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BESS Newsletter

Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
Publications and Other Works

6-15-2009

BESS 6/15/09

Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Sciences

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Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Sciences, "BESS 6/15/09" (2009). *BESS Newsletter*.
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TOP STORIES

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Recent Sponsored Research Awards](#)

[Hatch/Multistate Solicitations](#)

[“ ‘Agriculture’ is Not a Dirty Word” commentary from Science Magazine](#)

Caption
 Contest
 Entries
[Here](#)

FACULTY PROFILE



If an academic program's strength is measured in the quality of its graduates and their professional impact, then **JOHN BUCHANAN** is a worthy ambassador for our engineering program. After earning his B.S. in Agricultural Engineering, he went to work for Purina Mills, Inc. After four years, John returned to the department to work on his M.S. in Agricultural Engineering and was hired as a Research Associate, a position he held for 11 years. During this time, he went on to get his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. John is currently an Associate Professor and a licensed Professional Engineer. And now he can add Extension Specialist to his list of titles. Starting July 1, John's appointment will be changed from 100% research to 75% research and 25% extension.

His research specialty is Domestic Wastewater Management. In locations without sewers, human-source wastewater still has to be collected, treated, and returned to the hydrologic cycle. Most of these rural areas depend on the soil to renovate wastewater, and engineered-systems are needed in ensure that wastewater is applied to the soil in a manner that maximizes the soil's renovation potential. [\(story continued here\)](#)

From the Department Head...

You may have noticed a few changes in the format of our BESS newsletter. We recently added some "headline" links to significant stories or content embedded in the newsletter. In this issue we have decided to collect all external funding opportunities under a single obvious link rather than distinguishing them as Teaching, Research and Extension activities as we did previously. This reflects the trend for integrated research opportunities, and recognizes that one of the primary functions of the newsletter is to share these opportunities with our faculty and professional staff in a timely manner.

Another function of the newsletter is to share news of our students, faculty and staff. In the last newsletter we reported that we have two groups of undergraduate Biosystems Engineering students who qualified for national competitions at the Annual ASABE meeting. [\(continued here\)](#)

MORE NEWS – CLICK BELOW

Funding Opportunities

BESS

Extension

UTIA

THE UNIVERSITY of
TENNESSEE **UT**
 INSTITUTE of
 AGRICULTURE

BE THE
BESS
BIOSYSTEMS * ENGINEERING * SOIL SCIENCE
 YOU CAN BE

Please submit items to Darla O'Neill doneill1@utk.edu
 BESS NEWS is issued on 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month. Archived issues post to [departmental website](#).
 To subscribe (or unsubscribe), email doneill1@utk.edu

Staff Profile – John Buchanan (continued from front page):

John's research is focused on using drip irrigation techniques to apply wastewater to the subsurface soil. There are many questions to be answered about subsurface wastewater drip dispersal. Wastewater must be managed to prevent the degradation of human health and environmental quality so John's impact on our quality of life is significant. He is the director of the Center for Decentralized Wastewater Management (CDWM), a regionally and nationally recognized center for information about decentralized wastewater management technology. CDWM's Training Center is located at the Middle Tennessee Research and Education Center near Spring Hill, Tennessee.

Active in outreach activities as well, John teaches workshops on stormwater management, onsite wastewater management, and water quality, including workshops leading to inspector certification in "Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control on Construction Sites." During the last six years, over 8,000 contractors, developers, and engineers have participated in this workshop. Recently, John developed a course in the "Operation and Maintenance of Advanced Wastewater Treatment Systems" that gives technicians the opportunity to become approved wastewater system service providers in Tennessee.

John also teaches two graduate courses: "On-Site Domestic Wastewater Treatment, Dispersal and Reuse" and "Urban Hydrology and Stormwater Engineering". This year, he advised one of the senior design teams. This team placed in the top three in the G. B. Gunlogson Environmental Design Competition for their project "*Optimization Protocol for Nitrogen Removal from Domestic Wastewater.*" Team members Crystal Kelly, Will Rutmeyer, and Ken Swinson will travel to the ASABE national competition in Reno NV later this month.

