ARD News October 1998
Comments from the Dean

Dear Colleagues:

By the time this issue of ARD News reaches your desk, I will have completed 10 years of service as Dean and Director. It is almost unbelievable that a decade has passed in the seemingly short time since I moved from Plant Sciences to Agricultural Hall. It has been a period characterized by a personal steep learning curve, an incredible number of meetings with administrators and faculty, a few frustrations, but, most of all, by satisfaction in seeing ARD faculty achieve tremendous success in research and graduate education.

During the last 10 years, ARD faculty FTE in tenured or tenure-leading lines has decreased from 144.5 to 126.3. In this period, state appropriations have increased by 67 percent, grant income has increased by 92 percent, outputs of theses and dissertations has increased by 28 percent, total refereed journal articles increased by 10 percent and total books and book chapters published increased by 13 percent. At the same time, the number of crop varieties and germplasms released from our breeding programs has significantly increased and the number of patents awarded to our faculty has also increased. We now have significant royalty streams coming to IANR units from licensing intellectual property developed by faculty and staff.

These accomplishments are a tribute to the dedication, creativity and hard work of ARD faculty and staff. The outputs from your research projects are widely recognized throughout the U.S. for high quality and as a result our research program are growing in stature.

Thanks to each of you for your support of what we are attempting to accomplish in the Agricultural Research Division. I really appreciate the assistance and encouragement provided to me by ARD faculty and staff.

Keep up the good work!

Darrell W. Nelson
Dean and Director
Agricultural Research Division

The North Central Region (NCR) Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

The North Central Region (NCR) Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program is a USDA competitive grants program first authorized by the 1990 Farm Bill. The purpose of the SARE program is to generate and disseminate information that is sound and practical about alternative farming systems believed to have the potential to increase the sustainability of agriculture.

Three types of grants are administered under the program and include:

- **Research and Education Grants** — awarded to researchers, producers, educators and other individuals working together to promote sustainable agriculture ideas and practices. Preproposal applications are available mid-July and due mid-September.

- **Producer Grants** — awarded to farmers and ranchers working on on-site projects within the region. Applications are available early-February and due late-April.

- **Professional Development Program Grants** — awarded to persons who develop educational programs related to sustainable agriculture specifically for Extension, NRCS, and other agricultural professionals. Applications are available early-December and due mid-February.

The FY-98 funding cycle was completed this past June. The following Nebraska individuals have been recommended for FY-98 funding:

- **Research and Education Grants** — Wyatt Fraas from the Center for Rural Affairs in Hartington Burt Weichenthal from the UNL Panhandle Research and Extension Center in Scottsbluff

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.
Six proposals were submitted for the Mussehl Endowment. This substantial endowment was established in the University of Nebraska Foundation by the Mussehl estate to support poultry research programs at UNL. Projects eligible for support from the Endowment include poultry management, health, nutrition, physiology, waste management and use and poultry product research. The following proposals were funded:

- **Producer Grants** — John Ellis of York; David Kreutz of Aurora

  The FY-99 Call for Preproposals for research and education grants is available now and has a deadline of Sept. 11. Applications may be obtained by contacting:

  North Central Region SARE Program
  University of Nebraska-Lincoln
  13A Activities Bldg
  Lincoln NE 68583-0840
  Phone: (402) 472-7081
  FAX: (402) 472-0280
  E-Mail: sare001@unlvm.unl.edu
  Web Site: http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/ncrsare

**Revised Guidelines for ARD Travel Reimbursement Program for Prospective Graduate Students**

Listed below are revised guidelines for the ARD Travel Reimbursement Program for Prospective Graduate Students. The ARD Advisory Council revised the guidelines to clarify some ambiguous provisions in the previous version. The program concept remains as originally conceived in 1987.

- The following guidelines pertain only to the funds available through the ARD Travel Reimbursement Program. Departments are free to reimburse prospective graduate students from other sources or to use funds from other sources to supplement funds distributed through this program.

- The purpose of the ARD Prospective Graduate Student Travel Reimbursement Program is to assist in attracting high quality graduate students into the ARD research programs. The program is for recruitment purposes and is not intended to be used to support interviews of prospective graduate students. The objective is to assist departments in convincing students who have been offered an assistantship to actually enroll at UNL.

