Special Announcement from the Executive Dean

Upon administrative and programmatic reviews in the School, the decision has been made to bring the Biotechnology Center for Agriculture and the Environment to an end as an administrative and programmatic unit, effective July 1. Members of the Center will henceforth be supported administratively and be aligned programmatically with their tenure home departments. With strong participation by Center faculty in four of the five tenure home departments (Environmental Sciences, Biochemistry & Microbiology, Animal Sciences, and Ecology, Evolution and Natural Resources), significant growth was seen in the last five years with the recruitment of new cutting edge research faculty. As part of this assessment process, a strategic review of the Plant Biology and Pathology department has been initiated and the plant biologists who came to Rutgers as members of the Center will play a role in those discussions. Furthermore, involvement of Biotech faculty members to support and help build new initiatives at the School is anticipated in the near future.

The Rutgers “Ag Biotech” Center was formed in the late 1980s as one of a group of “centers of excellence” funded by the New Jersey Commission on Science and Technology. It successfully played an important role over the past 20 years in bringing a new “research culture” to Rutgers and the Cook campus in particular. In recent years, the research culture on the Cook campus has strengthened notably, such that today the Center does not stand out from its academic surroundings as much as it once did. This situation two years ago called for some soul-searching about the contemporary need and role for the Center going forward. Overall, Center faculty members have been highly productive, providing leadership for many research collaborations, service functions, and instructional activities on campus. They also initiated and expanded a number of rewarding national and international collaborations that have helped to raise the status of the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and Rutgers at home and abroad.

Just as importantly, key members of the Biotech Center took on leadership positions at the School (e.g. Deans of Academic Programs and of International Programs, Chairs of the departments of Environmental Sciences, Animal Sciences, Biochemistry and Microbiology) further underscoring the leadership role of the Center and its faculty. However, when examined in the context of the current needs of the School, the investment in support staff in the Center as an administrative unit was out of step with prevailing levels of expenditure in other units. Continual budget cuts in recent years thus necessitated a review of the support staff investment. It became clear that changes had to be made in light of emerging priorities and the equitable distribution of resources amongst the units in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences.

Pictured, top to bottom: Leadership of the Ag Biotech Center: Peter Day (founding director and professor emeritus), followed by Gerben Zylytra (Biochemistry and Microbiology), and Eric Lam (Plant Biology and Pathology)
An important legacy of the Center is a renewed investment in the research infrastructure of the campus, focused on metabolomics, genomics, and imaging. Computational infrastructure, bioinformatics, biorobotics, and a wide range of spectrometric and spectroscopic instrumentation are also included in this renewed investment to bring state of the art tools to bear on our research capacity. In progress is implementation of a plan to staff and operate these resources as a “virtual” instrumentation hub to promote research and education in the larger School and University communities. So, while change is always difficult, we are confident that this new direction will enhance funding of new research directions and stimulate a new mix of activities among and beyond the School’s faculty. We gratefully acknowledge the leadership and energy of Biotech Center faculty members who have contributed so much to Rutgers science over the years, and hope that they will excel in the face of new challenges as we all grapple with difficult budget circumstances going forward.

**Spotlight**

**Holly Crawford Leaves for New Graduate Dean Position in CT**

Holly Crawford, who has served with distinction as the associate dean for research in the Office of the Executive Dean of the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences for the past two and a half years, leaves us soon to become the Dean of the Graduate School at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT, which is her alma mater. Holly starts her new position on August 1st. As associate dean for research, Holly used her exceptional grants history and extensive network of contacts at federal funding agencies and in the private sector to increase the visibility of our school and experiment station researchers, positioning them strategically to take full advantage of all external competitive funding opportunities. In her ten years at Rutgers, Holly has developed an impressive multidisciplinary funded grants track record—she has been a principal investigator (PI), co-PI, or Director of Education on grants totaling more than $75 million, including an NSF Engineering Research Center grant. In addition to heading the office of research here at the school, Holly was also an associate research professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics and was a member of numerous school and university-wide committees.

