After months of workshops, meetings, conference calls and input from many constituencies, we have completed our plan. This master plan is a grand 25-year conceptual vision for the future of the University of Delaware Botanic Gardens. My sincere thanks go to Peter Krawcyzk, Vice President for Facilities, Real Estate and Auxiliary Services, Shelley Einbinder, Associate University Architect, and Susan Wyndham, University Landscape Planner, who are instrumental in funding the project and shepherding us through the process. We would not have a plan without their efforts. UDBG wants to thank all of the people who served on the planning committee from within and outside of the university, as well as so many from within the support structure of the UDBG: volunteers, UDBG Friends members, Patron supporters, advisory committee members, and staff. All have given tremendously and demonstrated true dedication to the future of the garden.

The plan proposes bold changes, such as the removal of the parking lot behind Townsend Hall and eliminating vehicular traffic, with the exception of emergency and priority service access. We talk about greening of our landscape; well how much greener can you make a landscape than to convert asphalt to garden! This area would be lawn and a series of low gardens.

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Master Plan for UDBG: Celebrating botanical and horticultural diversity, regional ecological resilience, sustainable landscapes, and agricultural research. Rendering: Studio Outside
Summer brings the new class of interns to take on this year’s tasks (See related Meet the Incoming Students article). Energetic and ambitious, the students already are chipping away (pun intended) at the list of tasks to accomplish. This summer’s focus is to notch up the maintenance of the garden. To that end, some of the old equipment, well past life expectancy, have been upgraded. We’ve also invested in a bed shaper, which is used to define the edge of beds, thus creating a sharper and refined look to the garden.

We have new equipment thanks to a gift from Bartlett Tree Experts—a professional grade chipper valued at $10,000. Peter Kingshill and Richard Mitchell of Bartlett helped arrange the donation of a Bandit model 200 chipper that already has significantly improved the efficiency and safety of interns and staff. This is one of the largest donations in UDBG history. Thank you Bartlett Tree Experts! The chipper will be put to good use as the interns sweep through the garden and address many of the pruning issues that have crept up over the years. As you walk through the garden do not be surprised to see many plants with haircuts; a butch cut, at that, for a number of shrubs.

A new staff addition this summer is Andrew Adams, one of last year’s interns. Andrew is functioning as our horticulture manager on a seasonal basis, interacting closely with the summer interns to make sure that they derive the fullest experience from their internships. He, along with Jackie Perry, is also coordinating the overall maintenance effort. These two people are key to the success and progress you see as well as the educational value of the garden for all students. The students appreciate his guidance during their internships.

Keep an eye on the bed area along the old greenhouse adjacent to the parking behind Townsend Hall. This area is a perennial issue for maintenance, primarily because of the impossible conditions. The stretch is exceptionally hot from the adjacent asphalt and reflected heat from the greenhouses, bone dry from this heat or swamp wet after a rain, baking sun, and enough clay to make a potter drool. One project the interns have this summer is to eliminate all weeds, making it a clean slate with which to begin anew. While it does not look like much now, watch the steady progress as you visit the UDairy Creamery nearby.

Directors Corner  
John Frett

This summer’s focus is to notch up the maintenance of the garden.

Claudia Bradley Retires from UDBG  
Valann Budischak

Goodbyes are not easy. That’s the feeling around the UDBG as we bid farewell to our dear friend and colleague, Claudia Bradley. Claudia joined the UD greenhouse staff in 2000, and walked across Roger Martin Lane to join the UDBG in July of 2006. While her title was Greenhouse Coordinator, her impact was far greater. Claudia was my partner-in-crime in all volunteer activities. She was co-captain of our group sessions, and mentored many students who worked individually between classes. She participated in workshops and events, in addition to keeping the plants happy and healthy. Her dedication was evident, often coming to UDBG on weekends to check on the plants. Sale time was demanding, but Claudia always managed to keep that warm smile and cheery disposition.

On June 2nd Claudia departed the ranks of UDBG staff to allow her more time to take care of her personal garden, pursue more garden clients, ramp up her volunteer efforts with hospice, and gain a bit more flexibility to assist family when needed. But she hasn’t forgotten us…she’s already been back in a volunteer capacity.

As everybody’s favorite bear, Winnie the Pooh, stated, “How Lucky I Am to Have Something That Makes Saying Goodbye So Hard.” We wish Claudia the best in her new adventures and look forward to continuing our friendship and making many more UDBG memories.
Meet the 2017 Summer Interns

Amanda Binning
As a summer intern at the UDBG, I hope to become more familiar with common horticulture and garden practices. I am majoring in Landscape Architecture at the University of Delaware with an interest in urban design. I plan to use what I learn from the garden in future planning to create manageable and successful designs.

