Gaussoin appointed Department Head

At an Agronomy and Horticulture Department faculty and staff meeting on May 4, Dr. Ron Yoder, IANR Associate Vice Chancellor, announced that Dr. Roch Gaussoin agreed to serve as the permanent department head effective July 1, 2012. He has been the interim department head since last July.

In his announcement, Dr. Yoder said that Dr. Gaussoin’s vision, compassion, and decisiveness match with the IANR leadership team. The selection of Dr. Gaussoin to this leadership position followed a faculty and staff survey that indicated strong support for hiring him. Dr. Yoder said the results of the survey were very consistent with the observations of IANR administrators.

Also at the meeting, Dr. Gaussoin announced that Dr. Richard Ferguson has agreed to serve as the associate department head starting on July 1. He has been serving in a similar capacity for the last year.

In an email announcement about Dr. Gaussoin’s selection as department head, Vice Chancellor Ronnie Green wrote, “Dr. Gaussoin has served very ably as Interim Head since July 1, 2011, and has overwhelmingly broad support from the faculty and staff in the department. The Agronomy and Horticulture Department has made many contributions to the success of agriculture and the plant sciences in Nebraska and around the world, and I am certain the faculty and staff will add significantly to those contributions under Roch’s leadership in the coming years.”

Nine Elected to Staff Advisory Committee

Cheryl Bogenrief, Aaron Franco, Mike Livingston, Diane Nolan, Martha Rowe, David Scoby, Doug Schrader, Susan Thomas and Jeff Witkowski were elected and have agreed to serve on the Agronomy and Horticulture Department Staff Advisory Committee (SAC). Congratulations to these new representatives!

The first organizational meeting for the committee will be Wednesday, June 13, 10 a.m., 279M PLSH. If you have items you would like the committee to discuss, please visit with one of the committee members.

- Richard Ferguson, associate department head

Mark Your Calendars!

May 28: Memorial Day, Offices closed and no classes scheduled.
May 29: Winter Wheat Variety Test Plot Tour, 6–8:30 p.m., 1 mile south and ½ mile west of the intersection of Hwys. 41 and 241 (Dennis Broz, cooperator).
June 5: UNL First Five Weeks Summer Session begins.
June 5: Guest Seminar with Dr. David C. Nielsen, Research Agronomist, USDA–ARS Central Great Plains Research Station, Akron, Colo., 9–10 a.m. 150 Keim, “Precipitation Capture and Water Use in Central Great Plains Dryland Cropping Systems.” Meet and Greet to follow.
June 13: Department Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting, 10 a.m., 279M PLSH.
June 18–22: 2012 Nebraska Range Short Course, Chadron State College, Chadron. To register, visit the website at: http://agronomy.unl.edu/nebraskarangeshortcourse.
June 22: Retirement celebration for Elbert Dickey and Beth Birnstihl, 2–4 p.m., Hardin Hall. A program begins at 3:00 p.m. Send letters to Carla Werner, 211 Ag. Hall, 0703.
June 25: CASNR’s 140th Birthday.

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Department Migrates to Office 365 Email

By Warren Werner

Migration to the new Microsoft Outlook email is in full swing. If you haven’t migrated yet, please check your computer to make sure it has Outlook 2010 installed. This will streamline the process, as the longest part involves updating everyone’s PCs. Actually activating someone’s Outlook account only takes a few minutes, and once that happens, the Notes account starts the migration process. Also, the remote sites can self-migrate at any time, though they may be limited to the web client until they get Outlook 2010 installed on their computers.

Instructions for self-migration can be found at http://is.unl.edu/emailhome.

In addition, organizational or “Org” accounts need to be migrated separately. Please contact me directly so I can get those accounts migrated.

The deadline for migration is coming up fast (at the end of June), at which time all incoming email to Lotus Notes will stop, whether you are migrated or not. If you have successfully migrated to Outlook, please share your findings and successes with your co-workers. For more information, contact Warren Werner, wwerner2@unl.edu, or 402-890-5648.

News from the HAPPI Business Center

Service Center Offers Alternative for Equipment Replacement

Do you have new major equipment in your lab that you will need to replace one day? Do you have ongoing repairs for your major equipment that can’t be paid by grants? Consider setting up a service center!

