

**Subject:** Dean's Update  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 9:26:20 AM Eastern Daylight 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, image002.png

CFAES Community,

What causes do you care about most? Is it food security, health and wellness programming and services, housing, animal welfare, education, advocacy programs or the environment? I support the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio (RMHC) (29023) through Buckeyes for Charity. The Ohio State Buckeyes for Charity campaign makes it easy for you to help – you can choose from more than 850 Ohio nonprofit organizations and donate conveniently one-time or through payroll deduction. Make a pledge or learn more at [buckeyesforcharity.osu.edu](http://buckeyesforcharity.osu.edu).

The search for the next Director for the School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR) is commencing with the formation of the search committee. The committee is being finalized this week and once finalized, the roster will be posted at <https://cfaes.osu.edu/people/leadership-searches>. Eventually, the position description will also post there. Allow me to share my appreciation to Dr. Jeff Sharp for his multiple-term leadership of the school. The school has grown tremendously during his time as Director. We will spend time celebrating his leadership toward the end of his term.

Promotion and tenure reviews have been finalizing from the department/school level to move forward to the college level. There are 32 cases ranging from reappointments to promotions that the college committee will be reviewing at the end of November.

Congratulations to the CFAES department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics (AEDE) which was recently ranked first out of 39 agricultural economics departments in the country in scholarly research activity, according to [Academic Analytics](#), a leader in higher education data analytics. The 2020 Academic Analytics rankings are based on scholarly research activity aggregated in a database that includes more than 225,000 faculty members, associated with more than 9,900 Ph.D. programs and 11,000 departments at 447 research universities across the country. The scholarly research index is a composite index that considers several measures of research activity including journal articles, research awards and honors, academic citations, and federal grants. [Learn more.](#)

Congratulations to Menuka Bhandari, (PhD student in Animal Sciences, Advisor: Gireesh Rajashekara) who was selected as one of the 10 recipients of the [2021 Council for Agricultural Science and Technology \(CAST\)](#) communication scholarships. As a part of this scholarship, Menuka will be attending the CAST annual meeting hosted this year on the OSU Columbus campus October 26-28. At the meeting, CAST scholarship recipients will be recognized and awarded with a certificate and stipend. Scholars will have the opportunity to network with other scientists in academia and industry and participate in various sessions that will discuss current agriculture-based issues related to plants, animals, and food.

Please also join me in congratulating Dr. V.M. “Bala” Balasubramaniam, professor of food engineering in the CFAES departments of Food Science and Technology and Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering for receiving the 2021 Research and Development Award from the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). Balasubramaniam was honored for his ground-breaking work in high-pressure processing. [IFT](#) is an international, nonprofit scientific society of professionals engaged in food science, food technology, and related areas in academia, government, and industry. [Read more.](#)

Be well.

Dean Cathann Kress

Updates Include:

- Researchers Selected for the Inaugural CFAES STARS Program Cohort
- CFAES Awards: Call for Nominations
- Wireless Maintenance, Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Temporary Faculty & Staff Workspaces on Campus
- Keep Your Zoom Apps Up to Date
- Benefits Open Enrollment
- PHA and Screening Required for 2022 Premium Credit
- HCS GSA Art Sale Fundraiser

### **Researchers Selected for the Inaugural CFAES STARS Program Cohort**

CFAES is responding to the renewed, university-wide commitment to research through the development of a college-level effort to identify and develop the next generation of research leaders among early and mid-career tenure track faculty within the college. The goal of the Strategic Alignment for Research Success (STARS) program is to propel emerging research leaders – those individuals with the interest, vision, and motivation – to take their research programs to a higher and more collaborative level. Participants selected for the 2021-2022 STARS cohort are primarily early to mid-career career faculty with at least two years in their current position from a variety of CFAES departments. Follow the link to read the [full article](#) and [meet the cohort](#).

