

EXTENSION

Comings & Goings

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN FOR EXTENSION

Extension Launches a Long Range Planning Effort

The launching of a long-range planning effort for Florida Extension was announced at the last Administrative Council meeting. This effort is labeled Shaping Solutions for Florida's Future. All faculty members are encouraged to listen to the [introductory video](#) that provides an overview of the goals and process for our planning effort.

It has been more than 5 years since we have looked at our programmatic priorities. Considering our budget situation, advancements in technology and emerging issues, it is time to take a fresh look at our priorities. A faculty/administrator steering committee has been appointed to guide this effort. They have developed a webpage that provides resources for faculty and administrators (<http://pdec.ifas.ufl.edu/lrp>).

Stay tuned for more information on Shaping Solutions for Florida's Future.

Video Presentation by Keith Diem

In October, Extension welcomed a new Associate Dean for 4-H Youth Development, Dr. Keith Diem. Now that he has settled into his position somewhat, we've asked him to share a few of his thoughts on 4-H in 2011:

http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/comingg oings_diem_dec2010/index.htm

(Flash streaming video requires [Flash Player](#) and DSL or faster internet connection)

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Professional Scheduling

Every so often, a discussion of what “professional scheduling” means is re-kindled among our county extension faculty. Let’s revisit this subject once again so we can all be on the same page. Professional scheduling is the responsibility you accept to control your own work schedule to: best meet the needs of your clientele; achieve a balance between professional and personal time; and attain stability that is healthy for both you and our organization.

Relative to your work schedule, we expect you to: meet your extension program objectives; balance your schedule; be flexible in your scheduling during peak times (lunch hours, evenings, weekends) in order to achieve the greatest success; and consider both state and county policies. (UF faculty do not qualify for compensatory time).

Here is a guide to the use of professional scheduling:

- You are accountable for your own time. Do your job, do it well, and everything will be just fine.
- Take “professional time” off at the convenience of both the organization and the individual.
- Scheduling work activities outside of “normal” work hours is at your discretion, keeping in mind your program’s educational objectives.
- If you work excessive nighttime and weekend hours, you should schedule some personal time...but not on an “hour-per-hour” basis.
- Notify your immediate supervisor before taking time off that would normally be considered “professional time.”
- You and your supervisor will not negotiate a specific number of hours or days off in lieu of professional scheduling.
- It is your CED’s and DED’s responsibility to clarify expectations with county government regarding the roles and responsibilities of county extension faculty.

To summarize, all faculty are responsible for developing and maintaining their professional calendar. Your goal

is to maintain a suitable balance between your professional and personal life, while ensuring successful extension programming. Use good judgment, otherwise known as common sense. When in doubt, consult your immediate supervisor.

(Contact: [Thomas Obreza](#), Interim Associate Dean for Extension)

Meet Your Specialist

Dennis Calvin Odero, Ph.D. Everglades REC - Belle Glade, Email: dcodero@ufl.edu Tel: (561) 993-1500

Dennis Odero came to the University of Florida from the University of Wyoming where he was a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the Department of Plant Sciences. His specialty is weed science in row crops and non-crop areas and he also takes a special interest in agronomic practices for crop production. In 2008, he received his Ph.D. degree in agronomy from the University of Wyoming.



"I was born in Homa Bay, Kenya which is a town on the shores of Lake Victoria. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya in 1997. I worked with private companies that were offering crop protection services to growers in Kenya. In the fall of 2003, I joined the University of Wyoming as a graduate student in the Department of Plant Sciences. I graduated with a MS in Agronomy in 2005 and continued on to pursue a doctoral degree in

Agronomy at the same institution, which I completed in 2008. My graduate research work was on weed management systems for sugarbeet in Wyoming. After completion of my doctorate degree, I was employed as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the same department until my relocation to the University of Florida."

An Energy Efficiency Program in Pinellas County

Pinellas County Extension received an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant from the Department of Energy (\$520,000) for the development of the Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project (PEEP). The project includes providing research-based information on energy efficiency to the public, various products to implement energy savings and tracking of the energy saved. One hour classes are provided and each participant receives a comprehensive energy efficiency kit, valued at \$200. The kits contain 15 CFLs, weather stripping, a low-flow shower head and faucet aerator, an LED night light, window insulation kits and switch-plate insulation. During the class, participants examine how energy is used in the home, how it is wasted, and how to reduce energy consumption while still enjoying the same quality of life. To date, over 21,000 CFLs have been distributed at outreach activities and at program classes. The CFLs alone represent a savings of more than 14 million kWh over the lifetime of these long-lasting bulbs, as well as \$2M in energy savings. In addition, this savings reflects a reduction of the greenhouse gas, CO₂, by more than 10,000 metric tons*. Extension believes that by providing people with the facts and a little incentive, we can realize a significant county-wide energy conservation strategy. *Source: US EPA and US DOE CFL Calculator. (Contact: [Ramona Madhosingh-Hector](#), Urban Sustainability Agent, Pinellas County)