Looking to the future, John expects his research to continue to focus on small-community wastewater issues. Tennessee has many "one stoplight towns" with wastewater needs greater than the individual septic systems but smaller than the more sophisticated and expensive treatment facilities found in larger municipalities. This segment has seen increasing problems from failed septic systems due to overloading from new housing and business developments. The growing demands on these communities' wastewater facilities are expected to drive future technology developments. Buchanan and the Center are positioned to anticipate, analyze, innovate, and educate to meet these needs.

Small community mayors, managers, and planners need to understand the full spectrum of wastewater management options. These local decision-makers need guidance to understanding



A wastewater subsurface drip irrigation research site. Shown in the picture are samplers that are used to take soil moisture samples. It just goes to prove that the grass is greener over the septic system



A recirculating sand filter and subsurface drip field. The drip field is in the background. This wastewater treatment system can handle 20,000 gallons per day.

BESS NEWS

[Return to
Front
Page](#)

Staff Profile – John Buchanan (continued)

decentralized wastewater management systems. As Chairman of the Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment, John -- along with other CIDWT members from land-grant institutions in North Carolina, Missouri, Minnesota, Arizona --- is working on a research project to develop software that contains a spreadsheet-based economic model to assist planners in the appropriate selection of wastewater management options. The model will contain fact-sheet style educational modules along with up to date cost and performance information. This tool will provide users with fundamental information about the operation of various wastewater management options and will provide cost estimates for these options based on local cost indices. The goal is to equip decision-makers to evaluate several wastewater management options. John is Principal Investigator on this \$200,000 Water Environmental Resources Foundation (WERF) sponsored grant.

Within UTIA, potential opportunities exist for John to play a major role in the development of research and extension programs in the Institutes new Organic and Sustainable Agriculture initiatives. Projects at the Little River Environmental Unit and the Organic Agriculture Unit present John with opportunities to provide programming in engineering technologies and management practices to protect water resources from potential pollutants in wastewater and urban stormwater.

With all the great work John has accomplished during his career and all the possibilities ahead of him, he certainly reflects well on the strength of our academic, research, and outreach programs. We're certainly proud to claim him, and pleased that he chose BESS as his home.
---Darla O'Neill



A young John Buchanan receives the 1993 Graduate Student with Professional Award from C. Roland Mote.



John and Darlene Buchanan enjoying the Annual Awards Banquet 1993.

BESS NEWS

[Return to
Front
Page](#)

Recent Sponsored Research Awards:

John Buchanan, Water Environment Research Foundation, “*Development of an Economic Model to Project the Cost of Various Decentralized Wastewater Management Options.*”

Michael Buschermohle, Cotton, Inc., “*Evaluation of Cotton Harvest Systems.*”

From the Department Head (continued from front page)

The “*Powered Foldable ROPS*” team of John Kruckeberg, Mitch Groothuis, William Nichols, Abdoulaye Samba and Chase Shaver (advised by Dr. Paul Ayers) was selected as one of the top three entries by judges of the AGCO National Student Design Competition. The “*Optimization Protocol for Nitrogen Removal from Domestic Wastewater*” team of Crystal Kelly, Will Rutmeyer, and Ken Swinson (advised by Dr. John Buchanan) was selected as one of the top three in the G. B. Gunlogson Environmental Design Competition. We recently learned that the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources will provide funding to help send these students groups to the ASABE national competition, and for this we thank Dean Beyl and Associate Dean Albrecht.

The advisor of the student environmental team, Dr. John Buchanan, is the featured person in this issue. This coincides with the upcoming change from a full research appointment to a 75% research/25% extension appointment. We congratulate Dr. Buchanan on his new appointment, recognizing that he brings a wealth of extension experience to this new assignment. ---Eric



Thanks for all of your entries!

Let us know which is your favorite!

