

*Volume 4, Issue 6/November 20, 2006*  
**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

## Discovery Learning Experience (DLE) REQUIREMENT

From <http://www.ugs.udel.edu/DLE/>:

"As part of the Signature Experience at the University of Delaware, all students participate in a Discovery Learning Experience. A Discovery Learning Experience is experiential learning which involves instructional experiences out-of-class and beyond typical curriculum courses. These enrichment experiences exist for students under the supervision of a faculty member. Discovery Learning Experience includes internship, service learning, independent study, undergraduate research, and study abroad."

Click the links below for more information on each of the DLE options.

1. [Internship](#)
2. [Service Learning](#)
3. [Independent Study](#)
4. [Undergraduate Research Program](#)
5. [Study Abroad](#)
6. [Experiential Learning](#)

## UDSIS Update

The new University of Delaware Student Information System, UDSIS, is now available for student use! The new system replaces SIS+ for access to all your student records. Using the new system, you will register for classes, update biographic/demographic information like addresses or emergency contacts, make

semester payments, view financial aid packages, and view your grades.

To access UDSIS, click the UDSIS link at the top of the UD homepage.

You'll use your UDeNet ID and password to access the new system. This will take you to your Student Center page (which replaces UD & Me).

UDSIS makes available to you all of the self service features that were available in the old and more. We hope you find the new system convenient, responsive and easy to use.

Questions or need assistance? Call 831-2132



## ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS

1. Where do I find my registration appointment time?
  - You must access UDSIS, via the main UD homepage ([www.udel.edu](http://www.udel.edu); see UDSIS icon at the top (this access is for STUDENTS only.) You will need to log in.
  - There may be changes to the original appointment windows that were tentatively released earlier, but you will find your correct, up-to-date appointment time on your Student Center page once the Registrar's Office is in a position to load that information.
2. Where do I find out what is offered in the Spring?
  - In UDSIS, under the tab called "Class Search." It is important that you choose "Search for Classes" and

not "Browse Catalog." You also should double-check the term you have entered, and also look carefully at all of the subject headings before assuming a class is not offered. You can access the class search now, even before your appointment time.

- At [www.udel.edu/registrar](http://www.udel.edu/registrar), you can browse a PDF of the registration book; note that this information is subject to change.
  - Eventually, you will be able to do a Courses Search from the registrar's homepage; that system is still set to Fall 2006 right now.
3. How do I know what courses to take?
- Meet with your academic advisor. If your advisor is not available, please contact the department office to ask for assistance from another faculty member. Advisement appointments are not required, but strongly encouraged.
  - Review your course catalog and pick up a Check-Out Sheet (available in 104 TNS) to keep track of your progress.
4. How can I get help with registration?
- There are very good, step-by-step tutorials on the Registrar's homepage, under "Items of Interest/ 07W WINTER & 07S SPRING REGISTRATION"
  - Email [registrar@udel.edu](mailto:registrar@udel.edu) or call 831-2132.
  - Contact our office at 831-2508 or via email at [kra@udel.edu](mailto:kra@udel.edu); [kvanb@udel.edu](mailto:kvanb@udel.edu); [cbrower@udel.edu](mailto:cbrower@udel.edu).

## Emailing Faculty and Staff: Important Info with new UDSIS changes!

Many of you write to faculty and staff when you need help or need to explain an absence or problem. It is very important, especially with the new Student

Information System, that your Emails contain your full name, including a middle initial if you have one. If we need to look you up in the system, having your student ID number (not your SSN) is also very helpful. Providing all of this information will assist in being able to respond to your requests in a timely manner.

## Academic Information

### Who should you contact for an official signature from the college?



If you need an excused absence or signature for any academic matters (late registration,

insurance forms, Honors Degrees, etc.), you should come to the Academic Programs Office in 104 Townsend Hall or call (302)831-2508. Dean Aniunas is responsible for all of these academic issues.

## Student Life

### Club Information

All clubs are invited to submit meeting times and locations, membership info, and descriptions of their clubs to *Talk of Townsend*. See end of newsletter for details.

