

# Hort d'oeuvres

College of Agricultural Sciences

Volume 11, Number 11

## ADVISING CENTER NEWS

by Paige Thomas

Faculty members who are advising undergraduate students may have received information from Terry Musser about the availability of some ADVISING WORKSHOPS offered in the College of Agricultural Sciences this semester. Terry Musser is the DUS Representative in the College of Ag Sciences and is leading the workshops. Terry is a veteran adviser and EXCELLENT at what she does! I encourage all faculty advisers to take advantage of this great opportunity to participate in one or more ADVISING WORKSHOPS.

ADVISING 101 targets faculty who have been advising for 3 years or less and will include advising basics. Available dates are Nov. 4 @ 3:30 – 5:00 and Dec. 3 @ Noon – 1:30.

ADVISING 201 targets faculty who have been advising for 4-6 years and feel ready to move beyond the basics of academic advising. Available dates are Nov. 13 @ 2:30 – 4:00

and Dec. 10 @ 3:00 – 4:30.

ADVISING 301 will focus on more advanced advising topics such as theory, philosophy, advising assessment and using Web 2.0 technologies in advising. Available dates are

Nov. 25 @ 1:00 – 2:30 and Dec. 16 @ Noon – 1:30.

All workshops will be held in 109 ASI Building. Although registration is not strictly required, Terry would appreciate knowing who is planning to attend each workshop since attendance is limited to 16 because of the number of computers. Terry can be contacted at: [txm4@psu.edu](mailto:txm4@psu.edu).

### Calendar of Events

#### Nov 4

- Late Drop – DEADLINE



#### Nov. 7

- Social Hour 10:00  
Room 21 Tyson
- Alumni Recognition  
Dinner 7:00, NLI



#### Nov. 8

- Penn State Football at Iowa



#### Nov. 15

- Penn State Football Home vs. Indiana



#### Nov. 22

- Penn State Football Home vs. Michigan State



#### Nov. 24-28

- Thanksgiving Holiday –No Classes



#### Nov. 24

- Submit Final Thesis



## Congratulations!



**Raul Jaramillo-velastegui** passed his final oral exam on Tuesday, October 14, advisor Jonathan Lynch

**Kathy Demchak** will receive her 25 years of service award on November 6.

## Happy Birthday!

**Nov. 3**

Johannes Postma

**Nov. 4**

Rick Bates

**Nov. 17**

Dennis Decoteau

Amy Annino-Monko

**Nov. 20**

Jane Wubbels

**Nov. 23**

Elsa Sanchez

Ermita Hernandez

## Social Hour

Friday, November 7

10:00 am

Room 21 Tyson



Please join us for the Department's Social Hour. Open to everyone in the department including faculty, staff, graduate students, post docs, and visiting scholars. Please encourage others, who haven't attended in the past, to attend so that they can meet and socialize with other colleagues in our Department.

## Ag Live '08 Tailgate

Share the excitement with hundreds of Ag Alumni and friends, enjoy a hearty buffet with Berkey Creamery ice cream, and celebrate live music with the Penn State pep band and cheerleaders before Penn State takes on Michigan State on Saturday, November 22. Live auction and raffle will showcase football weekend packages, condo vacations, Penn State memorabilia, collectables, gift baskets, and more. Complete list of items is available online. Absentee bids are accepted. Proceeds benefit the Ag Alumni Society's scholarships, internship awards, and other student and alumni programs. Festivities begin 3.5 hours prior to kickoff. Adult admission is \$20; students get in for \$15. For more information and to register, please visit [www.AgAlumni.cas.psu.edu](http://www.AgAlumni.cas.psu.edu). **Registration Deadline is November 14.**



## Conference rooms

The department has been having consent issues with rooms 116 and 117 Tyson being used by individuals outside our department, although this hasn't been a problem in the past, we are running into issues now. Items have been broken and rooms left extremely messy. We would like to ask you to begin locking the doors when you are done using the rooms. The rooms will remain locked at all times and if you have the room(s) scheduled for use, be sure to bring your "S" key with you.

## Rich's Reflection...

This week I had the opportunity to participate in one of my favorite activities of the year – the College of Agricultural Sciences Scholarship Banquet. I always enjoy meeting people who donate to our scholarships. The tables are arranged so students receiving scholarships sit next to the donors. The donors are always impressed with our students and I enjoy listening in on some of the conversations. This year the College awarded \$1.9 million and our department awarded nearly \$130,000 in scholarships. In an attempt to recruit students, two years ago we decided to offer scholarships to high school students in offer status. These students have been accepted to Penn State, but they have not yet accepted our offer. In a conversation with one of our freshmen at the banquet, I learned that the offer of a scholarship was the factor that led to her decision to attend PSU. So we will continue to offer some scholarships to students in offer status.

I also took the opportunity to join the Landscape Contracting students on a field trip to the Baltimore/Washington D.C. area a few weeks ago. We visited a nursery and several Landscape Contracting and Landscape Maintenance companies. Most of these companies employ our alumni and it was great to see so many of our students succeeding in the profession. Every company indicated that they are looking to hire students with training in horticulture and landscape contracting and maintenance. At the College Career Fair last month many company representatives, including tree care companies, told me that the primary factor limiting their growth is lack of good employees. So there are jobs in the green industry for all of our students. I don't understand why enrollment in the plant sciences is declining nationally with such a strong market for horticulturists, but I believe that we need to be more proactive in student recruitment. During the past several years we have tried a few new things to recruit students, but starting this summer we will have a graduate student dedicated to student recruitment. Hopefully with some renewed efforts we can start increasing our student numbers. This will be part of our department strategic plan and I am open to other suggestions.

### **HORT 590 Colloquium**

**111 Tyson Building**

**4:00pm**

#### **November 5:**

*A Systems Approach to Organic Agriculture*

Dr. Carl Jordan, School of Ecology, University of Georgia

#### **November 12:**

*Developing Economic Thresholds for Indirect Apple Pests*

Dr. Richard Marini, Department of Horticulture, Penn State University

#### **November 19:**

*Cover Crops in No Till Organic Systems*

David Wilson, Research Agronomist, Rodale Institute

#### **November 26:**

No Seminar due to Thanksgiving