September 6, 2006

Special points of interest:
- Sept. 18th—Sign up for Fall BBQ
- Sept. 25th—Quarter begins
- Sept. 26th—Safety training for all new graduate students
- Sept. 28th—Instruction begins

New Employees
- Emma Suddick, Postdoc from U.K. work in Smart Lab.
- Annegret Rust, Jr. Spec. from Germany in Waterhouse Lab.
- Brett Brockmeyer & Paul Webb working Smart Lab.
- Justin Carr will be working with Mike Ramsey.

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I heard it through the grapevine...

News from the Winery—By Chik Brenneman

Crush Begins!!

Last Wednesday, the first grapes of the season were received into the winery. The varieties included Viognier, Pinot Gris, Pinot Meunier, Pinot Blanc and Muscat. The fermentations are all active and progressing very well. With the relatively mild weather this season, the season is late which bodes well for our students who may actually get to work with fresh grapes come October.

Grape Receivals

Please let me know as far in advance as possible as to when you are expecting your grapes for your research projects. If you know the current brix (you are monitoring field samples...right???) that can give a fairly good indication of when they are coming in. If you want the dirtiest look I can give you, it will be the one that I give you when you tell me that you have 10 tons of grapes on the loading dock. Paul and I are here to help you, we only ask that you keep us informed. Remember, once school starts, if we’re bringing in grapes for class, then the research grapes take a back burner so that class is not held up. VEN 124 labs meet Thursdays and Fridays.

A screw driven wine press

Faculty Leave over 7 days—By Susan Woody

Faculty Leave of Absence over Seven Days Do not expect your Leave of Absence Form to be approved when it is the last thing you do before leaving campus for a business trip. The Provost’s Office has been denying leave, and thus your liability coverage, when these forms are received after your departure date. In order to assure that your leave will be approved, please submit your Request for a Leave of Absence Form, with an itinerary, five days in advance of your trip. If not, your leave will not be approved and the Provost’s Office will instruct department staff to process your leave as vacation hours.

A screw driven wine press
Exotic/Invasive Pests and Diseases Research Program Workshop

The fifth annual Exotic/Invasive Pests and Diseases Research Workshop is scheduled for October 3, 2006 at University of California, Riverside, in the UNEX Building, Conference Room E. This event is going to be incorporated into the Riverside campus's 2006–2007 100th anniversary celebration of the contributions of the Citrus Experiment Station to pest and disease management.

This is an opportunity to review current research funded by the program; interact with the investigators; and hear invited presentations.

Pierce's Disease Research Symposium 2006

This symposium for researchers will be held November 27 - 29, 2006 in San Diego, California. More information will be available at the Pierce's Disease Control Program as the web site:


date for the event.

American Chemical Society features V & E Department in August Edition of Chemical & Engineering News

The American Chemical Society has an impressive feature piece on being a wine chemist and what is involved. The article, written by Corinne A. Marasco, quotes our own Andy Waterhouse and Sue Ebeler. The two speak about our program, training our students, and the focus of their research. The article also gives details on many people in the wine industry making a living with their chemistry backgrounds, all of which have a tie to UC D and the Department of Viticulture and Enology. Former graduates such as James Kennedy, now on faculty at Oregon State University and Jordan Ferrier, now at Hogue Cellars are just two of the many former graduates featured in the article.

To access this article, please visit:

http://pubs.acs.org/cen/employment/84/8435employ.html
CUPA Inspections

The CUPA inspections for the UC Davis campus began again in July. We will not be inspected until 2007 and we will be given about 2 weeks notice before the inspection. Training records and training programs are still the number one issue for inspectors followed by hazardous waste storage and disposal. There have already been fines levied for hazardous waste containers that have been in the lab for more than a year.

Safety Training

Reminder: We will hold an all day safety training for all new graduate students and all TA’s Tuesday, Sept 26th. This is also a great time for a refresher or a chance to have laboratory, field or winery safety training if you have not had them.

Avian Influenza Pandemic Plan

Some of you are aware that the University has been working on an emergency plan in case of an avian flu pandemic. While there is no pandemic at this time, it is good to be prepared. This plan may also serve as a model for other emergency plans in the future. If you want to be prepared you can check out the plan(s) at http://safetyervices.ucdavis.edu/emergencymgmt/AvianInfluenza.cfm

Emergency Cards

I have some emergency cards to hang on the wall next to your phone. They are actually more like a calendar than a card. These are the type of thing you would hang in your lab or a central office area. You need to fill out some of the information to make them specific for your area. I will be slowly distributing them to labs in the department, but if you would like one sooner rather than later please let me know.

September 2006 - Academic and Administrative Deadlines

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Operation Clean Sweep - By Lucy Joseph

The R4 recycling web site says that Wickson Hall and the Enology building are slated for pick up the week of September 4-8 (after Labor Day). I do not think the intent of the program is to allow us to dump all our stuff without paying for it but they say they will pick up any abandoned items, leaving them at those locations will help keep our corridors clear. Remember they will be picking up abandoned furniture and equipment not trash, paper, or chemicals.

Ancient Romans enjoyed eating blended mustard seeds into a paste with the addition of unfermented grape juice.

In 1918, Welch’s developed its first jam product called “Grapelade.” The initial quantity of Grapelade was purchased in its entirety by the U.S. Army. It was an immediate hit in the military lower ranks, and became a demanded product by doughboys when they returned to civilian life.