More Blue, More Green
SEA GRANT EXPERT GROWS LAKE ERIE TOURISM

Lake Erie tourism is good for Ohio. It creates new jobs and boosts the economy. So when Mark Winchell, executive director of the Ashtabula County Convention & Visitors Bureau, needed help ramping it up in his county, he turned to Ohio Sea Grant — specifically to its Tourism Program, part of OSU Extension.

Melinda Huntley, the program’s director, helped Winchell lead the county’s first Tourism Summit. Business, community, and tourism leaders took part. Farmers, vintners (the area is known for its wines), and others did too. With Huntley as their facilitator, they laid “the groundwork for a future vision of what Ashtabula County can be,” Winchell said. In fall, they rolled out their action plan. “She’s a true champion for everything ‘Lake Erie,’” Winchell said of Huntley — “from smart growth and tourism principles to environmental and legislative issues that shape the entire Great Lakes region. She’s had a profound impact on my professional career.”

Based in Sandusky, Huntley works throughout Ohio’s Lake Erie counties: Lucas, Ottawa, Erie, Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake, and Ashtabula. She keeps two goals in focus: to increase the economic wallop of tourism there; and to identify, protect, and improve what makes the lake special. The aim is being sustainable. As it is, Lake Erie tourism provides jobs for 119,000 people in Ohio. It generates more than $750 million in state and local tax revenues and brings in nearly $11 billion in visitor spending every year. Growing the industry by just 10 percent would create 12,000 new jobs, yield an additional $75 million in tax revenues, and pump up visitor spending by $1 billion. “Sustainable tourism diversifies the economy and gives a dollar value to the resources that make our communities unique,” Huntley said. And that, she said, benefits the economy, environment, and Ohio together.

For more information, go to http://go.osu.edu/BgH.

KURT KNEBUSCH

LAKE ERIE TOURISM

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the researchers found:

• A scant teaspoon of regular chlorine bleach in one quart of water was effective at killing 99.999 percent of all three types of bacteria when left on the surface being sanitized for just one minute.

• Undiluted hydrogen peroxide or white distilled vinegar also were effective against all three pathogens after one minute, but only when they first were warmed to 150 degrees F. (Don’t mix the two sanitizers: Combining hydrogen peroxide and vinegar can be dangerous.)

• At room temperature, hydrogen peroxide was effective against only E. coli and Salmonella, and only when left on surfaces for 10 minutes. It was not effective against Listeria monocytogenes.

• At room temperature, white distilled vinegar was effective against only Salmonella, and only when left on surfaces for 10 minutes.

FOOD SAFETY SPECIALIST OFFERS RESEARCH-BASED GUIDANCE ON KITCHEN SANITIZING

About 1 in 6 Americans suffers from foodborne illness each year. Lydia Medeiros, food safety specialist for OSU Extension, helps consumers protect themselves by offering guidance on cleaning and sanitizing kitchen surfaces.

Medeiros, working with colleagues at Colorado State University, examined the effectiveness of common, inexpensive household products against three major foodborne pathogens, E. coli, Listeria monocytogenes, and Salmonella.

While commercial sanitizers are available, their relative high cost sometimes prevents consumers from using them.

“We found you can make your own sanitizer at home for a much cheaper price,” Medeiros said. Sanitizers should be used periodically on countertops, cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and pots and pans. Households with members who are under the age of 5, elderly, pregnant, or who have chronic illness, as well as households with pets, are at higher risk and should consider sanitizing surfaces at every meal or daily, Medeiros said.

Medeiros said that to be effective, sanitizers must be used properly. For example, surfaces must be cleaned with soap, rinsed, and dried before sanitizing. Other guidelines are available in a fact sheet, downloadable at http://go.osu.edu/sanitizePDF, and a video, at http://go.osu.edu/clean.

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Extension Plays Key Role in State, National Bed Bug Fight

OSU Extension is playing a crucial role in education and research regarding the growing public health threat posed by bed bugs — not just within Ohio but also at the national level.

Extension urban entomologist Susan Jones is a member of the Joint Bed Bug Task Force in Cincinnati/Hamilton County and the Central Ohio Bed Bug Task Force in Greater Columbus — which help people, organizations, and communities learn more about bed bugs, the extent of the problem, ways to prevent an infestation, and what to do if bed bugs become a problem.

At the state level, Jones was heavily involved in drafting bed bug management recommendations to the Ohio governor and general assembly, submitted early this year by the Ohio Department of Health’s Ohio Bed Bug Workgroup. The report states that bed bugs have “the ability [to] impact every single Ohioan if left unaddressed” and that “not only must the federal government work tirelessly with pesticide manufacturers on a chemical solution that is safe, effective, and affordable,” but “state and local governments must work just as hard in educating Ohioans on awareness and prevention measures.”