**Rutgers Energy Institute Presents Fifth Annual Symposium**

The Rutgers Energy Institute (REI) Annual Symposium, which was held on May 4, hosted keynote speakers from academia and industry to address topics related to energy science, engineering, economics, and policy. The 2010 Energy Symposium provided faculty, students, staff, government officials, and community members with the opportunity to learn about the new methods, processes, and initiatives being developed by energy thinkers at Rutgers, New Jersey, and across the country. Speakers included Gerald Stokes, associate laboratory director for Global and Regional Solutions, Brookhaven National Laboratory, who presented "The challenge of implementation: The New York State 80 by 50 Plan;" Michael Trachtenberg, CEO and CTO of Carbozyme) presented “Energy and Environment”. Michael Walsh, executive vice president of
Research, Chicago Climate Exchange, who presented "The role of exchanges and standardization in reducing emissions at scale;" Stephen Mayfield, director, San Diego Center for Algae Biotechnology, UCSD and co-founder of Sapphire Energy, who presented "The potential of micro-algae for the production of biofuels and bio-products".

**International Symposium on Biofuels and Bioenergy**

The [Rutgers-NSF IGERT Project on Sustainable Fuels Solutions for the 21st Century](#) hosted its first International Summer Symposium on Biofuels and Bioenergy from June 2-4 on the Cook Campus. The two-and-a-half day program featured twenty-five presentations and eighteen posters that spanned the entire biofuels/bioenergy pipeline--from biomass feedstock development to processing and conversion technologies, deployment and logistics, land use and sustainability, and economics and policy. Contributors included 25 invited speakers, of whom fifteen were from the IGERT's partners in China, Brazil, and South Africa; seven from Rutgers core faculty of the Fuels IGERT; and three from other institutions in the United States. The meeting drew more than 100 attendees, including students, postdocs, and faculty from Rutgers and other local institutions as well as interested parties from NJ and PA industries and governmental agencies. In his opening remarks, Fuels IGERT Director Eric Lam (Plant Biology and Pathology) acknowledged generous institutional support for the meeting from the offices of the Executive Dean Robert M. Goodman and Rutgers Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Philip Furmanski, who also welcomed all guests and officially opened the symposium. On the final day of the symposium, Lam moderated an extended “town hall-style meeting” that provided a forum for all attendees to discuss biofuels/bioenergy issues in a multidisciplinary and multinational context. Lam also introduced the inaugural cohort of IGERT Graduate Training Fellows: Cody Cobb (Plant Biology and Pathology); Joomi Kim (Oceanography);
Nicholas Bennette, Jason Hackenberg, and Michael Haibach (Chemistry and Chemical Biology); Gabriel Lade and Vincent Lam (Economics); Curtis Burkhalter (Ecology, Evolution and Natural Resources). Lam also recognized the efforts of the symposium organizing committee, chaired by A.J. Both (Environmental Sciences), and which included Rong Di and Michael Lawton (Plant Biology and Pathology), and Carl Pray (Agricultural Economics and Marketing). After the formal closing of the symposium, the international participants and core IGERT faculty held additional meetings to create a roadmap of timelines, milestones, and outcomes for field trips, research exchanges, and curriculum development activities involving IGERT Training Fellows and other students and faculty at Rutgers and its international partner institutions in the coming months and years.

CUES Hosts “Shaping the City” Conference

The Rutgers Center for Urban Environmental Sustainability (CUES) seeks to enhance the economic, social, and aesthetic well being of New Jersey residents by providing technical and design assistance to local governments and non-governmental organizations. In support of this mission, CUES held its first one-day conference on April 16 in New Brunswick, titled “Shaping the City” of New Jersey Conference.” Over 100 elected officials, local governmental leaders, and representatives of non-governmental organizations from across New Jersey attended the inaugural event. The conference was fully funded by a CUES grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. The purpose of the conference was to launch the newly-hired Rutgers Environmental and Resource Management Agents and draw attention to the local initiatives they lead; to provide a showcase that highlighted the urban-suburban research and initiatives currently underway at Rutgers, particularly on the New Brunswick and Newark campuses; and to introduce constituencies within and outside of Rutgers to the expertise available through the University, and to expand the network of individuals addressing urban-suburban environmental issues.

