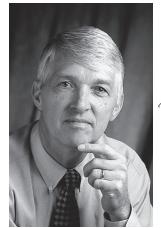


# 2010

Food and Agricultural Sciences Excellence in College and University Awards Program

A COMMUNITY OF Scholars Honoring Excellence



Kop N. Beachy ROGER N. BE

Director National Institute of Food and Agriculture U.S. Department of Agriculture

## INTRODUCTION

One of our nation's greatest innovations is the land-grant university system. The concept of establishing public universities to serve the needs of all citizens and make education available to the sons and daughters of "farmers and mechanics"-the workers of a growing, and at the time, warring nation-set the framework for extraordinary economic, social, and cultural development in America. Since its creation in 1862, at the height of the American Civil War, the land-grant educational model has evolved to link discovery to teaching and extension of knowledge. With support of the "Peoples' Department," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the citizens of each state, land-grant universities have become an engine of development and technological innovation and the envy of the world. Underlying all of this are talented, committed, and exceptional individuals, some of whom we honor today.

It is our privilege at USDA to support the recognition of excellence in teaching, research, and extension in agriculture, the environment and natural resources, human health and nutrition, and community development through the awards presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. The university faculty and staff recognized through the teaching awards, extension awards of excellence and for diversity, and the research honors represent both individual and collective efforts to serve citizens and bring to life the highest dreams of those who saw value in establishing and fostering public universities.

These award honorees have honored us with their service to the nation. Their work is often accomplished through one-on-one work with students, yet another day in the lab or on the road to meet a group of citizens, or the quiet and incredible satisfaction of "connecting the dots" of disparate information to inspire a student or solve a problem. Though much of their work has been pursued quietly, we need to sing the success of these individuals not only to honor them, but also to recognize the genius of the system that encourages the best of all its participants and partners.

## PRESIDENTS' LETTER

At its best—the ideal we must relentlessly pursue—higher education must be a seamless web uniting learning, discovery, and the extension and application of knowledge to serve and enhance society. This ideal depends on the superb dedication of remarkable individuals in our institutions who promote the development and sustainability of learning communities, which flows from them both on and off campus. It is, after all, the creativity of these individuals who care about America and our world that sustains us all and ensures a vibrant future tomorrow.

The women and men we honor in these programs have been selected as the best from the hundreds of thousands they represent in our colleges and universities. They have engaged themselves as participants and leaders in the learning processes and are distinguished by their successes. They will be remembered not only for the honor that we bestow upon them, but especially for the impact they have made on the thousands of individuals who have benefited from their devotion.

As the presidents of the two associations dedicated to public four-year higher education, we congratulate the recipients of the 2010 Food and Agriculture Excellence Awards. They personify excellence! Their efforts in sound scholarship, highlighted by exemplary pedagogy and personal dedication, represent enduring examples of the ways institutions of higher education must respond to the challenges before us. We warmly congratulate these outstanding individuals and extend our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to excellence.



Muriel 4. Haward

MURIEL HOWARD President, AASCU



the Markan

PETER MCPHERSON President, A·P·L·U

WE ARE MADE WISE NOT BY THE RECOLLECTION OF OUR PAST, BUT BY THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR FUTURE.

> GEORGE Bernard Shaw



# 2010 National Teaching Awards



## Michael J. Boehm

Vice Provost for Academic Planning Office of Academic Affairs The Ohio State University

Dr. Michael Boehm's dedication to teaching has long defined his career. As a young postdoctoral researcher with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Corvallis, OR, he volunteered to teach an introductory course at Oregon State University. After later arriving at The Ohio State University, he assumed responsibility for the foundation course in plant pathology and also developed new courses in bioterrorism and turfgrass disease management.

An Ohio State professor of plant pathology until his recent promotion to vice provost for academic planning, Boehm was known for his innovative use of technology in the classroom. He created internet-based student resource centers for his courses, instructed video-linked classes to multiple campuses, and taught a completely asynchronous distance education course. He also incorporated real world applications in his classes. His integrated turfgrass health management students developed their skills on real golf courses, and invitations for their work came from as far away as New York.

Dr. Boehm is committed to developing new generations of teachers. He was active in the Kellogg Foundation's Student-Centered Learning Initiative. Additionally, he took a lead in developing two graduate-level mentored teaching courses designed to provide students opportunities to explore their aptitude for teaching and hone their classroom skills.

Boehm was awarded the OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation's Professional Excellence Award for extension education, and the Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Phytopathological Society.

He earned a B.S. from Heidelberg College and M.S. and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

## RICKY W. TELG

Professor Agricultural Education and Communication University of Florida

A professor in the University of Florida's Department of Agricultural Education and Communication, Dr. Ricky Telg is passionate about students, particularly undergraduates. In his agricultural communication, instructional technologies, and news writing courses, Telg integrates a hands-on approach to instruction that teaches students how to develop communication methods and digital media—web, video, social media, and print—for the agricultural workplace. His research centers on integrating digital media and social media in agricultural industries.

Telg created UF's agricultural communication curriculum. He has served as undergraduate coordinator for the past 12 years and is the primary advisor for undergraduate agricultural communication students.

Dr. Telg's love for undergraduates extends beyond the University of Florida. He served as faculty advisor to the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow for five years, and he also initiated an undergraduate exchange program with a Canadian university so UF students could learn about Canadian agriculture and communications.

