

**SPECIAL
EDITION**

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University of Florida, IFAS, Citrus Research and Education Center

Out-Going and In-Coming



Shelby Graham and Dr. Harold Browning



Dr. Jackie Burns and Christen Johnson

On April 10, 2009, a new beginning started for Dr. Harold Browning, Shelby Graham, Dr. Jackie Burns, and Christen Johnson.

Dr. Browning resigned his position as Center Director and Professor at CREC and as the IFAS Citrus Coordinator for the state. He and his wife, Nancy, are traveling west to Yellowstone National Park, where Dr. Browning will return to his original interests: biology and applied ecology.

Shelby Graham has decided to pursue interests of another kind. She looks forward to spending more time with her family and catching up on those things “we’ve always said we wanted to do.”

Dr. Jackie Burns has now assumed the position as Interim Center Director and Professor and also the IFAS Citrus Coordinator for the state. “Harold has provided outstanding leadership as Center Director and Citrus Coordinator for IFAS, and we intend for that leadership to continue with Dr. Burns,” stated Dr. Larry Arrington, Interim Senior Vice President of IFAS in his interview with Citrus Industry Magazine.

Christen Johnson, formerly with CREC’s Public Relations Department, accepted the position as Administrative Assistant in the Center Director’s Office.

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DR. HAROLD BROWNING RESIGNS AFTER 12 YEARS AS CREC CENTER DIRECTOR



Dr. Harold Browning
Center Director and Professor

For the past 12 years, Dr. Harold Browning has been the Center Director for CREC and the Statewide Coordinator of Citrus Research in Florida. In addition to evaluation and management of citrus faculty research programs, and the CREC budget, Dr. Browning has been an effective

promoter of CREC programs throughout the citrus industry and other governmental and environmental agencies. He forged strong relationships between the CREC and the University of Florida, with IFAS, and with clients in the agricultural and urban communities. He has overseen the development of CREC into one of the premiere units at UF/IFAS. Under Dr. Browning's guidance, CREC has become a worldwide Center of Excellence for citrus research, teaching, and extension in citrus production, pest and disease management, harvesting, postharvest, processing, food safety, and marketing.

Dr. Browning came to CREC via California and Texas in 1988 and developed a research program on citrus biological control using natural enemy organisms, pest insects, and citrus trees to implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) system. His research emphasized population ecology, insect parasitoid biology, and natural predators. Dr. Browning also had a shared faculty assignment with the USDA, Cooperative State Research Service for several years to promote the national coordination of biological control research, education, and policy between the State Agricultural Experiment System and other agencies with interests in Integrated Pest Management. His commitment to research, teaching, and extension resulted in his mentoring 14 graduate students and garnering more than \$20 million in extramural funding as a PI or program coordinator. In addition, more than 50 refereed research publications, numerous book

chapters, and grower oriented publications have arisen from his work. Harold Browning was the 2006 recipient of the Honor Society of Agriculture and Agricultural Sciences Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Leadership Award of Merit.



SHELBY GRAHAM RETIRES FROM CENTER DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On March 27 a reception was held with Mrs. Shelby Graham as the guest of honor, after 12.5 years as the Administrative Assistant for the Center Director. Shelby was joined at CREC by her family and friends.

Many of those who have known Shelby have dubbed her "Our Own Southern Belle." Magnolia blossoms, greenery, and of course a little Gator Blue and Orange, decorated the room. Shelby has been an inspiration for many, mentor to others, advisor, friend, and teacher. She has the respect of faculty and staff alike.

As part of the afternoon's celebration, Dr. Ron Brlansky shared his internet search of "Shelby Graham." The three ladies from the Business Office, Jill McDonald, Lorraine Jones, and Alta Church, presented gifts which included a day at the spa, a pedicure, manicure, a journal with everyone's personal well wishes written



Shelby Graham



Dr. Ron Brlansky

Shelby continued on page 3



Dr. Fred Gmitter and Margie Wendell

inside, and Lorraine Jones made the special gift of a handmade "Gator" quilt. The entire Center participated with the photos that became part of a scrapbook.

The program continued with Dr. Duncan asking who had anything to share about Shelby and almost everyone stood and joined the line to express their personal feelings about Shelby. Dr. Fred Gmitter told a story about as a child being sent to the principal's office and after coming out of the office feeling pretty downtrodden, there would be Miss Willow to make everything feel better. "You're my Miss Willow," Gmitter said to Shelby. That sentiment was shared by other faculty as well, after being called to task by the Director. "Shelby's smile and positive attitude always made us feel better," they said.

