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Dinsdale Family Luncheon

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DINSDALE FAMILY LUNCHEON
APRIL 28, 2005
JOHN C. OWENS
NU VICE PRESIDENT AND IANR HARLAN VICE CHANCELLOR

It's such a treat to be here today to have this opportunity to bring together members of the Dinsdale family, whose generosity makes our Dinsdale Family Faculty Awards possible, and this year's recipients of those awards in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

We are very, very grateful for this support in the Institute.

As you know, the Dinsdale Family Faculty Award is specially focused on untenured faculty who have demonstrated a sincere commitment to academic excellence. It recognizes outstanding teaching, research, and outreach in the Institute. When Roy provided the funds for this award, in support of his alma mater and your family's interest in agriculture, he gave us a gift that not only allows us to recognize excellence in the Institute in ways that otherwise would not be open to us, but also shows the support and value you place on our work and our contributions to the

state. That means a great deal.

It means a great deal to those who work in the Institute, and I assure you it means a great deal to those who receive the Dinsdale Family Faculty Awards.

This year our Dinsdale Family Faculty Award recipients are Dr. Martha Mamo and Dr. Loren Giesler. I'd like to tell you just a bit about both. I'm sure you'll quickly see why their work has led to them being named this year's award recipients.

Thank you!
our Bank
Celebration on East Campus Last Week —
- Science - Business - + - Technology of Ag + Related areas.

Dr. Martha Mamo joined us in 1999 as a "soil-chemist" and "biochemist" in our Department of Agronomy and Horticulture. Her nominators cite her contributions in "teaching and research", and her ability to balance accomplishments in both in a highly effective way.

Martha's teaching assignment focuses on two undergraduate courses: "soil-resources" and soil-nutrient relationships. In soil resources, she led in developing and implementing major technological enhancements for the course, including an on-line erosion management module. In soil nutrient relationships, she developed participatory-activities that enrich students' learning experiences.

Nominators also mentioned her involvement in The Peer Review of Teaching process, a year-long UNL activity documenting teaching and student learning in one of her classes.

On the research side, Dr. Mamo's primary research areas

include understanding processes involved in management-induced soil acidity and its effects on soil chemistry; liming strategies and phosphorus dynamics; tillage impacts on soil properties; and more. She has successfully pursued grants to support her research; her nominators note her five publications in this area since 1999 demonstrate that her work is highly regarded professionally.

Involved in international collaborative research in sorghum production improvement in the U.S. and Africa, she's part of an INTSORMIL-USAID-funded research project to improve food security and farm income where sorghum-based cropping systems are important in eastern and southern Africa.

Martha also cooperates in a project evaluating the impact of soil management on soil and water quality. She evaluates the effects of long-term manure application on soil phosphorus distribution and potential phosphorus loss by runoff. She's also part of a team evaluating total management daily loads on two watersheds here in Lancaster County. The team hopes to develop

1994 - 2004

a pollution and economic decision support tool with regional application.

We highly value the many accomplishments of Dr. Martha Mamo.

16 in the World Ag. Science Citations —

Also a "Teacher" — "BACKYARD FARMER"

Cooperative - Extension

Most successful out-of the formal Classroom

We also highly value the many accomplishments of Dr. Loren Giesler, a plant pathologist in our Department of Plant Pathology who also joined us in 1999. His nominators report that in just over three years he became a holistic faculty member with nationally recognized extension-education and research programs on soybean pod mottle virus and other soybean diseases.

Loren has been successful in obtaining grant funding from the Soybean Board, industry, and other sources for his extension and applied research programs on soybean diseases. Involved in

developing and implementing a surveillance system for soybean rust, his outreach program on soybean rust created a keen awareness among Nebraska soybean producers of the importance and potential impact of this disease.

Loren has a leadership role in developing a regional field crop problem diagnostic manual, in cooperation with specialists in weed science, crop production, and entomology. His outreach programs include those on the pine wilt nematode, a significant problem in urban areas, and Phytophthora root rot in soybeans. Additionally, Dr. Giesler willingly assumed interim responsibility for extension programs on corn diseases when another specialist departed.

His nominators note Loren's outreach and applied research programs are highly respected by extension educators, specialists, agribusiness professionals, and growers in Nebraska. I understand his extension publications record, which includes circulars on diseases of alfalfa, corn and soybeans, is one of the best of any new specialist in the Institute.

His nominators also mention he brings statewide, regional and national recognition to his academic department and to Cooperative Extension through his soybean outreach and research. And if Loren looks familiar to Nebraskans when they see him, it's very likely because of his appearances as a panelist for our popular Backyard Farmer television program.

It is my very great pleasure to be here today to applaud both the vision and generosity that brought the Dinsdale Family Faculty Award into being, and the highly talented people we are so pleased to be able to honor with this recognition. Thank you.