New Brunswick Community Farmers Market Reopens for Second Season

The New Brunswick Community Farmers Market began its second season on June 19 and featured a wider selection of fresh produce, prepared foods and goods, along with enhanced nutrition and cooking information. New to the market in its second year of operation is an “idea garden” that will teach children and adults simple techniques for growing vegetables in their own backyards. Also, a new 30- by 60-foot, open-air pavilion is expected to be completed later this month and will allow customers to shop comfortably, rain or shine. According to Jaymie Santiago, manager of the facility, “The market will continue to provide information in Spanish
and English on healthy eating and food preparation. Every market day, nutrition educators will be on site, and the city’s 4-H club will sponsor weekly activities for children. In addition, cooking demonstrations will offer patrons the opportunity to taste new foods and learn new recipes. St. Peter’s University Hospital is expected to send its mobile health unit to the market once a month to conduct free health screenings.

Read more.

4-H Summer Camp Provides Safe Summer Fun
Each year, for the past 59 years, the Lindley G. Cook 4-H Youth Center for Outdoor Education offers a high quality, fun-filled overnight camp experience to countless youths, grades 4–11. This year was no exception! This annual sleep-away summer camp welcomes everyone, not just 4-Hers. James Tavares, director of the camp since 2000, describes the camp experience as one that facilitates real growth for all the participants. “Our research-based, age-appropriate programs use the “learn-by-doing” approach of 4-H to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to become competent, caring and contributing citizens of the world.” The camp, which is operated by Rutgers Cooperative Extension, is located on 108 acres in Stokes State Forest, Sussex County, N.J.

Build-Your-Own Rain Barrel Workshops
For the second year in a row, the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program has helped New Jersey residents conserve water through the use of recycled food grade barrels converted into rain barrels. These rain barrels help save water and reduce rainwater from entering the storm drain system, thereby preventing flooding and pollution from entering New Jersey’s lakes and streams. Since the beginning of the year, over 330 barrels have been sold throughout the State. These informative and practical workshops have been offered at farmer markets, public libraries, corporations, community parks, and on the New Jersey Boardwalk. View the website for the schedule of Build-Your-Own Rain Barrel Workshops offered by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program.

Pictured: Sara Mellor, of the Water Resources Program, helps Joseph Earley, of New Providence, NJ, build his very own rain barrel at the Livingston Public Library on June 29. Photo by Nate Schweber.
Faculty and Staff Activities and Accomplishments

Robson Receives Honorary Degree from Chulalongkom University, Thailand

Mark Robson (Entomology; dean of Agricultural and Urban Programs) received an honorary degree from Chulalongkom University on July 8. In his inimitable style, Robson “filed a report” from Bangkok.

“Greetings from Bangkok where it is about 100F each day and since it is the rainy season, there is a thunder shower most days for an hour or so. Today was the big graduation, one of four ceremonies to graduate almost 10,000 Chulalongkom undergraduates and graduate students. They have all the normal undergraduate programs plus a large graduate school, nursing school, law school, medical school, public health school, dental and veterinary schools.

Our session today had just over 2,500; they were reading 25 names per minute...all walking across the stage, doing a nine-step walk and bow and being handed the degree by Her Royal Highness (HRH), the Princess of Thailand. Before this started, the nine candidates for an honorary doctoral degree were presented, eight Thai folks and me. They read something about each of us; I had an English copy of what was read since my Thai is poor....improving but poor. After you bow and receive the degree, you bow again and take four steps backwards (you cannot have your back to a member of the Royal Family) and then proceed off the stage.

The main auditorium holds about 2,500 people, so many of the colleges and schools had students staged in closed, air-conditioned tents. They were marched through the building and then back outside to the tents that had large screen TVs. The event starts at 1:30 p.m. then there is music. At 1:50 p.m., a large group of monks arrive and pray; they kneel throughout the ceremony, hands clasped in prayer. The Princess comes in at 2 p.m. and the program runs until 4:30 p.m. After the ceremony, the honorary degree recipients and the deans and other senior leadership are invited to a High Tea. HRH talks to each of the recipients, usually in groups of two or three for five minutes. I was the only one who had to speak English, so I went first. HRH chatted for 15 minutes; she is fluent in eight languages, so we really did have a thoughtful exchange. I handed her two books, my Risk Assessment textbook and the Rutgers Picture Book, plus a gift from President McCormick.”
Inaugural Workout Featured EFNEP and SNAP-Ed Nutrition Demonstrations

On May 19, Maria Courel (supervisor, Essex County EFNEP) and Jennifer Martin (supervisor, Essex County SNAP-Ed) joined Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. and New York Jets’ comeback Dwight Lowery at the introduction of the six newly-installed fitness stations at Weequahic Park. The fitness stations were developed through the cooperative efforts of the Essex County Parks Department, the New York Jets, and the “Fuel Up to Play 60” program sponsored by the American Dairy Association/Dairy Council, which is a member of the NJ SNAP-Ed Support Network. The stations were used by 100 Newark middle-school students who participate in SNAP-Ed programming.