Shelby, our sincere thanks and best wishes for your retirement.



Dr. Larry Duncan



THE CITRUS INDUSTRY HONORS DR. HAROLD BROWNING

On April 2, 2009, representatives from allied citrus industry groups, fellow researchers, friends, and family came together to honor Dr. Harold Browning for his accomplishments with both CREC and the industry. More than 200 guests attended Browning's send-off, of which, Dr. Browning has worked with in one capacity or another. In addition, many IFAS deans and department heads joined in the well wishes extended to Dr. Browning.

Originally only planning on the Center Director's position for 5 years, Dr. Browning spent the last 12 years working hard and long hours and has accomplished much for UF/IFAS/CREC, Florida Citrus Growers, and other areas of the citrus industry. After 20 years at CREC, he has decided to take a new career direction.

In an interview with Gary Cooper of Southeast AgNet, Dr. Browning stated, "Well you know time flies when you're having fun, so years have passed and it's time to be looking at new opportunities, so I'm looking forward to moving on to a new page in my career and with some trepidation about leaving a job that I've really enjoyed in Florida. It

is a change, but is one that takes me back to my original interests: biology and applied ecology."

Spearheaded by Gary Cooper of Southeast AgNet, the industry purchased a Cabela's giftcard which was presented to Dr. Browning to enjoy stocking up on fishing gear and other equipment. Dr. Browning was also presented with a characterization of himself fishing and a plaque honoring his service and dedication to the citrus industry.

Dr. Browning and his wife, Nancy, will be spending time out west. "Now is the chance to turn a page and



Gary Cooper, Southeast AgNet

Citrus Industry continued on page 4

VENTURE TO GHANA

Drs. Megan Dewdney and Pete Timmer traveled to Ghana in late September 2008. They were accompanied by Antonio Vicent from Polytechnic University in Valencia, Spain and M.C. Pretorius, from Citrus Research International in Nelspruit, South Africa, and hosted by Collison Brentu of the University of Ghana. Collison is a Ph.D. student working on citrus black spot at the University of Ghana under the direction of Professor K. Oduro and Pete Timmer, and he is a Research Officer at the experiment station in Kade. Surprisingly, Ghana has about 60,000 ha of commercial citrus primarily for domestic consumption, but they export some organic

juice to Europe. Fungal diseases are causing serious losses to citrus in Ghana and black spot and *Pseudocercospora* leaf and fruit spot are the most important problems.



***Pseudocercospora* fruit spot on sweet orange; a nasty disease.**

"The purpose of the trip was to advise Collison on his project on black spot and for us to become familiar with the *Pseudocercospora* problem," said Dr. Timmer. *Pseudocercospora* is a disease that is limited to Africa, but has been spreading south and west and affecting citrus production throughout that area. The disease produces large lesions on the fruit and leaves and causes significant fruit drop prior to harvest. Some research has been conducted on the disease in Kenya and Cameroon. In addition, M.C. did his M.S. thesis on the problem in Zimbabwe. He is one of the few active researchers who are knowledgeable about the disease. *Pseudocercospora* would be a serious problem in Florida and any other humid citrus area. Antonio has quarantine facilities in Spain where at least some laboratory and greenhouse work can be conducted in addition to field studies in Ghana and elsewhere.

Dr. Dewdney concluded, "With the importance of introduced diseases in Florida such as greening and canker, it is important for us to be knowledgeable about other potential threats to the industry."



Ghana Travel Group: From left to right: M.C. Pretorius, Antonio Vicent, Drs. Megan Dewdney, and Pete Timmer



Citrus Industry continued from page 3

maybe look at the same kind of work in natural ecology." The Brownings will be spending time learning and discovering the National Park System, particularly Yellowstone.

We wish them all the best.



From left to right: Champ Tunno, Dr. Harold Browning and Jackie Burns



COLLETOTRICHUM DISEASES OF FRUIT CROPS WORKSHOP

Drs. Natalia Peres (GCREC-Balm) and Pete Timmer organized a one-day workshop on Colletotrichum Diseases of Fruit Crops prior to the meeting of the International Organization of Plant Pathologists in Torino, Italy held on August 24 2008. The meeting dealt with species, populations, and control of these important fungal pathogens on many crops such as citrus, strawberry, apple, grapes, olives, almonds, and

Workshop continued on page 6

Adios:

As we prepare to depart Florida later this week for Yellowstone, I wanted to pause and offer one last thanks to all of the CREC community. The events of the past month surrounding my departure from UF, IFAS have demonstrated what a wonderful place CREC is, and that it is the people that make a workplace successful and enjoyable. Through various conversations, discussions, and a number of very nice receptions and recognitions, it was reinforced to me that I was very fortunate to have had the chance to serve IFAS and CREC over the past 21 years. Reflecting on the role of Center Director, there were many challenges, opportunities and a few stresses, mixed with some humor and light moments. The singular importance of the position though, in my mind, was to help the faculty, staff, and students to meet their goals. Many of you were willing to share your ideas, concerns and opinions to strengthen CREC. As Dale Price said, I went ahead with what I wanted to do anyway!