A service center is what the university allows us to set up in order to charge for services provided internally within the university. The rates are set on a break-even formula taking into account all of the expenses related to the service center. It is a way to recapture the purchase price of the equipment for eventual replacement and pay for repairs and consumables involving the equipment.

If anyone is interested this possibility, please contact Sue or me.

– Ben Lennander, 472-6238, blennander2@unl.edu

Tour Planned at Winter Wheat Test Plot

A Winter Wheat Variety Test Plot Tour will be held Tuesday, May 29, from 6–8:30 p.m., 1 mile south and ½ mile west of the intersection of Highways 41 and 241 (GPS Coordinates 40.4657°N and 97.094°W).

Speakers include cooperator Dennis Broz, Dr. Teshome Regassa, Dr. Stephen Baenziger, Dr. Stephen Wegulo, Dr. Bob Wright, and Extension Educators Paul Hay and Randy Pryor.
Information For and About Grad. Students
Submit ARD Fellowship Applications by June 4, 2012
The Agricultural Research Division (ARD) is announcing its annual graduate student fellowships. Please refer to the following webpage for information and nomination forms: http://ard.unl.edu/graduate-student-fellowships. The nominations must be submitted to Marlene Busse, mbusse1@unl.edu, 472-1560, 279K PLSH, 0915, by Monday, June 4th, 2012. Please let Marlene know if you have any questions.

Snell Awarded Chapline Fellowship
Laura Snell, M.S. graduate student in range and forage science, was awarded the W.R. Chapline Fellowship. The award is given annually to the outstanding student in the range and forage science specialization at UNL. Laura is advised by Dr. John Guretzky. Congratulations Laura!

Information from the Office Pros
Office Pros Launch new Webpage
The Office Pros have created a new webpage geared toward helping department faculty, staff, and students find information, forms, and contact names quickly and easily. The site is at http://agronomy.unl.edu/officepros. Feel free to browse through the tabs and forms and explore what is there. For suggestions or changes, please email Kathy Schindler, kschindler1@unl.edu.

Wellness Opportunity: Tour de Lincoln
Explore a Different Part of Lincoln by Bike Every Week
The Tour de Lincoln, a fun biking event that the Great Plains Trail Network is hosting, is coming up soon. Each week, starting next Thursday, May 31st, a ride will depart from the Jayne Snyder Trails Center at 21st and Q and explore trails in a different quadrant of Lincoln. No registration is necessary, just show up ready to ride. Notes: 1) Helmets are required. 2) And there will be (free!) snacks.

The dates and times are:
1. Thursday May 31, 6 p.m.: Southeast Lincoln
2. Saturday, June 9, 9:30 a.m.: Northeast Lincoln
3. Thursday, June 14, 6 p.m.: Northwest Lincoln
4. Thursday, June 21, 6 p.m.: Southwest Lincoln

Download the Tour de Lincoln flyer (PDF) for more information. Thanks to Dave Scoby for the heads-up!

– Aaron Franco, wellness coordinator

In the News
Three Turfgrass and Landscape Management students were featured in the news after being selected for top internships this summer.

Robert Butler of Kearney is interning with the USGA Green Section for one week and then at Oakland Hills in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., for the remainder of the summer. Jacob Royal of Eagle will be interning with the Minnesota Vikings. The third student, Jeremy Johnson of Lincoln, has landed an internship with the 2008 World Series champion Philadelphia Phillies.

"It says a lot for our department," said UNL agronomy and horticulture professor Zac Reicher. "These are really good students that will do well in their internships and it doesn’t take long for professionals to start talking and know that our students are very qualified."

To see the entire article, see: http://newsroom.unl.edu/announcement/ianrnews/1298/7693.

Poster Wins Recognition
Grace Troupe, an Agronomy & Horticulture junior, won second place at the Undergraduate Research Fair on April 5. Each student winner received a $250 university bookstore voucher. Grace is advised by Dr. Brian Waters.

Newsletter Details
The Agronomy and Horticulture newsletter is published twice a month. To submit announcements, please contact Kathy Schindler, 402-472-1508, kschindler1@unl.edu.