Telg has taken leadership roles in national organizations, such as the Association for Communication Excellence, where he twice received ACE's Award of Excellence—first in Academic Programs, then later in Distance Education and Instructional Design. He received UF's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences' Undergraduate Advisor of the Year and Undergraduate Teacher of the Year awards and was a recipient of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture's Southern Regional Outstanding Teacher Award.

Telg received B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Texas A&M University and an M.S. from the University of North Texas.



LIVE AS IF YOU WERE TO DIE TOMORROW. LEARN AS IF YOU WERE TO LIVE FOREVER.

Mahatma Gandhi



# 2010 Regional Teaching Awards

## ANTOINE J. ALSTON

Professor, Agricultural Education North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University

Dr. Antoine J. Alston serves as professor and coordinator of agricultural education at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. Since joining the faculty in 2000, he has taught a variety of courses, including instructional technology, adult education, vocational education, leadership development, public policy, and program evaluation. He also developed a fully online graduate program in agricultural education.

Alston is credited with developing the "2 + 2: Online Studies in Agricultural Education" program. The first agricultural education program of its kind in the nation, 2 + 2 allows students from North Carolina State University's Agricultural Institute, as well as from North Carolina community colleges that offer associate's degrees in agricultural related areas, to transfer into North Carolina A&T State University's agricultural education baccalaureate program. Featured in *Black Issues in Higher Education*, the program has received excellent reviews, and it made history in the fall of 2006 by graduating the first undergraduate, online teacher education candidates within the UNC System.

Alston's research focuses on the creation of all inclusive and technologically enhanced agricultural learning environments at the secondary and postsecondary levels. Additionally, as a teacher educator, he has sponsored various teacher in-service workshops for secondary agricultural education teachers, and he serves on various regional and national committees in relation to food, agricultural, and environmental science.

Alston received B.S. and M.S. degrees from North Carolina A&T State University and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

## STEPHEN DEVADOSS

Professor, Agricultural Economics University of Idaho

A University of Idaho professor of agricultural economics, Dr. Stephen Devadoss teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in microeconomics, mathematical economics, international trade, marketing, agricultural policy, and general equilibrium modeling. He aims to ensure that learning is fun and interesting by practicing a 'students come first' attitude, genuinely caring for their well-being, following an open-door policy, going the extra mile to help them, and paying attention to their individual needs.

His research focuses on the impacts of trade agreements, macroeconomics of agriculture, immigration policies, biofuel markets, industrial organization, and agribusiness. He has generated about 200 written publications, and he actively helps his students publish articles, nominates them for scholarly awards, and takes pride in their success.

He was the recipient of UI's Teaching Excellence Award, Graduate Faculty Mentoring Award, Advising Excellence Award, and twice received the Alumni Association Award for Excellence. He was also awarded the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Excellence in Teaching Award; and the Western Agricultural Economics Association's (WAEA) Outstanding Teaching Award. He was presented the CALS Outstanding Research Award, University of Idaho's Research Excellence Award, *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*' Outstanding Journal Article Award, and the WAEA's Distinguished Scholar Award.

Devadoss earned a B.Sc. from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, an M.S. from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, and a Ph. D. from Iowa State University.







## Joseph F. Donnermeyer

Professor, Rural Sociology The Ohio State University

Throughout his career, Dr. Joseph F. Donnermeyer has diligently worked to earn a reputation as a passionate, innovative, and demanding instructor on the principles of sociology and social change and how change affects rural societies, communities, and peoples. He currently serves as both a professor in The Ohio State University's Rural Sociology program and as an adjunct professor at the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales.

Dr. Donnermeyer has received two university-wide teaching awards: the OSU Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award, which is presented to 10 faculty members annually, and the OSU Center for the Advancement of Teaching's Champions of Teaching award for sustained contributions to the scholarship of teaching and learning. He received the Gamma Sigma Delta Award for Teaching from the OSU College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, as well as the Excellence in Instruction Award from the Rural Sociological Society.

He acted as the chair of the executive council of the OSU Academy of Teaching and remains on the council for a new three-year term. He has authored eight books and more than 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries in his primary research area, criminology, and in his other two specializations, Amish studies and research on teaching and learning.

Donnermeyer earned a B.A. from Thomas More College and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky.

## RAMA B. RADHAKRISHNA

Professor, Agricultural and Extension Education The Pennsylvania State University

Dr. Rama Radhakrishna, a professor of agricultural and extension education at The Pennsylvania State University, teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in program design and delivery, program evaluation, and research methods. His teaching philosophy is oriented around learning and application: Knowledge + Application + Value = Lifelong Learning. Students completing a course should understand what they have learned, and more importantly, know how it applies to their situations and the larger world.

Radhakrishna's research centers on integrating the mission (teaching, research, and extension) of landgrant institutions. He has published more than 86 refereed journal articles and presented more than 250 refereed papers. He is the past editor of the *Journal of Agricultural Education* and serves on the editorial review boards of *Journal of Extension* and *International Journal of Agricultural and Extension Education*.

Dr. Radhakrishna twice received the Community of Teaching Excellence Award from Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences. He was awarded a Gamma Sigma Delta Teaching Award of Merit from Penn State's chapter, the North American Association of College Teachers in Agriculture (NACTA) Eastern Region Outstanding Teaching Award, the American Association for Agricultural Education's Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards, and the American Evaluation Association's Sustained Excellence in Extension Evaluation Award. He was also named a NACTA Teaching Fellow.