Together, we have accomplished a lot over the past decade, maintaining the strong heritage of CREC in citrus circles worldwide. My efforts were greatly supported by many, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention the outstanding support and friendship that Shelby Graham provided in the Center Director office. Her cheerful assistance to everyone coming through the door was only a small component of the greater contribution that she made to keeping us on target, and always with a friendly smile.

CREC is a great place, and we will miss it. It has been a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with all of you. We plan to stay in touch and follow the great work that is being performed by the CREC community. While we are in Yellowstone over the next 6 months, our thoughts and best wishes are with you. Best of luck, and goodbye for now. Feel free to drop us a line. My email will continue to reach me (hwbr@crec.ifas.ufl.edu).



Harold W. Browning

To the CREC Faculty, Staff and Friends:

What to say? I was surprised, overwhelmed and humbled by the reception held in my honor and the participation of so many friends who attended. Thank you so much! It was a special treat to be surprised by having my children, grandchildren, sister and other family members present to share the special occasion with me. I thank each and every one for their attendance and for your most kind words. I am still looking for the lady you spoke about!

A very special thank you to Dr. and Mrs. Browning, Christen and the host of others who helped to set up (and clean up), prepare all of the beautiful and delicious food, and create the elegant decorations; also, to those who made such special gifts as the Gator quilt and memory scrapbook, and not to forget the treasured recipe collection and the momento book with your handwritten personal notes and good wishes. I also thank you for the gift certificates to the salons where I can feel pampered. I will enjoy every moment and think of the friends I made and cherish at CREC. With such friends as you all, maybe I won't retire!!! Yes, retirement is looking better each day as the date becomes closer. I intend to take the advice that many of you gave to me and enjoy my life, each and every day. I intend to fill it with new adventures but with memories of my years at CREC and of each of you in your own special way.

Thank you again, one and all, for such a humbling and momentous day. I wish all of you good health, and best wishes and will pray for God's blessing on your individual lives as He has so bountifully blessed me.

I promise not to be a stranger and might even stop by occasionally with a cake or a covered dish...just so you don't forget me. I thank you all again from the depths of my heart.

SHELBY

Workshop continued from page 4

tropical fruit, and their disease cycles. In addition, there were presentations on the infection process, population genetics, and host range of these fungi. About 35 investigators from many different countries attended the workshop. The principal talks were presented by invited speakers from Costa Rica, Israel, New Zealand, Spain, and the U.S. (AR, CA, FL, NC, and

NJ). In addition, there were 12 contributed posters and short talks by experts from other countries such as Belgium, England, Norway, and Australia. The meeting went very well with several interesting discussions of the problems in various areas and the status of knowledge on these diseases.

A booklet was prepared in advance including summaries of all the

invited talks and abstracts of the contributed posters. Christen Johnson designed a cover portraying the disease symptoms worldwide and Barbara Thompson formatted all the written submissions. A CD will be prepared of the written summaries and powerpoint presentations and will then be distributed to all participants as well as to others with interest who were unable to attend.

The general meeting of ICPP2008 was attended by about 1800 plant pathologists from all over the world. The workshop on Colletotrichum Diseases of Fruit Crops was deemed the best organized of all of the pre-congress sessions by the organizers of the general meeting.

Colletotrichum Diseases of Fruit Crops
Pre-Congress Workshop, ICPP2008
August 28, 2008 Torino, Italy



Invited by
Janita A. Peers, Assistant Professor, University of Florida,
Citrus Research and Education Center, Winter, Florida
L. Bill "Bill" Davis, Professor Emeritus, University of Florida,
Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred, Florida

Notebook cover for workshop



CitrusLeaves

welcomes story ideas.
Please contact Kathy Snyder at
ext. 1403 or e-mail at
snyderkm@ufl.edu.

**CREC FACULTY ATTEND CHINA'S
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF
CITRICULTURE CONGRESS**



The International Society of Citriculture (ISC) and the Organizing Committee of the 11th International Citrus Congress (ICC 2008), under the theme of Diversity and Development, held the 11th Congress in Wuhan, China, from October 26-30, 2008.