In addition, Courel and Martin taught the students about healthy food choices, highlighting the key messages “Think About Your Drink” and “Healthy Bones.” Lisa Pino, USDA deputy administrator of SNAP also spoke to the students about good nutrition and physical activity.

Jason Grabosky (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources) has been elected a member of the Forest Resource Advisory Committee, a USDA joint-collaborative of the Forest Service and National Institute of Food and Agriculture/Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

Anthony Broccoli (Environmental Sciences) was appointed a member of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Science Advisory Board for a three-year term. In addition, Broccoli was named Chair of its Standing Committee on Climate and Atmospheric Sciences.

Alan Robock (Environmental Sciences) was appointed a member of the Climate and Atmospheric Sciences Standing Committee of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s Science Advisory Board, for a three-year term.

Alan Robock (Environmental Sciences) was appointed a lead author of Chapter 8, “Anthropogenic and Natural Radiative Forcing,” of the Fifth Assessment Report of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The report will be published in 2013.

Barbara Turpin (Environmental Sciences) has been selected as the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors Plenary Lecturer for the American Association for Aerosol Research meeting in Portland, OR, in October.
Scott Glenn (Marine and Coastal Sciences) was elected to the six member steering committee of the National HF Radar Network, for a term of three years.

The following received Agricultural Agents’ Association of New Jersey Research, Group Study, and Professional Improvement Grant Program Awards for 2010:

- **Cara Muscio** (agricultural and resource management agent, Ocean County) for “Expanding Optical Brightener/bacterial pathogen monitoring by providing equipment and training for volunteer water quality monitoring groups.”
- **Mike Haberland** (agricultural and resource management agent, Camden and Burlington counties) for “Rain barrel water chemistry.”
- **Peter Nitzsche** (agricultural and resource management agent, Morris County) for “Rediscover the New Jersey Tomato Project – Early Variety Trial 2010.”

**Essex SNAP-Ed Employee Awarded the Dean’s Citation for Excellence**

On May 25, at the UMDNJ School of Health Related Professions Convocation, Mary Beth Lentine (administrative assistant, Essex SNAP-Ed program) was awarded the Dean’s Citation for Excellence. Gerri McKay, associate professor and program director for the UMDNJ Dietetic Internship Program, nominated Lentine and presented her the award, citing her enthusiasm for working with the Dietetic Interns who help with SNAP-Ed. The Essex SNAP-Ed program is administered by the UMDNJ School of Health Related Professions. SNAP-Ed staff engages in a collaboration project with the UMDNJ Dietetic Internship Program to mentor 12–14 Dietetic interns annually, ensuring that future dietitians gain “hands on” insights into dealing with hunger and food insecurity and are provided with opportunities to work in local, limited-resource communities.

**New Rutgers Environmental Stewards Alumni Association**

Bruce Barbour (director, Rutgers Environmental Steward Training Program) congratulates Bill Curzie of Delran on his installation as the inaugural president of the newly-formed Rutgers Environmental Stewards Alumni Association. The association was launched on June 21 at the headquarters of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in Trenton. The association includes all environmental stewards who completed 60 hours of environmental courses over several months in four regional locations in New Jersey. The program’s goals are to give graduates knowledge
to expand public awareness of scientifically-based information on environmental issues and facilitate positive change in their community. New courses will begin in the spring of 2011.

Dan Hoffman (Nutritional Sciences) was appointed in June to the Editorial Board of the British Journal of Nutrition.

Judith Storch (Nutritional Sciences) was elected to the Executive Committee of the Nutrition Science Council of the American Society for Nutrition in June.

Malcolm Watford (Nutritional Sciences) became chair of the Nutritional Sciences Council of the American Society for Nutrition beginning July 1.

At the June 1 meeting of the Rutgers Community Health Foundation (RCHF), John Worobey (Nutritional Sciences) was re-elected to its Board of Trustees for a 3-year term. The RCHF seeks to address the unmet needs of disadvantaged groups by awarding grants to non-profit organizations that engage in activities to improve the health and health care of residents of the New Brunswick area.

