Gamma Sigma Delta Newsletter Issue #43 [sic, #44], Summer 2012

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President’s Message

Hope things are going well for all of you this year. It has been a good year for our chapter. At our 2012 Initiation and Awards Banquet in January, we welcomed 27 new members into our chapter. We need to continue to grow our chapter with these kinds of high quality people. At the banquet we recognized some very deserving undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty. Listening to the list of their accomplishments you couldn’t help but be proud that our chapter recognized them and appreciate their potential impact as they contribute to the understanding and furthering of agriculture and natural resources, human sciences, and biological engineering.

Your Nebraska Chapter Executive Committee will meet this summer to plan the Fall Seminar to be held in conjunction with our Annual Meeting. If you have ideas for the Fall Seminar, let us know. The date for Fall Seminar and Annual Meeting is October 11, 2012; details will be in the Fall Newsletter. The 2013 Initiation and Awards Banquet date is set for January 27, 2013. Plan to attend both these Chapter functions; I look forward to seeing you.

Rick Rasby
GSD Nebraska Chapter President

We hope you can attend these upcoming Gamma Sigma Delta events

Fall Seminar and Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 11, 2012

Awards Banquet
Sunday, January 27, 2013
Beacon Hills
6:00 p.m.
Welcome New Members

We want to welcome the following new members who were initiated at our Awards Banquet on January 29.

**College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources**
- Rachel Anderson: Horticulture
- Kate Boone: Water Science
- Ross Jensen: Agribusiness
- Lindy Rauscher: Environmental Restoration Science
- Shawn Smith: Fisheries & Wildlife
- Danielle Went: Agricultural Journalism
- Kristin Witte: Agricultural Economics

**College of Education and Human Sciences**
- Jordan Anderson: Nutrition & Health Sciences
- Stephanie Curtis: Nutrition & Health Sciences

**College of Engineering**
- Danielle Smith: Biological Systems Engineering
- Matthew Pirog: Biological Systems Engineering

**Graduate Students**
- Jae Behn: Plant Pathology
- Lauren Christensen: Nutrition & Health Sciences
- Ibrahim El-Basyoni: Agronomy
- Jessica Jurzenski: Entomology
- Kevin Korus: Plant Health
- Silvana Paula-Moraes: Entomology
- Chelsea Piitz: Entomology
- Santosh Rajput: Agronomy
- Garrett Serd: Nutrition & Health Sciences
- Melissa Wallinga: Nutrition & Health Sciences
- Heather Stewart Wherry: Human Sci-Leadership Studies
- Ana Wingeher: Agronomy

**Faculty/Staff**
- Madhavan Soundararajan: Biochemistry
- Yiqi Yang: Textiles, Clothing & Design
- Ousmane Youm: Entomology

**Alumni**
- Ernest Weyeneth
Recipients of
2011 Gamma Sigma Delta Awards

The Nebraska Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta Award Committee announced the 2011 award recipients at the annual Initiation and Awards Banquet on January 29, 2012. These awards were presented to individuals exhibiting outstanding service in the areas of research, extension, teaching, administration, and leadership in the fields of agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences.

Award of Merit for Service
Recipient: Susan Fritz

Dr. Susan Fritz serves as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of Nebraska. During her tenure at the University of Nebraska, she has served in a variety of posts including Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Associate Vice Chancellor of IANR, Interim Dean and Director of the Agricultural Research Division, Head of the Department of Agricultural Leadership Education and Communications (ALEC) and faculty member in ALEC.

She earned three degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln: B.S in Business Administration, M.Ed. in Adult Education / Agricultural Education, and Ph.D. in Community and Human Resources. She has been an active teacher and researcher having taught numerous classes in leadership, served as dissertation or thesis chair for numerous Ph.D. and Masters students, authored or co-authored over 50 articles, and delivered numerous presentations at local, regional and national conferences.

When not devoting her efforts to academic pursuits, Susan serves as co-owner/operator of the Fritz family farm with her husband, Russell and two sons, Matthew and Mitchell.

