



OFFICE FOR
UNDERGRADUATE
EDUCATION

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Ag-60 Elevator Idea Pitch Competition

To enter Ag60 submit your 60-second idea pitch using a public YouTube link to mag199@psu.edu by **March 8, 2013**.

The competition is open to all Penn State students that submit a 60 second video of a business or non-profit idea in the food & agriculture field. Many ideas from other disciplines have been applied to the food & ag space.



All competition entrants are invited to join us for a quick lunch and refreshments in the **ASI Lobby on Tuesday March 19th at 12:45 p.m.** to watch the **finalist pitch** their ideas live.

For pitch judging criteria and competition information go to: www.agsci.psu.edu/entrepreneur/competitions/ag-60

Harbaugh Entrepreneurship Forum

Hold the date for this spring's Harbaugh Entrepreneurship Forum scheduled on **April 9th at 6:00 p.m. in Room 112 Forest Resources Building**. Contact Dr. Mark Gagnon (mag119@psu.edu) for additional information.

Excellence in Academic Advising—Call for Nominations

The Ag Alumni Society annually recognizes faculty with outstanding skills in undergraduate academic advising, career planning, and personal counseling. Previous Excellence in Academic Advising Award recipients are Nancy Dreschel, John Ewing and Phil Clauer. Nominations are now being accepted from alumni, faculty members, students, and administrators. Nomination information should include the following:

1. A one-page document giving biographical (personal and academic) information. Appropriate material might include the nominee's advising schedule within the last three years and the nominee's academic history and accomplishments.
2. A one-page document supporting the candidate with an emphasis on advising effectiveness.

3. Additional material from students, alumni and faculty which supports the nomination. This additional material shall be limited to no more than five letters from current students, no more than five letters from alumni, and no more than five additional letters. The emphasis should be the effectiveness of advising and the positive influence of the advisor on students.



Details can be found online at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/alumni/awards/college/academic-advising/nomination-information>

For additional information, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 814-865-2717 or ag-alumni@psu.edu.

The Penn State Institutional Research Interest Group Presents:

Data Tools to Help Student Success

Thursday, March 14, 2013
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
508 Rider Building

Presenters **Andrew Kelly**, Data Analyst, Eberly College of Science; and **Curt Marshall**, Coordinator of Multicultural Programs, College of Arts and Architecture will discuss a tool to examine whether students meet the prerequisites for their registered courses and a query used to identify students with financial holds on their records. You are invited to attend, via either Adobe Connect Pro webinar or in person. Adobe Connect Pro is simple to use. Penn State provides the service university-wide, and participants shouldn't need to install or purchase anything. After you've registered, you will receive the information you need to connect.

The Institutional Research Interest Group is a community of practice whose goal is to help strengthen Penn State's capacity to use data for informed plan-

ning and decision making. More information is available at ir.psu.edu. Participation in the IR Interest Group by any interested faculty member, staff, administrators or student is welcome.

To register for this free event, please call the Office of Planning and Institutional Assessment at (814) 863-8721, or email psupia@psu.edu. **Please indicate whether you plan to attend in person or via Adobe Connect Pro.**

NSO is Coming!

New Student Orientation is now the name of the orientation program for all new students (no longer called "FTCAP"). This year's overall NSO dates are May 20 – July 19 excluding May 27 and July 4 and 5. Students admitted to the College of Agricultural Sciences and their families will be attending the afternoon College meeting in the Food Science Building at 1:30 p.m. each day for 25 of these days. NSO will also be held August 20-23 for international students and students who were unable to attend NSO between May 20 and July 19. Details are coming for specific dates and locations, so stay tuned.

Financial Literacy Research Guide

Since April is Financial Literacy month, a research guide for students on financial literacy was created by Penn State Libraries and is available at: <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/researchguides/business/financialliteracy.html>

Summer and Fall 2013 Undergraduate Research Proposal Deadlines

SUMMER 2013 undergraduate research proposals are due **by 5:00 p.m. on April 5, 2013**. The College will contribute up to \$3,000 maximum for each approved proposal.

FALL 2013 undergraduate research proposals are due **by 5:00 p.m. on April 26, 2013**. The College will contribute up to \$1,750 maximum for each approved proposal.