Caption Contest Entries

If a picture is worth a thousand words,
then here are a just few elicited by this photo

*“Nice Purse, Neal!”
Forbes Walker*

*“The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly – You Choose”
Eric Drumm*

*“Does my purse clash with this halter?”
Kaleb Rathbone*

*“I’m glad I got the horse;
I should take a picture of Forbes on the ass”
Susan Fiscor*

*“Not an ostrich in sight...ready for takeoff!”
Darla O’Neill*

*“I blew out my flip-flop
Stepped on a HOT ROCK
Cut my heel - had to ride this nag on back home
But there’s juice in the blender
And soon it will render
That frozen concoction that helps me hang on*

*Workin away again in LaFotunaville
Searching for a lost student or two
Some people claim that Forbes is to blame
But I know its my own darn fault
Yes and some people claim Forbes Walker is to blame
And I know its my own darn fault”*

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Return to
Front
Page](#)

NASA Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN) – The Global Climate Change Education (GCCE) – NASA Office of Education

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Office of Education, in cooperation with NASA's Science Mission Directorate, is accepting proposals in response to the NASA Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN): "Global Climate Change Education: Research Experiences, Teaching & Learning". The Global Climate Change Education (GCCE) project is designed to improve the quality of global climate change and Earth system science education at the elementary, secondary and undergraduate levels, and through lifelong learning. Each funded proposal is expected to take advantage of NASA's unique contributions in climate science to enhance learners' academic experiences and/or to improve educators' abilities to engage and stimulate their students.

Eligibility Information: Proposals will be accepted from higher education institutions (including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other minority-serving institutions), state, local, or federally-recognized tribal government agencies, public school districts, and nonprofit organizations. NASA centers, federal agencies, federally funded research and development centers, education-related companies, and other institutions may apply through partnership with the lead organization. Notices of Intent are required and due by **July 2, 2009**. Full proposals are due August 3, 2009.

For more information regarding this opportunity, please visit the GCCE page on the NSPIRES website. Go to <http://nspires.nasaprs.com> and click on Solicitations and then on Open Solicitations.

If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact the NSPIRES Help Desk at nspires-help@nasaprs.com or call 202-479-9376 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The Electric Power Research Institute will fund up to five senior design projects at \$5K each for the following year (either Fall 2009 or Spring 2010 semester). Please note the information below and the deadlines.

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), with major locations in Palo Alto, California; Charlotte, North Carolina; and **Knoxville, Tennessee**, was established in 1973 as an independent, nonprofit center for public interest energy and environmental research. EPRI brings together members, participants, the Institute's scientists and engineers, and other leading experts to work collaboratively on solutions to the challenges of electric power. These solutions span nearly every area of electricity generation, delivery, and use, including health, safety, and environment. EPRI's members represent over 90% of the electricity generated in the United States. International participation represents nearly 15% of EPRI's total research, development, and demonstration program.

EPRI has four major sectors: Environment, Generation, nuclear, and power delivery and Markets. These can be accessed at the following site:

http://my.epri.com/portal/server.pt?space=CommunityPage&cached=true&parentname=Login&parentid=0&in_hi_userid=2&control=SetCommunity&CommunityID=216&PageID=-216

Senior Design Program

Faculty members are asked to coordinate with the appropriate department representative (head or other that is responsible for senior design) and to submit proposals (two pages max) to the college for possible senior Design/capstone projects that would be centered around EPRI program areas of interest that would be held in Fall '09 and/or Spring '10. These can be large class or smaller class size capstone design proposals along with a brief summary of how funds would be spent. Five of these will be selected for award of approximately \$5K each. To the extent possible, we will coordinate these capstone projects with the appropriate EPRI contact person, and have someone from EPRI available for the final presentation by the senior design group. The objective is to begin to conduct activities which might lead to further efforts in the EPRI program areas and to enhance collaboration between UT and EPRI. **The deadline for submitting proposals is July 6. Proposals should be submitted electronically to Kay Ailor at utkay@utk.edu.** Decisions regarding projects to be funded will be made by July 10 and the faculty member or department contact will be notified at that time. Faisal Kahn (EPRI) will assist with technical details and as a contact person for funded projects.

[More Funding Opportunities Next Page](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Return to
Front
Page](#)

The FY 2009 National Integrated Water Quality RFA is now available for public viewing and download. The goal of the National Integrated Water Quality Program is to improve the quality of our Nation's surface water and groundwater resources through research, education, and extension activities. Projects funded through this program will facilitate achieving this goal by advancing and disseminating the knowledge base available to agricultural and rural communities. Funded projects should lead to science-based decision-making and management practices that improve the quality of the Nation's surface water and groundwater resources in agricultural and rural watersheds. See RFA for priority areas. Closing date is **July 15**.

See attached links to the Funding Opportunity and application package.

