, career development program. It involves an intensive two-year assignment to help college and grad school graduates jump-start their careers and develop their potential for future advancement within the Agency. The ECP seeks graduates with a bachelor's or higher level degree in a variety of academic disciplines, including physical and life sciences, business, finance, computer sciences, policy and public administration.





# Backpack to Briefcase



Look here for related information about career, internship, and professional development opportunities that may benefit your student programs. If you have ideas or suggestions for programs associated with the Career and Internship Initiative, please contact Debbie McAllister at [djm415@psu.edu](mailto:djm415@psu.edu) or 814-865-7522.

## 2009 AG CAREER DAY!

The College of Agricultural Sciences will hold its annual career day on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 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 website, <http://agsci.psu.edu/business/events/ag-career-day>. A new opportunity for participating companies this year is a tour of the Food Science Building and Berkey Creamery. In mid-April, informational postcards were sent out to over 600 company contacts. If you would like printed materials to distribute about Ag Career Day to interested companies, please contact Debbie McAllister. Registration and more information about the event is available online at the [Ag Career Day CVENT site](#).

Ag Career Day is an excellent opportunity to connect students with industry professionals and related organizations right here on campus! Students will have the opportunity to search for internships, full time positions, and other professional opportunities. Companies will have the chance to meet and talk with our talented students in all fields of agriculture and life sciences. Mark this date on your calendars and fall course syllabuses. Please encourage your students and industry connections to attend. We look forward to making this a great event for our student programs!

## INTERNSHIP BROWN BAG LUNCH

As part of the Office for Undergraduate Education Summer Brown Bag Series, we will host a lunch discussion about internships. The Internship Brown Bag will be held on July 15, 2009 from 12 NOON to 1:00 PM at the Berkey Creamery. Many of our academic programs face similar challenges with students who are completing internships for academic credit. However, individual programs have their own "best management practices" for these challenges. So bring your lunch and camaraderie - you never know when your next good idea could hit!

## NACTA Conference, June 17-20, 2009, Oklahoma State University

Make plans now to attend the **NACTA Annual Conference, June 17-20, 2009**, hosted by **Oklahoma State University**, in Stillwater (<http://nactateachers2009.okstate.edu/>). The acronym NACTA stands for "North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture" (for more information on this organization, go to <http://www.nactateachers.org/>). The theme for this year's conference is **"Making Assessment Work For**

**You,"** but as with all NACTA Conferences, expect three days of educational-focused presentations (oral & posters) and discussions. Topics will cover the myriad of topics related to effective teaching and advising of students, development of academic programs, etc.

Once again this year, the Office for Undergraduate Education plans to provide partial travel support (up to \$500 per faculty) for a select number of Ag Sciences faculty from Penn State Ag Sciences submitting

abstracts for an oral or poster presentation at the conference. Please let Dr. J. Marcos Fernandez ([jmf28@psu.edu](mailto:jmf28@psu.edu)) know if you have submitted an abstract and are seeking travel support from the Undergraduate Ed Office.

By the way, Penn State and Happy Valley will host for the 2010 NACTA Conference!



## Welcome Newly Selected Ag Advocates for 2009-10

Sixteen new undergraduate students will join the Ag Advocate Team of ambassadors for the coming academic year. These students were chosen from a pool of more than 20 applicants to volunteer to assist the college in recruitment and retention activities.

### Joining the organization are:

Jessica Bradford, sophomore in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences from Harwick, PA  
 Dustin Brown, junior in Animal Sciences from Tyrone, PA  
 Courtney Cowden, freshman in Animal Sciences from Prosperity, PA  
 Mairén Fitzpatrick, junior in Animal Sciences from Granby, CT  
 Alyson Frederick, sophomore in Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences from Newark, DE  
 Anne Hartman, freshman in Agricultural Science from Bernville, PA  
 Samantha Pedder, sophomore in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Greensburg, PA  
 George Peters, sophomore in Turfgrass Science from Pennsylvania Furnace, PA  
 Sarah Peterson, sophomore in Immunology and Infectious Disease from Robesonia, PA  
 Orry Pratt, freshman in Animal Sciences from Meadville, PA  
 Ashley Quickel, junior in Animal Sciences from Flemington, NJ  
 Tyler Rice, sophomore in Agricultural Science from Mount Pleasant Mills, PA  
 Amanda Waite, sophomore in Animal Sciences from Middleburg, PA  
 Terri Woodling, sophomore in Animal Sciences from Beaver Springs, PA  
 Amy Yeiser, freshman in Animal Sciences from Arnold, MD  
 Alexander Youst, sophomore in Agricultural & Extension Education and Food Science from Reinholds, PA

### Fifteen Advocates are returning for another year of service:

Sarah Caldwell, junior in Agribusiness Management  
 Sarah Erdlen, senior, Community, Environment and Development  
 Ashley Harshbarger, senior, Agricultural and Extension Education  
 Janelle Hartzell, senior, Animal Sciences  
 Deidre Hepler, senior, Agribusiness Management  
 Agnes Lim, senior, Food Science  
 Kristina McAllister, senior, Animal Sciences  
 Tiffany Morgan, senior, Animal Sciences  
 Kimberly Moyer, sophomore, Agricultural and Extension Education  
 Kelly Over, junior, Agribusiness Management  
 Katie Poppiti, senior, Community, Environment and Development  
 Lisa Rankin, senior, Agribusiness Management  
 Lauren Ritchey, junior, Wildlife and Fisheries Science  
 Justin Valentine, junior, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences  
 Sarah Wickard, junior Animal Sciences

### Congratulations to the graduating senior Advocates:

Charlene Barlieb, Animal Sciences  
 Matthew Gardner, Immunology and Infectious Disease  
 Mark Lowery, Agricultural and Extension Education  
 Melissa Nau, Animal Bioscience  
 Christine Olarte, Environmental Resource Management  
 Chad Pelensky, Animal Bioscience  
 Hilary Peterson, Food Science  
 Ian Vranich, Agricultural Systems Management  
 Clare Wagner, Agroecology  
 David Wilson, Animal Sciences  
 Michael Woods, Agricultural and Extension Education





## New Faculty Orientation and Picnic

The 2009 orientation and President Spanier's picnic for new faculty will be held on Thursday, August 20th. The orientation begins at 8:00am. in the Boardroom at The Nittany Lion Inn followed by the picnic at Schreyer House from 5:30-7:30pm. Please mark these events on your calendar!

## Save the Date...

*Please note these important dates for the Fall 2009 semester—  
Mark your calendar and course syllabus!*

### College of Ag Sciences Scholarship Banquet

Monday, October 12th  
beginning at 5:30 p.m.  
Penn Stater Conference Center

### Ag Career Day

Tuesday, October 27th  
9:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.  
Bryce Jordan Center

**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.**



**PENNSSTATE**



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**ThinkAgain**

## SPRING 2009 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

<b>May 1</b>	<b>Withdrawal</b>
<b>May 1</b>	<b>Classes End</b>
<b>May 2-3</b>	<b>Study Days</b>
<b>May 4-8</b>	<b>Final Exams</b>
<b>May 16</b>	<b>Commencement</b>