Submit your proposals to **Richard J. Rateau, 110 Agricultural Administration Building**. Proposal forms and additional information are available at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/students/research>.



Disability Services Webinars

Topic: Faculty Issues and the ADA Webinar

Date: March 18

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Adobe Connect via the web. The url for the Adobe Connect site is: <https://meeting.psu.edu/dcltraining/> Simply enter the site through the web address and use your PSU log in credentials or PSU Guest credentials. The webinar session will last for 90 minutes (we will be available afterwards for continuing a discussion).

Description: An exploration of the obligation to properly manage the participation of faculty in the accommodation process and the keys to balancing academic integrity and academic access issues. You can replay this webinar - look for the topic on the registration page.

Topic: Students with Asperger Syndrome Webinar

Date: April 19

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Adobe Connect via the web. The url for the Adobe Connect site is: <https://meeting.psu.edu/dcltraining/> Simply enter the site through the web address and use your PSU log in credentials or PSU Guest credentials. The webinar session will last for 90 minutes (we will be available afterwards for continuing a discussion).

Description: Dr. Jane Thierfeld-Brown, one of the country's leading authorities, joined Salome to discuss access issues that are unique to accommodating students with Aspergers. They explore strategies that can be employed in designing academic adjustments.

Both webinars are produced by Salome Heyward, for a description, go to: <http://salomeheyward.info/upcoming-events.html>.

Link UP 2013—Date Saver

Link UP is an opportunity for first-year Penn State students considering a campus change to visit University Park and learn more about their intended major and the change-of-campus process.

Date/Time: Saturday, April 6, 2013, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (with optional campus tours at 9:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m.)

Location: HUB-Robeson Center - University Park Campus

Event Goals: Provide an opportunity for students to:

- Visit the University Park campus and learn about campus resources
- Meet with representatives of their academic colleges
- Learn more about the change-of-campus process
- Begin to understand the advanced planning and timing necessary for a successful transition
- Discover which other Penn State campuses offer their intended major
- Meet other potential change-of-campus students

Tentative Schedule:

9:00 a.m. – Optional Campus Tour
 10:00 a.m. – Registration and Continental Breakfast
 10:30 a.m. – Opening Session & Welcome
 11:30 a.m. – Lunch at Dining Commons and Mini Campus Tour
 1:00 p.m. – College Meetings
 2:30 p.m. – Student Panel
 3:00 p.m. – Resource Fair
 4:00 p.m. – Optional Campus Tour

College Meetings: Students will attend the meeting for the college in which they are enrolled. Students who are planning to change colleges should make this change in enrollment prior to the LINK UP event.

How to Register: Registration is required and will be completed through students' current campus of enrollment.

- February 1– Registration site opens
- March 22 – Campus registrations due
- Link UP can accommodate 40 students per campus; however additional students may be able to attend. Please keep a wait list of interested students.

Cost: Campuses will be responsible for providing transportation to/from Link UP. University Park will cover expenses for each student (including continental breakfast, lunch, and all sessions). Some campuses have charged a fee to offset the transportation cost. Other campuses have decided to charge students to hold their seat and return the money when they arrive for the bus.

Additional Details: A final schedule and details (including parking information) will be provided as soon as possible. The content for this event is targeted to first-year students; however, sophomores have attended in the past and found the event to be valuable in their campus change process. Please give priority to first-year students.

Contact: Cyndy Biek, Assistant Director, New Student Programs, 102 Wagner Building, University Park, PA 16802
 814-865-4178, czb12@psu.edu





On-line Reporting Child Abuse Training

On **February 28, 2013**, the new online training program “Reporting Child Abuse” will be available to all Penn State employees at psuohrlearning.skillport.com. The training is not designed to address the entire issue of child abuse, but it has been specifically designed for Penn State employees and Authorized Adults to ensure you understand policies/laws, your responsibilities around reporting, and the reporting protocol.

You should expect to receive a welcome message from SkillSoft (the company we are partnering with to deliver the training) via email. The message will have instructions to login to the SkillPort system (including your login credentials for the training). You will then be taken to the SkillPort landing page, where you will be able to access the Reporting Child Abuse training. Instructions will be available on the site to help you navigate through the course.