### Collegiate FFA

The next meeting of the Collegiate FFA will be held November 30th at 6:30 pm in 132 Townsend. Planning for holiday, winter term, and spring semester activities will take place. All members, as well as those who would like to join, should attend. Refreshments will be served.

## Student Spotlight

### Jason Peiffer



Jason recently received funding for his own research proposal from National Science Foundation, Research

Experience for Undergraduates (NSF-REU) to increase saffron supplies in *Crocus sativus*. His achievement is quite an honor. Congratulations Jason!

Jason has provided a synopsis of his research below.

- Saffron is accrued from the stigma of *Crocus sativus*.
- Saffron is the most expensive spice in the world due to short flowering time and necessity of hand-picking and sorting stigma from other parts of flower.
  - 150,000 flowers need to be picked and sorted for one kilo of spice (all within a 20 day window of harvest)
- Labor costs restrict farming crocus in the US with exception of some Amish farms (it is mostly grown in Iran, India, Spain).
- Studies with mice show increased saffron consumption yields anti-tumor effects in growth of malignant cells.
- *Crocus sativus* is a sterile flower (triploid, 3N) therefore traditional breeding practices are not possible and transgenic/molecular biotechnology must be used to improve the crop.
- Using transgenic approach (agrobacterium-mediated transformation and artificial microRNAs), I plan to knockout two putative genes (Apetala 2, and Apetala3) in the plant and if when knocked out they act in the same manner as they do in *Arabidopsis* (model plant used by many labs) and many other species, a crocus cultivar wielding female reproductive organs



(gynoecia) in all four whorls of the flower (replacing petal, sepal, stamen) will result

- This will greatly increase the number of stigma per flower (Saffron) and decrease manual labor because no other floral organs will be present to sort the stigma from (possibly allowing mechanization and larger scale production in the states, instead of importing from Iran and Spain)
- In another project I've been working on which interested me in the crocus project, I was working with a gene found by Hajime Sakai of Dupont Crop Genetics called "Superman" (with a weak allele known as Clark Kent ), if this gene is knocked out the male reproductive organs (Stamen) increase while female and vegetative organs decrease.

After graduation, Jason plans to attend grad school at Iowa State University for a PhD in Agronomy/Biorenewable Resource Engineering to develop corn and switch grass cultivars, which increase efficiency of ethanol production and lead to a clean-burning domestic source of energy, in light of our depleting oil reserves. His goal is to help keep fuel prices down in the future.

## Career Information

### Scholarship Opportunity

**The Donald F. Crossan Agricultural Alumni Scholarship** fund is offering \$1000 awards for the 2007-2008 academic year. Applicants must currently be sophomores or juniors in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Criteria include academic merit and an interest in agriculture, with preference given to students with financial need. Winners are expected to attend the Ag Social on Saturday, March 3, 2007 to receive their award. An application can be found at <http://ag.udel.edu/resources/scholarship.htm> and in 154 Townsend Hall. Deadline: February 9, 2007.

## Internship & Employment Opportunities

Please be sure to visit our Career Shelf in 104 Townsend Hall to view the full details of each posting.



**Green Acres Farm, Inc.** is a 500 cow dairy located approximately 10 miles west of Rehoboth Beach, DE.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to join our management team, and help us improve upon an already exemplary level of production and herd health status. Please call or email to set up a phone interview.

### Primary Duties:

- Monitoring and Management of Transition Cows
- Assist Vet with Reproductive Exams and Surgeries
- Management of OvSynch Program
- Care and Treatment of Sick Animals

Walter "Burli" Hopkins  
Phone: (302) 381-0318  
Fax: (302) 645-6974  
e-mail: [burlihopkins@gmail.com](mailto:burlihopkins@gmail.com)

### International Plant Protection Convention FAO, Rome, Italy



Two positions are now available at the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat office located in Rome,

Italy. Two Associate Professional Officer (APO) positions will be funded by the US for a maximum of two years. The IPPC is an international treaty to secure action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. The Convention works under the Director General of the Food and

Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The APO position is a starting point for a career in phytosanitary standards development and international cooperation. APOs gain valuable on-the-job experience during their assignments with the Organization. APOs become full FAO staff members for the period of their appointment.

