

Subject: Dean's Update
Date: Monday, January 9, 2023 at 10:16:57 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean
To: CFAES Office of the Vice President and Dean via Cfaes-all
Attachments: image001.png

CFAES Community,

Greetings as we get ready for the spring semester! I hope you all had a safe and enjoyable academic recess and holiday season. The winter storm that arrived on December 23 caused significant issues on both the Columbus and CFAES Wooster campuses. Across the Columbus campus, over 72 buildings were impacted due to a heating outage and subsequent freezing. Fortunately, CFAES building issues were relatively minor compared to other areas of campus. On the CFAES Wooster Campus, there were over 15 buildings impacted. The most significant issues were Gourley Hall, Old Administration Building, and the campus chilled water loop. Heat is still out in Gourley Hall but repairs are underway.

Our facilities operations staff logged well over 250 hours of work over the holiday addressing issues and minimizing damage with some working almost every day. We would like to express our gratitude to OSU Facilities Operations and Development (FOD) and our CFAES Operations teams for their quick response and extra efforts to keep things as operational as possible during this time.

As a reminder, if you notice issues that might not have been reported yet from the cold weather, contact your building coordinator or submit a work order directly. Here are the links for making a request in Columbus (<https://fod.osu.edu/make-request#s2f>) and in Wooster (<https://wooster.osu.edu/service-departments/facilities-operations>).

As we head into the new semester, the momentum of this college and our faculty continues to build:

- Congratulations to Douglas Jackson-Smith, in our School of Environment and Natural Resources for being named the college's [Kellogg Endowed Chair in Agroecosystems Management](#). We are grateful for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's support to create this endowed chair position for CFAES and excited to welcome Dr. Jackson-Smith to this position.
- CFAES recruitment and new enrollment pilot efforts are paying off – with the first decision release in December we saw a rise of 55.6% in admits and as of last week, paid acceptance fees, secured from students who intend to enroll, are up 183% over last year, from 18 to 51.
- CFAES has surpassed its Time and Change: The Ohio State Campaign fundraising goal of \$225 million with significant gifts at the end of the calendar year - stay tuned for more exciting details but we are well ahead of our fundraising goals.
- Food waste expert and CFAES AEDE Professor Brian Roe and alumni-owned Price Farms Organics were recently featured in [The New York Times discussing developments in food waste research and a campaign](#) to combat it.
- Congratulations to our OSU Extension professionals who received awards during the Extension Annual Conference. [Learn more.](#)
- CFAES AEDE Professor Brent Sohngen (recently named CFAES Distinguished Professor) is one of three nominees for [OSU's Coolest Science Story of 2022](#) for his research on gluttonous trees (**voting is open until 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**).
- CFAES SENR Professor Rattan Lal was mentioned in a [poem by Ian Frazier](#) in The New Yorker.
- CFAES AEDE Professor Elena Irwin was named a 2023 [Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Fellow](#).

CFAES is leading a partnership with several Ohio State colleges, units, and regional campuses to host events on **Tuesday, Jan. 17** for the Kellogg Foundation's 7th Annual National Day of Racial Healing (NDRH). The NDRH is a time to contemplate shared values and create the blueprint for #HowWeHeal from the effects of racism. Local events will feature a keynote speaker, and small group discussions on the theme of **Healing from Racial Battle Fatigue**. Events will be in person and streamed online. To view the schedule and register visit go.osu.edu/ndrh2023info.

On October 14 and October 20 Town Hall meetings took place to share the results of the Faculty and Staff Climate Survey and the results of the Departmental Audits. Both sessions were recorded. Please note the recordings have not been edited. If you were unable to attend and were interested in one or both the recordings can be found [here](#). View the survey results [here](#). If you have questions or are unable to access the recordings, please let [Dr. Lechman](#) know.

On **January 1, 2023**, the hourly minimum wage in Ohio increased 80 cents from \$9.30 to **\$10.10** for all non-tipped workers. The minimum hourly rate for tipped workers increased from \$4.65 to **\$5.05** – an increase of 40 cents. System-wide increases for current Ohio State employees were centrally implemented effective January 1, 2023. More information is available in this [knowledge article](#).

Nominations are now open for the 2023 CFAES Student Awards. The categories of awards include CFAES Student Awards, CFAES Service to Students Awards, and CFAES Student Organization Awards. Nominations are **due February 15, 2023**. Learn more and submit a nomination at: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesstudentawards>.

Nominations are also open for the 2023 CFAES Spirit of the Land-Grant Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual or team who demonstrates the connection between our CFAES values and our land-grant DNA. Therefore, nominees should have a clear record of supporting, exemplifying, or creating opportunities around one or more of the following land-grant DNA areas: Translational Research, Collaboration and Engagement, Students as Co-creators, Lifespan Learning and Future Perspective. The award is open to CFAES faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students, alumni, and external partners (including partners across campus and outside of the university). Nominations are due **January 23, 2023**. For more information on the award and the nomination form, please visit: https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_431byEKhz5VX9bg.

And finally, don't forget about the new Lifestyle Spending Account which is now in effect. <https://hr.osu.edu/benefits/>. Remember to save those receipts and the first reimbursement deadline will be **April 15**.

Sincerely,
Dean Cathann Kress



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