Radhakrishna received B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore, India, and a Ph.D. from Penn State.





## Michael F. Smith

Professor, Animal Sciences University of Missouri

Dr. Michael F. Smith joined the University of Missouri's Division of Animal Sciences in 1980. Now a professor of animal sciences, he has responsibilities in teaching and research. He instructs two undergraduate courses—physiology of reproduction and reproductive management—and team teaches a graduate course in reproductive biology. The goal of his research program is to better understand the mechanisms regulating ovarian function and the establishment of pregnancy in cattle.

Smith served as interim director of UM's Division of Animal Sciences for five years. He was also a visiting scientist at both the Babraham Institute in Cambridge, England, and the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland.

He has received many awards for his teaching, including the University of Missouri's College of Agriculture Undergraduate Teaching Award, the William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, and American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) Distinguished Teaching Award. Likewise, he has been honored for the research he conducts. He was awarded the Midwest ASAS Young Animal Science Research Award and the ASAS Physiology and Endocrinology Award. His commitment to graduate training has been recognized with the University of Missouri Graduate Mentor Award and the Society for the Study of Reproduction Trainee Mentor Award.

He earned a B.S. at Colorado State University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Texas A&M University. He and his wife Stephanie own and operate a beef cattle farm, Windrush Farm, near Columbia, MO.

#### ELIZABETH B. WILSON

Associate Professor, Agricultural and Extension Education North Carolina State University

Dr. Elizabeth B. Wilson, an associate professor in North Carolina State University's Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, is a former high school instructor who began teaching at NCSU in 2000. She currently teaches several undergraduate courses—methods of teaching, teaching diverse learners, and a team-taught agricultural biotechnology course—as well as graduate courses in curriculum development and trends/issues in agricultural education.

Wilson serves on the NCSU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences academic advisory committee. Previously, she chaired the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Teaching and Advising committee and was the Southern Region President of the American Association of Agricultural Education.

Between 2000 and 2006, she received funding to coordinate workshops to train high school teachers how to teach agricultural biotechnology. Between 2007 and 2010, she received a USDA Higher Education Challenge grant to collaborate with animal science and plant biology faculty to develop and pilot a successful integrated multidisciplinary agricultural biotechnology online course for science and non-science majors.

Dr. Wilson received the American Association for Agricultural Education's Southern Region Distinguished Teaching Award, the American Vocational Education Research Association's Outstanding Beginning Teaching and Scholar Award, and the Future Farmers of America's 1989 Agriscience Teacher of the Year award. She was also awarded NCSU's Outstanding Teaching Award and was inducted into the NCSU Academy of Outstanding Teachers.

Wilson earned two B.S. degrees and M.S. and Ed.D. degrees from North Carolina State University.



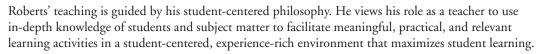




## T. GRADY ROBERTS II

Associate Professor, Agricultural Education University of Florida

An associate professor of agricultural education at the University of Florida, Dr. T. Grady Roberts teaches courses on teaching methods, college teaching, and experiential learning. He coordinates the student-teaching internships for students in agricultural education and also recently led the process to create a graduate minor in college teaching to help prepare graduate students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for the teaching roles they will fill as university faculty.



Dr. Roberts' research is focused on teaching and learning in collegiate educational settings. He has authored or co-authored more than 85 refereed publications and secured more than \$1.5 million in external funding to support his research and teaching. He also serves as the editor for the *Journal of Agricultural Education*.

Dr. Roberts is active in the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE), the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA), and the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education. He has been named a NACTA Teacher Fellow, as well as the AAAE's Outstanding New Member. He also received a NACTA Teaching Award of Merit.

Roberts earned B.S., M.Ag., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Florida.

## Amanda D. Weaver

Assistant Professor, Animal and Range Sciences South Dakota State University



Dr. Amanda Weaver began teaching as an assistant professor in South Dakota State University's Department of Animal and Range Sciences in 2007. She now instructs five undergraduate and graduate courses in meat science and muscle biology, integrating experiential learning and the development of critical thinking skills into her coursework to better position students for meaningful careers. She believes that learning is student driven, and her goal is to direct each student toward understanding by helping them build on their own experiences.

Weaver is passionate about advising students. Along with assisting students with course planning, she visits with each of her students to understand their background and find insight into their future career aspirations. She uses these opportunities to guide professional development and preparedness and connect students with national and international opportunities in the animal and meat industries.

Dr. Weaver's research centers on beef quality. She directs undergraduate and graduate student research projects focused on investigating the mechanisms regulating beef tenderness, as well as fetal programming as it relates to muscle and fat development. In recognition of her success, Weaver was awarded the SDSU Berg Young Scientist Award.

In the spring of 2010 she was awarded SDSU's Edward Patrick Hogan Award for Excellence in Teaching. She was also selected by the students as the 2009 Teacher of the Year in the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences.

Weaver earned B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University.



#### UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards

University of Florida (12) University of Illinois (11) Kansas State University (10) Cornell University (8) Texas A&M University (8) The Ohio State University (7) Iowa State University (6) Purdue University (6) University of Connecticut (6) New Mexico State University (5) North Carolina State University (5) Oklahoma State University (5) University of Georgia (5) Colorado State University (4) Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (4) The Pennsylvania State University (4) University of Arizona (4) University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (4) University of Missouri–Columbia (4) University of Nebraska (4) University of Rhode Island (4) Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (4) Louisiana State University (3) Oregon State University (3) University of Idaho (3) University of Kentucky (3) University of Massachusetts (3) University of Minnesota (3) University of Wyoming (3)

Utah State University (3) Washington State University (3) California State University, Fresno (2) Delaware State University (2) Langston University (2) South Dakota State University (2) University of California, Davis (2) University of Vermont (2) University of Wisconsin–Madison (2) California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (1) California State University, Chico (1) Clemson University (1) Florida State University (1) Illinois State University (1) Michigan State University (1) Montclair State University (1) North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (1) Southern University and A&M College (1) Southwest Missouri State University (1) Tarleton State University (1) Texas Tech University (1) University of Delaware (1) University of Hawaii (1) University of Maryland, College Park (1) University of Michigan (1) University of Nevada, Reno (1) University of North Carolina, Greensboro (1) University of Wisconsin–River Falls (1)

() denotes number of recipients

## ROLL OF RECIPIENTS Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards

#### NATIONAL

George Acquaah Langston University, 2007

Teresa C. Balser University of Wisconsin, 2009

Michael J. Boehm The Ohio State University, 2010

Donna Marie Brown University of Wyoming, 2004

Daniel L. Civco University of Connecticut, 2007

Michael J. Ellerbrock Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2002

Ronald J. Hanson University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2003

Prasanta K. Kalita University of Illinois, 2005

M. Douglas Kenealy Iowa State University, 2009

Lyle G. McNeal Utah State University, 2003

Joshua J. Millspaugh University of Missouri, 2008

Gail Romberger Nonnecke Iowa State University, 2006

Michael A. Reiter Delaware State University, 2005

Rick D. Rudd University of Florida, 2006

Shelly J. Schmidt University of Illinois, 2002

Ricky W. Telg University of Florida, 2010 R. Elaine Turner University of Florida, 2004

M. Susie Whittington The Ohio State University, 2008

#### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Jay T. Akridge Purdue University, 2003

Michael Boland Kansas State University, 2008

Ann D. Christy The Ohio State University, 2005

Joseph F. Donnermeyer The Ohio State University, 2010

Tiffany Marie Heng-Moss University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2006

Keith M. Irvin The Ohio State University, 2003

Sara J. Kadolph Iowa State University, 2002

Darrel J. Kesler University of Illinois, 2002

James B. Kliebenstein Iowa State University, 2006

Laurie F. Kramer University of Illinois, 2004

Donald Jiann-Tyng Liu University of Minnesota, 2007

Christian Y. Oseto Purdue University, 2008

Richard C. Schultz Iowa State University, 2008

Michael F. Smith University of Missouri, 2010

#### EXCELLENCE IN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS, CONTINUED

Janice C. Swanson Kansas State University, 2004

Michel A. Wattiaux University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009

Kimberly A. Williams Kansas State University, 2009

#### NORTHEAST REGION

Louis DeMont Albright Cornell University, 2005

David M. Galton Cornell University, 2003

Karl Guillard University of Connecticut, 2002

Paul Heinz Heinemann The Pennsylvania State University, 2004

Thomas P. Husband University of Rhode Island, 2007

Barbara A. Knuth Cornell University, 2002

Roger Arthur LeBrun University of Rhode Island, 2006

David A. Levitsky Cornell University, 2009

Rama B. Radhakrishna The Pennsylvania State University, 2010

Karen M. Schaich Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2003

Robert S. Tyzbir University of Vermont, 2004

#### SOUTHERN REGION

George Acquaah Langston University, 2002

Antoine J. Alston North Carolina A&T State University, 2010 Sarah Liberman Ash North Carolina State University, 2007

David S. Buchanan Oklahoma State University, 2006

W. Stephen Damron Oklahoma State University, 2007

Kim E. Dooley Texas A&M University, 2005

Jason Lee Emmert University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, 2004

William Lucas Flowers North Carolina State University, 2005

Jeffory A. Hattey Oklahoma State University, 2008

Donald Mack Johnson University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, 2004

Michael E. Kane University of Florida, 2009

James W. Knight Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2002

Grace Wasike Namwamba Southern University and A&M College, 2003

Douglas C. Needham Oklahoma State University, 2006

Sue E. Nokes University of Kentucky, 2003

Lawrence R. 'Dick' Oliver University of Arkansas, 2009

Carol Elliot O'Neil Louisiana State University, 2005

Robert L. Shewfelt University of Georgia, 2008

George W. Wardlow University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, 2008

#### Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards, continued

Elizabeth B. Wilson North Carolina State University, 2010

#### WESTERN REGION

Amin Ahmadzadeh University of Idaho, 2007

Janet B. Anderson Utah State University, 2006

Kenneth Arthur Barbarick Colorado State University, 2004

Joseph J. Cech, Jr. University of California, Davis, 2003

Stephen Devadoss University of Idaho, 2010

William D. "Dan" Edge Oregon State University, 2002

John F. "Jack" Elliot University of Arizona, 2002

Wanda H. Howell University of Arizona, 2003

James A. Knight University of Arizona, 2007

Judith L. Li Oregon State University, 2005

Dennis T. Ray University of Arizona, 2009

Richard Stanley Zack Washington State University, 2004

#### NEW TEACHER

Jason Hans University of Kentucky, 2009

Jennifer L. Hardesty University of Illinois, 2008

Julie Fawn Harlin Texas A&M University, 2005

Amy Leigh Kaleita Iowa State University, 2007

Neil A. Knobloch University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2007

