Another Summer Comes to a Close.....

With summer’s closure brings the incoming producers, educators and scientists of tomorrow. If you haven’t figured it out yet, I am talking about the return of our students.

The first week of the fall semester is an on-campus sensory explosion; a combination of kinetic and apprehensive energy. The majority of this energy (as well as a decrease in open parking spaces and the increase in the line at the East Campus Union and Dairy Store) arises from the students.

One of our most critical responsibilities as faculty and staff in the department is to help the students, especially those here for the first time, adapt to their new surroundings. Customer service, with the student as the customer, is crucial.

If a student appears confused and wandering the halls, take the time to ask them if you can help. If they approach in the office or at your desk and ask a question, help them if you can and if you don’t know the answer, find somebody who does. Extend a helping hand, say hello and smile when you pass them in the hall, and make them feel welcome. It is minimal effort with potentially maximum impact.

I close with an edited Michelangelo quote that appears apropos, at least in my opinion.

Have a great semester.

“Every block of stone has a statue inside it and it is the task of the sculptor to discover it” — Michelangelo

REG
Calendar of Events

Oct. 9–10: The Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Section of the Society for Range Management, Ainsworth, Neb.

Oct. 11: Department Seminar, Dr. Archie Clutter, 3:30–4:30 p.m., 150 Keim, Pre-reception at 3 p.m.

Oct. 18: Dreier Lecture in Agronomy, Dr. Noel Vietmeyer, 3–5 p.m., Arbor Room, Nebraska East Union, Pre-reception at 3 p.m.


Oct. 25: Department Seminar, Dr. Ronnie Green, 3:30–4:30 p.m., 150 Keim, Pre-reception at 3 p.m.

Nov. 1: Department Seminar, Leah Sandall, 3:30–4:30 p.m., 150 Keim, Pre-reception at 3 p.m.


Nov. 9: Viticulture Fall Workshop, Nebraska City, topics and timing TBA.

Nov. 28–Dec. 1: Thanksgiving vacation, UNL is closed.

Dec. 18: “Adaptive Strategic Planning” for Agronomy & Horticulture faculty, all day, location TBD, Facilitated by Dr. Barton Wechsler, University of Missouri.

Jan. 7–9, 2014: Nebraska turf Conference, LaVista Conference Center, LaVista, Neb.

Jan. 7–23, 2014: Crop Production Clinics, more information will be announced later.

Congratulations to UNL Weeds Team

The University of Nebraska—Lincoln Weeds Team participated in the 2013 North Central Weed Science Society Summer Contest that was held on July 25 near Monmouth, Ill.

A total of 22 graduate, Doctor of Plant Health and undergraduate students participated in the contest under the supervision of Greg Kruger, Asst. Prof. and Lowell Sandell, Asst. Exten. Educator.

UNL placed third in the graduate student division. The same team also won the sprayer calibration section.

The UNL undergraduate team placed second overall while Jesaelen Moreas placed second as the individual undergraduate, and Greg Rentschler won the undergraduate unknown herbicide section.

Lowell stated that a total of 14 graduate teams and 11 undergraduate teams participated in the 2013 contest from universities across the North Central Region.
Calendar of Events

**Feb. 27–Mar. 1, 2014:** 17th Annual Nebraska Winery and Grape Growers Forum and Trade Show, Kearney Holiday Inn, Kearney, Neb.

Call for Applications

U.S. Borlaug Fellows Graduate Research Grant

**Application Deadline:** Monday, Nov. 11, 2013

The U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security graduate research grant supports exceptional graduate students who are interested in developing a component of their graduate research in a developing country setting and in collaboration with a mentor from an International Agricultural Research Center (IARC) or a qualifying National Agricultural Research System (NARS) unit.

U.S. citizenship is required, and applicants must be enrolled in an accredited U.S. graduate program at the time of application.

A program summary and application materials are available at the program website (http://www.purdue.edu/borlaugfellows).

Harvest Field Day Held Aug. 10

Dr. Paul Read addressed the Harvest Field Day attendees at Kimmel Orchard in Nebraska City. Photo by Steve Gamet.