For more information on APO positions with FAO, please visit the following website: [http://www.fao.org/tc/apo/index\\_en.asp](http://www.fao.org/tc/apo/index_en.asp)

Interested person must submit:

- 1) a letter of interest stating which position they are interested in and why,
- 2) a resume addressing their qualifications (detailed job descriptions can be obtained from Julie Aliaga),
- 3) if with PPQ, a supervisor's statement approving of the assignment,

This information above should be submitted and received before **December 15, 2006.**

Please submit the information to:

Julie E. Aliaga  
International Phytosanitary Standards  
Program Director  
USDA APHIS PPQ  
4700 River Road, Unit 140  
Riverdale MD 20737  
(301) 734-0763  
[Julie.E.Aliaga@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Julie.E.Aliaga@aphis.usda.gov)

### AET Consulting, Inc.

#### Assistant Nutrient Management/Environmental Technician

This position will be responsible for assisting a Nutrient Management and/or Environmental Specialist (*Specialist*) with the development of Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs), Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs), Conservation Plans, and CAFO permits within Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. *This specific*

*position will place a higher priority on conservation planning and CNMP development.*

Interested employees should forward resumes and cover letters to Bill Rogers, PO Box 299, Lititz, PA 17543-0299 or [wirogers@aol.com](mailto:wirogers@aol.com). No telephone calls please.

**Willard Ag** is looking for a field sales representative who would be responsible for all aspects of the customer relationship. These items include custom spray and fertilizer applications, deliveries, data collection and analysis, accounts receivable, field surveillance and government program compliance. Minimum Associates degree or 3 years sales experience. For more information, send an email to [alderfer@atlanticbb.net](mailto:alderfer@atlanticbb.net).



**The Philadelphia Zoo**, America's first zoo, is dedicated to its mission of conservation, science, education and recreation. One of the ways the Philadelphia Zoo fulfills its mission is through our internship program.

Zoo staff train tomorrow's conservation leaders to care for animals and educate the public about their role in protecting our natural world.

On \*Saturdays, January 20 and March 3 at \*\*2pm\*\* the Philadelphia Zoo invites biology, animal science, zoo science, environmental science, zoology, environmental education and museum education students to the Zoo to meet Zoo staff to discuss internship opportunities. Students will have a chance to hear from Zoo staff that supervise interns, ask questions about the internships and take tours of the internship areas that involve animal care.

Students can send email directly to [malone.maureen@phillyzoo.org](mailto:malone.maureen@phillyzoo.org)

<<mailto:malone.maureen@phillyzoo.org>> to sign up to attend an information session.

CONTACT INFO:  
Maureen Malone  
Volunteer Program Manager  
The Zoological Society of Philadelphia  
3400 West Girard Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196  
215-243-5326 fax 215-243-5292

<[http://www.philadelphiazoo.org/index.php?id=2\\_2\\_5](http://www.philadelphiazoo.org/index.php?id=2_2_5)>

**USDA-NRCS** is recruiting students for their Career Intern Program stationed in South Dakota. The position is for a 2 year internship designed to enhance your skill sets and broaden your employment opportunities in the sciences and professional fields. For more information, please visit their website at:

[www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/Career\\_Intern.html](http://www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/Career_Intern.html).

Application Deadline:  
November 30, 2006.

### **PAID OVERSEAS INTERNSHIPS WITH THE FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE IN USDA**

We are looking for a few outstanding senior and graduate level college and university students to work in our OVERSEAS offices to promote U.S. agricultural interests through the **International Agricultural Internship Program (IAIP) for SUMMER 2007**. The USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, one of the four U.S. government foreign service agencies, places about 10 students for each semester (fall, spring and summer) with excellent analysis, marketing, writing, language and organizational skills and experience to work on international agricultural trade policy issues, commodity and market analysis and organizing trade events in our overseas offices for a 10-16



week PAID INTERNSHIP. U.S. citizen students who are majoring in a business or science related agricultural field, i.e. Ag Econ, Econ, Finance, Business or Marketing, International Studies or Relations, Law or in a Biotechnology Program are eligible. Online registration for the summer semester closes **December 15, 2006**. The fall 2007 application deadline is April 3, 2007 and the spring 2008 application deadline is August 18, 2007.

