

**From the Department Head**

I trust that you are having a pleasant and successful 2001! The Department is completing the third year of its 5-year strategic plan for the period of 1999-2003. Our plan charts an ambitious course that will enable the Department to be among America's premier universities. Several accomplishments of interest to you and other alumni are highlighted below.

In September, the College of Agricultural Sciences honored Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary **Samuel Hayes** as an Outstanding Alumnus. Secretary Hayes was appointed to this position in 1997 by Governor Tom Ridge to direct the commonwealth's services and activities in support of Pennsylvania agriculture. The Secretary also directs several state regulatory commissions and licensing bodies. From 1970-1992, Hayes was majority leader, majority whip, and minority leader in the Pennsylvania House. As a legislator, he authored or co-authored more than 500 bills and other legislation.

Hayes was a 1988 Penn State Alumni Fellow and he has received the Pennsylvania 4-H Alumni Award and the National 4-H Alumni award. He has also received Honorary FFA degrees from the Pennsylvania FFA Association and the National FFA organization. A Warriors Mark native, Secretary Hayes received his bachelor's (1964) and master's (1967) degrees in agricultural education from Penn State. In addition to interacting with various campus administrators, Secretary Hayes met with students, staff, alumni, and faculty during his time on campus.

Speaking of faculty, our Department is only as strong as its faculty. We continued to make major progress this year in landing three top scholars. In August, **Matt Kaplan**, a former faculty member at Hawaii Pacific University, joined the Department as an associate professor with responsibilities in

aging and intergenerational programming. Although his primary responsibilities are in Extension, Dr. Kaplan has done a commendable job of involving other faculty in his programming. A month later, **Rama Radhakrishna** joined the Department as an associate professor from Clemson University to lead our research and evaluation efforts. Dr. Radhakrishna completed his Ph.D. in our Department before moving to Clemson. The Department also added another faculty member when **Tracy Hoover** returned to Penn State from the University of Florida in June. She is a national leader in teacher education and leadership development. This position resulted from Susie Whittington's resignation to accept a position at Ohio State. Also, a search is underway to fill a new position in service learning and public scholarship. This position is co-funded by the College and the University's Children, Youth, and Families Consortium, a new effort to foster interdisciplinary collaboration. We received this position primarily because our Department's strategic plan charted a clear, contemporary, and progressive future. Finally, congratulations are in order for three faculty members who were promoted or tenured this year. **Tena St. Pierre** was awarded tenure for her excellent work in developing programming to prevent youth from becoming involved with drugs and alcohol. **Connie Flanagan** was promoted to professor for her scholarship in the area of youth civic development. Finally, **Cathy Bowen** was promoted to associate professor for her Extension programming related to consumer issues.

The Department has made significant strides in expanding its funding base beyond state and federal appropriations. Data compiled by the College for 1999-2000 indicated that the Department is now functioning more like



Blannie E. Bowen



## From the Department Head (Continued)

other departments. For this period, the Department received more than \$3 million in external funding, a record for our Department. Also, our external funding total ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the College — there are 12 departments. The external funds are supporting a number of efforts and programs to strengthen our Department.

Given the many positive activities occurring in the Department, it is not surprising that our faculty and students received several major awards this year. **Cathy Bowen** received the prestigious Family Economics and Resource Management Education Award from the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. **Patreece Ingram** received the coveted USDA diversity award for her Extension programming to bring more ethnic and gender diversity to the national Extension system. Several students also received major awards during the College's and the University's research exhibitions. In January, I began a 3-year term as editor of the *Journal of Agricultural Education*, the top research publication in this field.

Finally, this fall the Department will participate in the Penn State Homecoming celebration on November 3. An open house and a special program will be held for our alumni. With the help of the Department's alumni affiliate, the Department will host an open house and a special program to showcase the work of our faculty and students. The program will be held prior to the football game with Southern Mississippi. A block of 50 cherished tickets to the USM football game has been reserved on a first-come basis. Details are listed on page 7 of this newsletter. Please return your reservation form and join us for this special event!

Overall, this has been an excellent year. Several renovations and improvements were made so we offer students from around the globe the best possible education. We attracted new graduate students from five countries. Also, many faculty are involved in significant research and educational projects in several countries. Our enrollment increased while the College had a slight decrease.

Please stop by for a visit because we are striving to make you Penn State proud. Best wishes for a productive and pleasant 2002.