CSREES Funding Opportunity

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/waterqualityicgp.cfm>

Grants.Gov Application Package

<http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/UpdateOffer?id=12380>

2009-NIST-ARRA-MSE-Fellowship-01: Recovery Act Measurement Science and Engineering Fellowship Program

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is establishing a financial assistance program for awardees to develop and implement with NIST a measurement science and engineering fellowship program as part of NIST's activities implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA, or Recovery Act), P.L. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115. The fellowship program is intended to promote training and practical experience in science and engineering, and to advance NIST's mission to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life. Please refer to Section I of the full solicitation for a complete description of the opportunity.

Proposals will be considered with durations between one and three years, subject to the availability of funds, satisfactory progress, and the continuing relevance to the objectives of NIST. The anticipated level of funding is up to \$20M total for the fellowships program. NIST anticipates making one to five awards. Projects are expected to start by January 2010. NIST will determine whether to fund one award for the full amount; to divide available funds into multiple awards of any size, and negotiate scopes of work and budgets as appropriate; or not to select any proposal for funding, upon completing the selection process. Cost Sharing is not required under this solicitation. Please see Section II of the full solicitation for more information. (Please see Part IV of the solicitation for complete application & submission information.) Further Details : [2009-NIST-ARRA-MSE-Fellowship-01](#)

Full Proposal Submission to Office of Research - Sponsored Programs : **7/20/2009**

Please contact Sponsored Programs (4-2402) for further information regarding full proposal submission requirements.

Deadline for Submission to Agency: 3PM EDT July 27 th , 2009

If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact : Dr. James Lloyd, Professor and Coordinator of Electronic Research Administration, UT Knoxville Office of Research , Phone: (865) 974-0390, E-mail: jlloyd@utk.edu

Southern SARE Invites Planning and Preliminary Research & Education Proposals

For researchers who are working toward sustainable agriculture systems research but were not yet ready to submit a systems pre-proposal this year, SSARE has released two additional Research and Education (R&E) requests for proposals with **submissions due August 15**: R&E Planning Grants and R&E Preliminary Research Grants.

Research and Education Planning Grants bring together interdisciplinary, multi-institutional teams to define a project scope, establish goals and objectives, perform literature reviews across disciplines and do other tasks necessary for developing a systems research preproposal. These grants will award up to \$20,000 for one year's planning activities. Pre-proposals are not required. Obtain the call at <http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/callpage.htm>

Research and Education Preliminary Grants conduct necessary research that would feed into the interdisciplinary team's objectives. It is likely that such a missing link would be discovered during the literature review of a Research and Education Planning Project. These grants will award up to \$50,000 for up to 2 years of project activities. Pre-proposals are not required. Obtain the call at <http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/callpage.htm>

To find out how these changes fit into Southern SARE's overall funding strategy for the future, see the document "Bringing Systems Research Into Focus" at http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/pdf_files/REchanges.pdf

(Planning and Preliminary grants offer entry level funding for researchers who are thinking about sustainable agriculture but lack the background and institutional support to put together a full systems project)

[More Funding Opportunities Next Page](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NSF 09-567: NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (S-STEM)

The NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program makes grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented, financially needy students, enabling them to enter the workforce following completion of an associate; baccalaureate; or graduate-level degree in science and engineering disciplines. Grantee institutions are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, reporting demographic information about student scholars, and managing the S-STEM project at the institution. A complete description of this funding opportunity can be found in Part I of the full solicitation (attached).

The University of Tennessee-Knoxville may **submit one proposal from each constituent college or school that awards eligible degrees**. (For example, a university with a College of Engineering, a School of Life Sciences, and a College of Arts and Sciences could submit one proposal from each for a total of three.) Each college is to be responsible for running its own competition if a competition is necessary.

The Office of Research needs to be informed by August 10th, 2009 as to who, if anyone, will be submitting a proposal from each college. Please contact Assistant Director (Proposals) Debbie Hampstead (dhampste@utk.edu, 4-2482) with this information. For more information on eligibility requirements, please see Part IV of the full solicitation.

Approximately \$50-\$70 million is expected to be available annually, for new and continuing activities, to support approximately 80-100 new S-STEM awards. The number and size of awards will vary depending upon the scope of projects and availability of funds. Awards are normally not expected to exceed \$600,000 in total.