Mike Burgess
As a wildlife conservation and ecology senior here at University of Delaware, I felt this internship was a great opportunity to improve my understanding of plant ecology and management. Dr. Frett’s Indigenous Woody Plants of the Eastern United States course and lab greatly increased my interest in plants, as well as my understanding of the garden layout. I spent the last three summers at various Delaware State Parks, maintaining relatively wild forests. The garden’s more focused management has shown me a different approach to public land management. I am eager to learn more.

Jacqara Jackson
As a senior at the University of Delaware, majoring in wildlife ecology and conservation, I love the outdoors—a passion that began at an early age when my family camped throughout northern Michigan. My enthusiasm for trees, plants, and animals intensified when I served in Americorps, where I worked in conservation, wild land fire fighting, and disaster relief. Two years after serving I decided to pursue an associate’s degree in health science before transferring to UD. I am thrilled to be a part of the UDBG team and am looking forward to learning about horticulture and plant science.

Katie Samis
As a recent graduate with a degree in Agriculture and Natural Resources and an Animal Science minor, I worked closely with livestock and related agronomic species. During my childhood, gardening with my mom was a pastime that grew into a general love for horticulture. I am thrilled to expand my appreciation of plants by currently working for the UDBG summer internship program. Moving forward I would like to find a way to integrate this passion into my agricultural background to promote a more efficient and beautiful industry.

Connor Ward
As a second-year plant science major, I have used my time at UDBG to gain experience and improve my overall knowledge of the field. I am interested in gardening and maintaining my personal plant collection, which currently focuses on low-maintenance succulents. With this internship as the base to my horticultural knowledge, I am determined to find a career in the agricultural industry as a botanist. I am very excited to expand my plant knowledge and spend more time familiarizing myself with various aspects of plant maintenance.
Meet the incoming Curatorial Graduate Student and Annual Interns

Cat Meholic, Curatorial Graduate Student 2017-2019

The first encounter I had with horticulture as a possible career path was my internship at the University of Delaware Botanic Gardens in 2008. The UDBG staff then supported me to continue my training at several public gardens, including Polly Hill Arboretum, Mt. Cuba Center, and Chanticleer Gardens. It was at Mt. Cuba that I found my niche in living collections management. Just before completing my degree in horticulture at the University of Delaware, I accepted the position of Plant Recorder at Mt. Cuba. This position allowed me to explore collections management further, and after seven years of work in that role, I decided that the Plant Curation Master’s Program at the University was a logical next step. I am excited to be taking over as acting Curator of the Botanic Gardens, and adding to the thorough records kept by previous graduates. This summer and early fall, I will be researching possible thesis topics in regards to evaluating a plant group for their relevance in cultivation and collections.

Alexis Bacon, Annual Intern 2017-2018

As a child, I went for walks through the woods with my father, who would point out plants along the way. Much of my childhood was spent outside, playing in our yard, camping, canoeing, or visiting parks with my parents. As I grew older, I knew that plants had to be central to my career. Botany, art, and gardening were among my favorite subjects in high school, and I continued to expand my plant knowledge through volunteering at several CSAs and working at my grandfather’s blueberry farm in Maine. After high school I moved to Massachusetts to study at Smith College. During the first two years of my college education, I explored various subjects, finally deciding upon an Architecture major and Landscape Studies minor. I thought I wanted to become a Landscape Architect, but soon realized that designing landscapes involves primarily computer work and minimal time outside. I left Smith after the spring semester of my sophomore year to study horticulture at Temple University.

Temple University’s program was perfect for my specific interests in horticulture with a heavy focus on plant identification, sustainability, ecology, and native plants.

During my last years of college I worked at two garden centers in their annual and perennial departments: Bomm’s Lullaby Farm and Bucks Country Gardens. After graduating in May 2016, I began a one-year internship...
Incoming Curatorial Graduate Student and Annual Interns cont’d from page 4

as the Education Intern at the Scott Arboretum which combined my enthusiasm for writing, graphic design, and education with horticulture. I hope to eventually pursue a Master’s degree in public garden management, environmental science, or ecology. I am excited about the diversity of tasks I will be completing here at the UDBG, allowing me to gain an insider perspective on the many possible careers in public gardens.

