

SporePrints

Department of Plant Pathology

January 19, 2007



The Pennsylvania State University

Happy 2007!

Welcome

Dylan Short, a new graduate student working with David Geiser.

Kudos to

Paul Backman, who served on a USDA National Program Peer Panel reviewing project plans on “Disease Diagnosis: Detection, Identification and Characterization of Plant Pathogens.

Scott Isard and Julie Golod (SBR National Coordinator—Plant Pathology Department), who will represent PSU as members of the Asian Soybean Rust team for a USDA Secretary’s Honor Award—the highest award given by USDA—in the category of Enhancing Protection and Safety of the Nation’s Agriculture and Food Supply, acknowledging “outstanding contributions to agriculture, to the consumers of agricultural products and to the ability of the Department to serve America.”

Seogchan Kang, who served on a USDA National Program Peer Panel reviewing project plans on “Disease Resistance in New Germplasm and Varieties.”

Jim Travis, who has been named Scientist-in-Charge of the Fruit Research and Extension Center at Biglerville.

Wakar Uddin, who served on a USDA National Program Peer Panel reviewing project plans on “Plant-Microbe-Vector-Interaction.”

OF NOTE

“Predicting Pests,” story in Penn State Agriculture magazine (Winter/Spring 2007) features Plant Pathology faculty Scott Isard and Erick DeWolf, page 23.

Congratulations Fall Graduates

Delphina Mamiro – Ph.D. in Plant Pathology (D. Royse, advisor).

Nicholas Zitomer – Ph.D. in Plant Pathology (G. Kuldau and D. Geiser, advisors).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Jianxin Liu—successfully completed her thesis defense for the Ph.D. in Plant Biology (T. McNellis, advisor).

Anissa Demers passed her candidacy exam (Plant Pathology) on January 18, 2007 (P. Backman, advisor).

Yang Han completed her comprehensive exam (Genetics) on January 22, 2007 (S. Kang, advisor).

Mark Schall passed his candidacy exam on January 12, 2007 (D. Davis, advisor).

In Memory

Dr. Alan A. MacNab, Professor of Plant Pathology, passed away on November 28, 2006, at the age of 65. A memorial service celebrating his life was held at the University Baptist and Brethren Church on December 17, 2006.

Dr. Fred H. Lewis, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology, passed away on December 16, 2006, at the age of 93. Dr. Lewis was the first Scientist-in-Charge of the Fruit Research and Extension Center at Arendtsville (now located at Biglerville); he retired in 1976.

News from Alumni & Friends

Emelie Swackhamer (B.S. '86 PLTSC) received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) at their 2006 meeting in Cincinnati, OH. Emelie is an Extension Educator in Lehigh County.



Calendar – Upcoming Events

January 25, 2007

3:00 p.m.--Farewell Coffee for Erick DeWolf and Mizuho Nita, 208-A Buckhout Lab

January 26, 2007

10:00 a.m.--Annual Awards Ceremony, 208-A Buckhout Lab

12:00 noon—Lunch for Dr. Larry Moore with post-docs and grad students, 208-A Buckhout Lab

1:30 p.m.—PPATH Faculty Meeting

February 13, 2007

all-day--Faculty Retreat



The Plant Pathology Holiday Party was held December 18, 2006 at the Hilton Garden Inn.