Jones is also part of the recently formed National Pest Management Association (NPMA) Blue Ribbon Bed Bug Task Force. “This group just came out with a set of best practices for pest management so that methodology being used can be standardized,” explained Jones, who provided lots of input for the preparation of the NPMA document, available online at http://www.npmapestworld.org/publicpolicy/BedBugs.cfm.

Finally, Jones has been busy on the research front of the battle against bed bugs as well. Along with colleagues at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, she co-authored the first genetic study of bed bugs, published January 19 in the online journal PLoS.

ChickQuest Brings Science to Life in Akron Public Schools

Katrina Halasa bubbles with enthusiasm when she talks about Ohio 4-H’s ChickQuest program.

“We do hands-on science in the classroom all the time,” said Halasa, science learning specialist for Akron Public Schools. “But this takes kids through the scientific thinking process, through critical thinking. It’s amazing, just amazing.”

ChickQuest challenges third-grade students to study the lifecycle of egg-laying animals while monitoring the 21-day incubation period of an embryonic chicken egg and observing the chicks that hatch. Unlike a traditional embryology program, it incorporates a daily science lesson geared to Ohio’s academic standards.

Halasa first learned of ChickQuest at a statewide 4-H workshop in November 2008. When Akron schools received a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) K–8 Excellence Grant from the Ohio Board of Regents in 2009, Halasa used part of the funds to purchase materials for ChickQuest and another “Science Alive” 4-H School Enrichment project, Rockets Away.

To make the ChickQuest program work, Halasa partners with local 4-H professionals, particularly educator Jackie Krieger.

“ChickQuest has established a new standard of excellence when we look at group projects,” Krieger said. “Third-graders are collecting data, taking measurements, making observations. They are more of a participant in the learning instead of an observer. When some of the classes did the Rockets Away program, they were quoting Newton’s Laws of Motion — this is the third grade.”

Bob Horton, Extension specialist in educational design and science education, directed the development of ChickQuest.

“Embryology programs have always been a great capstone-type program,” Horton said. “There’s a real gee-whiz factor with the incubator and the understanding of the lifecycle. And now, ChickQuest is built around the state science standards, and it has the added benefit of incorporating technology and engineering.”

OSU Extension has sold nearly 800 copies of the ChickQuest teacher guide and more than 6,400 of the student logbook. Both are available through OSU Extension’s online store, http://estore.osu-extension.org.

For more on ChickQuest and other 4-H School Enrichment Programs, see http://www.ohio4h.org/sciencealive. ■ MARTHA FILIPIC

ONE. This study has paved the way to the identification of potential genes associated with pesticide resistance and possible new control methods for the troublesome insect. More about this groundbreaking study is available at http://go.osu.edu/Bnw. ■ MAURICIO ESPINOZA
Boehm, Donnermeyer Recognized for Teaching

Two college faculty members were recognized in November for outstanding teaching by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Michael J. Boehm, former chair of Plant Pathology and currently the university’s vice provost for academic planning, was one of just two recipients of the 2010 National Teaching Award.

Joseph F. Donnermeyer, a rural sociologist in the School of Environment and Natural Resources, was one of six nationally to receive regional recognition with the 2010 North Central Regional Teaching Award.

These awards are extremely competitive; it’s highly unusual to see two winners from the same institution,” said Bobby D. Moser, college vice president and dean. “Our college has a long-standing tradition of high-quality teaching. We’re very pleased to see our faculty members recognized at a national level.”

Boehm said the award took him by surprise: “It was like hitting a grand-slam home run. I’m very honored, no question, and very humbled.”

Linda Martin, the college’s associate dean for academic affairs, said Boehm’s teaching is “world-class.”

“Dr. Boehm is one of the most exceptional teachers and advocates for students that I have encountered in my over 20 years of teaching,” she said.

Donnermeyer started his Ohio State career in 1979 as an assistant professor with OSU Extension, and now primarily teaches in the classroom. In 2006, he revived the inactive Ohio State’s Academy of Teaching to promote teaching and learning across campus.

“I’ve found over the years that to be a good teacher, you must have a deep understanding of your discipline, you must know how to communicate that knowledge, and you must have a firm grasp of task management,” he said.

Martin said that Donnermeyer has provided leadership in teaching at all levels of his profession. “In my view, no single individual has had such a positive impact on teaching programs at Ohio State over the past 30 years,” she said.

More: [http://go.osu.edu/B4D](http://go.osu.edu/B4D) • Martha Filipic

Class Meets at Columbus Zoo

‘I Hope They See That Passion’

Faculty Member Wins Presidential Award

Steven K. Lower has received the highest award that a young researcher can receive in the United States.

