

New Face

LaFonda Barrera-Medina will begin her position as Administrative Associate on July 2. She has been a Senior Accounting Specialist in Ag Fiscal Affairs for the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Her first position at OSU was as a Temporary Clerical for the Department of Entomology which began on August 29, 1994 and then she became our Receptionist on September 1, 1995. She became our Financial Assistant for Extension beginning on September 29, 1997 and added responsibilities of Secretary/Receptionist/Financial Assistant for the Diagnostic Lab in April 1999. She assumed the financial assistant duties for our department in February 2001. She resigned her position as Senior Financial Assistant in our department on December 15, 2006 to begin her position as Senior Financial Assistant in Fiscal Affairs with DASNR on December 18, 2006. Welcome back, LaFonda!

Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America

The Annual Meeting of the SWB of the ESA was held virtually on June 28-29. Several people won awards:

Camille Carey – 3rd Place Masters and Ph.D. Poster

Carrie Pratt – 2nd Place Masters and Ph.D. Poster

Alex Harman – 1st Place Masters and Ph.D. Poster

Sandra Rigby – 3rd Place Masters Oral

Melissa Reed – 2nd Place Ph.D. Oral – Session 1.

Alex Harman, Carrie Pratt, Melissa Reid, Justin Turner, and Brandon Lyons, OSU Team 1, placed 2nd in the Entomology Games, and OSU Team 2 of **Elizabeth Carlson, Joel DuBois, and Ethan Shaw** tied for 3rd place.

Dr. David Kerns (OSU alumnus, M.S. 1987) received the Award for Excellence in Extension.

July Birthdays

Tom Royer	July 3
Rebecca Korn	July 8
Maya Albert	July 12
Stephanie Dayton	July 12
Rachel Visina	July 15
Cora Vandaveer	July 18
Kevin Shufan	July 23
Halley Harrow	July 28
Nathan Walker	July 28
Peyton Fischer	July 30
Drake Michaels	July 31
Jen Olson	July 31

Sensilla

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OSU

Entomology and Plant Pathology



Noble Research Center for Agricultural
and Renewable Natural Resources

July Calendar of Events

Independence Day Holiday	Jul	5
Defense Seminar – Brandon Lyons	Jul	9

August Calendar of Events

APS Annual Meeting – Virtually	Aug	2-6
Classes Begin	Aug	16

Notice

Dr. Tom Royer, Professor and IPM Coordinator, will begin serving as Interim Department Head on July 1.

Congratulations!

Alex Harman received a scholarship from the Delores and Jerry Etter Graduate Research Scholarship Program.

Dr. Haobo Jiang was appointed as the Jess L. and Miriam B. Stevens Endowed Chair in Agricultural Biotechnology during the Board of Regents meeting on June 18.

Dr. Francisco Ochoa Corona has received a Sarkeys Distinguished Professorship in Agricultural Science during the Board of Regents meeting on June 18.

Retirements

Dr. Bob Hunger, Professor and Extension State Pathologist, is retiring on July 9. Bob received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Plant Pathology from Colorado State University in 1976 and 1978, respectively, and his Ph.D. degree in Plant Pathology from Oregon State University in 1982.

Dr. Hunger's entire career has been at OSU. He became an Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology in 1982 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1987 and Professor in 1992. In his research, he worked closely with plant breeders to release improved winter wheat varieties by screening breeder lines for disease resistance and by developing wheat germplasm resistant to diseases such as leaf rust, the wheat soilborne mosaic virus/wheat spindle streak mosaic virus complex, tan spot, and other diseases of wheat. He also investigated the effects of wheat diseases on winter wheat in Oklahoma with a focus on developing control recommendations. In 1995, he also became the Extension State Pathologist for small grains (primarily wheat). In this capacity, he conducted foliar fungicide and seed treatment trials on wheat and provided educational materials and programs for producers and county extension educators.

