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Agronomy & Horticulture Newsletter, May 13, 2011

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A WORD FROM YOUR OFFICE PROFESSIONALS

New Blackboard system starting this summer: UNL is implementing Blackboard 9.1 (*Blackboard Learn*), for summer and fall 2011 courses. Currently, the Blackboard login page, my.unl.edu, displays a dual login screen. Select the Blackboard button for the system you wish to access. The Office Pros can assist faculty with the transition and with transferring courses from version 9 to version 9.1. For assistance or for more information, contact Kat Cockrill (2-1503) or Kathy Schindler (2-1508).

UPS Shipments: UPS no longer stops by 279 PLSH every day to pick up packages. However, we are a "smart" pickup location (free pickup). There are a couple of options when mailing UPS packages: 1) take them to another daily pick up location (e.g. 406 PLSH - Plant Pathology and 137 KEIM - USDA) by 3 p.m.; 2) call the 800 number (1-800-377-4877) for a "smart" or free pickup; and 3) drop off the boxes at a UPS location.



Business Cards: Please check your supply of business cards and let us know if you will need any new ones for the coming year. The business cards come in boxes of 250, 500, 1000, and 2000. Costs range from \$22 and up depending on quantity, color, and whether you have printing on the front and back side of your business card. More information can be found at <http://printing.unl.edu/print/products/businesscards.shtml>.

We're working hard to make you shine! The OfficePROS team consistently strives to promote excellence in service by embracing new opportunities to serve you. We strive to develop higher levels of competency by enrolling in workshops and classes that will benefit you. For example,

- Kathy Schindler attended a LifeRay training session on April 20 which enables her to help faculty with Web site content.
- Brenda Gibson and Kathy Schindler received Situational Awareness Training on April 18, led by Fred Gardy, Assistant Police Chief, University Police. The program focused on learning how to think, react, and stay safe in any situation. This includes learning to be aware of our surroundings, processing information from our surroundings, determining the difference between relevant and irrelevant information, and how to react to potentially dangerous situations. This training comes after the situation at Dental College earlier this year. A 10-part video series from UNL's Emergency Planning and Preparedness provides guidance on how to recognize and survive an active shooter situation. To view the series go to <http://emergency.unl.edu/shotsfired/>.
- Carola Strauss is attending an all-day conference and event-planning workshop on May 13 to advance her techniques in assisting you with your conference and event planning needs.
- Karen Kreider will be attending a couple of PowerPoint classes at the end of May and the beginning of June. She would like to become more familiar with PowerPoint to help develop and tailor presentations for others.
- Kathy Schindler, Kat Cockrill, and Carola Strauss will be attending UNL's 2011 all-day Think Tank, which focuses on Toolbox adherence, learning from branding case studies, social media, making a visual impact, social and brand engagement, etc.

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

PLEASE WELCOME A NEW MEMBER TO OUR FACULTY

Dr. Keenan Amundsen joined our faculty on May 2. Keenan is a Turfgrass Geneticist and moved here from Virginia with his wife and three children. His office is located in 377H Plant Sciences Hall; phone, 2-8390. Stop by his office to say "Hello."

CONGRATULATIONS! ★

Ph.D. student, **Manmeet Singh** (advised by Tom Clemente), has been awarded the Milton E. Mohr Fellowship for 2011-2012. Congratulations, Manmeet!

Two of our undergraduate students, **Ross Barr** and **Ivy Hoppes**, were awarded Milton E. Mohr Scholarships for 2011-2012. Congratulations to Ross and Ivy!

TREE PLANTED IN HONOR OF DR. DAN WALTERS

The Northeast Arboretum planted a tree **in honor of Dr. Dan Walters** on April 29. A Canaan fir was added to the conifer collection. Dr. Walters conducted collaborative research at the Haskell Ag Lab since the late 1980s.

The attached picture shows Charles Shapiro (Soil Scientist-Crop Nutrition) at the planting site.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2011 WALKING TOURS OF THE MAXWELL ARBORETUM



These informal walking tours are scheduled from 12:00–1:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The tours are led by Emily Levine, Special Projects Research Horticulturist with Agronomy and Horticulture and former Grounds Supervisor for the arboretum. They are free and open to the public. Levine said no end date has been set for the 2011 tours.

Participants should meet at the Karl Loerch Gazebo one block east of the UNL Dairy Store, near 38th and Holdrege streets. Some metered parking is available on the East Campus Loop south of the arboretum. In the event of rain, that week's tour will be canceled.

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE ARBORETUM SPRING PLANT SALES

Great selection of hard-to-find plants for sustainable landscapes from the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Greenhouses (near 38th & Leighton on UNL East Campus). Included are prairie and woodland native perennials and grasses, local seed-source trees, and shrubs! Full list at <http://arboretum.unl.edu/plantsales>. Directions to NSA Greenhouse: In Lincoln, take Huntington/Leighton to 38th St. and turn south (north entrance to UNL East Campus). Go 1 block south and turn east—NSA banner is posted on the greenhouse. Dates and times are listed below:

Friday Open House from Noon-5:00 p.m. on May 13, 27, and June 10. Includes “Display Garden Tour” at 1:30 p.m. each of those days.

Saturday Open House from 9:00 a.m.-Noon on June 4, with “Display Garden Tour at 11:00 a.m.

- May 19 **Extension Faculty Brown Bag Lunch** with Mark Lagrimini, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., 150 Keim Hall. The topic of discussion will be “Getting the message out for a new generation.” Center faculty may connect by polycom.
- May 19 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, (**May 11 meeting canceled, so note this change of date & time.**), 1:00 p.m., 150 Keim Hall. IANR Vice Chancellor, Ronnie Green, will be speaking at this meeting, so please try to attend this important meeting.
- Jun 14 **Agronomy & Horticulture Faculty Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., 150 Keim Hall

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 the Agronomy & Horticulture 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.