The Ohio State University scientist, who is working to understand the physical forces that allow bacteria to stick to surfaces, is among 85 scientists and engineers honored with the 2010 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. He received the award in a White House ceremony in the fall.

“Science and technology have long been at the core of America’s economic strength and global leadership,”
President Barack Obama said in a statement. “I am confident that these individuals, who have shown such tremendous promise so early in their careers, will go on to make break-throughs and discoveries that will continue to move our nation forward in the years ahead.”

Lower, an associate professor in the School of Earth Sciences and the School of Environment and Natural Resources, often collaborates with medical researchers, and has a partial appointment with OARDC.

His research could have far-reaching applications. It’s possible that bacteria could one day aid environmental clean-ups. And doctors might eventually use Lower’s discoveries to better target the use of antibiotics on patients who receive implants — or even design implant materials that better resist bacteria.

Students in Ohio State University’s recent Zoo Science and Management class never met Lulu the gorilla. Never worked with her. But cared when she got sick. And felt people’s hurt when she died. “I was impressed by how much the students in the class cared about Lulu’s welfare,” said Danielle Ross, education director at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Lulu’s home and where the class met. “They were very concerned about how she was doing and kept asking for updates. I was touched by their worry and respect. They recognized how much her death impacted our zoo family.” The class was a second-year partnership between the zoo and Ohio State’s School of Environment and Natural Resources. It aimed to teach students (25; the class was full) about working at zoos and aquariums — and show it to them too. It met at the zoo on winter quarter Saturdays. Ross and Stan Gehrt, a wildlife professor in the school, planned and organized it. A dozen of the zoo’s experts taught it.

“Having zoo personnel serve as the instructors allows them to determine what content they think is necessary to prepare the students for careers in zoos and aquariums,” Gehrt said. “It gives the students a head start in some of the basics that they can’t get from existing courses” — which can later give a leg up in hiring. Lulu died of unknown causes Jan. 24 after suffering seizures that started two days earlier — a Saturday when the class was meeting, though elsewhere on the grounds. She was motherly, elderly, and a staff and visitor favorite. “The people who work at zoos care very deeply about animals and their conservation,” said Ross, one of the zoo’s many Ohio State alumni. “I hope this class gives students the opportunity to see that passion so as they go forward in their careers, we can continue to find ways to develop partnerships to advance conservation.”

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**SEMESTER TRANSITION LEADS TO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES FOR COLLEGE**

In the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, the transition from quarters to semesters means more than just rearranging class schedules. In fact, it has become “a key moment” in the college’s history, said Jill Pfister, assistant dean, Academic Affairs.

“Our faculty took their charge very seriously and started at the ground level, examining our programs and making some fundamental changes,” Pfister said. Departments looked at similar programs offered at universities across the country and talked with industry, students, and others to re-envision majors and minors.

The new calendar takes effect in summer 2012. That means some current undergraduate students will have just one year under the new system, and others will have two or three years. To explain requirements for graduation under each circumstance, the college developed curriculum sheets for each major. “Those are currently going through the university approval process and we’ll share them as soon as possible,” Pfister said. “The intent is to not slow students’ progress to graduation.” The switch to semesters will likely mean a change in campus culture, Pfister said. Students will take more classes at a time, putting classroom space at a premium. Students and faculty will have to adjust to classes both earlier and later in the day, throughout the week.

Class-free Fridays will be a thing of the past.

The new academic year will begin in August and end in late April or early May. That likely will help Buckeye students compete with those from other universities for summer internships, Pfister said. At the same time, it may pose a challenge for CFAES student groups that do the majority of their fund raising at food booths at Farm Science Review in September, during the fifth or sixth week of classes when midterm exams may be scheduled. “But Farm Science Review is their biggest money-making project of the year,” Pfister said. “I think they’ll definitely continue their involvement.” For more on the semester conversion, see [http://oaa.osu.edu/semesterconversion.html](http://oaa.osu.edu/semesterconversion.html).

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**KURT KNEBUSCH**
When Tim Haab took the reins as chair of the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics on October 1, 2010, he knew he’d face some challenges — challenges “that most everyone in higher education is facing these days.” The department had shrunk from 31 to 21 faculty members in recent years, but Haab credits former chair Alan Randall for ably handling budget cuts through attrition instead of layoffs.

Now, the top-ranked department (No. 1 in Agricultural and Resource Economics according to the National Research Council) has hired two new faculty members and is in the process of bringing in one more.

“Basically, we’re a department of teachers,” Haab said. “We teach students, we teach other faculty, and we teach the community.”

Haab is working to strengthen communication both within the department and with other audiences, including alumni.