- A special account will be established in the ARD dean’s office to provide administrative units with a source of funds to partially reimburse travel expenses for prospective graduate students who wish to visit the department/district center before making a decision. Each ARD administrative unit will be eligible to receive funding to reimburse up to two (2) students per calendar year from this account. Only individuals who have been offered graduate research assistantships will be eligible for reimbursement.

- Departments/district centers will be permitted to use their own resources to reimburse prospective graduate students beyond the two per year supported from this special Dean’s account if they desire to do so.

- ARD administrative units may receive funds from this program to assist in reimbursing accounts from which funds have been taken to cover some or all of the expenses incurred by prospective graduate students (who have been offered an assistantship) while visiting the UNL campus. Amounts equal to 50 percent of the student’s expenses, or $200, whichever is less, can be awarded to help defray the costs of transportation, lodging and meals.

- Each department/district center will establish its own appropriate screening procedures. The departmental graduate committee or an equivalent committee at the district center, will work with their respective unit administrator in making decisions with regard to which potential candidates are eligible to receive travel support from either the dean’s travel account or from departmental/district center resources.

- Requests for reimbursement from the Dean’s Travel Account will be submitted by the department head/center director to the dean of the Agricultural Research Division.

Approved 7/06/98 - ARD Advisory Council

**Mussehl Endowment**

Six proposals were submitted for the Mussehl Endowment. This substantial endowment was established in the University of Nebraska Foundation by the Mussehl estate to support poultry research programs at UNL. Projects eligible for support from the Endowment include poultry management, health, nutrition, physiology, waste management and use and poultry product research. The following proposals were funded:

- Sheila Scheideler
  Animal Science Department
  “Dicalcium Phosphate from Eggshells" Funded: $10,000

- Sheila Scheideler
  Animal Science Department
  “Ideal Amino Acid Ratios for Albumen Formation in the Laying Hen” Funded: $9,768

- Sheila Scheideler
  Animal Science Department
  “Effects of Trace Mineral Proteinate Supplementation and Calcium Level on Egg Shell Quality in Older Laying Hens” Funded: $10,000

- Mindy Brashears
  Food Science and Technology Department
  “Competitive Inhibition of Food-borne Pathogens in Poultry Products” Funded: $10,000

- Nancy M. Lewis
  Nutritional Science and Dietetics Department
  “Potential Health Benefits of the Inclusion of Eggs in Diets of Physically Active Adults” Funded: $10,000
The following projects were approved by the Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization and Marketing Board for July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999 funding:

**Milford Hanna**
- Glucaric Acid — A Potential Large Scale Commodity Chemical From Corn Starch
- Pilot Scale Synthesis of Levulinic Acid Via Reactive Extrusion
- PLA Based Visa, Master Card and Memory/Smart Cards
- Isolation and Properties of Extreme Acidophiles Capable of Producing Lactic Acid
- Short Season Dryland Corn for the Nebraska Panhandle
- Sorting and Micro-Cloning of Individual Maize Chromosomes
- Measuring Corn's Intrinsic Value: Assessment of Value for Industrial Uses

**David S. Jackson**
- Alkaline Cooking (Corn and Tortilla Chip, Tortillas) of Nebraska Corn

**Thomas Franti**
- Development and Testing of Field Techniques for Estimating the Effectiveness of Grass Filter Strips

**Robert Hultkins**
- Ethylene Improvement in Grain Sorghum Cold Tolerance During Germination

**Drew Lyon**
- Evaluation of Growth Compounds on Regrowth and Yield Following Hail

**Jurg Blumenthal**
- Using a Crop Desiccant to Facilitate Harvest of Dry Beans

**K. Arumuganathan**
- Further Studies into the Behavior and Impact of the Western Bean Cutworm in Dry Beans

**David S. Jackson**
- Using a Crop Desiccant to Facilitate Harvest of Dry Beans

**Curtis L. Weller**
- Development of Infestation Techniques

**Gary Hein**
- Food Science and Technology Department
- “Efficacy of Feeding Egg IgY from Hens Immunized against Salmonella enteritidis (SE) to Treat and Prevent SE Infection in Hens” Funded: $10,000

