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ARD

Agricultural Research Division News

Office of the Dean, 207 Ag Hall, P.O. Box 830704, Lincoln, NE 68583-0704, Phone (402) 472-2045, FAX (402) 472-9071

April 2000 Volume 34, Number 4

Comments from the Dean

Dear Colleagues:

As we approach the end of this academic year, there is uncertainty regarding IANR's future directions. We are currently seeking a Vice Chancellor and a Dean for Cooperative Extension. A new Dean for the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences will be starting her assignment on Nov. 1 and Dr. Arlen Etling was recently hired as Director of International Programs. We have been fortunate that IANR's senior leadership team has been stable for more than a decade, which is very unusual for Land Grant Universities. The personnel changes that have occurred and are now occurring provide some cause for concern because of the inherent uncertainties regarding the priorities and program directions that the new administrators will espouse, but these changes also provide opportunities for new insights and new programs that will better serve the needs of our clientele.

IANR is also undergoing some organizational changes with the integration of the Horticulture and Agronomy Departments into a new Department of Agronomy and Horticulture. In addition, a new Center for Applied Rural Innovation is being formed as a result of integrating the Leadership Center, Sustainable Agriculture Systems Center and the Rural Community Revitalization and Development Center. Although these organizational changes are not uniformly endorsed by all faculty and clientele groups, these new units will have stronger and more synergistic programs than is currently the case.

The recent release of the Life Science Task Force report and the upcoming release of the Nebraska Futures Task Force report will result in concern among some faculty because of the changes that are proposed in these reports. These reports contain ideas that are worthy of consideration and discussion. We anticipate that a great deal of dialogue will occur between faculty, administrators and clientele before any significant programmatic or policy changes are made. None of the proposals in these reports represent "done deals" and many alternatives to addressing the issues raised by the reports will be considered before any changes are implemented.

Although IANR is in a period of uncertainty, I am very confident that the future will find IANR stronger and more responsive than at present. Our strength lies in the expertise and dedication of our faculty. No matter what changes may occur, IANR faculty will continue to carry out their excellent teaching, research, extension and service programs. Our recent faculty hires continue this tradition of dedication to excellence and will make tremendous contributions in the future. Another strength of IANR is the support of our clientele. There are a number of clientele groups that are actively working to ensure that IANR remains a major component of the University of Nebraska System. These clientele value what IANR programs do for the people of Nebraska and want to ensure that adequate funding and administrative support for IANR continue into the future. I am also encouraged that senior UNL administrators and the Board of Regents appreciate the role that IANR plays in Nebraska's economy and well-being of its citizens. Considering all of these factors, I must conclude that IANR's future is very bright and that we will continue to gain in stature within Nebraska and throughout the United States. I thank all of you for the efforts that you are taking to strengthen IANR through excellence in teaching, research, extension and service.

Darrell W. Nelson
Dean and Director

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation.

Procedures for Processing Grant Proposals

ARD has experienced increasing problems with processing grant proposals. Some proposals are being submitted without the required "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form whereas other proposals are sent directly to the Research Grants and Contracts office without approval by the unit administrator or ARD. Listed below are the processes to be used for approval of various types of grant proposals submitted by ARD faculty:

Proposals to federal agencies: A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. Proposals to USDA agencies will be forwarded by ARD directly to the agency. Proposals to non-USDA federal agencies will be forwarded by ARD to the Research Grants and Contracts office for signature and forwarding.

Electronic submission of proposals to federal agencies: Before proposals are submitted to the granting agency, a "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form and a hard copy of the budget *must be submitted to ARD*. The routing form requires the unit administrator's signature. ARD will notify the Research Grants and Contracts office that proposals are approved for electronic submission. Once the proposal is transmitted, a hard copy must be submitted to ARD.

Proposals to other universities: A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. These proposals will be forwarded by ARD to the Research Grants and Contracts office for signature and forwarding.

Proposals to state agencies: A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. These proposals will be forwarded by ARD to the Research Grants and Contracts office for signature and forwarding.

Proposals for regional competitive grant programs (IPM, SARE, etc.): A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. These proposals will be forwarded by ARD directly to the program manager.

Proposals to commodity boards: A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. These proposals will be forwarded by ARD directly to the commodity board.

Proposals to business and industry: A "Request for Proposal Approval and Submission" form must be completed for each grant proposal. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD. These proposals will be forwarded by ARD to the Research Grants and Contracts office for signature and forwarding.

Proposals to the University of Nebraska Foundation and other internal grant programs: No forms are required, although the proposal must carry the signature of the unit administrator. In most cases, ARD will also sign the proposal.

Gifts from business and industry: A "Form for Recording Industry Income or Foundation Transfers" must be completed. This form must be signed by the unit administrator and ARD.

Preproposals of all types: No UNL forms are required for preproposals, although in most cases these should be approved by the unit administrator.