Excellence in Extension Award
Recipient: David Varner

Dave Varner is a leader in the establishment of educational programs in precision agriculture. His work began in 2001 in developing a partnership with farmers and agribusiness representatives to form Nebraska Agricultural Technology Association (NeATA), an innovative partnership to stay abreast of emerging agricultural technologies. NeATA sponsors the Midwest’s premier agriculture technology conference to identify and explore new technologies practical for agriculture with consideration to financial returns for producers.

More broadly, Varner’s role as a crops educator is to help Nebraska producers adopt sustainable crop management practices that optimize crop production and resource use efficiency. He was directly involved in teaching more than 1,000 Nebraska agriculturalists via one-on-one consultations, conferences, workshops, seminars, and on-farm research.
Professor Yiqi Yang received his PhD in 1991 from Purdue University and his undergraduate and masters education from Donghua University in Shanghai, China. As a textile chemical engineer, he is a Charles Bessey professor in the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design and the Department of Biological Systems Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is also a member of the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience. Dr. Yang’s research interests are in green polymers and materials, biotextile engineering, and fiber and textile chemistry. Examples of his research include development of new cellulose, protein and synthetic fibers from agricultural byproducts, and application of green materials in textile, composite and medical industries. Dr. Yang has extensive experience in fiber and textile production and a close relationship with fiber and textile industries internationally.

Dr. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal is an assistant professor in companion animal science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She received a bachelor’s degree in agriculture from Illinois State University and then received her masters and doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in companion animal nutrition. Her research has focused on nutrition of dogs, cats, and other non-ruminant animals. At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, she advises approximately 50 undergraduate students in Animal Science and teaches undergraduate courses, including Introduction to Companion Animals, Human-Companion Animal Interactions, Companion Animal Nutrition, and Companion Animal Behavior. She has received extended education funding to provide two online courses. She also serves as the adviser to the student groups, Students for Education of Companion and Exotic Animals and the UNL Equestrian Team. She oversees and develops extension and outreach programming related to companion animal care and management.
Outstanding Graduate Student
Recipient: Chandirasegaran Massilamany

Chandirasegaran Massilamany is presented the Outstanding Graduate Student award by his advisor, Dr. Jay Reddy.

Outstanding Senior Student
Recipient: Jana Cool

CASNR Dean Steve Waller presents Jana Cool the Outstanding Senior Student award.

Outstanding Undergraduate Student
Recipient: Sean Erickson

Sean Erickson is presented the Outstanding Undergraduate Student award by CASNR Dean Steve Waller.
In Memoriam

Judy Anne Driskell PhD

Judy Anne Driskell, PhD, passed away Tuesday, February 21, 2012 after a long illness. Dr. Driskell was born in Detroit. She graduated from Semmes High School, Mobile, Alabama area, and was valedictorian of her class. She earned her B.S. degree at the University of Southern Mississippi and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at Purdue University. She held teaching, research, and administrative positions at Auburn University, Florida State University, Virginia Tech, and the University of Nebraska. She also was employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and two universities in Indonesia.

Her publications include about 20 books, 200 refereed journal research articles, and numerous technical and lay publications. She received the national Borden Award for Research in Applied Fundamental Knowledge of Human Nutrition as well as several other research awards. She contributed to the education of over 200 graduate and over 1,000 undergraduate students. She was a member and past-president of the Lincoln South Rotary club and a member of Southern Heights Presbyterian Church.

Judy was preceded in death by her mother, Lois Ballenger Driskell. Still living are her husband, William “Bill” Peters in Lincoln, her father, Ralph Driskell in Wilmer, Alabama, and her brothers, John Driskell (wife Barbara and son David) in Wilmer, Alabama, Jerry Driskell (wife Barbel and daughter Valeri White) of Fairhope, Alabama, and Jim Driskell (wife Denise and daughter Sara). Her step-daughter Sharon Baranowski (husband Chris), grandson Tony, and granddaughter Sarah of Omaha, also were important to Judy.