Roel R. Lopez Texas A&M University, 2006

Kyle W. McGregor Tarleton State University, 2006

Brian E. Myers University of Florida, 2008

Franklin Bailey Norwood Oklahoma State University, 2005

T. Grady Roberts University of Florida, 2010

Lori Unruh Snyder Purdue University, 2009

Amanda D. Weaver South Dakota State University, 2010



# 2010 National Award for Excellence in Extension



## Alison Van Eenennaam

Extension Specialist Department of Animal Science University of California, Davis

Dr. Alison Van Eenennaam is an animal genomics and biotechnology Cooperative Extension specialist in the University of California, Davis' Department of Animal Science. In that capacity, she has developed a well-funded research program targeting mission-oriented animal biotechnology research and an internationally recognized outreach program. Her extension program is focused on the development of sciencebased educational materials outlining the uses of DNA-based biotechnologies in livestock production systems. Since her initial exposure to the beef cattle industry during a 1984 internship on a Texas cattle ranch, Van Eenennaam has worked closely with the industry and has developed a range of extension programming for producers on topics ranging from cloning to DNA marker-assisted and whole-genome enabled selection.

She serves as the extension representative on the National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium Advisory Board. She is also interested in public education and uses a variety of media, including "YouTube," to inform general public audiences about science and technology. She provides a credentialed voice on some controversial topics, including genetically engineered animals. In 2005 she was appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to serve on the national USDA Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture.

Dr. Van Eenennaam received UC's Agriculture and Natural Resources Outstanding New Professional Distinguished Service Award and the UCD Academic Federation Award for Excellence in Research, as well as the American Society of Animal Science Western Section Extension Award.

She received a B.S. from the University of Melbourne in Australia, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from UC Davis.



# 2010 Regional Awards for Excellence in Extension

## 1890 REGION DAVID HEIKES

Extension Specialist, Aquaculture University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Sixteen years ago, David Heikes began working as an extension aquaculture specialist for the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. In that capacity, he helped develop and served as coordinator of the Arkansas Catfish Yield Verification Program, the nation's first aquaculture verification program. This program acted

as a model for the later development of a Southern Regional Aquaculture Center verification program, and data collected through it continues to help validate research-based recommendations and provide real-world data for financial and risk management programs.

Over the past 12 years, Heikes has developed and demonstrated specialized fish harvesting, grading, and production systems to meet the changing needs of the fish farming industry. The majority of channel catfish fingerlings produced today in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama are size-graded with the In-Pond Fish Grader that he produced at UAPB. Most recently, he has devised a flexible grading panel that allows for more cost-effective size grading of hybrid catfish. He also conducts programs on water gardens, fishing ponds, and aquatic plants.

Heikes is a two-time recipient of the Outstanding Service Award presented by the Catfish Farmers of Arkansas. He has served on the Southern Regional Aquaculture Center's technical committee for more than six years and currently represents the southern region on the National Aquaculture Extension Steering Committee.

He received a B.S. from Long Island University, Southampton Campus, and an M.S. from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

#### John Defrain

Professor and Extension Specialist, Child, Youth, and Family Studies University of Nebraska-Lincoln

John DeFrain is a professor and extension family and community development specialist in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies. A UNL faculty member for 35 years, DeFrain focuses the development of strong families statewide, nationally, and internationally.

In his capacity as an extension specialist at UNL, DeFrain acts as a liaison between the university and the greater community, working to understand the needs of those in the community and then to find and develop UNL resources and support community-based efforts to strengthen families.

Additionally, he also holds an honorary appointment as conjoint professor of family studies at the University of Newcastle, Callaghan, New South Wales, Australia; serves as a research scientist in the Center for Family Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China; and recently received an Onassis Foundation Fellowship to work at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

DeFrain is involved with the Global Consortium for Education in Family Studies, developing an international graduate program for students around the world. The Global Consortium links universities in America, Australia, China, Greece, India and Korea making it possible for students to learn about strengthening families from teachers in many countries.

He earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.





## NORTHEAST REGION CHAD RIPBERGER

County 4-H Agent and Extension Department Head, Youth Development Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Chad Ripberger serves as county 4-H agent and extension department head for Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County in Trenton, NJ. He leads a staff of 20 in 4-H youth development, agriculture and resource management, family and community health sciences, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program.

As the county 4-H agent, Ripberger has maintained Mercer County's community-based clubs and school enrichment programs while establishing and growing an extensive urban 4-H program in partnership with large afterschool and summer program providers throughout Trenton. He has led several multicounty, statewide, and national initiatives regarding science programming in urban communities, as well as a team that established a weeklong summer science program on campus for traditionally underserved high school youth. He heads NJ's involvement in the National Science Foundation-funded National Partnerships for After School Science project, training and supporting a network of 15 science trainers for 95 collaborating after-school sites, and he is also working with the National 4-H Council to develop a guide of promising practices for 4-H science in urban communities.

Ripberger was awarded the Northeast Extension Director's Award of Excellence, the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Faculty Excellence Award, a National 4-H Program of Distinction award, and five National Association of Extension 4-H Agents programming awards.

He received his B.S. and M.S. from Purdue University.

