



Michigan State University  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Faculty & Staff  
Recognition Luncheon

Jan. 13, 2009

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

MSU is an affirmative-action,  
equal-opportunity employer.

# Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Faculty & Staff Recognition Luncheon



*Tuesday, January 13, 2009  
11:30 a.m.—2 p.m.  
The University Club*



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## SERVICE MILESTONES:

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### 40 plus years

Taylor Johnston, CSS  
Don Penner, CSS  
James Tiedje, CSS

### 40 Years

Stephen Harsh, AFRE  
Joseph Vargas, PLP

### 35 years

Sandra Allen, Hort  
Lee Jacobs, CSS  
Richard Leep, CSS  
James Liesman, ANS  
Duane Mezga, SPDC

### 30 years

Richard Balander, ANS  
Jon Bartholic, WTRRES  
Sue Chatterley, CARRS  
Pat Daughenbaugh, SPDC  
Dennis Fulbright, PLP  
Bruce Harte, PKG  
Roy Hayes, MSUE SE  
Gary Heilig, MSUE SW  
James Kells, CSS  
Janet Seitz, MSUE SW  
Elizabeth Szymanski, MSUE C  
Colleen Wager, PKG

### 25 years

Barbara Anderson, FOR  
Rebecca Baughan, HORT  
Margaret Beaver, AFRE  
Kris Berglund, FOR  
Connie Brinson, NATFEA  
Jonathan Dahl, CSS  
Kathleen Jones, MSUE D  
Jamie Pratt, ANS  
Susan Selke, PKG  
Michelle Sidel, CARRS  
John Staatz AFRE

### 20 years

Elaine Bush, MSUE N  
Daniel Guyer, BSAE  
Janet Ireland, ANS  
Glenda Kilpatrick, MSUE C  
David Main, ANS  
Carla McLachlan, ANS  
Mary Pond, MSUE UP  
Michael Staton, MSUE SW  
Michael Vandelaar, ANS

### 15 years

Stephanie Bruno, MSUE UP  
Cecille Chapman, MSUE UP  
Alma Crowley, MSUE SE  
Shari Dickson, MSUE N  
Awilda Dominguez, MSUE,  
SW  
Margaret Ervin, MSUE C  
Zelda Felix-Mottley, CYFFCS  
Janet Gudino, MSUE C  
Marie Harju, MSUE UP  
Linda Huyck, MSUE C  
Valerie Kelly, AFRE  
Robert Krieger, ANS  
Jane Link, ANS  
Mark Longstroth, MSUE SW  
Donna Miller, MSUE SE  
Julie Moore, ANS  
Debra Nowak, MSUE UP  
Mary Pemble-Swidorski,  
CYFFCS  
Darlene Pugsley, MSUE C  
Sandra Risedorph, MSUE C  
Carol Rosinski, MSUE N  
Carol Townsend, MSUE C  
Anna Tran, MSUE SW  
Judith von Bernuth, MSUE D  
Marijo Young, MSUE SE

### 10 years

Daniel Bulkowski, HORT  
Douglas Carmichael, ANS  
Mary Dunkel, MSUE N  
Catarina Edison, MSUE UP  
Zachary Huang, ENT  
Michael Jewett, ENT  
Fermin Jimenez-Krassel,  
ANS  
Michael Kovacic, MSUE D  
Connie Lange, MSUE SW  
Debra Mault, ATS  
Carlettie McCown, MSUE N  
Debra O'Neill, MSUE N  
David Radloff, MSUE UP  
Jennie Ramos, MSUE SW  
Audrey Sebolt, HORT  
Piera Siegert, ENT  
Jacqueline Smith, PLP  
Janelle Stewart, MSUE SW  
Brian Teppen, CSS  
Lisa Treiber, MSUE  
Joan Vinette, MSUE UP  
Christine Vogt, CARRS  
Cynthia Warren, MSUE SW  
Yun Ying, ANS

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The CANR Faculty and Staff Recognition Program honors faculty and staff members who have received awards and recognitions over the past year that pay tribute to their contributions to scholarship, research, outreach and civic life. This program also recognizes faculty promotions and new appointments and the career-long dedication of those with milestone years of service to the university. This year, we also present the Staff Advisory Committee Staff and Team awards and the H. Paul Roberts Award for Distinguished Service in Study Abroad to recognize outstanding service from within the CANR.