Dr. Hunger has been the major advisor of 13 graduate students and served on numerous graduate student committees in Plant Pathology and Plant and Soil Sciences. He has also served as the advisor for the Graduate and Professional Student Association. Dr. Hunger has taught *Genetics of Fungi*, *Genetics of Plant Disease*, *Host Plant Resistance*, and *Career Skills and Professionalism*.

His service activities to the university, college, and department are numerous and have included the Wheat Improvement Team, Vice-chair of OSU Graduate Faculty, Chair of Group I (Biological Sciences) of the Graduate Faculty, Faculty Council, Division of Agriculture Faculty Group, and departmental Curriculum, Infrastructure, Awards, Graduate Student Handbook, and Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure committees. He served as the Interim Head of the Department of Plant Pathology from May-September 1997.

Dr. Hunger has published at least five books or book chapters, 65 refereed journals, 58 refereed professional articles, 79 abstracts, over 400 extension publications, and 40 wheat varieties and nine germplasm releases. He has been a member of the American Phytopathological Society since 1976 and served as the Associate Editor for Plant Disease plus on several committees.

Dr. Hunger received the Mr. Wheat Award from Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association in August 2017 and Extending the Legacy Career Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Wheat Commission in August 2019. At the

community level, he has been a Mobile Meals volunteer driver since 1985 and received the Mobile Meals Award of Excellence in April 2001.

During retirement, Bob and his wife Carolyn plan to continue their involvement with the Mobile Meals program in Stillwater as well as travel to many national parks and zip-line wherever they can!

Dr. Phil Mulder, Jr., Department Head and Professor, will officially retire on August 1. He received his B.S. degree in Science Education from Ferris State College, Big Rapids, Michigan in 1978, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology from Iowa State University in 1981 and 1984, respectively.

Dr. Mulder began his career as a Research and Extension Technician with ISU from 1984-1985. He then moved to Oklahoma as an Area Extension Entomology Specialist and worked in Cordell from 1985-1987 and in Duncan from 1987-1995 where his emphasis was on control strategies of insects affecting alfalfa and peanuts. In 1995, he joined the faculty ranks at OSU as an Assistant Professor and began serving as a Cooperative Extension State Entomologist where his responsibilities broadened to include commercial and homeowner fruit and nut trees, small fruits, and 4-H and youth programs. Dr. Mulder was promoted to Associate Professor in 2002 and Professor in 2004. He served as the department's Cooperative Extension Coordinator from 1999 until 2009, and as the department representative on the OSU Agriculture Faculty Council from 2003-2005, being chairperson from 2004-2005. He was the Interim Head of our department beginning on October 29, 2007 and was named Head in January 2009.

Dr. Mulder has mentored six graduate students, served on numerous student committees, and taught *Horticultural Insects*. He also served as the Advisor for the Sanborn Entomology Club. Under his leadership as Department Head, the undergraduate entomology program has seen significant increase; from around five in 2007 to over 70 in fall of 2020.

His activities within the Entomological Society of America (ESA) include service as Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, and President (2004-2005) of the Southwestern Branch (SWB), Co-Chair of the Program Committee for ESA, Chair and Games Master for the Linnaean Games, Governing Board Representative for Section E, and Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President (2014-2015) for the national ESA. He served on the ESA Governing Board; and served on the Board of Counselors and the Development Committee for the Entomological Foundation. He was elected as an Honorary Member in 2018 and a Fellow in 2019. He is also an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society of London.

Dr. Mulder has received numerous awards including the Herman Hinrichs Pecan Citation Award from the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association in 1999, Oklahoma Fruit Growers Association Award of Merit in 2000, and Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension from ESA in 2004.

He has made more than 2,300 extension, media outreach, and research presentations, and has authored or co-authored more than 150 refereed publications, invited book chapters, proceedings, and extension publications, including the first *e*-Learning short-course on pecans. Dr. Mulder has been recognized nationally for his work on the pecan weevil Circle trap and screen traps for plum curculio in fruit trees.