## Contracts and Grants Exceed \$3 Million

During FY 2000 (July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000), our faculty received 33 awards that totaled a record **\$3,138,291**, an amount that far exceeded our previous high of \$2,250,181 achieved in FY 1996 (an increase of \$888,110). These awards were earned by 14 faculty. Perhaps more significant, our total ranked #6 in the College. In FY 1999, our Department received \$1,972,499. Our major FY 2000 awards included \$386,270 to operate our PA Department of Education Center, \$150,000 to support CYFAR programming, and \$150,000 for a research project from the US Department of Education through a consortium based at the University of Minnesota. Our **\$3,138,291** total includes awards processed through the College and awards in other colleges and Intercollege Research Program (IRP) units if an AEE faculty member was listed as the principal investigator or co-principal investigator.



We can expect similar results for FY 2001. Last year our faculty submitted 44 proposals requesting \$13,160,092.

This total far exceeds our previous high of \$9,726,359 requested in FY 1998 through 27 proposals. Our requested total includes proposals submitted through the College and proposals submitted through other colleges and IRP units. A special thank you is in order to all faculty who engaged in efforts to secure funding to support our Extension, research, and teaching efforts.

## Career Milestones for 3 Faculty

Three of our faculty have achieved significant milestones in their careers: (1) **Tena St. Pierre** has been awarded tenure, (2) **Connie Flanagan** has been promoted to professor, and (3) **Cathy Bowen** has been promoted to associate professor. Congratulations Tena, Connie, and Cathy. We are proud of your many excellent contributions to Penn State and externally.

## New Faculty Member

A new faculty member joined our Department on June 1 after an extensive national search chaired by Dennis Scanlon. **Tracy Hoover** joined the Department as an associate professor with primary responsibility for teacher education and leadership development. She will teach both undergraduate and graduate courses and conduct externally funded research to support her teaching.

Dr. Hoover joins the Department from the University of Florida where she was an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication. She received her Ph.D. from our Department. Prior to assuming her faculty position at Florida, she held a temporary position in our Department. Dr. Hoover became a nationally recognized faculty member while in her former position. She received a prestigious USDA teaching award in testament to her excellence as an instructor. Dr. Hoover also served on an external team that provided the impetus for our new leadership development undergraduate minor that was approved last year.



*Tracy S. Hoover*

She moves to Penn State with her husband (Ron) and their two daughters. Ron has assumed a position in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences where he will provide major leadership for the College's efforts in sustainable agriculture. Dr. Hoover will be a major addition as she focuses her scholarship and becomes an even stronger national leader in her areas of specialization. Welcome Tracy.

## Sabbatical Leave Announced

**Connie Flanagan**, who was recently promoted to professor, will be on sabbatical leave for 2001-02. She will be engaged in various scholarly activities and complete a book-length manuscript on the developmental foundations of social trust in civil society.

## International Activities

Several faculty in the Department engaged in major efforts recently to improve agricultural and extension education around the globe. In May, **Dennis Scanlon** participated in a study tour to China to learn more about agriculture systems in that country. He will now integrate his new knowledge into his teaching and research activities. **Connie Flanagan** and **Tsakani Ngomane**, a native of South Africa, recently returned from a trip to South Africa to continue their efforts to have youth in that country improve their civic development and functioning. **Tom Bruening** left in May for a trip to South Africa to continue his instructional methodology work with colleagues in that country. Finally, **Harry Carey** is spending the summer in Zimbabwe working with colleagues to improve the competence of communications and extension professionals. Harry and his colleagues are working on various projects and activities. Collectively, these efforts will enable our faculty to better instruct Penn State students so they can function in an increasingly global society.



## McDowell Lecture

The 2000 McDowell Lecture was presented on November 15 in the President's Hall at the Penn Stater Hotel by Christopher James Dede, the Timothy Wirth Professor in Learning Technologies and Director of the Technology in Education Program at Harvard. The lecture is named for Mickey McDowell, a former director of Penn State Cooperative Extension. The title of his lecture was "Integrating Learning Technologies Into Educational Outreach." The lecture is scheduled during the annual Extension conference so county staff, administrators, and faculty can attend. Dede has published extensively on the use of technology in education. He is widely regarded as one of the top scholars in the learning technology area.

## AEE Fulbright Scholars

In 1946, a program was started to globalize higher education by inviting international students to study in the U.S. and allow U.S. students to study abroad. This program is known as the Fulbright fellowship/scholarship. The Department was enriched this year with two recipients of this award, **Krishan Bheenick** and **Tsakani Ngomane**.