Thank you for your significant contributions to our students, stakeholders and the scientific community. The excellence of your work brings distinction to you, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Michigan State University.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Armstrong  
Dean,  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Michigan State University

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## STUDY ABROAD AWARDS

MSU ranks first among American public universities in the number of students who study abroad. With the benefit of Paul Roberts' guiding hand, the CANR figures prominently in MSU's study abroad portfolio, with about 50 programs offered in 30 countries. To acknowledge Dr. Roberts' role in the success of CANR study abroad programs and to honor him following his retirement in August 2007, the study abroad award for CANR academic staff members has been named in his honor – the H. Paul Roberts Award for Distinguished Service in Study Abroad Programs.

### H. PAUL ROBERTS AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

**Richard Balander**  
*Animal Science*

Though the official practice of apartheid was abolished by 1994, when an all-race election was first held after years of official segregation, vestiges of the oppressive policies continue to shape and influence South Africa's society. South Africa has a tremendous impact on students as they experience a country that is both a developed first-world nation in the larger cities and a third-world country in the rural areas. Because of the work of Richard Balander, nearly 130 MSU students have had the unique opportunity to dramatically enhance their understanding of world cultures and deepen their respect for our world's great resources through study abroad experiences in South Africa.

In 1997, Dr. Balander was one of two animal science faculty members recruited to go to Pietersburg, South Africa, to conduct a department review of the Animal Science Department at the University of the North. During that trip, he visited many farms and small villages and other livestock-related operations to try to gauge the impact of university teaching and outreach programs on the local populations. He knew this was a place he would love to come back to and visit again. In 1998 came an opportunity to revive a previous South African study abroad program. With the assistance of the friends he had made the previous year at the University of the North, the "Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources in South Africa and Swaziland" program was born. Since that first program, Dr. Balander has led or co-led nine more summer study abroad groups to South Africa.

As his students interact with farmers, South African students and many of the local people, they gain an understanding of what it was like to live under an apartheid system and how it contrasts to the American form of government. They also are able to compare and contrast dramatically different animal farming techniques. The program also includes several national parks, where the students experience South Africa's greatest natural resource -- its diverse animal populations. These experiences truly help students, and professors, develop their observation skills, critical thinking skills and, perhaps most importantly, an appreciation of other cultures.

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## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

**Sam Varghese:** MAAE Honorary Member and Honorary American Degree from National FFA Association

**Karen Waite:** MSUE Specialist and State Staff Association Award  
**Mel Yokoyama:** University of Hawaii Outstanding Faculty Award

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## FACULTY PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS:

### Full Professor

Christina Difonzo, ENT  
Weiming Li, FW  
Brian Maurer, FW  
Brian Nielsen, ANS  
James Pursley, ANS  
Elliot Ryser, FSHN  
George Smith, ANS  
George Sundin, PLP  
Frances Trail, PLP

### Associate Professor

Joseph Arvai, CARRS  
Anthony Cognato, ENT  
Patricia Crawford, SPDC  
David MacFarlane, FOR  
Beth Olson, FSHN  
Jinhua Zhao, AFRE

### Assistant Professor

Soren Anderson, AFRE  
Douglas Bruggeman, FW  
Meredith Gore, FW  
David Hodge, BSAE  
Brian Irwin, FW  
Suk-Kyung Kim, SPDC  
Sinem Korkmaz, SPDC  
Eun Sil Lee, SPDC  
Yong Lee, DPDC  
Cheryl Murphy, FW  
Jen Owen, FW  
Brian Roth, FW  
Juan Steibel, FW  
R. Brent Ross, AFRE  
Yong Jiang, AFRE

### MSUE Continuing Employment

Laura Anderson MSUE SW  
Jordan Burroughs, FW  
Linda Cronk, MSUE N  
Jennifer Gibbs, MSUE C  
Elizabeth Gutierrez, MSUE SE  
Saneya Hamler, MSUE SE  
Angela Harris, MSUE SE  
Sharon Jeffery, MSUE C  
Rachel Meyers, MSUE SE  
Diana Miller, MSUE N  
Joan Miller, MSUE SE  
Michael Monfils, MNFI  
Michelle Neff, MSUE C  
Ryan O'Connor, MNFI  
Donna Turner, MSUE SW  
Richard Wooten, MSUE SE

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## NEW FACULTY & STAFF:

### Animal Science

Ashley Bushman  
Ruben Derderian  
Darrin Karcher  
Elizabeth Karcher  
Ik Soon Kang  
Jason Knott  
Janice Siegford  
Juan Stiebel  
Janice Swanson