#### SOUTHERN REGION CLARK D. GARLAND

Professor and Coordinator of MANAGE Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics University of Tennessee

More than 39 years ago, Dr. Clark D. Garland joined the University of Tennessee as an agricultural economist in extension. Since that time, he has provided exemplary leadership and conducted farm and financial management educational programs in Tennessee.

His signature career achievement is the design, development, and leadership of the highly successful MANAGE program, established in 1986 to help Tennessee farm families evaluate their individual situation and assist them in improving their quality of life. Since its inception, MANAGE has assisted more than 18,000 families in Tennessee.

Garland serves as state sustainable agriculture co-coordinator, coordinator of federal income tax seminars, and co-leader for green industry programs. He chairs the Tennessee Biofuels Initiative Farmer Education Team and provides leadership for educational programs for farmers on contracting and producing switchgrass for biomass.

Dr. Garland has a 25-year sustained record of external funding. He served as principal investigator on 45 grants and contracts worth \$4.6 million to develop, deliver, and improve extension programs. He also collaborated on 17 additional projects, with \$2.2 million awarded.

He has a B.S. from Tennessee Technology University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Tennessee.





### Western Region Michael Bondi

Professor and Extension Agent, Forestry Oregon State University

Michael Bondi has served Oregon State University's Extension for the past 32 years, working in forestry and Christmas trees and as a county staff chair for the Clackamas County office. During this time he has become well-known for developing innovative education programs.



For example, the Clackamas County Tree School is an annual back-to-school event with 60 to 70 classes and attended by about 600 family forest owners and Christmas tree growers. The Tree School model has been adopted around Oregon and in other states and is the largest one-day annual education event for family forest owners in the U.S.

Also, Bondi spearheaded the formation of a non-profit organization that owns and manages the Hopkins Demonstration Forest, a 120-acre forest property. This all-volunteer effort provides hands-on, experiential learning in the forest for youth, teachers, family forest owners, and the public. Annually, the organization serves between 3,000 and 5,000 visitors, employs a full-time extension educator, and raises more than \$100,000 in community contributions.

As a staff chair for the OSU Clackamas County Extension Service, Bondi supervises more than 20 faculty, program, and support staff. In recent years he led a successful effort to create a county service district for extension in his county. The new district provides a permanent property tax-funded source of nearly \$2 million annually for local programs.

Bondi received a B.S. from Iowa State University and M.S. from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.

## Knowing is not enough;

#### WE MUST APPLY!

#### Goethe















## The University of California Small Farm Program

For more than 30 years, the University of California Small Farm Program (SFP) has served California's diverse small farms by conducting research and providing information. Directed by Shermain Davis, the SFP works with minority, immigrant, and other limited-resource farmers by building communication networks within communities and conducting hands-on learning activities in a culturally appropriate fashion. Each farmer's situation is viewed from a whole farm perspective, rather than as technical problems.

Since small-scale farmers cannot compete on price, SFP assists them with differentiating themselves through the crops they produce, their production methods, and their marketing channels. The program provides scale-appropriate solutions, including:

**Niche crops**: Field trials and cultivation information on new specialty crops, including blueberry, capers, pitahaya, jujube, papaya, and various Asian vegetables.

**Farmers markets**: Supported development of farmers markets, including publication of the three-volume Farmers Market Management series.

**Minority farmers**: Educational programs to minority farmers regarding crop selection, pest and disease management, irrigation practices, postharvest handling and storage, and regulatory requirements.

**Critical analysis**: Studies addressing small farm issues, including a feasibility study for a regional niche meats processing facility, and assessment of the needs and economic contributions of California's agritourism operations.

**Healthy environments**: Hands-on workshops on topics such as farm water quality management, pesticide safety, and soil solarization.

Alternative marketing: Workshops on added-value marketing opportunities, and creation of a statewide online agritourism directory and newsletter.

**Business management**: Training to improve business management skills, using USDA resources, such as the Market News Service data, farm loan programs, and conservation programs.

## Award for Excellence in Extension

#### NATIONAL

G. A. 'Art' Barnaby, Jr. Kansas State University, 2009

Ronald J. Hustedde University of Kentucky, 2007

Edwin G. Smith University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 2006

Marilyn J. Smith University of Nevada, 2008

Alison Van Eenennaam University of California, Davis, 2010

#### 1890 REGION

Fitzroy 'Roy' D. Bullock Tennessee State University, 2009

David Heikes University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2010

Irene K. Lee University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2006

Thelma Sanders-Hunter Tennessee State University, 2007

Nathan M. Stone University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2008

#### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

William J. Angell University of Minnesota, 2009

Frederick P. Baxendale University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2007

John DeFrain University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2010

Richard K. Koelsch University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension, 2006

Richard J. Rasby University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2008

#### NORTHEAST REGION

Chester Arnold University of Connecticut, 2009

Jerome L. Frecon Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2008

Walter E. Kee, Jr. University of Delaware, 2007

Barbara M. O'Neill Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Cooperative Extension, 2006

Chad Ripberger Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2010

#### SOUTHERN REGION

Clark D. Garland University of Tennessee, 2010

Robert C. Hochmuth University of Florida Cooperative Extension, 2006

Garry D. Lacefield University of Kentucky, 2008

Mark L. McFarland Texas A&M University, 2009

Nancy M. Porter Clemson University, 2007

#### WESTERN REGION

Michael Bondi Oregon State University, 2010

Susan Donaldson University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 2006