Undergraduate Helps Publicize the Use of Duckweed for Biofuels
Alice Kong, a rising sophomore majoring in accounting and business at the Calloway Business School at Wake Forest University with a minor in English, has been awarded an entrepreneurial scholarship through Wake Forest University for a summer project in the laboratory of Eric Lam (Plant Biology and Pathology). Kong is helping to publicize the use of duckweed as a renewable energy source through the creation of a website and YouTube video. A Duckweed Cooperative established by Lam has acquired and is maintaining living specimens of over 530 duckweed strains from across the globe. They are being catalogued and will be made available to researchers worldwide.

Student Activities and Accomplishments

Michael Erb (graduate student, Atmospheric Science) received a scholarship from the National Science Foundation to attend the Urbino Summer School in Paleoclimatology in Italy from July 10–29. The summer school program will include lectures, symposia, field trips and exercises and will focus on past climate dynamics with special emphasis on the analysis of the carbon cycle and its implications for understanding future climate. The scholarship will cover all of the expenses associated with Erb’s participation in this program.

Jacob Carlin (undergraduate student, Meteorology) has won a prestigious 2-year NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship that provides $8,000 of academic assistance for two years and $6,500 for a summer internship.
Undergraduate Student Publishes Description of New Bacterial Species


Jeffrey Deppa (undergraduate student, Meteorology) has won the $2,000 Larry R. Johnson Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship from the American Meteorological Society.

Alexander Hanison (undergraduate student, Meteorology) has won the $2,000 Bhanwar Lal Bahethi Undergraduate Scholarship from the American Meteorological Society.

Byse Rodgers-Vieira (Microbiology/Molecular Genetics) from Gerben Zylstra’s lab (Biochemistry and Microbiology) attended the 4th Passaic River Symposium June 22 at Montclair State University. At the meeting she reported on the Zylstra lab efforts on deep sequencing of genes involved in the biodegradation of xenobiotic chemicals of interest in the Passaic River. Deep sequencing with next generation DNA sequencers provides a fuller picture of the diversity of microorganisms and biodegradative genes present at different sampling sites along the Passaic River.

Deepika Sekri (graduate student, Nutritional Sciences, in the lab of Deborah Palmer’s (Nutritional Sciences) presented “Dietitians knowledge of Omega-3 rich foods” at the Experimental Biology 2010 Conference, in Anaheim, CA, on April 26.

Helping to Advance Medicinal Research in East Africa

Brittany Graf (graduate student, Plant Biology and Pathology) participated in Rutgers’ Global Institute for BioExploration (GIBEX) program in Kenya, helping to teach participants from Kenya and Uganda to rapidly extract medicinal plants at their field collection site and then screen them for antibacterial, antifungal, anthelmintic, antiprotozoan, antioxidant, and protease inhibition activity. The GIBEX program was developed by Ilya Raskin (Plant Biology and Pathology) to facilitate the research and development of health-promoting natural products through international collaborations while linking those efforts to sustainable development and conservation worldwide. During Graf’s participation in East Africa this spring, 20 chemists, pharmacologists, botanists, and traditional healers from Kenya and Uganda participated in a five-day training program to learn the “Screens-to-Nature” (STN) technique, a scientific approach designed to detect natural products with potential pharmacological activity through rapid, inexpensive, field-deployable assays. Read more.
Leslie McCauliff (graduate student, Nutritional Sciences) presented a talk titled Mechanism of Sterol Transport by Cyclodextrin at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke-sponsored conference on Promising Therapies for Niemann-Pick Type C Disease, held on June 3 and 4, 2010 in Bethesda, MD.

An award for top abstract for a doctoral student went to Deeptha Sukumar (graduate student, Nutritional Sciences, Energy and Metabolism Research Interest Group, American Society for Nutrition. The abstract is titled “The elevated serum Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1 (MCP-1) in obesity is influenced by parathyroid hormone (PTH) and not body mass index (BMI).” Am. Soc. of Nutrition, Experimental Biology. June 2010. FASEB J. 2010 24:935.7.

Students Compete in Annual Energy Innovation Contest
The Rutgers Energy Institute held its annual Energy Innovation Contest, challenging Rutgers undergraduates to develop implementable plans for reducing carbon emissions. Five winning entries were awarded prizes for the ideas that they contributed towards helping Rutgers-New Brunswick become carbon neutral. The 2010 prize winners and categories were:

- **Turn the Tap** by Hanna Niafiiodava, Ben Petryna, and Ellen Speace.
  First Place Award: $2,500.