### CARRS

Laura Olabisi

### Fisheries and Wildlife

Yilmaz Aslan

### Blake House

Jo Anne Latimore  
Junyan Luo  
Sharon Reasoner  
Wendylee Stott

### Food Science and Human Nutrition

Richard Miles

### Forestry

Sophan Chhin

### Horticulture

Susan Gruber

### Packaging

Eva Almenar  
Dennis McCullough

### MSUE Directors Office

Aaron Payment

### MSUE Central Region

Rebecca Rosher

### MSUE Southeast Region

James Ribbron  
Christine Rivette  
Kifah Samad

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## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS:

*October 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009*

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**Katherine Alaimo:** 2009 MSU Teacher-Scholar Award  
**Gloria Bateman:** CANR Support Staff of the Month  
**Jim Bingen:** Chevalier d'Ordre du Merite Agricole from the French Government  
**Vera Bitsch:** AAEA Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Awards: Individual - Less than Ten years experience  
**Jean Boynton:** CANR Outstanding Academic Advisor  
**Larry Chapin:** CANR Outstanding Staff Member  
**Larry Copeland:** 2008 Legacy Alumni Award Oregon State University  
**Bert Cregg:** Outstanding Extension Specialist Award at MSUE Fall Conference  
**Jill Cruth:** Thomas and Concettina Gilozzo 2008 Clerical-Technical Recognition Award  
**Diane Davis:** CANR Support Staff of the Month  
**Mohamed El-Gafy:** ASC National Teaching Award  
**Cathy Ernst:** The Ohio State University Outstanding Faculty Award  
**Mary Hausbeck:** Excellence in Extension Award American Phytopathological Society  
**Lee Jacobs:** Michigan Association of Extension Agents Outstanding Specialist Award  
**James Kelly:** Fellow of the Crop Science Society of America  
**Roberta Kilty:** Retirement after 28 years of service  
**Elwood Kirkpatrick:** Honorary Ag Tech Certificate  
**Nancy Leonard:** AFS Distinguished Service Award  
**Frank Lupi:** AAEA Outstanding Poster Presentations 2nd place  
**Lester Manderscheid:** MSU 2007-2008 Award for Outstanding Contributions by an Individual Faculty Emeritus

**Kelly Millenbah:** MSUAA Club of Mid-Michigan Quality in Undergraduate Teaching Award  
**Chuck Nelson:** Keeper of the Great Lakes Award from DEQ, MUCC, and Office of the Great Lakes  
**Karen Plaut:** MSU Outstanding Supervisor Award  
**Warren Rauhe:** 2009 Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service Award-Learning Award and 2008 Raymond D. Vlasin Award for Program Excellence  
**Thomas Reardon:** Appointed to Experts Committee for The Chicago Council on Global Affairs  
**Shawn Riley:** 2008 CANR Excellence in Teaching Award  
**Harlan Ritchie:** Henry A. Wallace Award from Iowa State University and Limousin Promoter of the Year  
**Joan Rose:** The IWA Hei-jin Award  
**Dale Rozeboom:** Michigan Extension Specialist & State Staff Award  
**John Shelle:** Distinguished Service in Study Abroad  
**S. Paul Singh:** Institute of Packaging Professionals College of Fellows  
**David Skole:** Intergovernmental Panel on climate change that contributed to the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the IPCC.  
**Janice Swanson:** University of Connecticut Outstanding Faculty Award  
**John Swartz:** Michigan Bio Innovator of the Year  
**William Taylor:** White Pine Award and MUCC Fisheries Conservationist of the Year  
**Francie Todd:** 2008 NAADA Publications and Projects 2nd place  
**Michael Vandehaar:** Fulbright Scholar Award

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## CANR OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL STAFF AWARDS

### **William (Bill) Chase**

Bill Chase, farm manager at the Horticulture Teaching and Research Center (HRTC), coordinates more than 90 projects at the HRTC from Horticulture, other CANR departments and the USDA. The smooth operation of the farm and the excellent working relationships that Chase fosters are the best evidence of his exemplary performance. Whether finding cost-saving ways to manage the operation, developing a model farm safety program, or fostering team spirit with employee cookouts and pizza parties, he has, through his hard work and dedication, served MSU's faculty and staff members and students with continued excellence. Always looking for new opportunities, Chase established an on-going relationship with the Greater Lansing Food Bank to pick up the extra produce left behind after the growing season. Each year, several tons of fresh produce are now donated to the food bank. His positive attitude, team spirit, frugality, inventiveness and productivity are both admirable and worthy of recognition.