I am requesting that all faculty adhere to these policies for processing grant proposals. It is important that cognizant administrators are in the loop regarding grant proposals since they are certifying that the proposal is relevant to the mission of their unit, that space is available to complete the proposed research, and that the proposal is in compliance with federal regulations regarding biosafety, animal care and use, and human subjects. Since a higher proportion of grant proposals are now carrying a university cost share component, it is essential that these proposals be approved at the unit, college/division, and university levels. It would be embarrassing for UNL to turn down a grant that was awarded to one of our faculty because the unit administrator believes that the research is not consistent with the mission or because adequate space and facilities are not available.

Criteria for Authorship of Scientific Papers

A high percentage of publications resulting from faculty research have multiple authorship. The decision of who to list as authors and the listing order can sometimes be challenging. There are no hard or fast rules to address this question and many faculty have devel-

Change in the Indirect Cost Rate for Grants

Negotiations between UNL and the federal government have resulted in an increase in the indirect cost rate to be used on grant proposals. The new rate of 45% of modified total direct costs (MTDC) is in effect immediately. Please ensure that all of your grant proposals allowing full indirect costs carry the rate of 45% of MTDC. The previous indirect cost rate was 44% of MTDC.

Proposals Submitted for Federal Grants

The following is a listing of proposals that were submitted after February 2000 by faculty for federal grant programs. While not all grants will be funded, we appreciate faculty members' outstanding efforts in submitting proposals to the various agencies.

Shirley Niemeyer — USEPA — The Impacts of Environmental Disclosure Policies on Housing Transaction Practiced — $65,980

James L. Van Etten — NIH — Function of Virus-Encoded Potassium Channel — $974,631

Gary D. Lynne, Bruce B. Johnson, Kenneth G. Cassman and **David Mortensen** — USEPA — Motivation and Market Mechanisms to Increase Carbon Stored in Agricultural Land — $479,354

John P. Markwell and **John C. Osterman** — USDA/NRI — Plant Formate Dehydrogenase — $357,094

Daniel Pomp, Rodger K. Johnson and **Alexandre Caetano** — USDA/NRI — Quantitative Genomics of Ovulation Rate in the Pig — $361,736

Gautam Sarath — USDA/NRI — Function and Localization of Soybean Root Nodule Acid Phosphatase — $213,282

Michael Zeece, You Zhou and **Ron Cerny** — USDA/NRI — The Role of Gelsolin in Muscle Differentiation — $412,076

Jess L. Miner and **Gautam Sarath** — USDA/NRI — Porcine Acylation Stimulating Protein — $182,451

Timothy P. Carr — NIH — Intestinal Cholesterol Solubility and Atherosclerosis — $255,000

Andrew Benson, Stephen Scott and **Jitender Deogun** — NSF — Concept-Based Machine Learning and Data Mining with Applications to Bioinformatics — $499,276

Glenn A. Helmers — U.S. Department of Energy — An Interdisciplinary Impact Analysis of Carbon Sequestration on Agriculture Sector in Midwest Region — $253,210

S.B. Verma, Kenneth G. Cassman, Timothy J. Arkebauer, Achim Dobermann, John W. Doran, Kenneth G. Hubbard, Johannes M.K. Knops, Derrel L. Martin and **Daniel T. Walters** — U.S. Department of Energy — Carbon Sequestration in Agroecosystems: Quantification at Different Scales for Improved Prediction — $976,765

John Markwell and **John Osterman** — U.S. Department of Energy — Plant Formate Dehydrogenase — $380,911

Terry Klopfenstein, James R. Brandle and **Charles A. Francis** — USDA/CSREES — Integrated Crop/Livestock/Agroforestry Research for Sustainable Systems in Nebraska — $55,194

Stephen Taylor — USDA/CSREES — Midwest Advanced Food Manufacturing Alliance — $395,716

Donald A. Wilhite — USDA/CSREES — Developing Drought Mitigation and Preparedness Technologies for the U.S. — $187,100

Milford A. Hanna — USDA/CSREES — Industrial Agricultural Products Center — $59,872

Hefle, Susan — USDA/CSREES — Alliance for Food Protection — $140,325

Taylor, Stephen — USDA/CSREES — Development and Quality/Safety Enhancement of Speciality Food Products — $39,291

Grants and Contracts Received February and March 2000

Agricultural Economics	
Allen, John — W.K. Kellogg Foundation	$ 36,097
Agricultural Research and Development Center	
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each	10,000
Agronomy	
Clemente, Tom — The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Inc.	20,500
Gill, Kulvinder — NSF via University of California	88,000
Mackenzie, Sally — NSF	100,000
Mason, Stephen — Anna Elliott Fund via UN Foundation	15,000
Specht, James — USDA/ARS	35,000
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each	22,000

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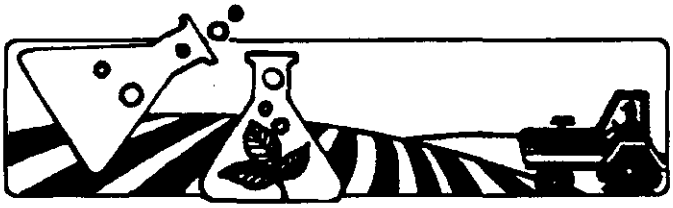

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