Agronomy & Horticulture Newsletter, March 26, 2012

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McClean Visits UNL for Coyne Lectureship

Everyone is invited to the Coyne Graduate Student Distinguished Lectureship with Dr. Philip McClean on Wednesday, April 4, 2012, 1 p.m., East Union. He will speak on “Genomics in the Age of Plant Breeding.”

Dr. McClean is the director of the Genomics and Bioinformatics Program at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo, ND, and works on dry bean genetics and biotechnology. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in agronomy from Colorado State University.

His lecture will review the history of the plant breeding industry and explain how genomics science provides new data for plant breeding. This latest data provides new directions and challenges.

Dr. McClean’s visit is courtesy of the Coyne Lectureship Series, which was established by Dermot P. Coyne in the area of plant breeding and genetics. Dr. Coyne, a George Holmes Professor of Agronomy and Horticulture in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, developed new varieties of dry edible beans and squash while a plant breeder at UNL.

A reception will follow Dr. McClean’s lecture. For more information, contact Lisa Sutton, research technologist, lsutton1@unl.edu, or Russell Ward, graduate student lectureship coordinator, raward3@gmail.com.

– Continued to page 2
Information Technology News and Updates

By Warren Werner, Microcomputer Support Associate

The email migration date is fast approaching! As I have mentioned before, the migration tools used to migrate Lotus Notes' files have problems with email attachments larger than 25 MB. That's all well and good, but just how big *is* that? It's easy to be confused by this, as Notes reports the email size in BYTES, not in KILObytes, or MEGAbytes. So, here's a quick list on bytes.

To describe data storage, the bits/bytes are calculated as follows:
- 1 byte = 8 bits
- 1 kilobyte (K / Kb) = 2^10 bytes = 1,024 bytes
- 1 megabyte (M / MB) = 2^20 bytes = 1,048,576 bytes
- 1 gigabyte (G / GB) = 2^30 bytes = 1,073,741,824 bytes
- 1 terabyte (T / TB) = 2^40 bytes = 1,099,511,627,776 bytes
- 1 petabyte (P / PB) = 2^50 bytes = 1,125,899,906,842,624 bytes
- 1 exabyte (E / EB) = 2^60 bytes = 1,152,921,504,606,846,976 bytes

Of course, we're not concerned with much beyond gigabytes in our day-to-day lives. As you can see in the list above, megabytes are millions of bytes. Therefore, 25 megabytes is (25 * 1,048,576), or 26,214,400 bytes. Given that figure, you should be able to determine if you have any potential problem emails by sorting your 'All Documents' view by size from largest to smallest, and seeing how many emails you have that are larger than 26,214,400. These large emails are the ones you should clean up.

The question has also been raised about whether calendar entries and room reservations made in Lotus Notes will carry over to the new system. They will not. Any entries made in Lotus Notes (room reservations, scheduled events, etc.) will need to be re-made in Outlook 365 after migration. If there are specific entries that need to be transferred, make a note of them and re-enter them once you have been migrated. I realize this is inconvenient at best, but there is no provision for migrating Lotus Notes calendar and room assignments to the new system.

The BEST way to contact me is to send an email to mysupport@unl.edu. This email goes directly to the trouble ticket system, which then emails me. This does two things: It gets an IS trouble ticket Issue Number assigned, and it gives me a written record of who is asking for assistance, what they need help with, where they are located, and when they sent the request. This should provide better consistency in answering calls for assistance, not only by helping me keep track of all this information, but by allowing the trouble ticket system to work for you as well. If the problem is something more appropriate for a different group, then they will also be notified, potentially getting you an even speedier solution to your issue.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our upcoming migration from Lotus Notes to Outlook 365. To contact me directly, email me at werner2@unl.edu or call by phone to 402-890-5648.
You’re Invited to a Staff Appreciation BBQ

Everyone is invited to the Department and Agronomy & Horticulture Staff Appreciation Barbeque on April 27, 11:30–1 p.m., 150 Keim Hall. Please RSVP to Brenda Gibson, bgibson2@unl.edu, or call 402-472-2811.