### **Cherie Perkins**

Cherie Perkins is affectionately called "Mom" by those she gets to know in the Food Science and Human Nutrition Career Center, where she serves as a secretary supporting three faculty advisers, the dietetic program coordinator and more than 650 undergraduate students. Often working beyond office hours, she sets an upbeat tone for the entire department with her work ethic and attitude. Her work on a recent accreditation process and support for the student internship program are just two areas where Perkins' talents and temperament made and continue to make a difference. Perkins has created an inviting environment for FSHN students, one factor contributing to an increased number of students declaring majors within the department. She is a passionate student advocate, and her sincerity, warmth, competency and attitude make an impression on both our students' minds and their hearts.

### **Jim L. Brijja**

Jim Brijja, information technologist in ANR Technology Services, challenges the stereotype of his profession. Though he could sit behind his desk and never be seen, Brijja values face-to-face conversation and getting actively involved in your projects. His patience and ability to translate a client's problem into a technological solution have helped many ANR programs succeed. This behind-the-scenes guy is there when you need him, completing his tasks on time and with the highest degree of quality. Regardless of the request, Brijja always takes the time to understand the situation, often adding value to the original idea while patiently explaining the technology to users and bringing them along as they learn new systems. In a world where technology is ever-changing, Brijja's commitment to excellence, team attitude and collaborative contribution are steadfast and true.

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## CANR OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL STAFF AWARDS (CONT.)

### **Julie Moore**

When Julie Moore joined the Department of Animal Science in 2001 as a research assistant, her enthusiasm and willingness to tackle any project were immediately apparent. Over the years, she has gracefully moved from a well-defined position to a newly created one with many responsibilities. Whether supporting faculty members and students in the research lab, teaching a lab section or course, or sharing animal science through the Grandparents University, Moore brings an innovative, enthusiastic and intelligent approach to all that she does. She strives to make learning a quality experience for the student, faculty member, farm manager and all whom she meets. She is innovative and takes the initiative to improve the experience for all involved.

### **Jane Link**

A visit to the non-ruminant and toxicology laboratory provides evidence of Jane Link's commitment to excellence. Throughout her 15-year tenure as a research assistant in the Department of Animal Science, those who work with her soon appreciate her vast knowledge, disciplined preparation, collaboration, leadership and exceptional attention to detail. During a recent reorganization, Link was asked to assume additional responsibilities in the environmental toxicology laboratory. She handled the transition with the utmost professionalism, maintaining excellence in the non-ruminant areas while learning an entirely new discipline. Her refinement of a procedure or development of a new technique saves the department money and time as well as contributes to the scientific literature. She shares her talent and spirit not only with the university community but also with her community as a 4-H volunteer and leader in her faith community. We are all better off because of it.

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## CANR OUTSTANDING STAFF TEAM AWARD

### **MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education**

*Scott Rancour, Marshall Williams, Dean Bloom, Joe Ondrusek,  
Mark Pittman and Rod Stofer*

Serving thousands of people and animals, sometimes within the course of one weekend, is bound to bring unique challenges. But for the MSU pavilion staff, no situation is too hard to handle. The pavilion team -- Scott Rancour, Marshall Williams, Dean Bloom, Joe Ondrusek, Mark Pittman and Rod Stofer -- has a well-deserved reputation for responding positively to any request at any time. This crew is always there to lend a tool, move an auction block, hang a last-minute banner and drive a forklift -- all with a genuine interest in having the event succeed. They understand the value of these programs to the public, the college and the university. In the words of one nominator, "They are great ambassadors for Michigan State University."

### **MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center Team**

*Bob Kreft, Rob West, Gordon Galloway, Bob Story, Bruce Kurzhals and  
Randy Bontrager*

The MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center (DCTRC) team of Bob Kreft, Rob West, Gordon Galloway, Bob Story, Bruce Kurzhals and Randy Bontrager remains constantly committed to giving the cattle the best care possible while satisfying the needs of faculty and staff members and students. At the MSU DCTRC, the animals always come first. From drinking water to clean bedding to a spotless milking parlor, the environment is healthy and safe. This high standard of care was recognized when the MSU DRTRC was the Gold Winner of the 2007 National Dairy Quality Award. This team also prides itself at supporting teaching and learning in the CANR. Many students return to the DCTRC on occasion to say "hello" and nurture lifelong relationships. The team understands and values the research function and their role in advancing knowledge at MSU. As one nominator wrote, "It is the staff's integrity, attention to detail and knowledge of research that makes it possible for all who do research at the DRTRC to produce the type of high quality, peer-reviewed research that MSU is known for."