China is the place of origin for citrus; its diverse climates, vast area suitable for this plant and long history of citriculture, lead to the richest reservoir of germplasm and varieties in the world. Wuhan, the capital of Hubei province and a major city in China, has a recorded history of over 3000 years. Hubei, known as the province of a thousand lakes, is a key part of the citrus growing region of the upper and middle reaches of the Yangtze River.



From left to right: Drs. Paul Ling, James Graham, Larry Parsons, Megan Dewdney, Steve Futch, Xiuxin Deng (President of ICC 2008), Harold Browning, Fred Gmitter, Gene Albrigo (President of ISC 2000), Russell and Mrs. June Rouseff, Jim and Mrs. Jan Syvertsen, Mrs. Nancy Browning, and Dr. Chunxian Chen.

2008 CREC EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR RECOGNIZED

As we do every year in December, CREC recognized two outstanding employees for their contributions to CREC. The Employee of the Year awards program has been in place for many years, and is an opportunity to recognize individual staff employees in three categories: Clerical/Administrative; Trades; and Technical. These awards are based on nominations from the CREC community, and selections are made by a committee of former awardees. During the Annual Holiday Staff Meeting, Shelby Graham and Turksen Shilts were awarded Employees of the Year honors.

Shelby Graham, Assistant to the Center Director's Office was chosen from five nominees in the Clerical/Administrative Category. Her nomination highlighted several characteristics worthy of recognition:

- Focused on providing support to faculty and staff at CREC, clients, industry and the public
- Administrative duties called for professional and timely handling of diverse business, which was accomplished very well
- Handling stressful issues from faculty, staff, collaborators and cooperators, from administration, and from outsiders was a daily occurrence, all managed very professionally
- Accumulated more duties as a result of always willing to do more
- A comment from a letter of support is that the nominee



Turksen Shilts and Dr. Harold Browning

provided a sense of stability to the Center, and one of the bright spots of CREC

Her friendly and helpful nature, coupled with strong professionalism, lead to a highly productive and effective year in 2008, and for these reasons, Shelby Graham was selected to receive the 2008 Employee of the year award.

Turksen Shilts was selected from among 7 nominations for the technical employee of the year. It was noted that Turksen has a strong record of contribution to the programs with which she has been associated, as well as contributing to CREC in other ways. Comments in her nomination packet include:

- Unique combination of technical expertise in several areas allows the nominee to work successfully on a broader front
- Numerous publications in recent years, including senior-authored papers
- Has very specific responsibilities in the program, as well as broader contributions in a large array of experiments underway in the program

- An outstanding team member, willing to help wherever able
- Undertook every task assigned without complaint and did it well. From a faculty member with whom the nominee worked temporarily in addition to their



From left to right: Turksen Shilts, Dr. Harold Browning and Shelby Graham



Dr. Harold Browning and Shelby Graham

Employee continued on page 8

Employee continued from page 7

primary faculty assignment stated.

• Finally, this candidate has worked effectively with several supervisors, including Drs. Pete Timmer, Fred Gmitter, Ron Brlansky, and most recently is working with Drs. Bill Dawson and Svetlana Filominova. These faculty have very positive things to say about Turksen Shilts, our Technical Employee of the Year

Congratulations are in order for the two CREC Employees of the Year for 2008, Shelby Graham and Turksen Shilts.

2008 STAFF MEETING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

As in years past, the CREC Annual Staff Meeting was held prior to the 2008 Holiday Party. Each year, an employee is awarded the honor of "Employee of the Year" in one of three categories (administrative/clerical, technical, and trades). As stated by Dr. Browning, Employees of the Year for 2008 were Ms. Shelby Graham (Director's Office) in the administrative/clerical category and Ms. Turksen Shilts (Dawson Lab) in the technical category. Congratulations to both.

In addition to the employee awards, Dale Price, Human Resources Dept., thoroughly reviewed the years of continuous service of CREC employees so they too may be honored for their years of service to the University and CREC. This year 15 employees were honored ranging from five years to 35 years of continuous service:

Five Years: Huiqin Chen, William Swen, Sachindra Mondal, Danny Perkins, and Allan Burrage. **10 Years:** Igor Kostenyuk, Terry Daghita, and Kathy Snyder. **15 years:** Rommel Rubio. **20 Years:** Janice Stewart, Mike Daugherty, and Mike Clock. **25 Years:** Jim Baldwin and Kevin Troelsen. **35 Years:** Jane Wilson. Congratulations to all and thank you for your efforts that help make CREC the success it is today!