“We’ve established a Facebook presence to stay in better touch with students and graduates, and we’re redesigning our website (http://aede.osu.edu) to be more interactive,” Haab said. “We want to find more ways to get information out as fast as possible, and find out what people are thinking. If opportunities are out there that we’re missing, we want to know about them.”

Haab hopes the new efforts allow the department to have an even greater reach.

“We have a world-class faculty that does cutting-edge work,” Haab said. “We’re very interested in policy, and we want to do what we can to inform leaders in setting a direction for the state.”

The department is treating the upcoming university-wide transition from quarters to semesters as an opportunity, Haab said. “You don’t often get a chance to redesign everything. Students and faculty are rethinking what we’ve done in the past.”

Feedback about the department so far has been positive, Haab said. But he hopes it keeps coming, particularly from alumni: “We want to know where you are, what you’re doing, and what we can do to help,” he said.

Haab can be reached at haab.1@osu.edu or 614-292-6237.

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Martha Filipic

At the Helm

TIM HAAB LEADING TOP-RANKED AEDE

October 1  Tim Haab begins as chair of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics.

July 1  University of Kentucky’s Scott A. Shearer begins as chair of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

August 15  Purdue University’s Richard H. Linton begins as chair of Food Science and Technology.
In a new four-year, $1 million study, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center scientists are leading an effort to reduce viral contamination of fresh produce. Viruses, including human norovirus, hepatitis A virus, and rotavirus, account for more than two-thirds of foodborne illnesses worldwide. Yet most research on foodborne illness focuses on bacteria, such as Salmonella and E. coli, instead.

“Viruses, as they relate to food safety, are not well understood,” said Jianrong Li, the project’s principal investigator. “There’s a real gap in the field that we will try to fill with this research.”

The project, “An Integrated Approach to Prevent and Minimize Foodborne Enteric Viruses in Vegetables and Fruits,” is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Integrated Food Safety Initiative. It is designed to take what is learned in the lab into the classroom and the field.

The research portion of the project will examine how produce is contaminated by viruses in the first place, whether it’s in the field or during processing. The study will also examine the effectiveness of three processing technologies — gaseous ozone, E-beam irradiation, and high-pressure processing — on eradicating viruses from contaminated produce.

Then, scientists will take their knowledge to growers and processors. Doug Doohan, produce specialist for OSU Extension based at OARDC in Wooster, already leads an Extension Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Food Safety Team. For this project, Doohan will train growers and processors to minimize the viral contamination of fresh produce.

Also, the researchers will develop a new course, “Foodborne Viruses and Food Safety,” to be taught in Ohio State’s Department of Food Science and Technology and College of Public Health. Course materials will be made available to other universities throughout the nation.

“Currently, if you look at standard food microbiology textbooks, there is little mention of viruses,” Li said. “If you look at virology texts, there is no mention of food safety. This project will help us train the next generation of food safety professionals.”

More: http://go.osu.edu/safeproduce.
‘MINING’ PLANTS CAN LEAD TO NEW PEST CONTROLS, PHARMACEUTICALS

Natural plant compounds help crops protect themselves against diseases and insects. They are also the source of more than 70 percent of human medicines and health-promoting foods. In the past they have been hard to find and usually scarce. But not for long.

OARDC plant pathologist Terry Graham is using a process called metabolite mining to identify new compounds never before seen in plants, particularly soybeans. Using soybean as a model, Graham and colleagues discovered that plants make the majority of previously unknown natural products during periods of stress or when defending against attacking pests.

The scientists used an herbicide, lactofen, to attack soybean plants and stimulate their disease-resistance mechanisms. As a result, the plants produced more than 30 new natural products — five never before reported in soybeans and two never found in any other plant. All of these natural products have potential to grow new Ohio businesses.

This research, however, does not stop with soybeans. Graham’s interdisciplinary team, including researchers from Ohio State’s College of Pharmacy, is using the same process to evaluate a wide range of plants for valuable natural products that could be used as herbicides, insecticides, or anti-cancer drugs.

“Dr. Graham’s research on soybean and other plants, particularly in the area of plant defense, has led to a better understanding of their roles in pest resistance,” said Douglas Kinghorn, Jack L. Beal Professor and Chair in the College of Pharmacy. “Due to our mutual academic interests, Dr. Graham and myself, along with other colleagues on campus, are collaborating to try and determine if plant secondary metabolites with known defense functions also have potential as anticancer agents in humans.”

More information can be found at http://go.osu.edu/6z. ▪ MAURICIO ESPINOZA

Distiller’s Grains Research Helps Livestock, Corn, Ethanol Industries

Thirty percent of the 146 million bushels of Ohio-grown corn used by the state’s growing ethanol industry ends up in a byproduct called distiller’s grains (DGS). DGS is a great feed for cattle and sheep and is also cheaper than corn and hay.