The activities committee will provide hamburgers, baked beans, tea and lemonade. Employees and students are asked to bring a dessert if your last name begins with A–L or a side dish/salad if your last name begins with M–Z. Come and enjoy good fun and good food!

Congratulations to the Ben Deaver family

Sophia Grace Deaver was born on Feb. 13, 2012, in Omaha, to Ben and Brittany Deaver. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20½ inches long. She is the first child for Ben and Brittany. Grandparents are Tom and Susie Deaver of Brady, Neb., and Brad and Becky Sockness of Owatonna, Minn.

Information from the Office Pros

Reminder about Mail Days and Times

This is just a reminder that East Campus gets its US mail on odd-numbered days of the month. Our mail for Keim and Plant Sciences Hall usually arrives around 10:40 a.m. Karen Kreider delivers the mail after that to mailboxes in 279 PLSH and then to additional mailboxes on second and third floors of the buildings.

New Copiers Send Scanned Documents Directly to Email

Our new Océ Canon copiers can send scanned files directly to email addresses and appears as an email from AHCanon, AGRCanon or something similar. If you are looking for a scanned document, please check emails from these machines & email addresses. Tiffany Anderson has added all the faculty and staff email addresses to the copy machine Address Book (search under your first name) so the Office Associates and HAPPI Business Center staff can scan files and send them directly to email addresses.

– Brenda, Karen, Kat, Kathy, Marlene and Tiffany
News from the HAPPI Business Center

Required Purchasing Card Training Offered in Keim

All purchasing card holders are reminded that UNL’s bank provider has changed to US Bank. As a part of that change, all cardholders are required to attend training in order to obtain a new card.

We understand this change is an inconvenience. Therefore, to make the transition as easy as possible, Jenny Schnase has agreed to come to Keim Hall for two sessions – you may choose whichever one best suits your schedule:

- March 27, 2012, 3 p.m. Keim 150
- March 29, 2012, 9 a.m. Keim 150

The session will last approximately 30 minutes and include:
1. A brief training update;
2. Signing of new agreements and program handouts including an updated program handbook; and
3. Receipt of the new US Bank card when you turn in your expiring UMB card.

Campus-wide training will also be held at the Union and at Hardin Hall. For questions or if neither of these sessions work in your schedule, please contact Cheryl Bogenrief, cbogenrief1@unl.edu, 402-472-1522.

Plant Breeding and Genetics Seminar Set

Plant Breeding and genetics graduate students are organizing a UNL Plant Breeding and Genetics Symposium on Tuesday, April 3 in the Nebraska East Union. The symposium runs from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information and to register, see the UNL Plant Breeding and Genetics Symposium website at http://passel.unl.edu/communities/unlpbsymposium.

Backyard Farmer Season Premiere is April 5

Backyard Farmer returns Thursday, April 5, 2012, live on NET1 at 7 p.m. CST. Join us then to kick off its 60th season of answering lawn & garden questions. Until then, check the video archives on YouTube, interact with the team on Facebook, or visit the website at http://byf.unl.edu/home.

Information For and About Grad. Students

Graduate Students Invited to Participate in Poster Contest

Graduate students are invited to participate in the 2012 Global Water for Food Conference Poster Contest. The conference is May 30–June 1 and the theme is: “Blue Water, Green Water, and the Future of Agriculture.” Abstracts are due March 30. For more information, visit the website at http://waterforfood.nebraska.edu/graduate-student-poster-competition-2.
EHS COLLOQUIUIM SERIES

Safe Handling:

Unstable, Reactive & Energetic Chemicals

Presented by Dan Olsen, CHMM and Patrick Dussault, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

12:30 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.  –East Campus Union (Great Plains)
3:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.  –Hamilton Hall, Room 102

Be SURE to attend if your laboratory uses chemicals such as:
azides, picric acid, nitrocellulose, peroxide-formers (e.g. ethyl ether, THF, styrene), metal hydrides, low-molecular weight alkynes, reactive organometallics, or any other energetic materials.

For more information, contact Betsy Howe (402) 472-5488 or ehowe2@unl.edu at EHS.

Colloquium Series facilitated by Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) and the Office of Research & Economic Development