The staff meeting was concluded with the annual video walk down memory lane of the past 12 months at CREC, with a show stopper of a dance number by Drs. Browning and Burns accompanied by "Orange" the elf.

The 2008 holiday party was hosted by the Plant Pathology Group (Drs. R. Brlansky, W. Dawson, J. Graham, M. Dewdney, K.-R. Chung, M. Davis, and N. Wang). The atmosphere was relaxed with tasty finger foods to try, no lines to wait in, all this together made

for a great time of fellowship with friends, family, and co-workers. We would like to thank those involved with the children's activities, sharing their time, patience, and creativity with the younger folk. Employees were able to participate in contests for desserts and, new to the 2008 party contests, photography, and "orange tree decorating."

Winners (chosen by party attendees) of these contests were:

Desserts:

Flavor: 1st Place – Ashish Mishra; 2nd Place – Ian Jackson and his wife

Appearance: 1st Place – Shelby Graham; 2nd Place – Raquel Campos-Herrera

Wild Card: 1st Place – Anne Burrage

Photos:

Research: 1st Place - Ashish Mishra

Non-research: 1st Place – Ekta Pathak; 2nd Place – Juan Carlos Melgar

Citrus Decorating Contest:

1st Place – Ehsani Lab; 2nd Place – Syvertsen lab



Dr. Mike Davis lends a helping hand with the children's activities

Coloring books and Play-doh were just some of the activities for CREC family children

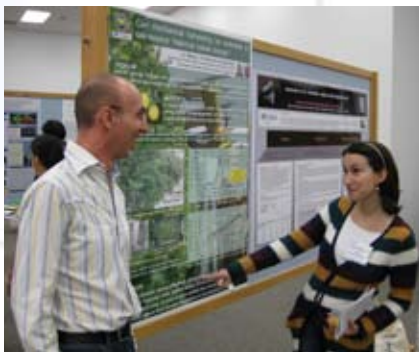


Dawson Lab getting in the spirit

Posters and Pastries Research Gallery Returns to CREC

November 25, 2008 marked the return of "Posters and Pastries." This event in the past was held each year to give both postdocs and graduate students an opportunity to showcase their research for the CREC and Citrus Industry Communities, as well as to each other. Participation in the November event included 17 postdocs and 21 graduate students representing all working groups at CREC. Their work showed a good working knowledge of the research studied, creativity and great presentation of the subject matter. All students, faculty advisors and postdocs were invited to a luncheon immediately following the two-hour event.

In an effort to continue to improve Posters and Pastries 2009, some guidelines will be implemented for a more uniform presentation. As with many conferences, posters will be of specific dimensions and a small identifying photo of the student, postdoc, or presenter will be required. An additional suggestion was to create an award and guidelines for the best poster in technical and creative categories. Many suggestions have been offered to the committee, and if you wish to share any suggestions to help improve Posters and Pastries, please feel free to email Kathy Snyder at snyderkm@ufl.edu. Congratulations to all our participants for a job well done.



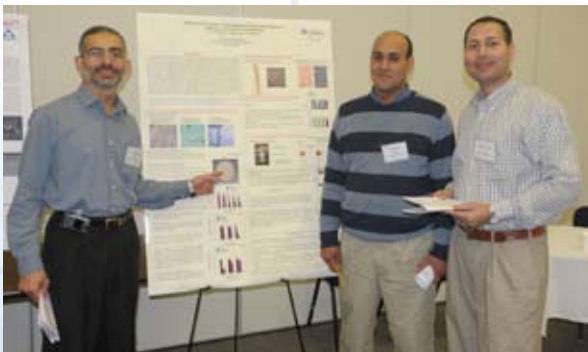
**Juan Carlos Melgar - Syvertsen Lab;
Raquel Campos Herra - Duncan Lab**



**Rachel McEgan - Danyluk Lab;
Mike Eisenmenger and
Rosalia Garcia-Torres - Reyes Lab**



**Kirandeep Mann and Laura Waldo
- Schuman Lab**



**Shamel Alam-Eldein - Albrigo Lab
Ahmad Omar - Grosser Lab
Fahiem Elborai-Kora - Duncan Lab**



**Rashidah Ruslan - Ehsani Lab
Ayako Kusakabe - Syvertsen Lab**

ZAMAN SHOWCASED IN TELEVISED NATIONAL EDUCATION REPORT

Dr. Qamar Zaman worked at CREC as a postdoc in precision agriculture from 2002 to 2005. His research was supervised by Drs. Masoud Salyani and Arnold Schumann in 2002 and then under the supervision of Schumann from 2003 to 2005. While working at CREC, Dr. Zaman's research focused on ultrasonic tree measurement methods, variable rate fertilization and electromagnetic induction techniques for soil exploration.