In the past, nutritional requirements limited the use of DGS to 25 percent per ration. This reduced potential savings, employment opportunities, and profitability for ethanol plants. OARDC research is changing that.

Animal scientists Steve Loerch and Francis Fluharty have developed a nutrition strategy that allows pregnant beef cows and sheep to be fed up to 80 percent DGS, and growing heifers and feedlot steers up to 70 percent DGS — more than doubling potential use of this feeding in Ohio.

Likewise researchers at OARDC have developed technologies for modifying DGS for non-ruminant food animals such as swine, further expanding the market and profitability of ethanol production.

DGS has moved from being a “byproduct” to a highly valued “co-product” with a market value of $180 million in Ohio alone.

“As tight as profit margins are right now, we can’t afford not to use distiller’s grains to reduce our feeding costs and remain in business,” said Stan Smith, owner of Smith Simmental Farm in Canal Winchester and an OSU Extension program assistant. “Ohio State’s research is helping us do that.”

Estimates indicated that increased use of the 1.2 million tons of distiller’s grains generated by Ohio’s ethanol industry can reduce feeding costs by 20–50 percent compared to using corn and hay; decrease manure output by 50 percent, contributing to environmental quality; and nearly eliminate the need to treat grazing lambs for internal parasites, greatly enhancing profitability of the sheep industry.

Additionally, this research can lead to Ohio cattle producers saving over $100 annually per cow, for a total of $20 million; and support continued ethanol and corn production in Ohio, creating new jobs and enhancing economic stability in multiple sectors of agriculture.

More information can be found at http://go.osu.edu/6k and http://ohethanol.com. ▪ MAURICIO ESPINOZA
CFAES Receives $1.1M Grant to Support Ag Research, Outreach in Senegal

CFAES will partner with Senegal’s Université Gaston Berger (UGB) to build up that West African nation’s agricultural research and outreach capabilities, thanks to a $1.1 million grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Higher Education for Development (HED). The project resulted from two highly competitive grant selection processes of the Africa–U.S. Higher Education Initiative. Last year, Ohio State successfully competed for a $50,000 planning grant (there were 20 recipients out of 300 applicants nationwide). In phase II of the initiative, the Ohio State–UGB partnership was one of 11 projects chosen out of 33 applications nationally. The $1.1 million award provides support for two years, with the possibility of an additional three-year renewal. Ohio State will work with the newly created agricultural science program at UGB, training its 17-member faculty on research and outreach activities based on the U.S. land-grant model. Ultimately, UGB will establish an experiment-station and outreach network similar to OARDC and OSU Extension, respectively. “We’ve had a relationship with UGB for the past few years, traveling there to deliver lectures and helping them set up their agricultural program,” said principal investigator and project co-director Richard Dick, a professor of soil microbial ecology in the School of Environment and Natural Resources who has more than a decade of experience working in Senegal. “This grant will allow us to formalize and actively collaborate with UGB in the formation of new degree programs and a new agricultural research and extension center.” Specifically, the Ohio State–UGB project calls for the creation of an agro-ecology program for sustainable food production, addressing the severe environmental degradation in the fragile African Sahel region and developing the emerging irrigated fruit and vegetable export industry in northern Senegal. This program will involve the development of comprehensive associate and bachelor degrees and use of e-education technologies. — MAURICIO ESPINOZA
Not all of ATI’s students walk the paths of the Wooster campus. Sometimes ATI goes to them.

ATI’s Business Training and Educational Services program offers continuing education and workforce training, often going on the road to extend its reach. In January, a $117,000 grant from the Ohio Board of Regents has provided a boost to its Food Processing Training Consortium.

“We started the consortium last year when we began to recognize a real need among different food processing companies for the same kinds of training,” said director Kim Sayers. “These companies often can pull only a handful of people off the line at the same time and still keep production going, so in order to get a large enough group for a training program, we work with all of the companies to schedule a program they can all take part in.” The companies split the cost and reap the benefits.

It’s free for companies to join the consortium, Sayers said, which currently consists of Frito-Lay, Wooster; Gerber’s Poultry, Inc., Kidron; JM Smucker Company, Orrville; Sandridge Food Corporation, Medina; and Smith Dairy, Orrville. Training programs focus primarily on industrial needs, including hydraulics, pneumatics, industrial electricity, PLCs (programmable logic controllers), industrial motors and motor controls, welding, and troubleshooting. But ATI also offers programs on other types of skills, such as workplace communication and LEAN process improvement training.