Annual budgets are limited to \$225,000. **Cost Sharing is not required under this solicitation.** Complete award information is found in Part III of the full solicitation.

Further Details: [NSF 09-567](#)

Proposal Submission to Office of Research-Sponsored Programs: [9/7/2009](#)

(Please see Part V of the solicitation for complete application & submission information.)

Please contact Sponsored Programs (4-2402) for further information regarding full proposal submission requirements.

Deadline for Submission to Agency: [9/14/2009](#)

If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact:

Dr. James Lloyd

Professor and Coordinator of Electronic Research Administration

UT Knoxville Office of Research

Phone: (865) 974-0390

E-mail: jlloyd@utk.edu

U.S.- Mexico TIES University Partnerships Phase IV Cycle 1 Request for Applications (RFA)

USAID/Mexico is pleased to announce the launch of the U.S.- Mexico TIES University Partnerships Phase IV Cycle 1 Request for Applications (RFA) .

The TIES RFA is posted on Higher Education for Development, the implementing partner's website, at <http://www.hedprogram.org/tabid/66/itemid/198/TIES-US--Mexico-University-Partnerships-2009.aspx>

USAID anticipates funding up to five (5) University Partnership projects in the following areas:

1. Up to 3 awards in Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change, and Competitiveness
2. Up to 2 awards in Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Competitiveness

University partners will have approximately 3 months to apply; TIES RFA deadline is [September 10th, 2009](#).

There will be a link on the website with Spanish translation of the RFA in the following days.

Hatch/Multi-State Projects:

Participation solicited for the following new or revised project/activity:

S_TEMP2262. "**Southern Conservation Tillage Systems Conference**"

Please submit the Appendix E no later than [06/30/2009](#) <http://nimss.umd.edu>

Of Note: NC1017, "**Carbon Sequestration and Distribution in Soils of Eroded Landscapes**" (formerly NCT199 and NC174)" – annual meeting held June 24 – 26. Contact: Gary Steinhardt(gsteinhardt@purdue.edu), or Ken Olson(krolson@uiuc.edu) for information on this project.

EXTENSION NEWS

Watersheds focus of President's new service initiative

Of interest to Watershed Organizations and Volunteer Monitoring Program Coordinators:

President Obama will soon be announcing a Summer of Service campaign which offers a new and exciting opportunity to help you build up your roster of volunteers and raise awareness about volunteer monitoring and watershed stewardship. This week the President will be encouraging nonprofit organizations with a need for volunteers to register at www.serve.gov. On June 22, the President and his Cabinet will officially launch the Summer of Service and encourage Americans to volunteer for their communities.

The President will direct potential volunteers to www.serve.gov to find local opportunities for service. EPA is using this opportunity to promote volunteer monitoring and watershed stewardship. It is our hope that this Presidential initiative will encourage many more people to work to protect their watersheds. Please consider registering your program at www.serve.gov. You may get contacted by a number of volunteers eager to help your organization.

Think through what opportunities you might have for this summer, including monitoring workshops and events, debris cleanups, riparian restoration, community education, storm drain marking and other activities. If interested, sign up **ASAP**, as a surge of web traffic is expected from both organizations and individuals looking to get involved in volunteering this summer. However, if you're not quite prepared for a whole new cadre of volunteers, or for reporting the results of your summer volunteer activities at www.serve.gov, you may not want to sign up at this time. One of the goals of this effort will be sustainable volunteerism, so if you're not ready to sign up this summer, you can always do so later on.

Please go to www.serve.gov to register your program or for more information.
Contact: Alice Mayo at mayio.alice@epa.gov.

Census of Agriculture Data Now Available at Watershed Level

WASHINGTON, May 29, 2009 –

For the first time, results from the Census of Agriculture have been published at the watershed level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

"Our data users in the agricultural and environmental communities have expressed the need for watershed data and NASS is proud to meet their needs," said Carol House, NASS deputy administrator for programs and products. "The new watershed publication presents agricultural data that conforms to geographic boundaries, rather than state and county boundaries."

In the new publication, NASS reports selected data from the 2007 Census of Agriculture according to watershed boundaries set by the U.S. Geological Survey. The information is available for all 20 major water sources in the United States, as well as for each of the 376 water basins.