Rachel Hutchins, Annual Intern 2017-2018

I grew up in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, but I’ve spent the past six years of my life in Kentucky. I graduated from Berea College in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in women’s and gender studies. During my undergraduate degree, I worked at the Berea College farm and greenhouse and interned at two non-profit organizations committed to empowering homeless women and survivors of domestic violence. I became interested in horticulture therapy after seeing how horticulture can be used to help heal trauma at Greenhouse17, an advocacy agency with a therapeutic “social farming” program.

After a year of working professionally, I decided to pursue my interest in horticulture with the intention of working towards a master’s program in horticulture therapy. I enjoy coordinating programs, living sustainably, and connecting with people. I love the idea of using plants to build relationships and to highlight needs within a community. I am excited to gain more experience in public horticulture at the UDBG, and I hope to use this opportunity to further develop my career goals.

Anna Bower’s Pawpaw Pie

A highlight at the UDBG is a grove of Asimina triloba, or common pawpaw, located across the lane from the UDBG office. The pawpaw is the largest fruit indigenous to North America and was planted extensively at Monticello. Last summer I collected, processed, and froze enough fruit to make two pawpaw pies. The fruit tastes like a cross between a banana and a mango, with a custard-like texture. Fresh fruit is tasty on its own, but I enjoy its flavor more in a custard pie. I have included my recipe below, as modified from Kentucky State University’s pawpaw website (http://www.pawpaw.kysu.edu/).

**Recipe**

- 2 cups pawpaw pulp (previously frozen and pureed with 1/2 cup water)
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup cream or half-and-half
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2 Tbsp cornstarch

Combine all ingredients and cook over low heat until thickened, stirring constantly with a whisk. Pour into previously baked Graham cracker (or gingersnap cookie) crust, let cool, refrigerate. Serve with whipped cream.

**Pawpaw fruit** Photo: Rick Darke

AROUND THE GARDEN THIS SPRING AND SUMMER

ROW 1: Herbaceous Garden Swale, ROW 2: (L) Fischer Greenhouse entrance (R) Itoh hybrid Peony ‘Yellow Doodle Dandy’, ROW 3: Cheeriness of Echinacea ‘Cheyenne Spirit’

Photos: Bob Lyons
that will become the heart of the garden, connecting all parts, as well as the center of activities for south campus. It is designed to accommodate AG Day tents and other large events for the entire campus. It will be a gathering place for all in CANR, whether to relax and contemplate, conduct classes, or enjoy recreational time outside. It will be an amazing transition for the area.

This is but one of the many proposals for the future of the garden. Currently, we are evaluating not only the proposed changes in the garden but also future staffing needs, and possibilities for increased funding from a variety of sources. It is a bold plan that will require a tremendous effort from all involved to take the first steps down the path to the future of the UDBG. We will have an official “launch” of the plan this fall and will invite all to participate and celebrate the future for the garden.

Sculpture students from the Department of Fine Arts and Visual Communications installed art in the botanic gardens this past spring. Judges awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. The event is organized by Art Professor David Meyer and Caroline Golt.

1st place Bruce Turner
2nd place Laura Nagel
3rd place Rebecca Heringer
UDBG Gifts July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Patrons of the Plant Sale

We gratefully acknowledge the following people who support UDBG’s Student Program. The 2016-2017 gifts will support UDBG’s Curatorial Graduate student, two year-long interns and five summer interns.

$10,000+
Glenn Hardcastle and Donna Gerst
William and Melissa Lafferty
Roy and Jacqueline Perry

$7,500-$9,999
Robert and Betty Shellenger

$5,000-$7,499
Robert E. Lyons
Charles and Patricia Robertson
William and Elizabeth Sharp
P. Coleman and Susan Townsend

$1,000-$2,499
Ellen Barrosse
Ann Biggs
Mrs. George P. Bissell Jr.
Ross and Evelyn Burnam
David Mull and Denise Dunlap
Kent St. Pierre and Andrea Everard
Richard T. Jolly and Charles L. Ingersoll
Fred and Patricia Mann
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Alice Reilly
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$500-$999
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Theodora Corroon
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Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Davis
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Robert and Betty McCoy
Angela Treadwell Palmer
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Michael and Diana Ponzetti
Mark and Barbara Rieger
Deborah Roberts
Marion T. Silliman
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Sutton
William E. Trescott Jr.