Daniel L. Fagerlie Washington State University, 2009

Donald B. Meehan Washington State University, 2008

Marcia R. Ostrom Washington State University, 2007

### AWARD FOR DIVERSITY

Kathy Castania Cornell University, 2003

Marilyn Corbin The Pennsylvania State University, 2005

Curtis Gear University of Wisconsin, 1996

Jeff G. Hart University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2007

Patreese Ingram The Pennsylvania State University, 2000

Clint Jacks Oregon State University, 1993

Hector Mendiola Utah State University, 2009

Michigan State University, 1999

Juan Moreno University of Minnesota, 2004

James Oliver, University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service

University of California, Cooperative Extension Service University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service Task Force on Diversity, 1991 Raygene Paige Mississippi State University, 1997

Hiram Palmertree Mississippi State University, 1995

Francis Price Utah State University, 1998

Rural Agricultural Improvement and Public Relations Project New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service, 2008

Ann Schauber Oregon State University, 2006

Tuyet Seethaler, Utah State University Los Angeles County Cooperative Extension Service Staff Team

Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, 1992

Texas Cooperative Extension, 2002

The University of California Small Farm Program, 2010

University of Missouri-Lincoln University Cooperative Extension Task Force, 1994

## UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Award for Excellence in Extension

University of Nebraska-Lincoln (4)
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (3)
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (3)
University of Nevada, Reno (3)
Washington State University (3)
Tennessee State University (2)
University of Kentucky (2)
Clemson University (1)

Kansas State University (1) Oregon State University (1) Texas A&M University (1) University of California, Davis (1) University of Connecticut (1) University of Delaware (1) University of Florida (1) University of Minnesota (1) University of Tennessee (1)

### UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Award for Diversity

Utah State University (3) Michigan State University (2) Mississippi State University (2) Oregon State University (2) The Pennsylvania State University (2) University of California (2) Cornell University (1) Lincoln University (1) New Mexico State University (1) Texas A&M University (1) University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1) University of Maine (1) University of Minnesota (1) University of Missouri (1) University of Nebraska (1) University of Wisconsin (1)

() denotes number of recipients

I AM LEARNING ALL THE TIME. THE TOMBSTONE WILL BE MY DIPLOMA.

EARTHA KITT







## Managing in Tough Times (MiTT) National Extension Initiative

The financial crisis of 2008 shook the foundations of the world's economy and undercut the financial security of individuals, families, farm, ranch, and forest land owners, businesses, and communities. Extension professionals needed to quickly help clients learn to cope in such challenging conditions. Although many efforts were underway, an effective way of pulling together varied resources into a single set of solutions for extension professionals was needed.

In February 2009, Dr. Ivory Lyles, in his role as Chair of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy Program subcommittee, recommended that ECOP create a Managing in Tough Times (MiTT) National Extension Initiative, charging Dr. Jane Schuchardt, national program leader of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and Dr. Lyla Houglum, executive director for the Western Extension Directors Association and director of Special Initiatives for Oregon State University Extension, to co-lead the effort. In less than five months, they recruited a leadership team that created an online directory (MiTTNet) of established and tested resources and provided national online trainings. The directory has made available more than 860 resources and has served thousands of extension professionals from every state through more than 4,200 unique visits to the directory.

Extension directors and administrators have expressed overwhelming support and appreciation for the resource, noting that extension responded quickly to a national issue, increased the capacity of the system through an integrated response across all extension program areas, and helped extension educators respond to the needs of learners across the nation. Educators indicated that MiTTNet contributed to their ability to be effective. The MiTT team has arranged for ongoing monitoring, expansion, and management of the resources by eXtension Communities of Practice and other collaborative extension groups.

ECOP recognizes the MiTT leadership team for their monumental effort to develop a rapid and effective response to the 2008 financial crisis. It is a demonstration to all of us that the nation's land-grant universities and their Cooperative Extension system can respond quickly through effective educational programming on critical issues facing the people of our nation.

#### ECOP SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD, CONTINUED

#### MITTNET CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jane Schuchardt, MiTT co-chair National Program Leader USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (Retired)

Lyla Houglum, MiTT co-chair Director, Special Initiatives, Oregon State University Extension Service Executive Director, Western Extension Directors Association

Karen Ballard Director, Program and Staff Development University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Bo Beaulieu Director, Southern Rural Development Center Mississippi State University

Dan Cotton Director eXtension

Robert Craven Director, Center for Farm Financial Management Extension Economist, University of Minnesota Extension Mary Hightower Assistant Director, Communications and Marketing University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Terry Meisenbach Communications and Marketing Leader eXtension

Claudia Mincemoyer Associate Professor, 4-H Youth Curriculum Development The Pennsylvania State University Extension

Rich Poling Associate Professor, Extension Program and Staff Development University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Nancy Porter Professor and Specialist, Family Resource Management Clemson University

Anne Sortor Assistant Director, Family and Consumer Sciences University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture BE AN OPENER OF DOORS FOR SUCH AS COME AFTER THEE.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



## NE-1033

Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species, its Pathogens, and Pests

Before the introduction of chestnut blight in the late 19th century, American chestnut was among the most valuable trees in eastern North American forests, spanning from Ontario to Georgia. The only eastern forest tree that approached the dimensions of the gigantic Pacific Coast rain forest conifers, it was referred to as the 'Redwood of the East.' The tree was prized for its high quality wood, tannin extracts, and nuts. However, the Chestnut blight disease, caused by the filamentous fungus Cryphonectria parasitica, eliminated the American chestnut as a canopy species and elevated oaks as the most dominant tree group in the southern Appalachians. Loss of the American chestnut has resulted in significant biological and economic changes. Widespread oak decline also has occurred in the southeastern United States over the past 20 years, leading to declining forests. It is believed that southern Appalachian forest ecosystems will not be considered healthy until chestnut can be reintroduced, as other natural replacement species grow much more slowly than chestnut. Return of chestnut to eastern forests would vastly improve existing forest stands, positively impact wildlife, and contribute to carbon sequestration in North American forests.

