

# UC Agriculture & Natural Resources

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# Rebuilding for the next 100 years

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Vice President  
Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of California

In 2014 our nation commemorates the 100th anniversary of the founding of Cooperative Extension. For the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR), this is both a year for celebration and for renewal.

As California's land-grant research university, UC, in 1914, was given the task of building the Extension system that the Smith-Lever Act envisioned would propel U.S. agriculture into the modern era. UC ANR embraced that vision with a prophetic belief that scientific knowledge could, indeed, transform California into the world's most successful agricultural producer.

For 100 years, UC Cooperative Extension has served as ANR's "community ambassador," delivering research and education programs in every California county. During this centennial year, we have much to celebrate, thanks to our storied history and the 1,350 dedicated individuals who make UC Cooperative Extension and all of ANR thrive.

Today, we operate nine Research and Extension Centers, 60 county offices and three administrative centers, with more than 11,000 acres, 320 Extension researchers and 650 campus-based academics devoted to sustaining and improving California's agricultural and natural resources.

Through this vast statewide network, ANR delivers practical, science-based information to California growers, ranchers, decision makers and, perhaps most importantly, the people of California.

Through our partnerships with the agricultural community; state, local and federal agencies; and the California State University, we address some of the most pressing problems of our day, including

- researching how to make safe, affordable food available to the world's 7 billion people;
- protecting scarce natural resources;
- building healthy, prosperous communities; and
- educating our future leaders to meet these and tomorrow's challenges.

In many ways ANR functions as UC's 11th campus. We don't grant degrees, but we educate more than 150,000 California young people every year in the California 4-H Youth Development Program. One of the original Cooperative Extension programs, 4-H teaches science, engineering, nutrition, ecology and good citizenship. By participating in 4-H, young people increase their likelihood of graduating from college fivefold.

ANR doesn't operate medical centers, but we work every day to fight childhood obesity and poor nutrition. Our Extension nutrition programs reach more than 222,000 adults and children in 33 counties.

Through UC Cooperative Extension's efforts, over the past three decades California's milk production has increased 44%; its processing tomato yields have increased 69% and almond yields have risen by 122%.

Using ANR-developed technology, California growers save 100,000 acre feet of water a year.

When invasive pests like the Asian citrus psyllid attack crops, ANR fights back with scientific advances in pest management and ongoing research to eradicate the threat.

Even in times of severe budget cutbacks, ANR consistently fulfills its public service responsibilities. The university and ANR have suffered through chronic funding declines that have threatened the quality of our programs and ability to serve the state. Now that California's finances are improving, we must focus on renewal.

Among my highest priorities as vice president is to rebuild the academic footprint of UC Cooperative Extension. To sustain UC's credibility with the people it was created to serve, we must continue to replenish our ranks (see next page) and revitalize programs trimmed during lean budget years.

We also must forge new public-private partnerships and strengthen the ones we have to attract diversified funding sources to our programs.

And we must build collaborations within the UC campuses to take advantage of the multidisciplinary nature of transformative research.

These are some of the challenges that keep me awake at night. We must accomplish these goals and more if UC Cooperative Extension and all of ANR are to contribute another 100 years to the health and vibrancy of the California we all treasure.

For 100 years, UC Cooperative Extension has served as ANR's "community ambassador."



UC ANR researcher checking codling moth trap in a walnut tree at sunrise

## Replenishing ANR's Cooperative Extension academic ranks

The following academic personnel have joined UC ANR since July 2012.

### **Oli Bachie**

Advisor; Imperial, Riverside and San Diego counties

### **Rob Bennaton**

Advisor; Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties  
Director; Alameda and Contra Costa counties

### **Dustin Blakey**

Advisor and Director; Inyo and Mono counties

### **Virginia Bolshakova**

Advisor and Director; San Francisco and San Mateo counties  
Director; Elkus Ranch

### **Gurreet Brar**

Advisor; Fresno and Madera counties

### **Lyn (Rebecca) Brock**

Academic Coordinator; UC Nutrition Education Professional Development Program

### **Sandra Derby**

Academic Coordinator; California Project Learning Tree Program

### **Ryan DeSantis**

Advisor; Shasta, Siskiyou and Trinity counties

### **Dorina M. Espinoza**

Advisor; Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino counties

### **Jim Farrar**

Director; Western IPM Center

### **Julie Finzel**

Advisor; Kern, Kings and Tulare counties

### **Lisa Fischer**

Associate Director; Research and Extension Center System

### **Missy Gable**

Director; Statewide Master Gardener Program

### **Latonya Harris**

Academic Coordinator; Youth, Families and Communities Statewide Program

### **Russell Hill**

Advisor; Madera, Mariposa, Merced and Stanislaus counties

### **Anne Iaccopucci**

Academic Coordinator; 4-H Healthy Living Initiative

### **Jeremy James**

Specialist and Director; Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center

### **Shimat V. Joseph**

Advisor; Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties

### **Susie Kocher**

Advisor; Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado and Tuolumne counties

### **Igor Lacan**

Advisor; Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties

### **Michelle Leinfelder-Miles**

Advisor; Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano and Yolo counties

### **Dani Lightle**

Advisor; Glenn County

### **Bruce Linquist**

Specialist; Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis

### **Mark Lundy**

Advisor; Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties

### **Fadzayi Mashiri**

Advisor; Madera, Mariposa and Merced counties  
Director; Mariposa County

### **JoLynn Miller**

Advisor; Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado and Tuolumne counties

### **Maurice Pitesky**

Specialist; Department of Population Health and Reproduction, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

### **Lorrene Ritchie**

Specialist and Director; Nutrition Policy Institute

### **Drusilla Rosales**

Advisor; Los Angeles and Orange counties

### **Samuel Sandoval Solis**

Specialist and Assistant Professor; Department of Land, Air and Water Resources, UC Davis

### **Noelia Silva-del-Rio**

Specialist; Department of Population Health and Reproduction, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

### **Christopher Smith**

Director; Ventura County  
Director; Hansen Research and Extension Center

### **Martin Smith**

Specialist; Department of Human Ecology and UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

### **Katherine Soule**

Advisor; San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties

### **Alex Souza**

Advisor; Kern and Tulare counties

### **Jeffery Stackhouse**

Advisor; Del Norte and Humboldt counties

### **Kristen Stenger**

Advisor; Fresno and Madera counties

### **Andrew Sutherland**

Advisor; Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties

### **Kris Tollerup**

Advisor; Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center

### **Julia Van Soelen Kim**

Advisor; Marin, Mendocino, Napa and Sonoma counties

### **Guangyao "Sam" Wang**

Specialist and Director; Desert Research and Extension Center