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Agronomy & Horticulture Newsletter, January 28, 2011

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INFORMATION FROM OUR HAPPI BUSINESS CENTER

2010 Staff Evaluations: Your annual staff evaluations need to be completed and sent to John Dillingham (202F Keim Hall, 0915) by **March 15**. If you are new to the department, it is recommended that you attend the following evaluation review session, which is open to all staff:

Evaluation Review Session Date & Time
Wednesday, February 16, 10:00 a.m.

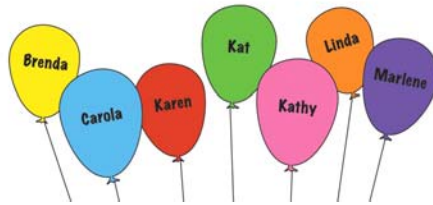
Location
202N Keim Hall

Here are the steps to complete the evaluation process (Please refer to the email memo sent on 1/14/2011.):

- 1) Using last year's development plan, you can input this information into your evaluation and make comments on your performance. The evaluation can be modified to be expanded/reduced as needed to give an accurate representation of the achievements you have accomplished.
- 2) Complete development plan for 2011. This will include upcoming projects or goals for your position. This is a forward-looking document so some items may not in the end be completed, but will provide an outline to your supervisor of upcoming development/activities.
- 3) Schedule a meeting with your supervisor and review both documents. Once you have completed your meeting, send the signed evaluation and development plan to John Dillingham in 202F Keim Hall, 0915, by **March 15th**.

----- John Dillingham, Personnel Generalist, PHR

A WORD FROM YOUR OFFICE PROFESSIONALS



“WHO – WHAT – WHERE – WHEN – WHY – HOW” – TRAVEL TIPS

TAKING A TRIP:

WHO TO CONTACT? Your travel & conference specialists, Carola Strauss/Karen Kreider, or any of our other Office Professionals..

WHERE ARE WE? 279 PLSH; Carola (2-8747) cstrauss1@unl.edu; Karen (2-5138) kkreider2@unl.edu,

WHY CONTACT US? To answer questions, handle logistics, complete paperwork.

WHEN TO CONTACT? At least 2 weeks prior to trip.

WHO WILL AUTHORIZE & PAY FOR THIS TRIP?

1. If **faculty, grad, post doc, or staff member** – Your “supervisor” will authorize. You provide:
 - Permission and name of supervisor;
 - Cost object for expenses;
 - Your signature and supervisor’s signature on prepared document(s).
2. If receiving an **award/grant recipient** toward trip – The department or company giving the award will authorize their portion. You provide:
 - Name of department/company;
 - Cost object;
 - Copy of letter describing award;
 - Your signature;
 - Department/company signature.

WHAT DO WE PROVIDE?

1. Airline reservation;
2. Hotel reservation;
3. Conference fee reservation;
4. Transportation arrangements;
5. Advise you on the “HOWS” of your trip;
6. Create a travel packet to take with you;
7. Prepare pre-trip authorization forms and expense vouchers.

DURING YOUR TRIP:

1. Collect “itemized receipts” for you only, especially meals. (Faculty exceptions – talk to Carola or Karen).
2. Keep meals and gratuity reasonable. 15% gratuity is normal.
3. Alcohol is not reimbursed. Pay for drink(s) separately.
4. If receipt is not provided or itemized – must complete a “travel addendum.” Use sparingly.
5. International travel receipts must be translated into English and converted to U.S. currency.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY!

WHEN YOU RETURN:

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO? Return packet of receipts to whoever completed your original travel paperwork (Carola, Karen, or any of our other Office Professionals).

WHEN IS THE REIMBURSEMENT DEADLINE: 60 days from trip, no exceptions per UNL policy.

----- Brenda, Carola, Karen, Kat, Kathy, Linda, and Marlene

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST EMPLOYEE

Christopher Barber joined our department on January 24 as a Research Technologist and is supervised by John Guretzky. Chris is located in 371 Keim Hall; phone 472-4933. Stop by his office to say “Hello” when you get the chance.

CONGRATULATIONS! ★

Martha Mamo has recently been chosen to receive two awards. The “**2010 Gamma Sigma Delta Teaching Award**” will be presented to Martha at a banquet on January 30. She will also be honored at a reception of the Teaching Council on February 4, where she will receive a “**Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students.**” The UNL Teaching Council and the Parents Association awards this certificate based on nominations from students to recognize faculty and staff who “made a significant contribution to their lives while at UNL.”

SPRING 2011 SEMINAR SCHEDULE FOR AGRONOMY & HORTICULTURE

Fridays at 3:30 p.m. (refreshments at 3:00 p.m.)