**Gary Yuen**
- Fusarium Wilt of Bean in Western Nebraska

**Dermot Coyne**
- Improved Product Quality and Non-Conventional Utilization of Dry Edible Beans

**Eric Kerr**
- Pathogenic Variability of the Bean Rust Fungus in Nebraska and the Search for Stable Rust Resistance

**James Steadman**
- Commercial Evaluation of Two Great Northern Breeding Lines

**Howard Schwartz**
- Polycrystalamid (PAM) — A Method to Control Irrigation Induced Soil Erosion in the Production of Dry Beans

**Durward Smith**
- Evaluation of Dry Bean Cultivars for Disease Reaction and Performance in Western Nebraska

**C. Dean Yonis**
- Breeding Great Northern and Finto Dry Beans with Multiple Disease Resistance

**Dermot Coyne**
- Combined with Improved Seed Quality, Yield and Plant Type

**James Steadman**
- Increasing the Production Efficiency and Market Value of Dry Edible Beans Through a Collaborative, Integrated Research and Extension Program at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center

**Total** 81,959

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The following projects were approved by the Nebraska Grain Sorghum Development, Utilization and Marketing Board for July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999 funding:

**Robert N. Klein**
- Nebraska Hybrid Grain Sorghum Seed Strip Test

**Paul Nordquist**
- Using New Genetic Diversity to Develop Grain Sorghum Germplasm with Good Adaptation to Eastern Nebraska

**Z B Mayo**
- Sorghum Insect Pest Management in Nebraska

**Lisa Silberman**
- Sorghum Grown and Grain Fill Under Cool Sub-optimal Nighttime Temperatures

**Max D. Clegg**
- Improving Stress Resistance, Yield Potential and Market Value by Altering Seed Number, Seed Weight and Plant Color

**Lenis A. Nelson**
- Ethylene Improvement in Grain Sorghum Cold Tolerance During Germination

**David Baltensperger**
- Total 69,731

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The following projects were approved by the Nebraska Dry Bean Development, Utilization and Marketing Board for July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999:

**Gary Hein**
- Food Science and Technology Department
- Development of Infestation Techniques

**Ron Seymour**
- Further Studies into the Behavior and Impact of the Western Bean Cutworm in Dry Beans

**Robert Wilson**
- Using a Crop Desiccant to Facilitate Harvest of Dry Beans

**John Smith**
- Evaluation of Growth Compounds on Regrowth and Yield Following Hail

**Jim Schild**
- Food Science and Technology Department
- “Efficacy of Feeding Egg IgY from Hens Immunized against Salmonella enteritidis (SE) to Treat and Prevent SE Infection in Hens” Funded: $10,000

**David Nuland**
- Fusarium Wilt of Bean in Western Nebraska

**Tony Merrigan**
- Improved Product Quality and Non-Conventional Utilization of Dry Edible Beans

**Larry Peterson**
- Pathogenic Variability of the Bean Rust Fungus in Nebraska and the Search for Stable Rust Resistance

**Howard Schwartz**
- Commercial Evaluation of Two Great Northern Breeding Lines

**Total** 281,207

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The following projects were approved by the Nebraska Soybean Development, Utilization and Marketing Board for Oct. 1, 1998 - Sept. 30, 1999 funding:

**George Graef**
- Winter Nursery Support for Soybean: $22,527
- Breeding and Genetic Research: $29,800

**James E. Specht**
- Development of Improved Soybean Varieties for Nebraska: $130,800

**James R. Steadman**
- Management of Sclerotinia Stem Rot by Development of Resistant Soybean Cultivars and Induced Resistance: $30,952

**George Graef**
- Nitrogen Fertilization of Soybean: $33,134
- A Precision Farming Approach to One Million Research Plots: $3,952

**Milford Hanna**
- Soybean Form Oil: $37,520

**Thomas E. Clemente and Paul Staswick**
- Modification of Soybean Lipid Composition by Down Regulation of Fatty Acid Desaturase Genes: $22,172

**Hossein Noureddini**
- Development of a Continuous Process for Enzymatic Hydrolysis and Glycerolysis of Soybean Oil: $34,500

**Robert M. Caldwell**
- Phosphorus Requirements and Improved Fertilizer P Recommendations for Nebraska Soybeans Grown in Rainfed and Irrigated Systems: $37,520

**Total** $322,830

The following projects were approved by the Nebraska Wheat Board for July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999 funding:

**David R. Shelton**
- Selecting Nebraska Wheats for Processing Needs of Domestic and Foreign Markets: $35,420

**P. Stephen Baenziger**
- Improving Winter Wheat Varieties for Nebraska: $46,600

**C. James Peterson**
- Variety Testing of Public Winter Wheat Varieties Developed Outside of Nebraska: $12,000

**Robert A. Graybosch**
- Hard White Wheat Development for Nebraska: $65,000

**Lenis A. Nelson**
- Lessening the Impact of Leaf and Stem Rust and Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus on Nebraska Wheat Varieties: $20,000

**C. James Peterson**
- Impact of High Plains Disease on Winter Wheat Cultivars - $30,000

**David R. Shelton**
- Utilizing Spring Seeded Wheat in Dryland Cropping Systems: $7,000

**Robert Graybosch**
- Development of Waxy Wheats: $10,000

**Total** $170,480

The following is a listing of proposals that were submitted after August 1998 by faculty for federal grant programs. While not all grants will be funded, we are appreciative of the faculty members' effort in submitting proposals to the various agencies.

**Dermot Coyne and James R. Steadman** — USAID - Biology, Epidemiology, Genetics, and Breeding for Resistance to Pathogens of Beans with Emphasis on Those Causing Bacterial and Rust Diseases — $87,500

**Gail A. Wicks** — USDA/FAS/ICD/RSED/SCP — Use of Reflectance Technology to Identify Weed Competitive Wheat Cultivars — $30,000

**Gail A. Wicks** — USDA/FAS/ICD/RSED/SCP — Use of Reflectance Technology to Measure Herbicide by Wheat Cultivar Interactions — $30,000

**Michael Zeece** — USDA/FAS/ICD/RSED/SCP — Ubiquitin-Proteasome-Dependent Degradation of Myofibrillar Proteins — $30,000

**James W. King** — A Descriptive Study of Selected Australian Distance Education Activities in Agriculture and Forestry — $5,000

**Lenis A. Nelson** — USDA/FAS/ICD/RSED/SCP — Using Statistical Procedures and Molecular Markers to Partition Genotype by Environment Interaction in Maize — $5,000

**Albert Weiss** — USDA/BARD — Title Prediction of Wheat Quality from Physiological and Physical Understanding of Growth and Development — $185,000

**Steve Waller** — USDA/CSREES — Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program for the North Central Region — $25,875

**Kenneth G. Hubbard and Steven J. Meyer** — NSF — Climate Data Delivery System: Climate Information for Federal Agencies — $123,505

**Shripat Kamble** — USDA/Special Research Grants — Nebraska Participation in the National Agricultural Pesticide Impact Assessment Program — $22,527

**Vadim Gladyshev** — NIH — Polymorphisms in the Selenoprotein Gene and Cancer Risk — $925,587

**Julie Savidge** — USDA Forest Service — Breeding Success and Habitat Parameters of Burrowing Owls on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland — $20,000

**James E. Kinder** — USDA/BARD — Regulation of LH Secretion in the Periovulatory Period as a Strategy to Enhance Ovarian Function and Fertility in Dairy and Beef Cows — $221,600
Grants and Contracts Received
August and September, 1998

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<td><strong>Agronomy</strong></td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td>Banerjee, Ruma — NIH</td>
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<td>Stroup, Walt — Pfizer Animal Health</td>
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<td><strong>Center for Rural Development</strong></td>
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<td>Cordes, Sam — University of Missouri</td>
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<td><strong>Entomology</strong></td>
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<td>Danielson, Stephen — U.S. Fish and Wildlife</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>Food Science and Technology</strong></td>
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<td>Benson, Andrew — USDA/CSREES</td>
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<td>Cuppett, Susan — Iowa State University</td>
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<td>Jackson, David and Sahai, Deepak — NSF</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>Horticulture</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Industrial Ag Products Center</strong></td>
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<td>Hanna, Milford — National Corn Growers Association</td>
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<td>Mader, Terry — Optimum Quality Grain</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>Panhandle Research and Extension Center</strong></td>
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<td>Hibberd, Charles — Agronomics International</td>
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<td>Rush, Ivan G. — Vitamins, Inc.</td>
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<td>Smith, John — Western Sugar Company</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>Plant Pathology</strong></td>
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<td>VanEttten, James — NIH</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>School of Natural Resources</strong></td>
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<td>Harvey, F. Edwin — Nebraska Department of Water Resources</td>
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<td>Harvey, F. Edwin — USEPA</td>
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<td>Kuzelka, Robert — Nebraska Groundwater Foundation</td>
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<td>Spalding, Roy — NDEQ</td>
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<td>Volk, Bob — USDA/ARS</td>
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<td>Walters-Shea, E. A. and Rundquist, Donald — UCAR</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Central Research and Extension Center</strong></td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences</strong></td>
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<td>Barletta, Raul — Texas A&amp;M</td>
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<td>Denis, Ruben — Pfizer</td>
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<td>Moxley, Rodney — National Beef Council</td>
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<td>Moxley, Rodney — National Pork Producers</td>
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<td>Schmitz, Jack — Pfizer</td>
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<td>Wills, Robert — National Pork Producers</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<td><strong>West Central Research and Extension Center</strong></td>
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<td>Hergert, Gary W. — University Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