### **CFAES Awards: Call for Nominations**

The CFAES Awards call for nominations is now open. The [CFAES Awards webpage](#) includes a grid outlining each award and criteria, a link to the Qualtrics nomination portal (see on website: Click Here to Nominate) and a link for additional nomination information for the Office of Research and Graduate Education awards. Note that some awards restrict to one nomination per TIU (department/school) or college unit. Award nominations are **due November 1, 2021**.

Questions about the process of submitting nominations can be directed to Michelle Anderson (.3484), Administrative Associate for Faculty and Staff Affairs. Questions about award areas and criteria can be addressed to the CFAES office that is sponsoring and coordinating the award (see <https://go.osu.edu/cfaesawardnominations> for that list of awards and coordinating offices).

### **Wireless Maintenance, Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) will be performing wireless network maintenance between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 23. This maintenance will affect [Columbus, Lima, Marion, Newark, Wooster and Extension locations](#). Wireless services in particular spaces may experience a brief disruption of up to 5 minutes as the nearest access point reboots. Questions regarding this planned maintenance should be directed to the [IT Service Desk](#). Please reference change number CHG0071814. This change and other planned maintenance at Ohio State can be found on the [System Status](#) page.

### **Temporary Faculty & Staff Workspaces on Campus**

With many CFAES colleagues engaging in Flexible Work Agreements, the CFAES Operations team has identified and transitioned the following spaces on the Columbus Campus into temporary office hoteling:

- Agricultural Administration – Room 004
- Agricultural Administration – Room 102E
- Kottman Hall – Room 200
- Kottman Hall – Room 268

Remote or hybrid employees in need of a temporary workspace on the Columbus Campus can now visit the

link below to make a reservation. There are a variety of workspace options to choose from when making your reservation including open tables, cubes, private offices with docking stations and monitors, and a team meeting room. More information on the spaces and a self-serve reservation system are available here: <https://go.osu.edu/cfaesspaces>

Please note that employees will need to bring their own devices to work, and that these spaces are available by reservation only on a first-come, first-served basis. The hoteling spaces will remain unlocked and unmonitored at all times, so be sure to take valuables with you when you leave. Questions? Please contact Lisa Corbin ([corbin.184@osu.edu](mailto:corbin.184@osu.edu) or 614-247-6010)

### **Keep Your Zoom Apps Up to Date**

Zoom is taking a big step towards ensuring their users stay current with the latest Zoom releases. Beginning November 1, if your Zoom desktop or mobile app is more than 9 months old, you will be prompted to update before you can attend a meeting. Going forward, in order to use Zoom, you must be updated to one of the latest versions. We encourage you to be proactive on your personal devices and keep those up to date so you aren't late to class or a meeting. If you use Zoom on a university-managed device, your local IT support staff should be able to assist you. [Learn more.](#)

### **Benefits Open Enrollment**

The website for Open Enrollment (OE), the annual opportunity for employees to evaluate their benefit options and make elections for the upcoming year is now available. OE for the 2022 benefit plan year will be **November 1-15, 2021**. Three key changes include:

- An enhanced [dental benefit plan option](#)
- Enhanced Your Plan for Health (YP4H) programming and incentives
- Open Enrollment in Workday for the first time

We strongly encourage employees to visit the OE website to learn about 2022 benefits and select the options that best fit their needs for the coming year.

### **PHA and Screening Required for 2022 Premium Credit**

To earn the full [2022 premium credit](#), complete a [verified biometric screening](#) and the [Personal Health and Well-being Assessment \(PHA\)](#) by Dec. 31. You can reduce the cost of your medical contributions by \$25 per month or by \$40 per month if your enrolled spouse also completes these steps. [Read more.](#)

### **HCS GSA Art Sale Fundraiser**

Join us for the Horticulture and Crop Science GSA's Art Sale on **October 21st, 4-7 pm in Kottman lobby**. We will be selling handmade decorations and 2D art made by graduate students, staff, and faculty from HCS. All proceeds go to support our GSA's efforts and planning of our Graduate Research Symposium. [Learn more.](#)

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