150 Keim Hall

- Jan 28 Advances in Ecosystem Carbon Balance, Leaf Area Index and Photosynthesis; Shannon Loriaux, Senior Applications Scientist, LI-COR Biosciences
- Feb 4 Improving the Power of Genome-Wide Selection and Association Mapping for Cultivar Development; Aaron Lorenz, Agronomy & Horticulture
- Feb 11 Mechanisms of Biological Methane Production; Nicole Baun Murphy, Biochemistry, Redox Biology Center at the Beadle Center
- Feb 18 Elucidating the Nutritional Benefits and Improving Quality of Whole Grains and Other Sources of Dietary Fiber; Devin J. Rose, Food Science & Technology
- Feb 25 Measurements of Ch₄ and Other Fluxes using Eddy Covariance Technique: Instrument & Methodology Perspectives on Open-Path Low-Power Design; George Burba, Principal Scientist, LI-COR Biosciences
- Mar 4 Sorghum for Bioenergy; Ismail Dweikat, Agronomy & Horticulture
- Mar 11 Bioprocessing of Lignocellulosic Biomass: Addressing Challenges at Multiple Scales; Deepak Keshwani, Biological Systems Engineering
- Mar 18 High Resolution Methods Define Patterns of Fatty Acid Trafficking; Paul Black, Biochemistry
- Apr 1 Marker Assisted Selection for Grain Yield in Soybean & Implications for MAS in General; Scott Sebastian, Ph.D., Trait Interaction Genetics, Pioneer Company (Johnston, IA)
- Apr 8 Carbon Dioxide Exchange in Agricultural Ecosystems; Shashi Verma, Bessey Professorship, School of Natural Resources

- Apr 15 Building Stress Gene Networks in Crops; Harkamal Walia, Agronomy & Horticulture
 Apr 22 Soil Carbon Loss Contributes to Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Biofuels; Adam Liska,
 Biological Systems Engineering
 Apr 29 Progress on Making a Perfect Fertilizer, i.e., Feedlot Manure; Galen Erickson, Animal Science

BROWN BAG SESSIONS ON LIFE SCIENCES CURRICULUM

12:00-1:00 P.M. IN 150 KEIM HALL

Dates and Topics for Discussion are Listed Below

- Feb 16 Cellular and Molecular Level Plant Biology Learning in Our Teaching Program; David Holding, Brian Waters, and Harkamal Walia
 Mar 16 Horticulture Plant Production System Learning in Our Teaching Program; Ellen Paparozzi, Paul Read, and Stacy Adams
 Apr 21 Agronomic Plant Production System Learning in Our Teaching Program; Steve Mason and John Guretzky
 May 4 Tentative topic of discussion is “Perennial/Grassland Plant System Learning in Our Teaching Program”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE ON FEBRUARY 23

The Pesticide Safety Education Program would like to invite you to our open house on February 23 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. in 377 Plant Science. Get to know us a little better and learn more about the multiple areas of our programming. Refreshments will be served.

- Feb 18 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 150 Keim Hall
 Mar 15 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 8:30-10:30 a.m., 150 Keim Hall
 Apr 14 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 150 Keim Hall.
 May 11 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 8:30-10:30 a.m., 150 Keim Hall
 Jun 14 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., 150 Keim Hall

NEW SHORT COURSE OFFERED THIS SUMMER IN NORTH PLATTE

Steve Young, Weed Ecologist at our West Central Research & Extension Center, has developed and organized a new short course, “North American Invasive Plant Ecology and Management Short Course.”

This course is being held July 6-8, 2011, at the West Central Research & Extension Center in North Platte. **Registration is limited to 40 participants and is due by May 1, 2011.** Copies of the course brochure are available on the table in 279 Plant Sciences Hall.) **Graduate students are welcome to enroll. Please read the latest update below:**

UPDATE

2011 NORTH AMERICAN INVASIVE PLANT ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT SHORT COURSE (NAIPSC)

January 21, 2011. Organizers of the 1st annual North American Invasive Plant Ecology and Management Short Course (NAIPSC) are pleased to announce the receipt of funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and the Nebraska Academy of Sciences to help finance graduate student participation. “Providing money to help pay for graduate student registration costs is a significant incentive for those who are interested, but may not be able to pay their own way,” said Steve Young,

NAIPSC lead organizer. “We need a good mix of participants with broad interest levels at the NAIPSC and these funds help move us in that direction,” he added. The NAIPSC is three days of intense instruction and learning on the basics of invasive plant ecology and management and will be held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln West Central Research & Extension Center in North Platte, NE. The funds, in the form of \$300 scholarships, will be available to the first 10 graduate students who register for the NAIPSC. Graduate students must be enrolled in an accredited university graduate program, which may include ecology, natural resources, environmental policy, geospatial sciences, or other subjects relating to the topics of the NAIPSC. In addition, graduate students must complete a 1-2 credit online project in association with their participation in the NAIPSC. For more information, go to <http://ipscourse.unl.edu>. All interested graduate students are encouraged to contact Dr. Young at 308-696-6712 or syoung4@unl.edu.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For the latest news, information, and list of events at the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, please visit <http://ianrhome.unl.edu/home>. Click on **IANR News Feed** or the **IANR Calendar** under the heading “Timely Topics.”

If you would like to submit events for our events calendar, give them to **Aaron Franco** after they have been approved by the department head. Our calendar also shows events posted on the IANR and CASNR calendars. Go to: <http://events.unl.edu/agronomy>.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FYI: Visit UNL’s Office of Sponsored Programs web site for funding announcements in PDF format at <http://www.unl.edu/research/sp1/index.shtml> under “Funding Opportunities.” These announcements are compiled from the funding opportunities offered by federal funding agencies, private foundations, and a variety of additional entities. If you want to subscribe to Funding Announcements, contact Nathan Meier (472-1808 or nmeier2@unl.edu). Additional funding opportunities may be found at <http://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov is the single access point for individuals to search competitive funding opportunities from more than 900 grant programs offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies.