The 2013 Harvest Field Day, held Aug. 10, at Kimmel Orchard in Nebraska City, was a great success. The 30 attendees enjoyed great weather, lunch and conversation. Dr. Paul Read conducted informative presentations on “Crop Estimation and Adjustment,” “How To Use A Refractometer to Measure °Brix,” “Grape Fertilization and Nutrition,” and “Canopy Management.” There was also discussion on Herbicide Drift — how to recognize it and what to do if you observed in a vineyard.

“The success of the workshop was the result of the participation in discussions. Their great questions and input made it one of our best Field Days” said Dr. Read.

For details, please visit http://agronomy.unl.edu/viticulture.

Mob Grazing Demonstration Day Held on July 25

A view of the mob herd moving into a new pasture. Photo by Aaron Franco.

The 2013 UNL Mob Grazing Demonstration Day was held at the Rusty Star Cattle Company near Ainsworth, Neb., showcasing on-ranch mob grazing management.

This field day was organized by several UNL faculty members including Dr. Walter Schacht, Dr. John Guretzky, Dr. Jerry Volesky, Dr. Martha Mamo, Dr. Matt Stockton, and Post. Doc. Rsch. *Assoc. Ana* Wingeyer as part of the USDA-NRCS-Conservation Innovation Grants on Demonstrating Mob Grazing Impacts.

The project aims to demonstrate the influence of mob grazing on range-land vegetation composition and productivity, soil and water quality, and soil carbon sequestration, alongside conventional rotational grazing systems currently used in the Sandhills.

The research is conducted on three collaborating ranches in the Sandhills where monitoring of soil and vegetation was established in both upland and meadow sites in spring 2012.

More than 60 people attended the field day including ranchers, NRCS staff, students, extension educators, and other clients.
Congratulations

Richard Ferguson
2013 SSSA Fellow

Roch Gaussoin
CSSA Extension Award

Sally Mackenzie
2013 ASBP Award

Darrell W. Nelson
2013 Soil Science Distinguished Service Award

Ellen Paparozzi
2013 ASHS Fellow

Announcements
Liferay Notification

On Friday, Aug. 30, 8 a.m. through Monday Sept. 1, 5 p.m., UNL faculty and staff are asked not to update any UNL websites. As part of a testing process, the IT department will need to copy the database of the current data over to the testing server.

New Forms on Staff Drive

Please be advised that travel and non-travel expense vouchers have been updated on the staff drive under the FORMS folder and on the Office Pros website: http://agronomy.unl.edu/officepros.

The updates were made in July by the UNL Accounting Office and emphasize that itemized meal receipts and original signatures are required on the forms. UNL will only reimburse $4.99 for meal receipts that aren’t itemized to show the specific or particular food purchase.

NTA Turf Field Day Held on July 24

The Nebraska Turfgrass Association’s Turf Field Day turned out to be a great success with beautiful summer weather to welcome more than 220 attendees, numerous turf professionals and exhibitors. The Field Day was organized by Zac Reicher, Keenan Amundsen, Wendy Morrissey, and the staff at the John Seaton Anderson Turfgrass Research Center.

The event had many highlights and memorable moments as several graduate students presented their current research projects. The large array of topics included several interesting topics. “ULV sprayers in turfgrass update” to “Maximizing success in dormant seeding,” “Diseases in turf, trees and ornamentals,” “Turf colorants both mask and protect turf from stress,” “Ever changing populations of annual bluegrass,” “Nutraceuticals from turf... an ongoing story,” “Turfgrass morphology and identification,” etc. were among the presentations during the three different research tour stops.

A complete list of the current research projects can be obtained by contacting Zac Reicher (zreicher2@unl.edu), or Wendy Morrissey (wmorrissey2@unl.edu).

Crop Management Diagnostic Clinics Held July 18

“Several new herbicides came to the market in the last few years that are tank mixtures of already existing herbicides for weed control in corn” said Amit Jhala, Asst. Prof. and Ext. Weed Mgmt. Specialist, during his presentation at the Crop Management Diagnostic Clinics (CMDCs) held on July 18 at the Agriculture Research and Development Center (ARDC) in Mead, Neb.

The CMDCs are multidisciplinary
In the upcoming months, the e-SHOP interface will change from the current CLASSIC interface style to PHOENIX. Until Phoenix is released, employees can go back and forth between both Classic and Phoenix interface styles to get accustomed to the new style. Please note that the help desk will not be supporting Phoenix until late August 2013. HAPPI Business Center is available to assist with E-shop related questions, but please keep in mind that this is a new learning experience for everyone.