While the Regents grant specifically supports the food processing consortium, ATI offers training for a wide variety of professions. “We have programs for all types of manufacturing, not just food processing,” Sayers said. “And we offer training for the service industry. Nursing homes have asked us to do LEAN process improvement training, productivity sessions, strategic planning, and leadership development. Sometimes these programs lead to one-on-one coaching for a core group of supervisors.”

In addition, through a partnership with the Ohio Landscape Association and the Ohio Nursery & Landscape Association, the ATI program administers national certification testing from the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) for professional landscapers to become Landscape Industry Certified Technicians.

Business Training and Educational Services started in 1989 as a continuing education arm of ATI. For more, contact Sayers at sayers.1@osu.edu or 330-287-0100, or “like” Ohio State University ATI Business Training & Educational Services on Facebook.  ■ MARTHA FILIPIC
Liz Szado was a horse science major at ATI when she decided to apply for an internship with quasar energy group in Wooster because she “didn’t want to go home in the summer.” The Cleveland native’s plan had been to transfer to Ohio State’s main campus upon graduation in 2010. This all changed, however, when she was offered a full-time position with quasar — which runs a green energy research lab and a biogas plant in collaboration with OArdC.

In her time with the company, Szado went from feeding small research digesters to learning from OArdC graduate students how to run the machines and do testing. Although much different than her intended major, she saw the technology as a positive step for the future with amazing possibilities.

“The digesters take waste products no one else wants and turns them into usable energy,” said Szado, who is now a senior lab technician. “This is the leading edge of technology right now.”

A Cleveland-based company, quasar is the first tenant of OArdC’s BioHiO research Park, an initiative put into place to commercialize technology with economic development potential. The company has also partnered with ATI to create a renewable energy curriculum to teach students about biomass and conservation technologies. In addition quasar is offering internships and, sometimes, jobs to current ATI students.

“This partnership (with ATI) allows us to combine agriculture and biological research with an emerging industry in Ohio,” said quasar lab manager Mark Suchan. “The ATI students we have hired have been professional, willing to learn, and have truly contributed to the success of our growing company.”

Arthur Stoller, a second-year dairy science major at ATI, took general employment as a lab technician over an internship because it would not count toward his major. “The (biomass conversion) technology is still immature in the United States, while it is highly developed in Europe, but it has huge possibilities,” he said.

Stoller’s advice to other students: “Although it may not be your career choice, you can learn from any internship and create lasting connections in other industries, which later on may prove to be helpful.” — Siera Marth
On September 16, 2010, a tornado touched down on Ohio State’s Wooster campus, with the Secrest Arboretum & Gardens suffering severe damage. Soon after the tornado hit, Ohio State announced the creation of the Secrest Arboretum Fund, and the generosity of supporters has been tremendous. As of February 2011, 461 donors had given an incredible $277,750, all of which will directly support the arboretum’s renewal.

The proposal includes the creation of a few new areas including “The Buckeye Forest,” an active learning environment for children of all ages, featuring programming on birds, flowers, toads, butterflies, beetles, dirt, and mud. In addition, children and youth will learn about gardening and foods for an edible ecosystem and healthy lifestyle along “Edith’s Garden Pathway” around the Discovery Pavilion.

Also proposed is a new native woodlands area featuring Ohio native trees, understory shrubs, and herbaceous plants. In addition, leaders hope to adjust jogging pathways to allow for cross-country skiing and snow-shoeing.

Despite the tragedy of the tornado, Secrest Arboretum’s director, Ken Cochran, is excited about the opportunities for renewal and improvement. “The generous outpouring of concern and support to renew Secrest is truly humbling and gratifying,” Cochran said. “Before the tornado hit, we had been working on new plans for Secrest’s ‘Second Century,’ as it was founded in 1908, and the tornado confirmed the immediacy to implement such plans.”

To make a donation to the Secrest Arboretum Fund, visit [http://giveto.osu.edu](http://giveto.osu.edu) or contact the CFAES Development Office at 614-292-0473.

For the latest information on the OARDC Wooster Campus tornado recovery, please visit [http://oardc.osu.edu/tornado](http://oardc.osu.edu/tornado).

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**THE CECIL AND DOROTHY SMITH ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND SUPPORTS STUDENTS FIRST, STUDENTS NOW CAMPAIGN**

Cecil and Dorothy Smith's love of agriculture and Ohio State inspired him to establish The Cecil and Dorothy Smith Endowed Scholarship Fund. The fund was approved by the Board of Trustees in October 2010.

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At a very young age, Smith began helping his father grow crops on the family farm in Orient, Ohio. For several years, he also operated the family’s dairy business with his parents and sister. He was an outstanding member of Ohio FFA and 4-H, winning countless ribbons at the Ohio State Fair. After graduating from Grove City High School in 1939, he was awarded the FFA Degree of American Farmer (1940) and a scholarship to the College of Agriculture at Ohio State where he earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science.