George R. Manglitz PhD


Survived by wife, Marjorie (Welsch) Manglitz; children, Ruth, Harry, Paul, Mary, Joel and spouses; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A celebration of his life was held Saturday, May 12 at Northeast UCC, 6200 Adams, Lincoln. Memorials, in lieu of flowers, to Habitat for Humanity and Lincoln Food Bank.
Gamma Sigma Delta
Outstanding Graduate Student Award Fund

Your Nebraska Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta has established a new fund at the University of Nebraska Foundation to allow us to expand our recognition of high standards of scholarship to the graduate student ranks. The Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Graduate Student Award Fund was initiated with a $750 grant from the international Gamma Sigma Delta organization. The fund is an expendable fund at this time, however, our goal is to raise $25,000 to endow it permanently. Your contributions will assist us in reaching this goal.

A Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Graduate Student Award Selection Committee will organize the application and selection process. Graduate students in Human Sciences, Agriculture, and related sciences who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishment in their teaching, research, or extension endeavors, and great promise for future academic contributions in their field of expertise are eligible.

Please send your donations to the University of Nebraska Foundation at 1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300, Lincoln, NE 68508 with the attached pledge sheet. Questions? Contact Kevin Meyer at kmeyer@nufoundation.org.

**See page 8 for Pledge information.
Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Graduate Student Award Fund #10996

☐ Enclosed is my check for $_________ payable to the University of Nebraska Foundation.
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Campaign: 1L09 ● GSD

If making a gift, please print and mail to:
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For more information, call 800-432-3216 or visit our website at www.nufoundation.org
July 10, 2012

TO: Gamma Sigma Delta Members

FROM: Robert J Wright, (402) 472-2123

SUBJECT: Renewal of Active Membership / Dues for 2012

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership in Gamma Sigma Delta. Please recall that GSD membership is based on the calendar year and runs from January 1 – December 31. In keeping with tradition, I am sending just this single notification for paying your 2012 dues. We are counting on your continuing support of our honorary society. Please be sure to print off and complete the appropriate form and respond today.

Dues are $20 per year. Please make your check ($20 for 2012, or $20 per year for multiple years) payable to Gamma Sigma Delta (please don’t mail cash) and send it, along with your completed membership form to me at one of the addresses indicated.

If you wish to be placed on the GSD inactive list, do not send dues but check the appropriate box on the form and return it to me. If I do not hear from you by August 1, 2012, I will remove your name from our mailing list. You can always return to active membership just by sending me your annual dues. Also, if you know of GSD members who have moved to Nebraska, please send me their name(s) and address(es) or have them contact me so they can become active here. We wish to welcome all of you who have recently transferred into our Nebraska Chapter.

Those of you who have Retired (refer to list next page) or received the Distinguished Service of Agriculture Award of Merit (refer to list below) are not required to pay dues and should have previously received a Permanent membership card. Retired persons who do not return the completed form to me by August 1, 2012 will be removed from the mailing list due to the cost of mailing our newsletters.

Those of you who have paid dues in advance are so noted on the Prepaid list. Please check to see if my extension date is correct for your prepaid dues. For those of you who have a campus email address, please use that address to help reduce our postage expenses.


**NOTE: New members inducted in 2011 are also Prepaid through December 31, 2012!!**


If you have retired and wish to stay on our mailing list, you must complete the attached form and mail it to the appropriate address below by August 1, 2012. If you wish, you may call the information in to me at (402) 472-2123. Please ask for our secretary, Ms. Marilyn Weidner.

Best regards,

Robert J Wright

Robert J Wright
Membership Coordinator
I am enclosing $20 as I wish to remain an active member for 2012.

Payment in ADVANCE. I am enclosing $_________ to extend my active membership __________ years at $20 per year.

I am NOT enclosing a dues payment as I wish to become inactive.

I have RETIRED and wish to remain ON the mailing list

I have RETIRED and wish to be taken OFF the active mailing list.

To save mailing costs, please provide your email address below.

Name

Address

ZIP code

Phone

E-mail

Please return the completed form to:

For On-Campus Mail

Robert J. Wright  
GSD Membership Coordinator  
Entomology Department  
ENTO 103 - 0816  
Lincoln NE 68583-0816

For U.S. Mail

Robert J. Wright  
GSD Membership Coordinator  
Entomology Department  
University of Nebraska