Under policy AD72, all Penn State employees are required to complete the training each calendar year. It will be important, once you complete the training, to retain a copy of your Certificate of Completion. If you are classified as an Authorized Adult under policy AD39, you will have to complete a background check and the training annually prior to working with minors. You will need to produce a copy of the certificate of completion, prior to working with minors, to the program or unit where you are working with minors.

If you have questions regarding the training the following link <http://ohr.psu.edu/learning/skillport/fag> will take you to an FAQ sheet. If you have problems accessing the training, contact the ITS Service help desk at ITSServiceDesk@psu.edu or (814)865-HELP (4357). **Questions about the training itself can be directed to the Center for Workplace Learning & Performance (CWLP) at learning@psu.edu or (814)865-8216.**

Undergraduate Program Coordinator Meeting Schedule

The Spring 2013 Program Coordinator Meetings are scheduled at **1:30-3:00 PM** on the following dates and locations:

Monday, March 25	Room 118 ASI
Tuesday, April 23	Room 217 Forest Resources
Thursday, May 16	Room 118 ASI

Please mark your calendars and note the room locations. We welcome your input and ideas for agenda items, so please feel free to add an item for discussion at these meetings.



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

Welcome Jenneth Layaou—Coordinator of Campus Enrollment and Retention

We are pleased to announce Ms. Jenneth Layaou has joined the Office for Undergraduate Education and serves as the College Coordinator of Campus Enrollment and Retention. Jenneth is responsible for planning, coordinating, and communicating the College of Agricultural Sciences' student retention programs and activities at Commonwealth Campuses. She will coordinate and promote interactions between University Park and Commonwealth Campus College of Agricultural Sciences associated faculty and staff. In addition to coordinating our campus enrollment and retention, she will also manage Ag LEAP.

Jenneth brings an extensive knowledge of data warehouse and will coordinate data retrieval and reporting for national and college databases.

Jenneth is joining us from the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences where she served as an Academic Advisor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

Her office phone is 867-0383 and her email is jrl1145@psu.edu. Her office is located in 139 Agricultural Administration Building.

Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee Schedule

The Student Recruitment and Enrollment Committee (SREC) will meet on the following dates, times, and locations Spring 2013:

March 13 **9:00-10:30 AM, 110 ASI Building**
May 1 **9:00-10:30 AM, 110 ASI Building**



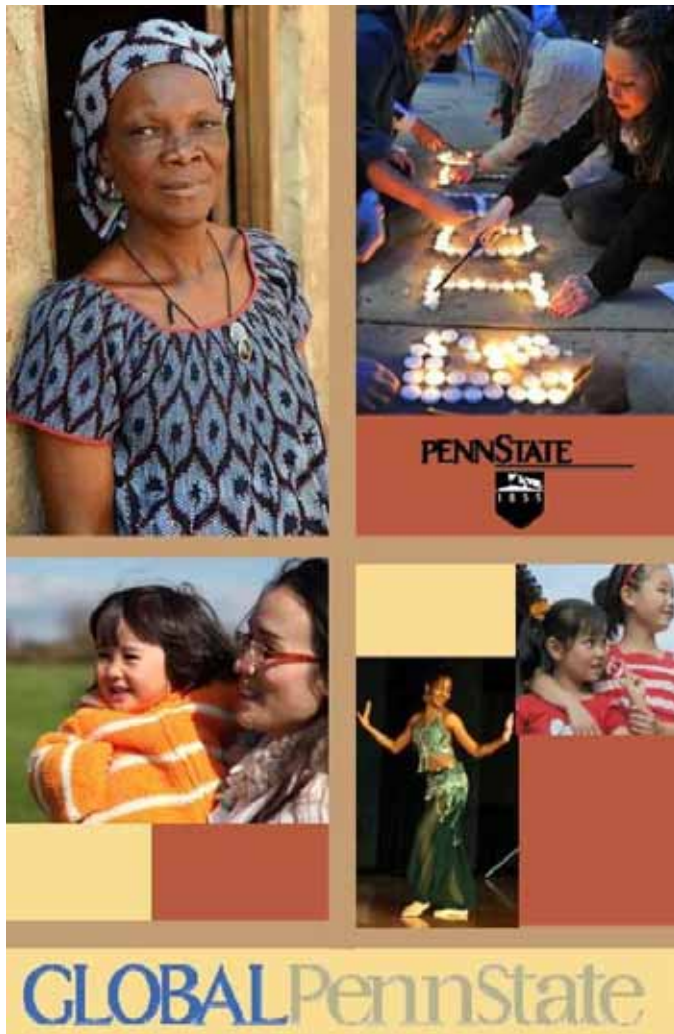
College of Agricultural Sciences Instruction & Curricular Affairs Committee Calendar 2012-2013