Home Improvement Seeks Training from Pasco Extension

Because of a successful partnership, the manager of a local home improvement store, the manager is looking to Pasco Extension Horticulture to facilitate training for their garden center employees. Accurately identifying pest and disease problems, timing of pruning, and fertilization are some of the key questions asked of the national chain's employees. Training begins in February with pest identification and problem-solving as the first training topic. This topic was identified as one of the most challenging based on employee feedback. Training is expected to occur three times in 2011. The store's manager has cited "fewer inappropriate chemical recommendations, more accurate responses to customer problems, higher satisfaction rates and fewer product returns" as reasons for the requested training by UF/IFAS faculty. [Contact: [BJ Jarvis](#), Pasco Extension]

Beginning the Next 75 Years

On December 9, 2010, the Charlotte County Extension Service held its 75th Anniversary celebration with an event at the old historic Punta Gorda courthouse where a portrait of the first Extension Agent in Charlotte County, the late Mr. N. H. "Doc" McQueen, was dedicated. Present to unveil his portrait were his sons Robert "Bucky" and John David McQueen and family. Others on hand included Master Gardeners, 4-H Leaders and members, Master Naturalists, Charlotte County Commissioners, a representative from Congressman Tom Rooney's office, our District Extension Director, and other well wishers. Specific efforts to promote this event included a public proclamation before the Board of County Commissioners, a series of articles in the local paper, live radio interviews, a UF/IFAS Communication Services produced DVD and this final closing event. These efforts alone reached an estimated 33% of Charlotte County residents or approximately 50,490 people. As we begin the next 75 years of Extension in Charlotte County, we look back to our past at the first Agricultural Extension Agent, Mr. N. H. "Doc" McQueen, who served with the County for more than 30 years. Mr. McQueen's legacy, and the work of those

Agents who followed him, have all contributed to where we are today. The UF/IFAS Extension Service, in partnership with Charlotte County, continues to provide residents with research-based, unbiased information in Agriculture, Horticulture, 4-H Youth Development and Sea Grant programming. Charlotte County Extension - our tradition, our mission! (Ralph Mitchell – ralph.mitchell@charlottefl.com)



Shop, Eat, and Learn!

Sarasota County Extension is collaborating on a multi-platform partnership with Sarasota’s Phillippi Farmhouse Market, managed by Sarasota County Parks and Recreation and Friends of Sarasota County Parks. Sarasota County Extension was instrumental in the formation of Sarasota’s “only weekday farmer’s market,” now in its second year. Food and produce vendors at Phillippi Farmhouse Market are required to be growers to support the market’s mission of promoting local agriculture. In November 2010, Sarasota County Extension developed a website for the market (www.farmhousemarket.org) with an integrated weekly newsletter and blog. The website and weekly updates provide information about what’s fresh at the market and introduce readers to the county’s farm community, supporting economic development related to agriculture in Sarasota. In addition to promoting the market through electronic media, Sarasota County Extension launched a new series of Extension courses on market days so Sarasota residents and visitors can combine their shopping and dining at the market with Extension education! Attendance at the classes has been strong and

includes many “walk-ins”—indicating that this initiative is bringing new awareness about Extension to the community. [Contact: Dr. Robert Kluson, Sarasota County Extension, rkluson@scgov.net]

New Faculty

Please welcome the following new faculty:

Deborah Kellie Duke (dkellieduke@ufl.edu), Courtesy 4-H EA I, Highlands County, 1/3/11

Michael Jensen (jensenm@ufl.edu), CED and EA III, Highlands County, 1/7/11

Cassandra Weston (crweston@ufl.edu), 4-H EA I, Miami-Dade County, 1/7/11

Gabriela Murza (polo12@ufl.edu), FCS/4-H EA I, Osceola County, 1/10/11

Matthew Orwalt (mjorwat@ufl.edu), Hort EA I, Washington County, 1/14/11

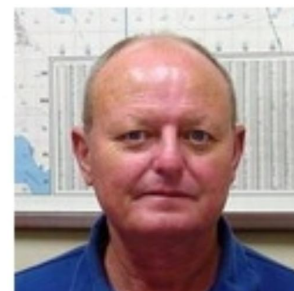
Resignation

We would like to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their future endeavors:

Christina Pryor, 4-H EA I, Desoto County, 1/1/2011

Cathleen Feser, Courtesy Urban Hort EA I, Collier County, 1/25/11

Retirement



After many years of service and dedication C. Randy Bateman (Osceola County Courtesy Ag/Livestock Extension Agent I) has retired. We want to thank him for

all of his contributions to UF/IFAS Extension.

Extension Comings and Goings is a monthly newsletter of the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the Extension web site at <http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu>. If you have any suggestions or would like to submit your own recognition or short article of interest, please send them to Liz Rossen at lizann@ufl.edu.