The focus of NE-1033 from its inception has been on one overarching topic, restoration of the American chestnut. This project has served as a model for what multistate research projects should accomplish. Tapping into the expertise of a number of outstanding and dedicated



#### NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN MULTISTATE Research Award, continued

scientists from multiple disciplines, it has addressed the American chestnut tree and its useful products, the fungal pathogens that attack the tree, and viruses that attack and control the fungus. This three-way interaction of an economic host, a primary pathogen of the host, and a biocontrol pathogen that infects the primary pathogen has led to complex, interesting and productive science. Remarkably, less than 30 years after the first iteration of this project, there is real hope for significant recovery of the American chestnut. This ongoing multistate project has had a major role in effecting and documenting that recovery, while contributing outstanding basic and applied science to our knowledge base.

A few of the many impacts of this project include the development of new blight resistant chestnut cultivars as both timber crops and orchard trees for nuts; new strategies for planting chestnuts in harvested and disturbed ecosystems; biocontrol viruses that provide more options for controlling pests and diseases of chestnut trees; and an aggressive program to reintroduce domestically grown chestnuts as a diversely used food source for common consumption.

#### PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:

Auburn University University of California, Davis Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station-New Haven University of Georgia University of Kentucky University of Maryland University of Massachusetts Michigan State University University of Missouri Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Cornell University New Mexico State University The Pennsylvania State University Syracuse University University of Tennessee West Virginia University American Chestnut Foundation Ontario Hort Research Institute USDA Forest Service

## EXCELLENCE IN MULTISTATE RESEARCH AWARD

Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species, its Pathogens, and Pests (NE-1033), 2010

Porcine Reproductive and Regulatory Disease: Methods for Integrated Control, Prevention, and Elimination of PRRS in United States Swine Herds (NC-229), 2009



# 2010 Food Systems Leadership Institute

## FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Food Systems Leadership Institute (FSLI) is dedicated to developing individual and institutional leadership for a twenty-first century food system. The program curriculum focuses on a series of core leadership competencies and three complementary threads: individual leadership; leading change within organizations; and understanding and influencing complex, diverse food systems. This curriculum lays the groundwork for leaders who will transition food systems research, education, and outreach to broader, more holistic approaches.

FSLI is a program of the Association of Public Land-grant Universities with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. North Carolina State University is the primary host institution, responsible for program implementation and hosting FSLI scholars during one of their three onsite residential sessions. The Ohio State University and University of Vermont are also partners in the FSLI, providing their expertise in leadership and food systems to the FSLI curriculum and hosting onsite residential sessions for FSLI participants.

The FSLI is committed to developing additional partnerships with individuals and organizations dedicated to leadership development and food systems.

#### Food Systems Leadership Institute Cohort Three Fellows

Makola M. Abdullah Dean and Director College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture Florida A & M University David Benfield Associate Director The Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center The Ohio State University

Patricia Curtis Professor and Director Poultry Products Safety & Quality Peaks of Excellence Program Auburn University

Michael Doyle Director BMCC Renewable Energy Center of Excellence Bay Mills Tribal Community College

Cary J. Green Assistant Dean and Head Advisor College of Agricultural Sciences Oregon State University

Van Kelley Department Head Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering South Dakota State University

Barbara Kirby Associate Director, Academic Programs Director, Agriculture Institute College of Agriculture and Life Sciences North Carolina State University

Jozef L. Kokini Professor and Associate Dean, Food Science and Human Nutrition Director, Agricultural Experiment Station University of Illinois

#### FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, CONTINUED

Laurie F. Kramer Associate Dean College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences University of Illinois

Mary Simon Leuci Assistant Dean College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources University of Missouri

Gary M. Pierzynski Interim Dean, College of Agriculture Interim Director, K-State Research and Extension Kansas State University

Thomas Rosol Special Assistant to the Vice President, Professor, and Former Dean College of Veterinary Medicine The Ohio State University

Rubin Shmulsky Department Head College of Forest Resources, Forest and Wildlife Research Center Mississippi State University

Jeffrey C. Silvertooth Professor and Department Head Soil, Water and Environmental Science University of Arizona

Robert W. Taylor Professor and Dean School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Alabama A & M University Gary A. Thompson Professor and Head Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Oklahoma State University

Lakshman Velupillai Associate Vice Chancellor International Programs Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Louisiana State University and A & M College

Tom Wahl Assistant Director, Agricultural Experiment Station Professor, Dept of Agribusiness and Applied Economics North Dakota State University

Tim White Professor and Director School of Forest Resources & Conservation University of Florida

A. Dale Whittaker Vice Provost, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Purdue University

Scott G. Witter Professor and Director College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Michigan State University