- **Food to Fuel: Anaerobic Composting** by Lauren Landgrebe and Danielle Voss.
  Second Place Award: $1,500.

- **Digesters at the Dining Halls** by Warren Lam, Jenchieh Lee, Chris Lui, Neil Ramchandani, and Cesar Tapia.
  Third Place Award: $1,000.

- **Trayless Dining** by Nicholas D’Arcangelis and Megan Blazak.
  Third Place Award: $1,000.

- **Energy Conservation Practicum** by Rachel Weinrich and Anthony Jackson.
  Third Place Award: $1,000.
Grants and Gifts

A complete list of grants received can be found here.

George Carman (Food Science; director, Rutgers Center for Lipid Research) has received a prestigious MERIT (Method to Extend Research In Time) Award from the National Institutes of Health. The MERIT Award program provides “productive investigators with a history of exceptional talent, imagination, and with a record of preeminent scientific achievements the opportunity to continue making fundamental contributions of lasting scientific value. The MERIT Award provides long-term, stable support to investigators whose research competence and productivity are likely to continue in the future and is intended to foster their continued creativity and lessen the administrative burdens associated with the preparation and submission of research grant applications.”

George Hamilton (extension specialist, Entomology) was awarded a USDA EIPM grant of $103,000 for “Extension IPM coordination in NJ.”

Weilin Huang PI (Environmental Sciences) and co-PI Lily Young (Environmental Sciences) received a USDA McIntire-Stennis grant for “Combined Physicochemical and Biological Processes for Converting Lignin to Biofuel” that is worth $20,000 per year for three years, from July 2010–June 2013.

Pls John Reinfelder (Environmental Sciences), Tamar Barkay (Biochemistry and Microbiology), and Joel Blum (University of Michigan) were awarded a $397,756 grant from NSF-Geobiology & Low Temperature Geochemistry for “Mass dependent and independent mercury isotope fractionation during microbial methylation and redox transformations of mercury in natural waters” from January 1, 2010–December 31, 2013.

Peter Rona PI (Marine and Coastal Sciences) received an NSF grant of $47,810 for Rutgers second year of funding for “Collaborative research: Acoustic instrumentation for imaging and quantifying hydrothermal flow in NEPTUNE Canada Regional Seafloor Cabled Observatory.”

Malcolm Watford (Nutritional Sciences) was awarded a grant for “Glutamine and glutamate supplementation in mice during pregnancy and lactation” from Ajinomoto do Brasil, from July 1, 2010–June 30, 2012.

Thomas Manning (Plant Biology and Pathology), David Specca (assistant director, Rutgers EcoComplex), and A.J. Both (associate extension specialist, Environmental Sciences), received a $194,805 rebate check from the New Jersey Clean Energy Program, which is administered by the Board of Public Utilities, for their landfill gas to energy project that includes the installation of a 250 KW microturbine at the NJ EcoComplex Research and Demonstration Greenhouse. The combined heat and power generated are used to operate the one-acre greenhouse facility. Excess electricity is sold to the local grid through an arrangement with PSE&G.
Conferences, Seminars, and Other Events

Brian Schilling (assistant extension specialist, Agricultural Economics and Marketing), Jack Rabin (associate director NJAES farm programs), and Lucas Marxen (Food Policy Institute) presented “Characterizing New Jersey’s farm landscape: Case studies of urban fringe farm footprints” at the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association 2010 Annual Conference held in Atlantic City, N.J., in June.

Brian Schilling (assistant extension specialist, Agricultural Economics and Marketing), Kevin Sullivan and Lucas Marxen (Food Policy Institute) presented “Evaluating criteria for farmland assessment in New Jersey” at the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association 2010 Annual Conference held in Atlantic City, NJ, in June.

Kevin Sullivan (Food Policy Institute), David Babson (graduate assistant, Center for Environmental Prediction), Margaret Brennan-Tonetta (associate director, NJAES), A.J. Both (associate extension specialist, Environmental Sciences) and Donna Fennell (Environmental Sciences) presented “Economic Analysis of Converting Horse Waste to Bioenergy for On-Farm and Regional Application” presented at the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Conference held in Atlantic City, N.J., in June.