New or Revised Projects

The following station projects were approved recently by the USDA Current Research Information System:

**NEB-11-111 (Biological Systems Engineering)**
Characterization and Modeling of Odor Emissions from Animal Production Facilities
*Investigator(s):* D. D. Schulte, S. B. Verma, D. P. Billesbach, and R. K. Koelsch
*Status:* New State project effective July 1, 1998

**NEB-12-268 (Agronomy)** Sustainable Farms, Landscapes and Rural Communities in Nebraska: An Agricultural Systems Team Approach
*Investigator:* Charles A. Francis
*Status:* New Hatch project effective July 1, 1998

**NEB-12-269 (Agronomy)** Cropping Systems for Uncertain Environments: Decision Aids for Managing Soil and Weather Variability
*Investigator:* Robert M. Caldwell
*Status:* New Hatch project effective July 1, 1998

**NEB-13-142 (Animal Science)** Value-Added Processed and Manufactured Meat Products
*Investigator:* Roger W. Mandigo
*Status:* New Hatch project effective June 11, 1998

**NEB-13-143 (Animal Science)** Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of U.S. Red Meat
*Investigator(s):* Chris R. Calkins and Dillon M. Feuz
*Status:* New Hatch project that contributes to regional project W-177 effective Oct. 1, 1997
University Funds May Not Be Used For Individual Memberships and Subscriptions

In March, 1996, the Vice Chancellor’s Council approved a policy that prohibits the use of university funds for purchase of individual memberships in scientific organizations or personal subscriptions to journals. The policy statement is provided below:

• No university funds (appropriated, grants, contracts, indirect cost recovery, or revolving) may be used to purchase individual memberships in professional societies or other periodicals.

• University funds may be used to purchase institutional memberships in civic or professional organizations or to purchase institutional subscriptions for journals or other periodicals.

• University of Nebraska Foundation funds may be used to purchase personal memberships or subscriptions if individual endowments are established for this purpose.

The policy was adopted because several cases of abuse were discovered and because council members believe that faculty members have personal responsibility to be members of their professional or scientific society.

Binational Agricultural R & D Fund (BARD)

The BARD program was established in 1977 by the governments of Israel and the United States to promote cutting edge, collaborative agricultural R & D activities of interest to both countries in public and non-profit private institutions. The annual income for the fund is about $12.5 million. About 90 percent of the income is allocated for research grants supporting collaborative projects involving both U.S. and Israeli scientists. Some 3 percent of the income is invested in post-doctoral training and in sponsoring workshops. In 20 years of operation, BARD has awarded $120 million in research grants for 800 joint projects in the agricultural sciences. Grants are typically three years in duration and provide from $300,000 to $350,000.

IANR scientists receiving awards in recent years include Raul Barletta (Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences), Mark Morrison (Animal Science) and Martin Dickman (Plant Pathology). Please consider submitting a joint grant proposal with an Israeli colleague during the next round of competition.
Grants and Contracts Received
August and September, 1998