Krishan, a doctoral candidate from the island of Mauritius, works in the area of “Web-based” information systems as tools for agricultural development. Mauritius is located in the Indian Ocean east of Madagascar. Krishan was on a nine-month (2-semester) non-degree program offered by Fulbright to graduate students.

Krishan endured a rigorous selection process that took place in the country before a few candidates’ applications were forwarded to the U.S. coordinators to match them with the appropriate university. Krishan had the opportunity to choose three schools in which to study. Krishan was in the U.S. to study the history of Cooperative Extension and how it operates. He is also interested in the direction Cooperative Extension is heading with the use of new information and communication technologies such as the Web. Needless to say, Krishan’s knowledge, work ethic, positive attitude, culture, and scholarship have improved the graduate experience in our Department. His experience at PSU was “enriching in appreciating the social dimensions of technology application.” He will continue working on this research area in Mauritius after spring semester. Best wishes to Krishan.



*Tsakani Ngomane and Krishan Bheenick*

The Fulbright program receives many applications, but only 5% are supported. Tsakani saw this program as the opportunity to obtain her Ph.D. and build on her scholarly experiences in the United States. As a working mother in extension in South Africa, she had a curiosity about the Extension program in the U.S., particularly in youth development. Tsakani’s doctoral program at Penn State is in the area of youth civic development. She received the maximum grant offered by Fulbright, a 2-year all-expense paid non-degree scholarship with the option of completing a degree while attending the university. Outside sponsors or the university can provide additional funding toward her doctoral program. Tsakani contributes to many of the graduate students, faculty, and the Department with her abundant experiences. She also provides scholarly work and an international perspective to Cooperative Extension in the U.S. She stated, “The Fulbright and PSU will provide achievement of my life-long goals, professional and academic status, and the opportunity to be an ambassador for South Africa.”

## Polish Extension Visit

Extension family living agents from Poland visited the Department on September 27. They held a seminar on rural policy and the extension system in Poland, general characteristics of rural areas in Poland, local authorities’ role in changes in rural areas, and tourism as an element of multi-functional rural development. **Jan Scholl** assisted with the coordination of this seminar and **Phil Hoy** and **Brenda Holcomb** assisted with the room and audio visual set-up.

Special thanks to **Danny Perkins**, **Joan Thomson**, **Barbara Wade**, **Dick Poorbaugh**, **Debra Gregory**, and **Jan Scholl** for hosting and housing 11 extension faculty, elected officials, and administrators from Poland on September 27 and 28. In addition to the seminar given on September 27, they also toured many sites in the local area, and throughout Pennsylvania and New York state.

## New Staff Member in AEE

**Linda Fetzer** has accepted the position of Project Assistant and Outreach Coordinator for the AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians project. Linda has worked with the project through Easter Seals of State College for a number of years. She will be working with **Connie Baggett** on this project. The many skills she brings to this position include diligence, intelligence, thoroughness, and attention to detail. Linda began her position on May 1. She and her husband had a son on June 30. Welcome Linda.



# Alumni News

## 1930s

**John G. Huda** (AG ED, '32, B.S.). Retired as teacher of vo. ag., Lackawanna Trail School District, Factoryville, PA.

## 1940s

**Raymond J. Jacobs, Jr.** (AG ED, '41, B.S.). Retired 20 years ago with 40 years of service with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Thomas H. Heim** (AG ED, '42, B.S.). Retired Poultry Research Manager for Purdue University (1972-1987). Assisted in Space Chicks in Louisville, KY in March of 1989. Married with two daughters, a son, four grandsons, and one granddaughter.

**Donald J. McKeeby** ('49). Retired from teaching at Leesburg High School after 24 years. Has 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

## 1950s

**Jake Javornik** (AG ED, '50, B.S.; EDADM, '64, M.Ed.). Retired 1988—38 years teaching Ag.—Penns Manor Schools, Indiana County. Serving now as chairman — Indiana County Conservation District. Received Rotary Club Paul Harris Award in 1988. Serves now on the State Environment Committee.

**Paul G. Benchoff** (AG ED, '50, B.S.). Retired vo-ag teacher, Wayneboro Area 87. Now Township Supervisor and Township Municipal Authority Boards.