Dr. Zaman left CREC after accepting a position as a postdoc at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Japan. In December 2006, he accepted a position as an assistant professor and machinery system research chairman at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), Canada, working with wild blueberries. Details of Dr. Zaman's background can be found on his faculty webpage <http://nsac.ca/eng/staff/qzaman/default.asp>.

NSAC was able to create a segment for National Education Report for which Dr. Zaman and his student, Travis Esau, contributed to the production of a televised



Dr. Qamar Zaman

report, along with 42 other students, faculty, and staff volunteers. The show airs on stations such as CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, and PBS, and is available on Google Video and YouTube. With a potential reach of approximately 96 million people each day, the video is an invaluable tool to the university. The video clip is available at <http://www.nsac.ns.ca/pbs/>

(You can fast-forward to 5:35 in the clip to see the segment on Dr. Zaman and his student, Travis Esau.)



DETERRENT PROPERTIES OF CITRUS BY DR. PAUL WELDON

Dog owners are well aware of the tendency of their pets to roll in carrion and other strong-smelling material, a type of anointing behavior.

Similar anointing is a widespread tactic among mammals and birds, and is believed to function in applying chemicals that prevent arthropod bites to the skin. Researchers at the USDA Agricultural Research Service's Animal Parasite Laboratory, Beltsville, Md., and the Center for Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Gainesville, Fla., are examining the function of chemicals obtained by animals that anoint with citrus fruits and leaves. Birds, monkeys, and other mammals, including the undomesticated counterpart of dogs -- wolves -- rub and roll in lemons, limes, and oranges.

The USDA ARS studies have examined the potential deterrent properties of citrus-derived monoterpenes, such as limonene and related fragrant compounds, in deterring ticks and mosquitoes, thus clarifying



Dr. Paul Weldon

the potential benefit to animals that anoint with citrus materials. In addition to considering the benefit to wild animals, the research team is investigating the ethnobotanical literature describing the use of citrus products as insect repellents in different human cultures. Anyone with information on the practice of

repelling arthropods with citrus tissues or extracts is asked to share this with one of the co-investigators, Dr. Paul Weldon at weldonp@si.edu.

Awards and Accolades

2009 WINNER OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF APPLICATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CHEMISTRY AWARD, DR. RUSSELL L. ROUSEFF

Dr. Russell Rouseff, University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC), Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition, specializing in food chemistry, is the 2009 winner of the Advancement of Application of Agricultural and Food Chemistry Award from the American Chemical Society, ACS.

The Award, which was established in 1971, was created to recognize and encourage outstanding contributions to pure and/or applied agricultural and food chemistry. The Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry of the ACS administer the award and it is sponsored by International Flavors and Fragrances, Inc.

The rules of eligibility are clear: a nominee must have made (1) outstanding application of chemistry and/or chemical technology to the solution of agricultural or food problems of importance to the nourishment and health of mankind, or (2) outstanding contributions to the advancement of pure and/or applied agricultural and food chemistry.

Rouseff's nomination for the award received full support from Dr. Harold W. Browning.

"As Center Director for the UF, IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, and Coordinator for UF Citrus Research, I am familiar with the outstanding accomplishments that Dr. Rouseff has achieved in the area of flavor chemistry of processed fruit products. This area of research has implications for advancing citrus products as wholesome, nutritious and desirable in the American diet.

Dr. Rouseff's work has led to an increased understanding of flavor components and their differential expression in juices of different citrus



Dr. Russell Rouseff

varieties. This work has revealed previously unknown compounds present in low quantities in processed juices that contribute both positively and negatively to juice quality and flavor. Discovery of the varying origins of these compounds in fruit and as by-products of processing allows for their use in diagnosis of processing abuse and improper storage," said Browning.

Browning continued, "In addition to application of chemistry to flavor and aroma of processed citrus and other fruits, Dr. Rouseff has directed his expertise to a team effort focused in an entirely different area. Florida citrus and other regions of the world are being challenged by a bacterial disease (Citrus Greening) vectored by the Asian citrus psyllid. This insect is ubiquitous in Florida, and is an extremely