Information from the 2002 Census of Agriculture is published alongside the 2007 Census results to demonstrate changes in land use, production practices and livestock distribution over the past five years.

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state, county, and now water basin in the nation.

For more information about the Census of Agriculture and to access the watershed publication, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov < <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov> > or call (800) 727-9540.

EXTENSION NEWS

[Return to
Front
Page](#)

Tennessee Agricultural Production Association 2009 Agronomic Workshop Gatlinburg, TN

CCA WORKSHOP SESSION #1, Wednesday Afternoon, July 22

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Registration
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Tobacco Situation & Update.....*Dr. Paul Denton*
2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Irrigation Management in Cotton, Corn, and Soybeans.....*Dr. Brian Leib*
2:50 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. Break
3:10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Update on Soil Fertility Recommendations.....*Dr. Hugh Savoy*
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Critical Area Planting.....*Mr. Greg Brann*
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

CCA WORKSHOP SESSION #2, Thursday Morning, July 23

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Registration
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Effects of Insecticide Seed Treatments on Subsequent Seed Yield of
Agronomic Crops.....*Dr. Fred Allen*
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Soil Quality & Energy Use.....*Ms. Pat Turman and Mr. Greg Brann*
10:00 p.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break
10:15 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Biosolids as an Alternative to Fertilizer & Lime*Dr. Forbes Walker*
11:10 p.m. – 12:00 p.m. How to Prepare for an EPA or TDEC CAFO Inspection.....*Dr. Shawn Hawkins*
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on Your Own

TAPA MEETING SESSION #1, Thursday Afternoon, July 23

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Registration
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. You Can Grow It – Can You Sell It?.....*Mr. Mark Gold*
2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Weed Control Updates in Cotton, Corn, and
Soybeans for 2009 & 2010..... *Dr. Larry Steckel*
2:50 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. Break
3:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Can We Double Crop Yields by 2030?.....*Dr. Josh Bynum*
4:00 p.m. Meeting Wrap Up
6:00 p.m. TAPA Reception

TAPA MEETING SESSION #2, Friday Morning, July 24

6:30 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. TAPA Board Meeting / Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. TAPA Business Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Research Update: Weed Control in Pastures,
Grass Hay, and Switchgrass.....*Dr. Neil Rhodes*
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break.
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Switchgrass Production and Challenges.....*Mr. Ken Goddard*
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Legislative Information from Washington Visit.....*Mr. Harry Craft*
11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Final Comments and Adjourn

UTIA NEWS

UTIA Migration from Lotus Notes to Tmail (Exchange) and Active Directory (AD)

UTIA will be moving email from Lotus Notes to Outlook/Exchange (TMAIL).

The migration from Lotus Notes to Tmail and Active Directory for the on campus personnel will proceed in early July.

You will be using your NETID and NETID Password to log on to AD.

Prior to the change to AD you will need to:

1. Make sure that your computer is up to date with all of the Microsoft updates.
2. Make sure that your computer has the latest Anti Virus software up to date (McAfee version 8.5).
3. We are also encouraging everyone to install or upgrade to the Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise which is free to all faculty and staff for University owned computers. (<https://web.dii.utk.edu/softwaredistribution>)
4. Clean up your Lotus mail file as it has to be 200 MB or less to be migrated.
5. On campus personnel will need to know their NetID and password. The NetID and password will be needed to move your computer into Active Directory (AD). For more information about NetIDs and passwords please refer to the following website: <http://accounts.utk.edu/your-netid.html>.
6. In preparation for these moves we will need specific information about your location (whether you are on campus or off campus and which unit you work in i.e. Ext, Exp , or Col), your computers location (they want the physical location i.e. room number and building name) and also additional information about your archives (all archives are on your local computer not the server), contacts, and calendars of others that you may manage. If you have access to other's calendars you will need to know their NetID's. This information is being collected via the web and the migration registration website is <https://oit.utk.edu/ad/migrate/>. It may look to you like this website is only for AD but once the AD information is filled in there is section concerning the migration from Lotus Notes to Tmail (Exchange). Please go to this site and fill in as much of the information as you can.