From CLASSIC to PHOENIX
1) In e-SHOP, click on profile
2) Under user settings, personal settings find user interface style
3) In drop down choose Phoenix
4) Click SAVE

From PHOENIX to CLASSIC
1) Click on name
2) Click on view my profile
3) Under user information and settings click on language, time zone, display settings
4) Find user interface style
5) In drop down choose Classic
6) Click SAVE

Continued from page 4
field days conducted at the ARDC. The target audience is producers and advisors including crop consultants and agribusiness professionals.

Dr. Jhala emphasized that there are many advantages of herbicide tank mixtures including an increase in the weed control spectrum, more flexibility in application timings, extended residual and more foliar actiity, reduction in soil compaction by eliminating multiple field operations, more effectiveness on hard-to-control weeds, more control of herbicide-resistant weeds due to multiple mode of actions, and it delays evolution of weed resistance.

Graduate student Zahoor Ganie Ahmed also participated in discussing advantages and limitations of herbicide tank mixtures for weed control in corn. The status of herbicide-resistant weeds in Nebraska was discussed and effective use of herbicide tank mixtures for control of herbicide-resistant weeds was demonstrated.

Bundles of Joy: Summer Babies...

Congratulations to Ana Wingeyer and Javier Crespo

On Aug. 20, at 5:44 a.m., Emilio Gabriel Crespo was born. Emilio’s weight was 6 pounds, 13 ounces and he was 19 inches long. Ana and Javier also have a daughter, Lucia. This photo of Emilio was taken a few days ago.

Ana is a Post. Doc. and Javier is a graduate student with the department.

Congratulations to Nicole and Adam Kobus on the arrival their first son, Aven Thomas Kobus. Aven was born on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 7:33 p.m. weighing 10 pounds, 2 ounces, and he was 22.75 inches long.

Nicole is the department’s receptionist. She says, “Aven has lots of black hair, and he likes his sleep.”

Congratulations to John and Karleen Guretzky

Reid Andrew Guretzky was born on Monday, Aug. 26, at 9:25 a.m. at the Bryan East Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. John says both mom and baby are healthy. Reid has a 14-month-old brother, Rylan, who was born on June 12, 2012.

John is an Asst. Prof. with the department. Congratulations to the Guretzky family!
IT Office Hours Changed

Warren Werner is available in Keim and PLSH Buildings on Mon.-Wed.-Fri. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., and Tue. and Thu. between 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Warren is on call for emergencies during regular office hours, and can be reached via e-mail at wwerner2@unl.edu or cell phone number at 402-890-5648).

Suspicious Phone Calls

Suspicious phone calls probing for information about campus printers have prompted a security alert. Under any condition, please be advised not to give any privileged information to third-parties unless you have contacted them for assistance; do not install remote access software, enroll in some type of warranty program, or provide credit card information. Our vendors should already have the information on file, and would be able to validate who they are and why they need the information.

If you have any questions or have a security incident to report please feel free to contact the Information Technology Services Computer Help Center at 402-472-3970 or online at http://www.unl.edu/helpcenter/.

New Multimedia Designer

Fran Benne has accepted the position of Information Technology Associate/Multimedia Designer for the Department of Agronomy & Horticulture starting Monday, Aug. 12. In her new duties, she will be responsible for the design and development of the department’s promotional and recruitment print materials, managing and maintaining the department website, and producing and editing videos.

Fran joined the department in August of 2012. Prior to working for the university, she was an art director/graphic designer at Snitily Carr, a Lincoln advertising agency, for 11+ years and a graphic designer/marketing assistant for Olsson Associates, a Lincoln-based engineering firm, for three years. Fran earned her bachelor of journalism in advertising from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. During her time at UNL she was an All-American, Big Eight champion, and school record-holder on the UNL cross-country and track & field teams.

Away from the office, Fran enjoys running, gardening, boating, fishing and camping. She lives in Lincoln with her husband Jeff, daughter Sawyer, and stepsons Jake and Jared. Fran is originally from Arapahoe, Neb.

For multimedia assistance, please contact Fran at fbbenne2@unl.edu, 472-1524, or visit her in 362C Plant Sciences Hall.