Diane Holtaway (associate director, Food Innovation Center), Brian Schilling (assistant extension specialist, Agricultural Economics and Marketing), and Kevin Sullivan (Food Policy Institute) presented “New opportunities for New Jersey community farmers markets: Assessing the costs, benefits and best practices of participation in and sponsorship of community farmers markets” at the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association Conference held in Atlantic City, NJ., in June.

Anthony Broccoli (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present the following:
- “What every broadcast meteorologist needs to know about climate change science” at Yale Forum workshop for broadcast meteorologists, Miami, FL, in May.
- “Mid-Holocene ENSO variability revisited” at Brown University, Providence, RI, in May.

Beth Ravit (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present:
- “Urban oyster restoration: Where do we go from here?” to the Second Annual Sustainable Raritan Summit held at Rutgers University on June 4.
- “Restoration of the Oradell Water Works” to the New Milford Historic Society, New Milford, NJ, on June 13.

Alan Robock (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present:
- “Is geoengineering a solution to global warming?” to the AAAS Forum on Science and Technology Policy, Washington, DC on May 13.
• “Smoke and mirrors: Is geoengineering a solution to global warming?” to the University of Reading, England on June 17.

Peter Strom (Environmental Sciences) was the moderator of the student program at the New Jersey Water Environment Association Annual Conference, which was held on May 12 in Atlantic City, NJ.

Lily Young (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present the following at the Goldschmidt Conference in Geochemistry from June 13–18, in Knoxville, TN.:


Lily Young (Environmental Sciences) and three of her lab group attended the International Goldschmidt Geochemistry Conference held in Knoxville TN from June 13–18. Postdoc Abby Porter (Biotech Center), and graduate students Alexandra Walczak (Microbiology/Molecular Genetics, SAS) and Adam Mumford (Environmental Sciences) each presented papers at the international event on which they were the lead authors.

Karyn Malinowski (director, Equine Science Center) was the guest speaker at the New Jersey Farm Bureau meeting in Trenton on May 25. The Farm Bureau was interested in learning about the accomplishments of the Center and Malinowski presented highlights and achievements of the Equine Science Center over the course of the last twelve months. In addition, Malinowski was the keynote speaker at the annual luncheon of the Rutgers University Women’s League.

On May 24, Susan Richards, the author of the NY Times bestselling book “Chosen by a Horse,” was the guest speaker for a book signing event benefitting the Equine Science Center. The book signing event was a great success, drawing attendees from the New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania areas; some even drove from Delaware for this special evening of inspiration and horse tales. With close to 100 guests, the event raised over $5,000 for the Equine Science Center. The event was held at the New Jersey Museum of Agriculture on the George H. Cook Campus.

Peter Rona (Marine and Coastal Sciences) was invited to participate in the American Geophysical Union Chapman Conference on the Oceanic Lithosphere where oceanic crust is exposed on the island of Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean May 7-17. His presentation, titled “Detachment faulting chronology in oceanic crust using radiometric dating of associated hydrothermal deposits,” explains the time scale for opening of fluid circulation pathways in oceanic crust.

Debrah Palmer and LeeAnn Weniger-Mandrillo (Nutritional Sciences) gave a presentation on “Calcium: Select to protect-social marketing to address calcium needs in limited resources” at the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Conference on May 12-15. The presentation was an overview of nutrition science and the functional role of calcium in bone and muscle health.
African-American and Hispanic children" at the Social Marketing in the Public Health Annual Conference in Clearwater Beach, FL, on June 13.

Daniel Hoffman (Nutritional Sciences) was invited to present:

- "Early nutrition and adult health: Implications for transitional countries" to Inha University, Department of Food and Nutrition in Incheon, South Korea, on May 27.
- "Under-nutrition, over-nutrition, and international health" at Seoul National University, Department of Nutrition in Seoul, South Korea, on May 28.
- the keynote address at the 2010 Spring Symposium of the Korean Society of Community Nutrition. His talk was titled "Early Nutrition and adult health: Perspectives for international and community nutrition programs and policies" for the session on International Aid and Nutrition Programs: Conversation between NGOs and Nutrition Communities, at Seoul National University in Seoul, South Korea, on May 28.
- a seminar on "Growth Retardation and adult chronic diseases" at the life Sciences Institute of Ajinomoto in Kawasaki, Japan, on June 1.