**Andrew B. Stoner** (AG ED, '51, B.S.). Retired in 1985, M.Ed. Pitt (56). Four children and 8 grandchildren.

**Donald E. Hoke** (AG ED, '52, B.S.). Retired 1983 from Corning, NY, schools. Moved to West Virginia in 1985. On call substitute teacher at Martinsburg High School since 1989.

**John G. Myers** (AG ED, '53). Taught vo-ag 31 years at Red Lion Area High School. Has accounting & tax service business with his wife and two sons. Total of four children and eight grandchildren. Last 11 years was Director for the York County Soil Conservation District.

**James T. Troutman** (AG ED, '54, B.S.). Retired from Big Spring High School. Four children (all PSU graduates), 8 grandchildren (grandson Adam—freshman in PSU Food Science Department).

**Herbert Hoffritz** (AG ED, '58, B.S.). Recently retired from U.S. Naval Academy as a Model Maker.

**Warren R. Dutrow** (AG ED, '58, B.S., '61, M.S.). Retired August 1993.

**Robert D. Reinsel** (AG ED, '59, B.S.). Retired from Economic Research Service, USDA, after 35 years of service.

**Marlin A. Wolfe** (AG ED, '59, B.S.). Retired after teaching vo-ag for seven years and high school counselor for 26 years at Upper Dauphin Area High School.

## 1960s

**Charles E. Doolittle** (AG ED, '61, B.S.). Retired from high school science teaching.

**Richard W. Tenney** (AG ED, '67, M.Ed., '69, Ph.D.). Retired from Cornell as of January 1, 1999. Doing a lot of travel—Lithuania, Poland, Spain, Australia, New Zealand—to do Volunteer in Mission work and visiting friends.

**P. Timothy Vought** (AG ED, '68, B.S., '74, M.Ed.). Teacher of ag. science at Rockwood Area High School—123 ag science students in grades 8-12.

## 1970s

**William R. Clouser** (AG ED, '75, B.S.). New Position: Nutrient Management Program Coordinator with the PA State Conservation Commission.

**Craig E. Altemose** (AG ED, '78, B.S.). May 1999—M.S. degree in Plant and Soil Science from The University of Vermont. Promoted to Assistant Professor for University of Vermont Extension.

## 1980s

**A. Ronald Attarian** (AG ED, '80, Ph.D.). New position in August 1999 as Principal, Murray Avenue School (Grades 4-8), Lower Moreland Township School District, Huntingdon Valley, PA.

**Donna M. Neuffer-Martin** (AG ED, '87, B.S.). Marriage—September 18, 1999 to Dave N. Martin. Dave works as a forecaster at the National Weather Service, State College office.

**Laurel S. Reid (Hoffman)** (AG SC, '87, B.S.). Married in 1995. Working for Armstrong Conservation District as of February 2000 as Agricultural Conservation Technician and Nutrient Management Specialist.

*Continued on Page 6*

## Alumni News



### 1980s (continued)

**Michael A. Fidanza** (AG SC, '87, B.S.). New Position as Assistant Professor of Horticulture-Turfgrass Ecology at Penn State's Berks-Lehigh Valley College in Reading, PA.

**John Samuel Byers** (AG ED, '88, B.S.). Married 1992—Kristin M. Hartman. Has three children and has taught at Chambersburg Jr. High Ag. Ed. since 1998.

**Jacqueline A. Buchanan** (AG SC, '88, B.S.). Farm Loan Specialist for Farm Service Agency (USDA) Wyoming State Office.

**Deborah Darwin** (AG SC, '88, B.S.). President of Needlepoint Farm, Inc. Designer of new product for the Horse Industry released June 2000. Caution Horses Sign Seriesä  
[www.cautionhorses.com](http://www.cautionhorses.com).

**David Stratton** (EXTED, '89, M.Ed.). County Executive Director for Potter-McKean-Cameron Farm Service Agency. Recently had the birth of 5th child in June.



### 1990s

**Catherine Brooks** (AG ED, '90, B.S., '92, M.S.). New position as executive director for Ramy Brooks Educational Alliance (ReBAL) which offers motivational education programs using life in Alaska, Alaska Native heritage traditions, and the sport of dog mushing as the tools.

**Ronda Roemmelt Prokopchak** (AG SC, '95, B.S.). Married in 1999 to Michael Prokopchak. Working as a commercial sales/estimator at Child's Landscape in Annapolis, MD.

