



Congratulations!!!

Fall 2007 graduate **Jeff Kern**, who earned a M.S. in Plant Pathology (Dr. Wakar Uddin, advisor).

Dr. Henry Ngugi and **Dr. Maria del Mar Jimenez Gasco**, who have been appointed to tenure-track faculty positions as Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology.

Jodi Reed, who has been promoted to Accounting Assistant IV, effective January 1, 2008.

Student Achievements

Alma Rodriguez and **Dylan Short** passed the comprehensive exam for the Ph.D. in Plant Pathology on December 13th and January 14th respectively.

Maria Velez-Climent passed her Masters exam on December 10th.

Farewell

Good luck and best wishes to **Sook-Young Park**. Sook-Young served as a post-doc in **Dr. Seogchan Kang's** program and has returned home to Korea.

Dr. Gretchen Kuldau Receives Faculty Development Grant

Dr. Gretchen Kuldau was recently awarded a College of Agricultural Sciences Faculty Development grant. She will use the award to travel to Tanzania in March with Penn State colleagues from Education, Engineering and Food Science to explore initiation of projects with scientists and agriculture professionals there.



It's a Boy!

Congratulations to **Jean Juba** on the birth of her grandson, **John William "Jack" Juba**. The newest member of the Juba family was born on November 13, 2007 and weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz.

Holiday Party

Thanks to the PPath Social Committee for making the 2007 Holiday Party at the Hilton Garden Inn a great success!!



Scenes from the 2007 Plant Pathology Holiday Party

(Photos by E. Stewart)



Dr. Elwin Stewart Judges Mead at the 2008 PA Farm Show

Dr. Elwin Stewart served as the judge for the mead (honey wine) competition at the 2008 Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg. The competition received coverage on the Harrisburg *Patriot-News'* Farm Show blog as well as on the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN).

Drs. John Skelly and Dennis Decoteau Receive Environment and Natural Resources Institute Innovation Award

John M. Skelly, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology, in the Department of Plant Pathology and **Dennis Decoteau**, Professor of Horticulture and Plant Ecosystem Health in the Departments of Horticulture and Plant Pathology, are the recipients of the [2007 ENRI \(Environment and Natural Resources Institute\) Innovation Award](#). The Award recognizes College of Agricultural Sciences' faculty, extension educators, and staff who have made outstanding and innovative contributions in the environmental and natural resources field.

News from Alumni and Friends

Jacquie (Smith) van der Waals, who worked in the potato program here while a Ph.D. student, sends Christmas greetings from South Africa. Jacquie manages a Potato Pathology Program and currently has more than 10 post-graduate students.

A number of alumni and friends wrote to us after receiving the 2007 Annual Newsletter. Among them were:

Van Donnan (Ph.D. '74) writes that he and his wife, **Sandy**, "continue to enjoy life in Florida. Sandy teaches creative thinking and writing for 9th grade (as if they already are not creative!). I continue my position as a territory manager for the Scotts Company in Florida and southern Georgia. We both look forward to retirement so that we can continue to ballroom dance, raise tropical birds, and spoil grandchildren."

Pamela Bunting (M.S. '67) writes, "I am living my retirement dream--golfing and basking in the warm south-central Florida sun. In enjoy reading about Plant Pathology faculty and students in your annual newsletters. Thanks!"

New Books at Hildebrandt Library

The following titles have been recently added to Hildebrandt Library's book collection:

Brodo, Irwin M., Sylvia Duran Sharnoff, and Stephen Sharnoff. 2001. *Lichens of North America*. New Haven, CN: Yale University Press.
Call number: QK586.5.B76 2001

Dijksterhuis, Jan, and Robert A. Samson, eds. 2007. *Food Mycology: A Multifaceted Approach to Fungi and Food*, Mycology Series. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.
Call number: QK603 .F66 2007

Heitman, Joseph, James W. Kronstad, and Lorna A. Casselton, eds. 2007. *Sex in Fungi: Molecular Determination and Evolutionary Implications*. Washington, D.C.: ASM Press.
Call number: QK601.S49 2007

Holliday, Paul. 2001, c1998. *A dictionary of plant pathology*. Paperback edition with corrections. Cambridge, UK ; New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.
Call number: SB728.H65 2001

Keen, Noel T., Shigeyuki Mayama, Jan E. Leach, and Shinji Tsuyumu, eds. 2001. *Delivery and perception of pathogen signals in plants*. St. Paul, Minnesota: American Phytopathological Society.
Call number: SB734.D455 2001

Samson, Robert A., and János Varga, eds. *Aspergillus Systematics in the Genomic Era*, Studies in Mycology; 59 (2007). Utrecht, The Netherlands: CBS Fungal Biodiversity Centre.
Call number: QK600.S82 no.59

New Books at Hildebrandt Library, Continued

Webster, John, and Roland Weber. 2007.
Introduction to fungi. 3rd ed. Cambridge,
UK ; New York, NY: Cambridge University
Press.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Department of Plant Pathology Annual Awards Ceremony

Friday, February 1, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
208-A Buckhout Lab

SporePrints is the monthly newsletter of the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agricultural Sciences, University Park, PA; <http://www.ppath.cas.psu.edu/>. Please send newsletter items and photos to Marsha Ann Tate at mat1@psu.edu.