ASA-CSSA-SSSA Early Bird Deadline

The early bird registration for the ASA-CSSA-SSSA conference ends Sept. 17, 2013. To get the lowest possible registration for this conference (https://www.acsmeetings.org/register), please contact the Office Pros to make your registration arrangements by the Friday, Sept. 13, at 5 p.m.

Late registration prices start on Oct. 8, 2013. A pre-trip Travel Authorization (T.A.) form is due to the HAPPI Business Center two weeks before any out-of-state travel.
Department Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome Deanna Leingang as a new Distance Education Specialist in the Department of Agronomy & Horticulture.

Deanna has been working with UNL since July 2011. She was hired as a regular staff member to work as an instructional designer and lecturer on May 1, 2013.

Deanna received her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry from UNL in 2009, and master's degree in Genetic Counseling from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 2011. She is originally from Mandan, N.D.

Deanna is happily married to Ross, and the couple is expecting their first baby in October. They also have two English Cocker Spaniels, Mazer and Newton, as part of their happy family. In her spare time she enjoys painting, gardening, travelling, and photography.

New Postdoctoral Fellow Hired for Harkamal Walia

Chen Chen recently joined the Department of Agronomy & Horticulture on July 29 as a Postdoctoral Fellow for Dr. Harkamal Walia. Before starting his recent position, Chen was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Minnesota.

Chen is originally from Jiangsu Province, China. He has completed his Ph.D. in Plant Biology and Ecology from the Shanghai Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences. In his spare time, Chen enjoys playing volleyball and badminton. He is also very fond of travelling.

Walia Hires New Postdoctoral Researcher

Please welcome Sandeep Sharma as the Postdoctoral Research Technician for Harkamal Walia.

Sandeep started working with UNL on July 15, 2013. He is originally from Jaipur, India, and received his Ph.D. in Genetics and Plant Breeding, from IAS, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in Varanasi, India.

Before joining the department, he worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher for Institute of Plant and Microbial Biology (IPMB), Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan. In his spare time Sandeep enjoys playing games, and his favorites are badminton, and cricket.
Visiting Scientists

In early July, the Department of Agronomy & Horticulture welcomed a couple from the College of Agriculture, Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey. Dr. Altingul Ozaslan Parlak and her husband Dr. Mehmet Parlak will both be staying for three months. Altingul is working with Dr. Walt Schacht while Mehmet is working with Dr. Humberto Blanco.

Both visiting scientists are conducting research on the implications of pasture burning and grazing on plant species composition, canopy and litter cover, water erosion, and soil properties. Mehmet is also looking at soil physical properties under cover crops.

Altingul, associate professor of Field Crops, and Mehmet, associate professor of Soil Science, obtained their Ph.D. from Ankara University of Agriculture, Turkey in 2005. They enjoy travelling; however, it is their first time in the United States, and they are accompanied by their 5-year-old son, Alp.

Renovations Over the Summer...

Teaching Greenhouse has been renovated

Over the summer, an exterior renovation was completed at the Plant Science Teaching Greenhouse (PSTG) with department funds provided by Dr. Roch Gaussoin.

“PSTG is the double A-frame structure, directly east of PSH parking lot. We believe the original structure was erected in 1936,” explained Ruth Miller, Greenhouse Manager. “As a part of this renovation, tuckpointing was done on the brick mortar of the headhouse building and the lower greenhouse sidewalks. The previous greenhouse exterior walls had become very ‘cloudy’ resulting in poor light transmission. These were replaced with clear twin wall polycarbonate material and the exterior doors were replaced with new storefront doors. New side vents and cooling pads are in place. With these improvements, PSTG is now more inviting and energy efficient for our students learning experiences.”

Gooding Lab had a make-over

During summer break, Dr. Gaussoin also funded a partial renovation of the Gooding Center which included a coat of paint and a much needed carpet replacement. The cost was increased by the fact that the tile under the old carpet contained asbestos and had to be remediated. Dr. Gaussoin would like to update the lighting and ceiling tiles and is hopeful that money will be available to fund that next year. TJ McAndrew, Facilities Coordinator, says, “If you haven’t had a chance to see the ‘new’ look to the center, please take time to stop in and look around.”