Please reply to [internships@fas.usda.gov](mailto:internships@fas.usda.gov)  
For more information about FAS internship programs, please click on <http://www.fas.usda.gov/admin/newjobs/newjobs.html>

Margie Bauer  
IAIP Coordinator

### Bank of America Career Services Center

For resume reviews, excellent career resources, guides to getting into graduate school, networking tips, interview techniques, and so much more, visit the BoA Career Services Center on Academy Street.



For more information, visit the BoA Career Services website at [www.udel.edu/CSC](http://www.udel.edu/CSC).

### Ask Aggie!

*"Ask Aggie" provides an opportunity for you to ask any questions you might have about the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UD, or just about being a student! Please submit all questions to [kvanb@udel.edu](mailto:kvanb@udel.edu).*



### What's the benefit of submitting a question to Ask Aggie?

If you submit a question to Ask Aggie and it's accepted for the next edition of Talk of Townsend, you can win a special prize from the Office of Academic Programs.

There are two restrictions:

1. You must be an undergraduate student.
2. The question must be related to the University of Delaware, preferably something about academics or a UD policy/procedure.

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Pat's Rich Advice for the Financially Challenged!

*In each issue of Talk of Townsend, Dr. Pat Barber, faculty in FREC and genuine financial wiz, will be providing valuable financial tips. Students, faculty, and staff can all learn from Pat's Rich Advice!*

### Controlling Your Holiday Spending

Are you one of those individuals who has a hard time controlling your holiday spending? If so, here are a few tips to help you get through the holidays with money left in the bank:

- Make a shopping list before you go to the store.
- Set a limit before you spend and stop when you reach it.
- Each time you spend anything, write it down and keep a running tab.
- If you use a credit card, attach a sheet of paper to it and keep up with what you are charging so you do not overspend using credit.
- Do some comparison shopping.
- Make special gifts (food, knitting, sewing, woodworking, crafts, etc.) for friends and family.
- Give "I Owe You" notes to friends and family. Doing chores or special tasks for them is always a big help.

By doing just a few of these, the month of January will be much happier for you if you do not start the new year off in debt or with no money. Have a great holiday!

### Newsletter Submission Guidelines:

*Talk of Townsend* is produced **every other** Friday during the Fall, Winter and Spring terms, *with occasional exceptions due to certain deadlines.*

**(Next issue will be December 1, 2006)**

Submissions of timely and general interest are welcome. Please submit your copy in a *brief* statement, including dates, times, locations and contact information, via Email to [kvanb@udel.edu](mailto:kvanb@udel.edu) by **5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before publication.**

**Do not format your email with bullets and fonts; they will be removed.**

**Information received after that time will be posted in the NEXT newsletter.**

*The Office of Academic Programs reserves the right to refuse or edit announcements.*

*Talk of Townsend is archived on the Web at:  
<http://ag.udel.edu/resources/talkoftownsend.htm>.*

The Office of Academic Programs &  
Student Services  
104 Townsend Hall  
302/831-2508

<http://ag.udel.edu/aboutus/academicprog.htm>

*Offering academic and support services to our undergraduates.*

**Dr. Tom Sims**, Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Research

**Karen Aniunas**, Assistant Dean for Student Services

**Karri Van Blarcom**, General Advisor

**Carol Brower**, Staff Assistant

Come see us for help with:

- Junior Check-In and Senior Check-Out
- Good-Student Discounts for car insurance
- Approval for taking courses at other schools
- Changing advisors
- Late changes to registration
- Excused absence verification
- Personal situations affecting academics
- Scholarship support
- Problems with your transcript
- Questions about anything related to or impacting your academic life at UD!

We also have a career shelf with information on employment, summer jobs and internships.

## Tell A Friend...

One of the ways we build our college is through referrals from current CANR students.

If you know a HS student from home who might be interested in our programs or have a neighbor in your residence hall who is looking for a change of major, please feel free to pass on the information to Karri Van Blarcom at [kvanb@udel.edu](mailto:kvanb@udel.edu).

We will follow up and ensure that the person gets to talk with someone about his/her interests. You can also encourage friends to see our website at <http://ag.udel.edu>.

Thank you!