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Iowa State Agriculture and Life Sciences

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AURELIO CURBELO RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD

Aurelio CurbeLO (‘02 ag and life sciences education, MS ‘06), minority liaison officer for the multicultural programs office in the college, received the 2010 Veishesa Leadership Award for Excellence. The award recognizes faculty and staff who have been instrumental in improving leadership on campus. CurbeLO works with students to promote diversity, facilitate internship opportunities and encourage research experiences in agriculture, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

HEarty HELLOS

Jennifer BousseLOT (‘01 plant health and protection, ‘03 MS sustainable agriculture), joined the horticulture department as a lecturer and coordinator of the Iowa Master Gardener Program.

Jay Lampe (‘01 animal science, ‘04 MS) is the manager of the swine farms overseeing the swine teaching, nutrition and research farms.

FONd FAREWELLS

Mary de Baca, director of college diversity programs, retired in August after 51 years at Iowa State University. She served on the faculty in human development and family studies and became involved in international agriculture programs in the early 1990s.

Robert Jolly, professor in economics, retired after a 31-year career at Iowa State. In addition to his research, teaching, extension and international work in the department, Jolly served in various administrative roles for the college and university.

Jon Tollefson (’75 PhD entomology), professor and former chair in the entomology department retired in June. Tollefson joined Iowa State in 1975 and specialized in research on the management of the corn rootworm.

For a complete list of new faculty and staff in the college visit www.ag.iastate.edu/stories.

PROF JOINS RANKS OF TOP ANIMAL SCIENTISTS

Don Beitz (‘67 PhD dairy science) received the Frank Barron Morrison Award in July at the American Society of Animal Science conference. Beitz, an Iowa State animal science and biochemistry distinguished professor, received the honor for outstanding research that is important in livestock production. He is the sixth Iowa State professor to receive the honor since Jay Lush, an Iowa State animal science professor, first received it in 1946.

BIRRELL AND WHITE RECEIVE NEW PATENTS

Stuart Birrell, agricultural and biosystems engineering, was issued a patent in June for “Air Movement Unit for Biomass Conveyance, Separation or Combine Performance Enhancement.” Pamela White (‘81 PhD food technology), food science and human nutrition, received a patent issued in May for “Terpene Ester Compounds as Autoxidation Inhibitors for Frying Oils.”

RECENTLY NAMED TO ENDOWED POSITIONS

- Lance Baumgard, animal science, Norman L. Jacobson Endowed Professorship in Dairy Science
- Suzanne Hendrich, University Professor, Charlotte E. Roderick Faculty Fellow in Food Science and Human Nutrition
- Joseph Sebranek, animal science and food science and human nutrition, Morrison Chair in Meat Science
- Jan Thompson, natural resource ecology and management, Harmon Family Professor in Forestry

INAUGURAL KOLMER AWARD PRESENTED TO MALLARINO AND TIMMRS

Antonio Mallarino (MS ‘81 agronomy, ‘88 PhD), soil fertility professor and extension specialist, and Leo Timms, animal science professor and dairy extension specialist, received the Dean Lee R. Kolmer Award for Excellence in Applied Research. The new award, made possible by a gift from Lee and Jean Kolmer, recognizes faculty and staff within the college who have made significant contributions to improving the welfare of the people of Iowa through applied research.

FACULTY NAMED FELLOWS OF NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Steven Hoff, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
- David Hennessy (‘93 PhD economics), Agricultural and Applied Economics Association
- Maynard Hogberg (’66 ag education, MS ’72 animal science, PhD ’76), American Society of Animal Science
- John Patience, American Society of Animal Science

A LEGEND INDUCTED INTO MEAT INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME

Professor emeritus Bob Rust, animal science, is one of 12 “legends” chosen as the Meat Industry’s best of the best. Rust was inducted into the Meat Industry Hall of Fame Class of 2010 in October. Rust developed the meat science extension program at Iowa State including the development of the processed meat short courses.
MOVING FROM CHICAGO’S SOUTH SIDE TO AMES, IOWA WAS A CULTURE SHOCK FOR BRIAN CASTRO.

“I could hear myself breathe,” says Castro, a sophomore with a double major in animal science and global resource systems. In Chicago, the third largest city in the nation, traffic, people and noise are a constant. Castro says it took a while to get used to the open horizons and acres of corn.

Immersing himself into new situations isn’t something new for Castro. He’s a first generation American and his first language is Spanish. His parents moved from Mexico to pursue the American dream in Chicago before he was born. Castro says he often surprises others when he answers his cell phone and speaks fluent Spanish.

“When people first meet me—they hardly notice that I have an accent,” Castro says. “Then my phone rings and I speak Spanish a hundred-miles a minute.”

In high school, he was an avid fan of the FFA. He says the FFA taught him valuable leadership and communication skills. During his senior year he served as president of the FFA chapter, which is the largest in Illinois and the fourth largest in the United States.

Being involved is important, Castro says, and he leads by example. Castro is the president of the Iowa State chapter of the Minorities in Agriculture and Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS). In October, he helped organize a welcome breakfast for the largest ag career fair in the nation.

Castro also serves as the treasurer for the Latino Heritage Committee. The group celebrated Latino Heritage month in September with a parade of flags, dances, dinners and a fiesta.

“We like to show people what our heritage is about, so we host events to celebrate our Latin background,” Castro says.

From picking up cans at tailgates for charity to cleaning up the Skunk River, service and involvement top Castro’s list.

Last summer, Castro took another cultural plunge and joined a group of his peers in Uganda as part of the ISU-Makerere University Uganda Service Learning Program. He says the experience broadened his understanding about the problems related to nutrition throughout the world.

“Now, I want to focus my studies on international nutrition,” Castro says, “especially protein deficiency in children.”