

PLANT SCIENCES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – June 8, 2007

Davis post doc receives national crop award

Cristobal Uauy, a newly minted post doc in the Department of Plant Sciences, has been awarded the Gerald O. Motte Scholarship from the Crop Science Society of America. Uauy helped discover a gene that affects protein, zinc and iron content in wheat, a discovery the journal Science and pediatricians worldwide are calling an important step towards eradicating world hunger. Uauy was on a team assembled by UC Davis geneticist and wheat breeder Jorge Dubcovsky which also included Assaf Distelfeld from Tzion Fahima's laboratory in Israel. Distelfeld has since come to UC Davis and is working in the lab alongside Uauy and Dubcovsky.

David Neale receives Outstanding Alumnus Award

Professor David Neale received an Outstanding Alumnus Award from Oregon State University's College of Forestry at a ceremony held in May. One of seven distinguished alumni honored at the annual "Fernhopper" awards ceremony, Neale was lauded as one of the top molecular forest geneticists in the world. Neale completed his Ph.D. at Oregon State University in 1984 and spent many years as a researcher with the Pacific Southwest Research Station of the Forest Service. Neale has been a professor at UC Davis since 2005, and his lab focuses on the discovery and understanding of the function of genes in forest trees, especially the genes controlling complex traits, through genetic mapping and genomic science technologies. His lab is involved in the development of tree breeding technologies, not only to provide better wood and paper products, but also to reduce the need for harvesting natural forests.

Gallery features Angela's art

Angela Oates is an artist when she's not planning events for the Department of Plant Sciences. A show featuring her charcoal-on-polypropylene art opens this week at Pamela Skinner Contemporary Art, a gallery at 723 S Street in Sacramento. You can see Angela and her art during a reception at the gallery from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 9. For more information on the gallery, call 916-446-1786 or check out their website at www.pamelaskinnergallery.com

Heat Related Illness document available online

Supervisors are required to have heat safety training before training their employees. You can access an updated Heat Related Illness document at the Plant Sciences Safety page at:

<http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/plantsciences/ucd-access/safety/App18-HeatRelatedIllnesses.pdf>

OR view the PowerPoint presentation on the web at:

<http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/download/temp/HeatIllnessTraining.pps>

After reading the document or viewing the presentation, print the document, sign, and file with your other safety training documents.

Toast to graduating seniors

To celebrate our graduating seniors, the Department of Plant Sciences is hosting a reception on Saturday, June 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. outside the PES building (on the lawn, under the big tree.) Faculty, staff, grad student and affiliates are welcome to join the fun.

SEMINARS/CONFERENCES/FIELD DAYS CIFAR Conference on Biorefinery Industry