Sue Shapses (Nutritional Sciences) was an invited member of a panel on “Early Onset Osteoporosis Risk in Astronauts” at the Johnson Space Center, NASA, Houston, TX, in June.

Judith Storch (Nutritional Sciences) is a member-elect of the Executive Committee of the Nutrition Science Council of the American Society for Nutrition for 2011–2014.

Joseph Heckman (extension specialist, Plant Biology and Pathology) was invited to present “Biology and fertility of soils” at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, PA, on May 10.

Publications and Editorships


Jones, Andy, Jim Haywood, Olivier Boucher, Ben Kravitz (graduate assistant, Center for Environmental Prediction), and Alan Robock. (Environmental Sciences) 2010. Geo-engineering by stratospheric SO2 injection: Results from the Met Office HadGEM2 climate model and comparison with the Goddard Institute for Space Studies ModelE. Atmos. Chem. Phys., in press.


**International Projects**

**User Group for an Artificial Digestive System Meets in the Netherlands**

David Ribnick (Plant Biology and Pathology) participated in a workshop for users of an artificial digestive system known as TIM (TNO intestinal model) developed by Dutch researchers for the company TNO. As the site manager of the Rutgers TIM lab in Foran Hall, Ribnick spoke about a variety of applications that are of interest to multiple Rutgers faculty members, as well as the collaborative arrangement between Rutgers and TNO. He also spoke about the specific interests of the Raskin Lab and the NIH-funded Botanical Research Center project concerning the determination of the bioaccessibility of botanical therapeutics. The workshop took place June 10-11 at the Zeist Castle in Zeist, the Netherlands.

**Visiting Graduate Student from Yonsei University, South Korea**

The Biotech Center welcomed visiting graduate student Miyoun Yoo from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. She is spending the summer in Gerben Zylstra's lab (Biochemistry and Microbiology) working on the ability of Rhodococcus to degrade a wide range of xenobiotic compounds. The project is part of Zylstra's ongoing collaboration with Dr. Eungbin Kim, one of his former graduate students, who is now a full professor at Yonsei University. Miyoun is the fourth graduate student from Dr. Kim's lab who is working with Zylstra over the summer.

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**County Fairs**

It’s that time of year again! County Fairs will be held across the state of New Jersey during the months of July and August. For summer fun and excitement at the perennial 4-H event, take part in a County Fair near you!
New Brunswick Community Farmers Market
WHEN: Open through October; Thursdays from 1–6:30 p.m. & Saturdays from 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
WHERE: 178 Jones Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

45th Annual Open House Festival and Wine Tasting
WHEN: July 31, 2010, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHERE: Rutgers Gardens

George H. Cook Campus Tours
WHEN: Through August 4.
WHAT: Information session about the academic programs available at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, with Q & A, followed by walking tour.
MORE INFO: Contact Pamela Grubel, 732-932-3000, x512. grubel@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Visit http://sebs.rutgers.edu/tours/.

Rutgers Hazelnut Field Day
WHEN: July 31, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHAT: The field day will include presentations, lunch, and a tour of Rutgers Horticultural Farm 3.
MORE INFO: Contact Tom Molnar, 732-932-9711, x117, molnar@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Visit http://ruevents.rutgers.edu/events/displayEvent.html?eventId=65835.

Evening in the Gardens
WHEN: August 12, 2010, 6 to 8 p.m.
WHAT: Join Bruce Crawford on a lively tour of Rutgers Gardens. We will discuss and highlight those many plants that are currently in bloom.
MORE INFO: Contact Mary Ann Schrum, 732-932-8451, rugardens@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Visit http://rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu/classes.html.

Hutcheson Memorial Forest Tour
WHEN: August 15, 2010, 2 to 4 p.m.
WHAT: Trip leaves from the entrance of the forests at 2150 Amwell Road (Route 514) about 3/4 mile east of East Millstone, New Jersey.
MORE INFO: Contact Peter Morin, 732-932-3214, pjmorin@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Visit http://hmf.rutgers.edu/.

For even more information of these calendar items and other events hosted and facilitated by Rutgers University, please visit the Rutgers Calendar at http://ruevents.rutgers.edu/events/.

This report is produced by the Office of Communications. For information or to provide comments, please contact Paula Walcott-Quintin at quintin@aesop.rutgers.edu, or 732-932-7000, ext. 4204.