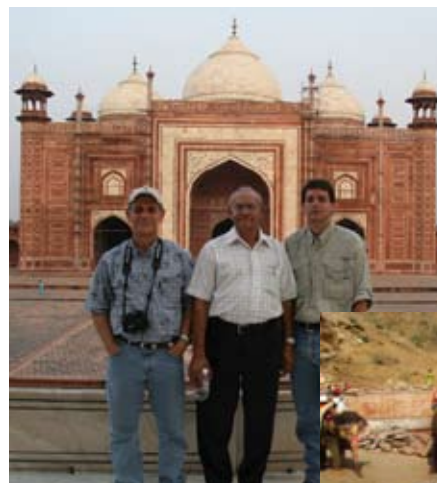
difficult target for integrated pest management. Through collaboration with a UF entomologist, Dr. Rouseff has identified a number of compounds that promise an entirely new approach to managing citrus greening through modifying the insect vector behavior, and thus could be an extremely important discovery. Collaborations and opportunities such as this often arise from interdisciplinary groups sharing a vision, and the quality of Dr. Rouseff's analytic chemistry has made this new collaboration possible, well beyond the scope of his ongoing fruit flavor and aroma chemistry."

Dr. Rouseff will receive \$3,000, an engraved plaque, and an allowance to cover the traveling expenses to the meeting at which the Award will be presented.

Bits and Pieces

TRIP TO INDIA

Drs. Megh Singh, Ron Brlansky, and Michael Rogers traveled to India to see how India is coping with HLB (citrus greening disease). This disease has been in India for nearly 100 years and they are still producing citrus. India is the second largest producer of citrus after China, with a production of 44.04 million tonnes of fruits from an area of 3.72 million hectares. While sightseeing in India, Drs. Brlansky and Rogers grabbed the nearest taxi to a trip to a fort at the top of the hill in the city of Jaipur. Little did they realize that only taxis available were elephants.



From left to right: Drs. Ron Brlansky, Megh Singh, and Michael Rogers (left), in front of SIKANDERA in Agra city

Drs. Michael Rogers and Ron Brlansky on their 'taxi elephant' (below)



FISHING IN THE GULF

In October, 2008, a group from CREC: Pedro Gonzalez, Dennys Cornelio, Wije Bandaranayake, Robert Spitaleri, and two visitors from Brazil, Andre Giorgetti and Andre Da Silva, went on a fishing trip in the Gulf of Mexico. The charter, Blue Dolphin, took them 30 miles offshore from Tarpon Springs, Fla. The Brazilian visitors, who worked at CREC for 3 months, wanted to try fishing in the Gulf. The catch for the day was about 100 pounds of fish. A good time was had by all and the group recommends the experience to everyone.



Catch of the Day (left).

From left to right: Pedro Gonzalez, Dennys Cornelio, Andre Giorgetti, Robert Spitaleri, Wije Bandaranayake, and Andre Da Silva (below).



FATIMA JABALPURWALA

SELECTED

Fatima Jabalpurwala was selected to present her doctoral research at the Withycombe – Charalambous Graduate Student Symposium which was held in conjunction with the 237th American Chemical Society National Meeting March 22-26, 2009 in Salt Lake City, UT. Fatima was awarded a travel grant of \$1,000 from the Agricultural and Food Chemistry Division (AGFD) of the American Chemical Society.



Fatima Jabalpurwala

Bits and Pieces

Your contributions to "Bits & Pieces" are always welcome. If you have something you would like to share with the CREC community (a weekend trip, a graduation, a birth or a wedding) please contact Kathy Snyder (ext. 1403, email: snyderkm@ufl.edu).

ENJOYING THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Taking advantage of the long Homecoming weekend last fall, a group of students and posdocs from CREC went to the Smoky Mountains National Park. The group took a backcountry camping trip at a time when the Smoky Mountains are colorful during the fall season.



From left to right: (back row): Fatima Jabalpurwala (Dr. Rouseff's lab), Eduardo Chica (Dr. Albrigo's lab), Karthik John (Dr. Burns' lab), Patricia Soria (Dr. Orbovic's lab), Andre Giorgetti (Dr. Syvertsen's lab); front row: Lisseth Proano (Eduardo's wife), Raquel Rosales (Dr. Burns' lab) and Juan Carlos Melgar (Dr. Syvertsen's lab).

T. A. WHEATON GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD

The CREC Graduate Studies Committee offers a limited number of travel awards to qualified graduate students. These awards are financed with a fund established by Professor Emeritus T. Adair Wheaton upon his retirement. The fund is intended to encourage the CREC graduate students to attend professional meetings and present their research findings to a wider audience. For more information or for an application please contact Dr. Masoud Salyani at ext. 1225 or e-mail at msi@ufl.edu.



