The spring semester has been filled with many challenges, activities and achievements by our faculty, staff, students and alumni. Our Department completed the Academic Program Review by the University and the United States Department of Agriculture in February. The faculty and staff in the Department worked hard in completing a self-study of our instruction, research and Cooperative Extension/Outreach programs. A team of nine people from USDA, other leading nutrition departments in the country, administrators and Department alumni formed the review committee. This review demonstrated that our Department has achieved excellence in instruction, research and outreach programs. For example, among the Departments/Units in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences our Department ranks:

- 1st in the ratio of undergraduate student credit hours taught per instructional faculty from 2002 - 2006.
- 1st in the number of General Education Student credit hours taught by our faculty from 2002 - 2006.
- 3rd in the number of Undergraduate degrees awarded from 2002 - 2006.
- 2nd in the level of Sponsored Funding Support (FY 2005-06) obtained per faculty member.
- Our Department has 326 undergraduate majors, 7 masters students, and 22 doctoral students.

Our Departmental graduate program was ranked 10th in the nation by the 2005 Scholarly Productivity Index. This is a significant achievement. The Nutritional Sciences Graduate Program is lead by Dr. Darrel Goll and Dr. Joy Winzerling. Janet Christner retired in December from her position as Program Coordinator for the graduate program in the Department. We welcomed Nancy Driscoll to her new role as the Coordinator of Graduate Programs for our Department in January.

Dr. Fred Wolfe will be retiring from service in our Department as a faculty member and the former Department head at the end of the spring semester. We extend best wishes to both Dr. Wolfe and Janet as they start new chapters in their lives. I am also pleased to announce that Dr. Cynthia Thomson has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. This honor recognizes her outstanding contributions in research, teaching and service. Congratulations Cyndi.

Plans for the program for the second biennial Research Frontiers in Nutrition Sciences Conference have been completed. The conference will focus on innovations and future directions for nutrition research related to diabetes, cancer, obesity, nutrigenomics and bioinformatics. Co-sponsors for the conference include the College of Agriculture and Life Science, the Arizona Cancer Center, the BIOS Institute, Eurofresh, the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, the Center for Physical Activity and Nutrition, and Novo Nordisk.

This newsletter highlights just some of the news from our Department. More Information on our Departmental faculty, staff, students and our Instruction, Research and Outreach/Cooperative Extension educational programs is also available on our Departmental website at: http://nutrition.arizona.edu/.

I hope you take time for recreation and renewal this summer.

Sincerely,

GREETING FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

NEW AND RENEWED GRANTS

**DR. LIMESAND**

Suppression of irradiation-induced salivary gland dysfunction by IGF-1.
Principal Investigator: Dr. Steven M. Anderson
Subcontract to: Dr. Kirsten H. Limesand
Funded by: University of Colorado Technology Transfer Office.

NSF-Collaboration to Advance Teaching Technology and Science Graduate Student Fellowship.
Principal Investigator: Dr. Geoffery Mitchell
Mentor: Kirsten H. Limesand

Rescue of radiation-induced salivary gland dysfunction by Akt.
Principal Investigator: Kirsten H. Limesand
Funded by: Science Foundation Arizona R03DE017918-01.

**DR. ROMAGNOLLO**

Epigenetic Silencing of BRCA-1 and Protective Effects of Dietary Components.
Principal Investigator: Dr. Donato Romagnolo
Funded by: Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.
**DR. BURD**


**DR. GOING**


**DRS. GOING AND HOUTKOOPER AND VANESSA STANFORD, M.S., R.D., C.S.C.S.**


**DR. THOMSON**


**DR. WINZERLING**


**FDAICY IN THE NEWS**

**DR. MEUILLET**

Dr. Meuillet’s program in drug discovery for cancer treatment was featured by Susan McGinley in the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Agricultural Experiment Station Research Report. The article is titled “New Leads for Cancer Drugs”. This work is currently funded by the NIH in collaboration with the MD Anderson in Houston, Texas.
Dr. Burd


Dr. Limesand


Dr. Meuillet


Dr. Thomson


Dr. Winzerling

Invited Presentation: “Mosquito Iron Metabolism,” Southern Arizona Mosquito Meeting, Tucson, AZ.