$250-$499
Doug and Sue Barton
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Sue Schafer and Paul Dennison
Page W. Dryer
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Mary L. Gotsch
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Debra Rodgers and Paul Meyer
Margaret Moore
Kristopher Jensen and Roy Peddicord
Rosemary and Charles Phillips
Nathaniel Puffer
Kristine Qualls
Patri and Ron Roman
Walter and Beverly Rowland
Beth Stark
Barbara Wallace

$185-$5249
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Marvin and Kathy Andersen
Alistair and Patricia Arnott
Joyce and Francis Babiarz
Georgia Black
Phil and Pat Boyd
Page Nelson and Anne Canby
Joanne Bahr Cashman
Joseph Paesani and Jacqueline Cusumano
Melinda Zeehner and Rick Darke
David W. Devenney
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Jim and Sue Swasey
Nancy Townsend
Robert and Patricia Uniatowski
Patricia Watson
Jane Wrenn
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Yackoski

$100-$184
Laura and Carmine Balascio
Steve and Barb Borleske
Dominic and Marilyn Di’Toro
Joseph and Shirley Duffy
Anne Marie and John Fletcher
Gary and Kay Gerlach
Ann Holloway
Beth Pantuliano
Judith Franks and Francis Pendleton
William and Mary Petit de Mange
Mac and Sande Taylor
Kathleen D. Wilhere
Ron and Gerry Zukka

Up to $99
Barbara A. Carrig
Sarah D’Alonzo
Donald Doto
Thomas Eliazon
Nadine Fiske
Linda Foster
Ruthie Hay
Kirk Himelick
Bryan Hudson
Doris Malikin
Sarah Milbury-Stein
Richard and Elene Miller

Endowment

UDBG’s endowment will ensure long-term support of the gardens and plant collection.

$2,500+
John Frett

Up to $99
Vikram Krishnamurthy and Kate Bailey (Herbaceous Garden)

UD Botanic Gardens gratefully acknowledges unrestricted gifts that support garden and educational projects and maintenance of the gardens and plant collections.

$1,000+
Caroline Golt (in support of Museum Assessment Program)

$250-$499
Howell and Margo Wallace

$100-$249
Marjorie Adams
Michael Balick, Ph.D.
Gary and Gina Burcham
Daniel and Despa Camenga (Wetlands Project)
Garden Club of Wilmington Community Projects
Rosaann Harkins
Leonara and Randy Jennings
Cynthia Klemmer
Ron Sullivan and Fran Levinson
Judith Payne
William and Mary Petit de Mange
Betty Rosenberger
Mary Ellen Stachnik
Mark Starrett
Linda Zankowsky

Up to $99
Kimberly Balas
Laura and Carmine Balascio
Nancy Balogh
Patricia Barnthouse
Ami Blaender
Nancy Bull
Anne and Michael Camasso
Michelle Capron
Barbara A. Carrig
Sarah D’Alonzo
Donald Doto
Thomas Eliazon
Nadine Fiske
Linda Foster
Ruthie Hay
Kirk Himelick
Bryan Hudson
Doris Malikin
Sarah Milbury-Stein
Richard and Elene Miller

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Support UD Botanic Gardens

Your support helps the advancement, improvement, and success of the UD Botanic Gardens. Your gift enables the gardens to expand as an outdoor classroom, an experiential laboratory, and a research center.

Jim Feldmann Remembered

Master Gardener (Class of 2015) and UDBG volunteer James (‘Jim’) Feldman is remembered by many as a fellow who enjoyed sharing his enthusiasm and many interests in life. Former UDBG Nursery Coordinator Claudia Bradley worked with Jim for a few hours each week and remembers stories of his life as a hunter, woodworker, DuPonter, and traveler and that “learning about horticulture was at the top of his list so he could design and implement new additions in his garden.”

Recently, Jim’s classmates in the 2015 Master Gardeners group made a gift to UDBG’s Master Plan to honor the memory of their fellow Master Gardener Jim Feldman, who passed away last August. One of Jim’s classmates, Barb Rosen, remembers that Jim became a Master Gardener to honor his wife Peggy, who was the gardener and who passed in 2014. Jim’s classmates wanted their gift to be a ‘gift to the future, where he’d continue to be gardening.’ UDBG is grateful to the 2015 Master Gardeners for thinking of the botanic gardens.

Plants that Bug Mosquitoes

Try planting the following herbs and flowers to repel mosquitoes that can disrupt outdoor enjoyment:

- **Basil** (flies detest as well)
- **Catnip** (some studies show 10x more effective than DEET; grows anywhere and spreads, so best grown in pots)
- **Lavender** (flies and fleas too; great for repelling moths from clothes)
- **Lemon Grass** (better than citronella candles and torches, not to mention haute cuisine)
- **Lemon Thyme** (need to bruise the leaves to release oils; rub in hands)
- **Mint** (great addition to ice tea and mice dislike it; consider planting in pots due to its thuggish nature)
- **Rosemary** (value in cooking; drives away cabbage moths and other insects harmful to insects)