He advanced the future of agriculture while serving Franklin County and the State of Ohio during a 40-year career with Soil and Conservation Services and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). He eventually became a production/compliance specialist, a position that he held for 20 years. Smith was known for his solid work ethic and his willingness to always “take the road less traveled,” which, friends say, made him all the wiser.

He met his wife, Dorothy Donahue, late in life. She lived on her family farm near Fowler, Indiana, until they married in 1979. They shared the same love of farming. Sadly, Dorothy became ill and passed away after only four years of marriage.

Smith passed away in November 2009 at the age of 88, but his memory will live on through his generous estate gift. He knew the importance of a good education and wanted to pass along to other young people the same kind of assistance that had meant so much to him in furthering his education and expanding his opportunities.

Half of the annual distribution from the fund supports one or more scholarships for first-year CFAES students from public schools serving residents of Pleasant Township in Franklin County, Ohio. The other half supports one or more scholarships for students from Jackson County majoring in animal sciences (first preference) or crop sciences.

The scholarship’s first recipients will be selected in April 2011.

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**KEVIN VOTINO**

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**KEVIN VOTINO**
The university’s Students First, Students Now campaign was kicked off by President E. Gordon Gee in January 2009 as one way to ensure continued access to education for current and future Ohio State students. The Students First, Students Now venture is comprehensive, involving scholarships, loans, aid, and emergency funds. While the university’s commitment to putting students first is never-ending, the campaign itself is wrapping up on June 30.

The university’s fund-raising goal for this initiative is $100 million, and as of December 31, it raised $96,024,682, or 96 percent of the overall goal. CFAES was challenged to raise $2.8 million; as of December, the college’s generous supporters had given $2,642,042, or 95 percent of the goal. These dollars are solely for scholarships and emergency funds for students who need immediate financial help to stay on track toward their degrees.

There is still time to make your gift to the Students First, Students Now Campaign. Although the deadline for the campaign is June 30, you can always make a gift to help students in need.

To help Ohio State and CFAES put Students First, Students Now, please visit http://giveto.osu.edu. For more information, contact the college’s development office at 614-292-0473.

KELLY VOTINO

THE ARBORETUM’S MISSION TO PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND EXPERIENCES FOR PEOPLE TO “LEARN, EXPLORE, WONDER, CONNECT” HAS INSPIRED LEADERS TO DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN, INCLUDING:

Renew the Secrest Landscape for the well-being of humanity and community to make an impact on the lives of others.

Plant trees, grasses, forbs, and other vegetation.

Manage for sustainability and diverse biological activity.

Extend pathways and recreational/health-related land use.

Create theme areas and programming for children and youth.

Partner with individuals, groups, organizations, and communities to recruit volunteers and support.

BRINGING THE STUDENTS FIRST, STUDENTS NOW CAMPAIGN TO A CLOSE

“Edith’s Garden Pathway” will be created around the Discovery Pavilion, pictured above, which still remains following the tornado.

The area of the future “Buckeye Forest” with some of the arboretum’s Dawn Redwood trees remaining in the background.
Six Students Awarded Alumni Scholarship

Congratulations to the following six students who received $500 FAES Alumni Society Undergraduate Scholarships for 2010–2011 based on their academic and leadership abilities.

Students selected were:

**Justin Rismiller**, a senior in AEDE from Rossburg. Justin is active in the Agribusiness Club, the NAMA Marketing Team, Alpha Zeta Partners. He works as a student research assistant at the Ohio Bioproducts Innovation Center and on the family farm. He served two internships with Cargill and Scotts. Justin plans to attend law school this fall to prepare for a career representing ag-based companies, farmers, and the industry.

**Lynn Wischmeyer**, a senior in Food Science from Ottawa. Lynn is active in the food science club, the Midwest Section of the Institute of Food Technologists, where she is planning to host a regional student event, and very active as a CFAES Ambassador. She represented the college at several regional and national events. She interned with Hirzel Canning Company and Smith Dairy. She plans a career as a food technologist.

**Elizabeth Bianco**, a senior in Human and Community Resource Development from Wadsworth. Elizabeth is active in the Ag Ed Society, Collegiate 4-H, and the Ohio State Western Equestrian team. She works part-time in HCRD as an undergrad research assistant and as a 4-H youth development summer program assistant. Elizabeth plans to teach and perhaps run an equine management program at a career center.