Poster Presentation: Geiser, D.L., Bridgers, J.S.D., and Winzerling, J.J. “The regulation by iron of a putative divalent metal trans-porter and ferritin in Anopheles gambiae 4a3b cells. BI05 Graduate Student Recruitment Poster Session, Tucson, AZ.

Nutritional Sciences Graduate Program

Congratulations to the following Graduate Students who will be graduating in May 2007.

Master of Science

Shawna B. Comer Leah Frankel

Doctor of Philosophy

Renu M. Stephen Zeina Wadi Makhoul

Congratulations to Stephanie Degner

Stephanie Degner, a Ph.D. candidate in our Department was selected to receive the Kraft Foods Predoctoral Fellowship from the American Society for Nutrition for the year 2007. Stephanie, accompanied by her major Professor Dr. Romagnolo, received the award at a ceremony held at the annual meeting of the American Society for Nutrition in Washington, DC on April 29th.
Goals for the conference:

- Discuss novel interactive research approaches to the treatment and prevention of diabetes, obesity, and cancer.
- Develop and facilitate key collaborations and interdisciplinary interactions among scientists affiliated with Arizona universities, government agencies, and private industries.
- Provide a platform to showcase current research being conducted in Arizona.

For more information on the conference please visit the conference website at http://nutrition.arizona.edu/nssconf/ or contact Theresa Spicer at 621-7126 or email tspicer@ag.arizona.edu.

**DR. HOUTKOOPER**

Congratulations to Dr. Linda Houtkooper, for receiving the University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ Administrator of the Year Award. This award is in recognition of Outstanding Administrative Leadership in the College.

**DR. HOWELL**

Congratulations to Dr. Wanda Howell who was named Chair of the Program Advisory Committee for the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey’s Graduate Programs in Clinical Nutrition.

**DR. LIMESAND**

Congratulations to Dr. Kirsten Limesand who was elected to Director 1st year in the Salivary Research Group at the International Association for Dental Research Conference.

Dr. Limesand was also recently recognized at the National Institutes of Health for her research efforts as one of the scientific advances in the Salivary Research Program in the report to the January 2007 NIDCR Advisory Council. (http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/NewsAndReports/ScienceNewsInBrief/CellDeath.htm).

**DR. MEUILLET**

Congratulations to Dr. Emmanuelle Meuillet for an Honorable Mention by the Gelman Foundation, for the project entitled “Novel inhibitors for mPGES1 as anti cancer drugs for the treatment of breast cancers.”

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

**DR. BAUMGARD**

Congratulations to Lance Baumgard who will be receiving the American Dairy Science Association Young Scientist Award this summer at their annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

**JOINT APPOINTED FACULTY**

**M.I. WILLS**

Michael Stephan Wills. Mike graduated cum laude from the University of Arizona in 1975 with a Nutrition and Dietetics Bachelor of Science degree, followed by a Dietetics Internship that was also completed at the U of A. As an undergraduate, Mike developed a nutritional analysis software application in the Fortran language which was used for over 15 years by the Nutritional Sciences department. During these years Mike began his career in dietetics and eventually specialized in the computerization of foodservice and dietetics. In 1985, he was the Director of Software development by the Data Control Corporation and in 1986 joined the CBORD Group of Ithaca, New York.

During Mike’s tenure, CBORD has grown in sales from 1 million to over 50 million dollars per annum and Mike was eventually promoted to Director of Quality Assurance. He is currently a Senior Advisory Quality Assurance Analyst working with a team to develop the next generation of web based Foodservice and Clinical (Dietetics) software.

Mike is skilled in managing change associated with the introduction of new techniques and tools. As an author and speaker Michael Wills is an internationally recognized expert in the integration of reliability modeling with the software development cycle.

Mike serves the University of Arizona on the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Alumni Board of Directors. He is also a professional photographer with a web site at www.MichaelStephenWills.com. His work is on display in the University of Arizona Athletics Department.

**DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS**

Dr. Lance Baumgard, Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Sciences

**NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES ALUMNI UPDATE**

**JOINT APPOINTED FACULTY**

**Dr. Baumgard**

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**Nutritional Sciences Alumni Update**

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