In retirement, he plans to spend most of his time with family, including his five grandchildren. In addition, he has planted 130 pecan trees on his family farm located north of Stillwater. Between helping to raise 130 trees and five grandchildren, he will be quite content and likely grow old quickly.

Necrology

Dr. Henry Grant Kinzer, former Head of the Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science Department at New Mexico State University, age 83, died on June 6, 2021. He was a beloved father, teacher, innovative researcher, professor, mentor, successful sculptor, passionate rancher, and an authentic leader who conducted himself in an honorable and fearless manner that provided an excellent example by which life should be lived.

Grant was born on July 22, 1937, in Grandfield, Oklahoma to Henry Evans and Clara Marie Kinzer. He grew up in a farming family in southwestern Oklahoma with his parents and five younger siblings. He received his A.S. degree from Cameron State Agricultural College in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1957, and his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Entomology all from OSU in 1959, 1960, and 1962, respectively, his Ph.D. under the direction of **Charles Henderson**. He then served in the U.S. Army as a Medical Entomologist in the Medical Services Corps in Maryland. He was honorably discharged from the Army Reserves at the rank of Captain in 1968.

In fall 1964, he moved his family of four to Las Cruces, New Mexico, to become a professor at New Mexico State University (NMSU) in the Botany and Entomology Department. In addition to teaching, he conducted basic and applied research to understand insect-caused damage in areas within Forest Entomology and Livestock and Wildlife Entomology. In 1972, he received the College of Agriculture's award for outstanding research. His accomplishments in Livestock and Wildlife Entomology brought him and NMSU national recognition. Early Wildlife Entomology efforts included the evaluation of disease transmission by horse flies and deer flies to elk, which at the time had a negative impact on New Mexico's elk population. Specific

milestone contributions to NMSU included his work with industry leaders to facilitate the funding and construction of the Livestock Insect Research Facility at NMSU. This facility again brought national recognition to him and NMSU, as it provided the means to research the negative economic impacts of parasitic insects on cattle production. Additionally, in the late 1970s and early 1980s, he conducted research to understand the impact and potential control of the scabies infestation that was threatening the Desert Bighorn Sheep herd on the San Andres Mountains.

In 1986, he became the Department Head of the Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science Department within the College of Agriculture and served in that position until 2007. During his tenure, he launched the department's graduate level M.S. program in Agricultural Biology. After leaving the position as Department Head, he served in the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety until his retirement from NMSU in 2009. During his time at NMSU, he positively influenced and mentored hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students.

In addition to his career at NMSU, Grant was also a successful western bronze sculptor. One example of his success in this endeavor is the purchase of one of his pieces of sculpture by John Wayne. Another example is his sculpture titled the Joy of Learning, which was commissioned by NMSU in 1988 to commemorate its Centennial and is located just north of the Branson Library on the NMSU campus. He also cast the bronze bust of an Indian Chief for the Ta-Que-Ne-Whap Award given for distinguished leadership and service to members in the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

In the later 30 years of his life, he was a progressive rancher near Carrizozo, New Mexico. He made continual physical improvements to the infrastructure of the ranch which enabled him to optimize environmental stewardship in the management of the ranch, an approach about which he was adamant. He was a passionate and active rancher until the end of his life. He was gathering cattle 39 days before his passing.

Grant was preceded in death by his wife, Cathy Jeanne Stell-Kinzer in 2016. He is survived by his companion Dr. Carol Sutherland; five siblings; five children: Jeff Kinzer, Kathrin Kinzer-Ellington, Kristal Howell, Kacie Gerhardt, and Kye Kinzer; and ten grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life was held on June 26 at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces. Memorial contributions may be made to the H. Grant and Cathy Kinzer Scholarship Endowment and sent to NMSU Foundation, College of ACES, Attn: Kassie Ckudre, PO Box 30003, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003.