Agricultural Economics
Azam, Azzedine — Iowa State University  19,418
Agricultural Research and Development Center
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  10,000
Agronomy
Andrews, David — USAID  42,000
Baenziger, P. S. — Pioneer Hi-Bred International  18,000
Egbball, Bahman — USAID  100,000
Gill, Kulvinder — USDA/CSREES  150,000
Maranville, Jerry — USAID  19,600
Mason, Stephen — USAID  25,450
Staswick, Paul — University of Illinois  36,334
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  42,310
Animal Science
Milton, Todd — Fort Dodge Animal Health  32,400
Pomp, Daniel — UN Foundation  47,210
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  36,404
Biochemistry
Banerjee, Ruma — NIH  277,454
Biological Systems Engineering
Martin, Derrel — Burlington Northern — UN Foundation  16,350
Biometry
Stroup, Walt — Pfizer Animal Health  14,400
Center for Rural Development
Cordes, Sam — University of Missouri  55,000
Entomology
Danielson, Stephen — U.S. Fish and Wildlife  40,000
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  46,181
Food Science and Technology
Benson, Andrew — USDA/CSREES  150,000
Cupp, Susan — Iowa State University  91,089
Jackson, David and Sahai, Deepak — NSF  211,748
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  5,000
Horticulture
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  29,850
Industrial Ag Products Center
Hanna, Milford — National Corn Growers Association  32,000
Northeast Research and Extension Center
Mader, Terry — Optimum Quality Grain  35,000
Miscellaneous grants under $10,000 each  38,000

Grand Total  3,120,890

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Investigator: Charles A. Francis
Status: New Hatch project effective July 1, 1998

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Investigator(s): Chris R. Calkins and Dillon M. Feuz
Status: New Hatch project that contributes to regional project W-177 effective Oct. 1, 1997
Contracts and grants continue to be a very important component of support for ARD faculty research, providing about one-third of the research support annually. While the amount of grant and contract support needed for individual programs to be successful varies greatly, nearly all programs require some external support in addition to appropriated funds if they are to be cutting-edge productive efforts.

The growth in contract and grant support for ARD faculty is good evidence of improved grantsmanship skills and effort. ARD encourages research faculty to continue to improve their skills through various opportunities, such as training workshops conducted by the UNL Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, self-study with references such as the ARD publication "Playing to Win" by Dr. David Stanley, participation in review panels, and other opportunities.

A recent article in the publication E-TRAIN, The Environmental Training Newsletter for Small Communities, noted some other opportunities for improving proposal writing skills. It identified three Internet sites that provide information aimed at improving proposal writing skills.

The first site, "Grantseeking 101," is a commercial site with basic grant finding and writing information. It also offers a forum for discussion with other people interested in sharing advice or resources for grant writing. The site has an online catalog selling grant writing-related books and software. The site address is: http://www.grantscape.com/omaha/grants/services/101.html

The second site, "A Proposal Writing Short Course," is maintained by a nonprofit service organization, The Foundation Center, and includes a two-part free proposal writing course. It also provides links to the foundation's other services related to grantsmanship. The site address is: http://dncenter.org/onlib/prop.html

The third site has an interesting title, "Some Reasons Why Proposals Fail." It contains many aspects of grant proposal writing and is maintained by the University of Wisconsin Grants Information Center. It also provides information about other sites related to this subject. Address of this site is: http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/Memorial/grants/proposal.htm

In the area of grantsmanship, anything a faculty member can do to help get a competitive edge through writing better proposals or identifying additional sources will be helpful. These web sites can be an opportunity to enhance skills of ARD faculty.

The portion of the Farm Bill that authorizes all of the USDA research programs was finally passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton in the early summer. This legislation will have a significant impact on many of our research programs. A summary of major changes mandated by this legislation is presented below:

- Land Grant Universities must show that they have obtained input from stakeholders regarding research needs and priorities. We intend to use the IANR strategic planning process to obtain broad-based stakeholder input.
- We must submit a "plan of work" to CSREES that documents all programs to be funded by Hatch and regional research funds during the next five years. This is a new requirement that will require significant effort by the ARD office.
- The ARD peer and merit review procedures must be approved by CSREES before Hatch funds are allocated to the University of Nebraska.
- Twenty-five percent of Hatch funds must be spent on multi-state, multi-disciplinary and multi-functional programs. These allocations must be documented in the "plan of work."
- The indirect cost rate for NRI grants was increased to 19 percent.
- The "Initiative for Future Agricultural and Food Systems" was authorized. This new initiative provides $120 million per year for five years for competitive grants addressing "mission oriented" research.

Diane says

Correction can help, but encouragement can help far more.