**Jayne (Hess) Sebright** (AG SC, '95, B.S.). First baby boy born on July 24. She is now an independent communications consultant for Land O'Lakes, Inc. and writes for several ag. publications.

**Shana (Elliott) Dowlin** (AG ED, '96, B.S.) Married Patrick Dowlin on April 15 and started a new position as Student Service Learning Coordinator at the Ambridge Area School District.

## Immediate Tenure Awarded

Two individuals have been awarded immediate tenure in the Department. **Cathy Love**, associate dean for undergraduate education and executive director of Penn State's Academic Advancement Programs (AAP), has been granted tenure and becomes a professor in the Department. The AAP group is charged to research, advocate, and develop programs and services that assist undergraduate students in achieving their goals at Penn State. Emphasis is placed on affirming the University's standards for academic performance, increasing retention of targeted undergraduate student populations, and enhancing the commitment to multiculturalism throughout the Penn State community. Cathy directs a host of federal and state programs (Upward Bound, McNair Scholars, Talent Search, Migrant Assistance, etc). She joined Penn State in 1999 from Colorado State where she was an associate dean. Her background is in family and consumer sciences. Two major teaching awards she won at New Mexico State provide an indication of her teaching effectiveness. Cathy has disseminated an array of works through refereed journals and conferences. She is a national leader who has many excellent collaborations with extension educators. Cathy will give a presentation at a faculty/staff meeting to discuss her work and how she might collaborate with individuals in the Department.

**Tracy Hoover**, an associate professor at the University of Florida who filled the Department's teacher education faculty position on June 1, has been awarded tenure. Tracy is an outstanding teacher and researcher who has mentored many secondary teachers, extension professionals, and other scholars.

Drs. Hoover and Love received their doctorates from Penn State. All in the Department extend a warm and hardy welcome to these two outstanding professionals.

## Recent Graduates

Last summer, fall, and this spring, the Department graduated several excellent students in various programs offered through the Department. In the summer, one student each from Agricultural and Extension Education and Agricultural Science graduated. During fall commencement, several undergraduates received degrees in Agricultural and Extension Education (1) and Agricultural Science (5). In the spring, the Department graduated seven undergraduates in Agricultural and Extension Education and seven in Agricultural Science. One student received a master's degree. Congratulations to all new graduates. Thanks to all alumni for referring students to the Department. If you know potential students who will make excellent Penn State students, contact **Dennis Scanlon**, our undergraduate coordinator, or **Joan Thomson**, our graduate coordinator.



# 2001 AEE Homecoming Extravaganza

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PSU Class Year & Major (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Football Seating Needs: \_\_\_\_\_ Wheelchair \_\_\_\_\_ Companion  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please explain)

Dietary Needs (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Other Necessary Accommodations (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) as you wish it to appear on name badge (please print or type): \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY	NUMBER	PRICE	AMOUNT
Saturday, November 3* Football Tickets (Block Seating) Southern Mississippi vs. Penn State		\$40.00	
Tailgate Lunch		\$10.00	
	<b>Order Total</b>		

*\* Football ticket orders (limit of 2 tickets) will be processed on a first come basis and only for those making lunch reservations. Time of game to be announced later.*

**NOTES:** All persons, regardless of age, must have a ticket to enter Beaver Stadium.  
You will receive written confirmation of your registration.  
All tickets will be distributed at the Extravaganza in 301 Ag. Admin. Building on game day.

**Make Checks Payable to "Penn State University" and Mail Form to:**  
  
**Blannie E. Bowen, Department of Ag. & Extension Education, Penn State University**  
323 Ag. Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802  
(Tel: 814-865-1688; Fax: 814-863-4753; E-mail: bxb1@psu.edu)

**Homecoming Extravaganza Reservations Must Be Received by:**  
**\*\*\*September 14, 2001\*\*\***

## Alumni News: We Want to Hear from You!



Dept. of Agricultural and Extension Education, Attn: Alumni Newsletter, The Pennsylvania State University, 323 Ag Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802

or



Go to our web site at <http://agexted.cas.psu.edu> and click on "Send us your news" at the bottom of the page.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class of \_\_\_\_\_ Degree(s), major \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Your news: new positions, promotions, degree(s), births of children, recognitions, retirements, marriages, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Department of Agricultural and Extension Education**  
**College of Agricultural Sciences**  
**The Pennsylvania State University**  
**323 Ag. Administration Building**  
**University Park, PA 16802**



Non-profit organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
State College, PA  
Permit #1