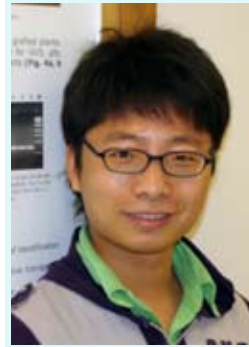
CREC EVENT CALENDAR

- May 6-7** HACCP Workshop - Registration required, contact Renee Goodrich phone: 352.392.1991 ext 208, goodrich@ufl.edu; for more information <http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/workshops/HACCP/index.htm>, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- May 8** CRDF Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Plant Production Seminar - Dr. Fahiem Elborai Kora - 10:45 a.m. - Noon
- May 12** MetLife ReitreWise - Sign-up required - Module 1: Building the Foundation - 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
ICBC Planning Committee, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- May 13** Florida Citrus Mutual Quarterly Meeting - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- May 14** MetLife ReitreWise - Sign-up required - Module 2: Creating and Protecting Wealth - 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
Infrastructure Team Leaders Meeting - 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- May 15** Plant Production Seminar - Dr. Robin Stuart - 10:45 a.m. - Noon
- May 18** CRE Foundation Annual Board Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- May 19** MetLife ReitreWise - Sign-up required - Module 3: Establishing Your Retirement Income Stream - 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
- May 21** Faculty Meeting - 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
MetLife ReitreWise - Sign-up required - Module 4: Make the Most of What Your Have - 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
- May 22** Plant Production Seminar - Dr. XiuLi Shen - 10:45 a.m. - Noon
- May 25** Memorial Day Holiday
- May 29** Plant Production Seminar - Dr. Yongping Duan, USDA-ARS - 10:45 a.m. - Noon
- June 7-9** FSHS and SCSSF Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL
- June 10** Infrastructure Team Leaders Meeting - 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- June 18** Faculty Meeting - 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- June 24 - 26** Florida Citrus Industry Annual Conference
- July 3** Independence Day Observed

NEW FACES!



Sajith Kumar Jose Udumala
Savary
Graduate Assistant
Hometown: Pondicherry, India
Education: B.E. (Hons.) Electrical and Electronics - Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India. M.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics - Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India. M.S. Computer Engineering - University of Florida, Gainesville, US. M.S. Agricultural and Biological Engineering - University of Florida, Gainesville, US. (ongoing)
Research: Research on the canopy shaker used for harvesting citrus fruits. I am trying to study the force distribution in a citrus tree when it is being harvested using the canopy shaker.
Supervisor: Dr. Reza Ehsani.
Hobbies: Reading (mostly fiction and some non-fiction), playing computer games.
Office Location: Building 7192, Room 102



Jing Fan
Lab Assistant
Hometown: Yuanjiang, Hunan Province, China
Education: Master's degree of Science, at Chongqing University, China, December 2007; Bachelor's degree of Engineering, at Chongqing University, China, June 2005; currently pursuing joint PhD in Botany at Chongqing University, China
Research: Glycosyltransferase's role in the formation of aroma conjugates in citrus
Supervisor: Dr. Fred Gmitter
Hobbies: Table tennis, classical music
Office Location: Building 7124, Room 201



Raghav Panchapakesan
Research Assistant (Student - M.S in Agriculture and Biological Engineering).
Hometown: Chennai, India
Education: B.Tech in Information Technology, Anna University, India. M.S in Computer Engineering, University of

Florida, USA
Research: The goal of my research is to understand the impact of tree canopies and environmental conditions on the performance of the ZigBee radios and evaluate their potential to act as a data communication network within a citrus grove.
Supervisor: Dr. Reza Ehsani
Hobbies: Surfing, music, movies and cricket
Office Location: Building 7192, Room 101



Hao Hu
Research Assistant, Ph.D. Student
Hometown: Huangshi, Hubei Province, China
Education: 9/2008 to present PhD program in Plant Pathology Department of UF, Fla, USA; 9/2007 - 7/2008 Collaborative PhD Research Program in Agriculture Research Service (ARS) of USDA, Frederick, Maryland, USA; 9/2005 - 8/2007 Master of Science, Microbiology, College of Bioengineering, Chongqing University, Chongqing, China; 9/2001 - 7/2005 Bachelor of Science, Bioengineering, College of Bioengineering, Chongqing University, Chongqing, China
Research: Alternative hosts of citrus huanglongbing
Supervisor: Dr. Ron Brlansky
Hobbies: Cooking, Swimming, Badminton, Movies, Music
Office Location: 2453 Fifield Hall, Gainesville, FL

Are you new to the CREC community? If you have joined CREC within the past six months and have not been featured in "NEW FACES" and would like to do so, please contact Kathy Snyder (ext. 1403m email: snyderkm@ufl.edu).

WELCOME