The MAC address field in the form will populate automatically if you are the registered owner of your computer in the NetReg database. If you are not the registered owner then the field will be blank. To find the MAC address of your computer:

1. Click on the Start Menu.
2. Click on 'Run...'
3. Type 'cmd' without quotes and press Enter.
4. If you are running Windows XP, at the command prompt, type the command 'getmac' without quotes or type 'ipconfig /all' without quotes. (space between g and /).
5. Your **MAC Address** is listed under '**Physical Address**' as a series of 6 groups of two digits, letters and numbers, separated by dashes, such as in the image below. Make sure you get the physical address of the correct network adapter - there maybe several listed (the correct adapter is usually listed as Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection).

Information on links for Computer Based Training for Microsoft Office 2007 and Outlook 2007 will be published in early July as well as a schedule for classroom training for Office and Outlook.

System-wide Library Access

Faculty, staff and students at University of Tennessee campuses across the state can now borrow library materials at any UT campus by presenting the identification card from their home institution.

Previously, borrowers needed to obtain a special card at their home institution's library circulation desk before visiting another UT campus for materials.

This is another step in current system-wide efforts toward overall efficiency and increased resource sharing between campuses and resulted from employee feedback.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

“Agriculture” Is Not a Dirty Word

Agricultural Science is ripe for a renaissance. For too many years, the agriculture sciences have been disparaged in the science and education communities, perhaps because agronomy, soil science, plant pathology, and animal science use a problem-solving approach rather than simply seeking knowledge.

When science research funds are handed out—for example, in the federal stimulus bill—agriculture often gets left off the list. I suspect this is because policy-makers and some scientists see “agriculture” as synonymous with “agribusiness,” rather than as a purely scientific discipline, and they assume private funding will take care of agriculture-related research needs. Agricultural scientists at land-grant institutions do receive some research dollars from noncompetitive sources, but not all research is funded this way.

Adding insult to injury, the major U.S. science journals don’t devote specific sections or editors to agricultural research. Some schools of agriculture have taken the word “agriculture” out of their names, presumably to attract more students in a country where only 2% of the population farms. (It hasn’t worked: Enrollment in university agricultural science majors has dropped steadily nationwide since the early 1980s.)

In short, agricultural science has an image problem. Our disciplines are not considered relevant and, more disturbing, we’re not seen as a source of solutions to many of the world’s most pressing challenges, even though many of those challenges directly relate to agricultural science.

That’s unfortunate, particularly in a world where people are starving or eating unsafe food, where climate change will affect every aspect of 21st-century life, and where new kinds of sustainable fuel are needed. The urgency of these global issues—all of them related to the agricultural sciences—amplifies the need for an applied-science approach.

Agricultural scientists can do amazing things when they combine their expertise and have access to the resources they need. Recently, scientists at an international conference in Mexico announced that they have found a wheat variety that is resistant to Ug99—a strain of stem rust that could affect up to 90% of the world’s wheat (1). Although the scientists have not completely eliminated the threat, it’s clearly a breakthrough with enormous implications.

Other recent signs also point to a renewed interest in and respect for agriculture. When the first lady plants a vegetable garden on the White House lawn for the first time in half a century, she’s sending a strong message: Food is important. Books about eating a sustainable, healthy diet top our best-seller lists. The National Gardening Association expects a 19% jump in the number of people growing at least some of their own food this year. Clearly, a growing number of Americans are interested in where their food comes from, even on a small scale.

The 2008 Farm Bill creates the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, which will be headed by a distinguished scientist directly appointed by the president. A small thing, perhaps, but it elevates agriculture to a level of prominence along the lines of health and other sciences. The farm bill also increases funding for competitive grants in both basic and applied agricultural research, which will provide opportunities for advanced study.

Enrollment is up 16% since 2005 among college students in the professional associations that specialize in soil and crop sciences and agronomy, which suggests that today’s students are interested in learning more about agricultural and environmental issues. Job prospects also are good; the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment for agricultural and food scientists will be at least average overall and much higher than average in some specialties.

In the long run, does it really matter whether “agricultural scientists” are what we call the people who ensure a safe and plentiful food supply, clean water, and healthy soil? Maybe not, as long as this critical work is funded and accomplished. But as we move into a new era of shared accountability and responsibility, let’s keep in mind that agricultural sciences affect us all, and when agricultural science is thriving, our communities likely are thriving, too.

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