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 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

International Women's Day Breakfast



Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.
Nittany Lion Inn Ballroom

Keynote Speaker Dr. Susan Russell, Assistant Professor in the School of Theatre and Artistic Director of Cultural Conversations

“The Obligation of Opportunity”

Women hold the majority of corporate middle management positions, women are the majority work force in government work, education, health, human resources, and financial activities, and women dominate higher education at every degree level. Statistics like this are based on measurable data, but data cannot measure the social impact women have on a culture. What if all it takes is a moment? What if all it takes is taking a stand? What if this is your moment?

Local women will be honored with **Spirit of Internationalization Awards**

To make reservations for the breakfast, email Sandi Richter at smr274@psu.edu. **Tickets are \$12.00/person payable by cash, check, or IDCC.** Cash/checks will be donated to Stormbreak Girl's Group Home, part of the Youth Service Bureau. (Checks can be made out to “Youth Service Bureau” with “Stormbreak” in the memo.) E-mail IDCC to qum1@psu.edu. Penn State funds will not contribute to the donation.

Nominations Open for the Henson Diversity Achievement Award

Nominations are now open for the 2012-2013 College of Agricultural Sciences Dr. William L. Henson Diversity Achievement Award. This award recognizes demonstrated commitment to fostering an environment, in which the values of diversity and multiculturalism are understood, developed and promoted. All full-time College faculty and staff are eligible to receive the award. Nominations may be made by students, faculty, staff, extension educators, alumni or clientele of the College of Agricultural Sciences.

The award has been named for Dr. William L. Henson, who retired from the College in 1999. Dr. Henson

served for many years in our College, first as a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology and for several years as Assistant to the Dean for Minority Affairs. Dr. Henson is deceased and the College wishes to memorialize this award in his honor.

Nominations may be submitted online at <http://agsci.psu.edu/faculty-staff/awards/diversity-achievement-award> and will be accepted until **Friday, March 22, 2013.**

Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Announcement

Nominations for the Annual Competition for the Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award, sponsored by Penn State's University Libraries and the Schreyer Honor's College, are being solicited. Once again, we need your assistance in reaching out to college advisors and department heads to make them aware of this opportunity and award.

The University Libraries initiated the award as a way to emphasize the importance of developing quality research methods, and developing a thorough understanding of the legal and ethical issues related to the use of information – key components of academic excellence.

Through this award, the University Libraries seek to encourage excellence in the research process of locating, evaluating, and utilizing appropriate information resources.

An award is given to the student with the outstanding undergraduate thesis, as determined by a jury of librarians and other Penn State faculty. First place is awarded \$1,000, second place is awarded \$500, and third place is awarded \$250. Three final-

ists will be required to present a 30-minute public oral defense of his or her thesis.

For Schreyer Scholars, the thesis is the capstone of their honors experience at Penn State, and this competition celebrates research methodology and scholarship, conducted thoroughly and with integrity.

Details, including online submission forms, are available at <http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/admin/thesisaward.html>

To be considered, students must:

- Be nominated by or have a statement of support from a Penn State faculty member or thesis/honors advisor;
- Submit a thesis summary (250 words) between Friday, **January 18** and Monday, **March 18** (by 5:00 p.m.);
- **Submit thesis by Monday, April 8, 2013**

If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Confer at 814-863-4723 or sandy.confer@psu.edu.

Distinguished Honors Faculty Program

The Schreyer Honors College invites applications from interested faculty members to be a part of the newly created Distinguished Honors Faculty Program (DHF).

The creation of the Distinguished Honors Faculty program closely aligns with the college's mission to provide our students with a dynamic environment in which they will achieve academic excellence with integrity, build a global perspective, and embrace opportunities for leadership and civic engagement. Our goal is to graduate Schreyer Scholars who will have an important and ethical influence in the world, affecting academic, professional, civic, social, and business sectors.