**Maria Goubeaux**, a senior in Human and Community Resource Development from Versailles. Maria is active on the CFAES Ambassador Team and represented the college at the 2010 National Ag Ambassadors Conference, presenting a seminar on Excellence in Leadership. She also was co-chair of 2009 Scarlet and Gray Day, is on CFAES Student Council, and Saddle and Sirloin. She plans to teach agriculture and advise an FFA chapter.

**Stephanie Neal**, a senior in Animal Sciences from North Canton. Stephanie is active in the Buckeye Dairy Club, OSU Dairy Judging team, and Saddle and Sirloin serving in several leadership positions in each. She is an Ag Ambassador and an Alpha Zeta Partner, again serving in several leadership positions. She was a teaching assistant in animal sciences spring of 2010. She has interned at Ohio’s Country Journal and Ohio Ag Net. She plans a career in law following graduation.

**Lyndsey Murphy**, a senior in Ag Communication from Mechanicsburg. Lyndsey is an Ag Ambassador, secretary of the Ag Communicators of Tomorrow, and is president of the CFAES Student Council. She served previously as public relations chair of Council, Scarlet and Gray Day media chair, and is also an HCRD ambassador. She works as a student employee in the Dean’s office and has worked at ABN, and Ohio Farm Bureau as an intern. She plans a career in some communications field in agriculture as a mediator between farmers and consumers.

Congratulations again to these excellent alumni scholars!

Funds for the scholarships come from earnings on the FAES Alumni Society Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment that currently has a principal value of nearly $83,000. If you are interested in contributing to this fund or others in the college, or want to establish your own named fund, please contact the Ag Development Office at http://cfaes.osu.edu/alumni-and-donors/donors/.

-RAY MILLER
CFAES Alumni Society Presents Annual Awards

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Alumni Society recognized 17 individuals at its annual alumni awards luncheon on March 5, 2011. Congratulations to all of our recipients.

Meritorious Service Award
From the left, John Staubus, Dairy Nutrition; William L. Flinn, BS, MS, PhD, Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology; and Kenneth E. Dountz, Agricultural Economics.

Distinguished Alumni Award
In back, from the left, David R. Hawkins, BS, MS, Animal Science; Alan R. Brugler, BS, MS, Agricultural Education; Gary Lee Bennett, MS, PhD, Animal Science; Brian Watkins, BS, Agricultural Economics; and in the front, from the left, Daniel J. Wampler, BS, PhD, Horticulture; Linda Pollak, BS, Horticulture; Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser; Scott E. Higgins, BS, Agricultural Economics; and Steven P. DeBruin, DVM, BS, Dairy Science.

International Alumni Award
From the left, Yoo Yong Kim, PhD, Animal Science, and Fahri Yavuz, MS, PhD, Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology.

Young Professional Achievement Award
David Darr, BS, MS, Agribusiness and Applied Economics; Andrea M. Grube, BS, Agribusiness and Applied Economics; Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser; Melanie Flax Wilt, BS, Agricultural Communication; and Jenifer L. Weaver, BS, Agribusiness and Applied Economics.

Upcoming Alumni Events

April 23
Spring Tailgate, OSU Spring Game
Lacrosse game at 11:00 a.m., football at 1:00 p.m. Brunch will start at 10:30 a.m.

June 10
Toast to seniors at graduation. Starts at 10:45 a.m.
Spring CFAES Alumni Board Meeting (following Senior Toast)

September 10
Fallfest at French Field House starts three hours before kickoff. Toledo vs. the Buckeyes. Watch the website and the summer issue of Continuum for details. PLEASE NOTE: All football tickets must be sold only to members of the OSU Alumni Association. If you are not an OSU Alumni Association member and want to apply for the Fallfest game lottery, you must be paid by July 1, 2011.

September 20–22
Farm Science Review Alumni Hospitality Tent, corner of Kottman and Friday in the center of the grounds.
Our college prides itself on excellence in teaching. That’s why it’s my pleasure to announce that Associate Dean Linda Martin has been named the Sanford G. Price and Isabelle Price Barbee Chair in Teaching, Advising, and Learning. Bill Price established the endowment in memory of his father and aunt and to continually improve counseling, teaching, and the learning environment. As holder of the endowed chair, Martin will:

• Focus on improving the quality of teaching and advising through leadership in research, teaching, and advising.
• Study the ever-evolving nature of undergraduate students and their learning preferences and processes.
• Determine and implement the best practices for teaching and advising and disseminate them to college and university faculty, to foster constant improvement in learning and a greater emphasis on advising students.
• Provide and encourage attendance at master teacher and adviser workshops for college and university faculty charged with disseminating new knowledge and skills, building a strong network to assist in research on learning, teaching, and advising.

Through her work as endowed chair, Martin will continue Ohio State’s and the college’s focus on Students First.