We also recognize that at Penn State we have outstanding, world-renowned faculty engaged in often groundbreaking research. It is our belief that bringing together Schreyer Scholars with this group of eminent researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and intellectuals through innovative programs is an ideal fit between students and faculty who share a passion for learning, exploration, and achievement; therefore, we have created this new program

to increase academic engagement between our high-performing Scholars and outstanding faculty members.



The role of the Distinguished Honors Faculty will be to engage with a broad spectrum of Schreyer Scholars in an academic setting. The engagement might be in the form of teaching a new elective class or a series of targeted seminars. While we can think of many ideas and programs, we want to leave it up to the Distinguished Honors Faculty to decide what type of program would have the greatest impact on exposing Scholars to their interests. If you have ever thought about working with Schreyer Scholars and have ideas on how to engage them, or if you just want to learn more about the program, please feel free to contact me.

Details

This will be a two-year position with possibility of renewal for one extra year. You will have access to \$4,250 per year to spend on your program.

In addition to whatever ideas you might have on engaging the Schreyer Scholars, we do require at least one fireside chat each semester, in which you sit down with a group of Schreyer Scholars in either of the honors residence halls, Atherton or Simmons, and discuss in an informal setting your favorite topic. All of the other ways in which you engage the Scholars will be your choice. We will help you with the organization of the events and logistics (booking of facilities, ordering food, etc.). All we want is for you to engage with the Schreyer Scholars in meaningful, interesting, and academically focused activities.

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Distinguished Honors Faculty, submit a two- to three-page proposal on how you wish to engage our Scholars along with a copy of your Curriculum Vitae (CV) by **Friday, March 15, 2013 to Arun Upneja**, 10 Shreyer Honors College (aupneja@psu.edu)

2013 NACTA National Conference– Call for Abstracts



Call for NACTA/DOCE Abstracts for the 2013 Conference

Submission deadline: **March 20, 2013**

The 2013 NACTA conference will be held June 25-29 at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. This conference will be a joint meeting with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Division of Community and Education (DOCE).

The theme for the 2013 NACTA Conference is *"Crossing Disciplinary Bounda-*

ries." Accepted abstracts that address the theme will be given first priority for oral presentations. Authors will be given the option to request an oral presentation, but it will be up to the host committee to make the final selection and timetabling of oral presentations. All other abstracts will be poster presentations.

The 2013 NACTA Conference will serve as a venue for faculty in agricultural, environmental, natural, and life sciences to share their information on the theme of *"Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries."* as well as to share innovative teaching or advising ideas, scholarship of teaching, and other pertinent information. Abstracts are to fall within one of the three following

topic areas: Innovative Teaching Approaches; Learning Outcomes; and, Scholarly Research Approaches.

View examples of poster/presentation titles from 2012 Conference at: <http://www.nactateachers.org/2012-58th-university-of-wisconsin-river-falls.html>.

As in the past, the Office for Undergraduate Education will continue to provide partial travel support for College of Ag Sciences' faculty/staff presenting papers (oral/poster) and/or participating in one of the NACTA Committees.

Additional information and link to submit abstract are available online at: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/nacta/>

Congratulations Faculty Award Recipients



Nancy Dreschel recently received the **2013 National Academic Advising Association Excellence in Advising – Faculty award**. This award is given in recognition of her demonstrated abilities as a faculty advisor in the region. In the judgment of the selection committee, Dr. Dreschel demonstrated the qualities associated with excellence in advising.

Presentation of this award will be made during a ceremony at the Region 2 Conference at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick in New Brunswick, New Jersey March 14-16.

Majid R. Foolad and Heather Karsten were recently selected as inaugural *Textbook Heroes* by the University Park Undergraduate Association Textbook Advocacy Group. To qualify, students nominate professors who exemplify cost-effectiveness and learning effectiveness when it comes to textbooks. To read about these and other textbook heroes, visit: <http://www.textbookssuck.org/textbook-heroes.html>



PENNSSTATE



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The Pennsylvania State University
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University Park, PA 16802-2602
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ThinkAgain

SPRING 2013 COLLEGE & ACADEMIC CALENDAR

April 5	Late Drop Deadline
April 26	Withdrawal Deadline
April 26	Classes End
April 29-May 3	Final Exams
May 3-5	Commencement