Agriculture Building Plaza Landscape:

A Cozy, Colorful New Corner for the MU Campus

The College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources is proud to begin implementing a project that both enhances the Agriculture Building and recognizes an award-winning student landscape design.

As a unique, 1960s building — and one of the most prominent fixtures on the southeast entrance to the MU campus — the stark limestone panels welcome a colorful landscape design. Using the talents of students in our College was the perfect collaboration for this exciting project!

A student competition in the 2009 Advanced Landscape Design course was the impetus for creating the landscape to complement the building’s architecture. Working with the staff from Campus Facilities—Landscape Services, talented MU students developed the concepts that eventually led to the winning plan, created by Justus Lacewell, Plant Sciences graduate.

Work on this prominent campus corner began this fall. CAFNR is partnering with alumni and friends to raise funds to cover the costs of the project, and create an endowed fund to ensure the landscape is maintained for years to come. Donors can sponsor individual gardens, trees and benches. The seating area can be used to (continued on back page)
Greetings from the Dean

CAFNR today? We all know about our stellar past and the place our College holds in history. Today our initiatives not only put us on the map, but at the forefront in educating future leaders, discovering new knowledge and helping move it into applications to address needs throughout our state, nation and world...This is our founding landgrant mandate and we have been following through on this mission for the last 141 years.

We’re often told we need to toot our own horn, tell our story and get the word out about what a great college we are. Recently we rolled out a new marketing initiative that aims to keep all of our stakeholders, not only informed about what we are doing, but also excited about the future. Collaborating for the Greater Good is our new slogan and represents all the excellent work our college family is accomplishing.

Our donors already are believers. And it’s our goal to attract even more to our cause. In this issue of Gratitude, you’ll read about our new landscape project for the Ag Building— a collaborative effort between alumni, faculty and staff, and our students — the Sonja Hillgren Field Reporting Institute, and a couple of special events held this past year in CAFNR.

I don’t need to tell you what innovative teachers we have in CAFNR, or what key research we are doing, or how our students are among the best in the state and the nation. You know CAFNR is outstanding. We are also outstanding because of our exceptional network of alumni, employers, faculty, staff, students and friends of the College — all working together to make a CAFNR education truly exceptional, and to provide answers to the world’s toughest problems.

Thank you for your commitment to our College. We will keep making you proud.

Cheers, Tom :)  
Thomas L. Payne  
Vice Chancellor and Dean  
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
MU and CAFNR had much to celebrate this homecoming weekend! The College invited alums and others back to campus for “CAFNR Comes Home” in conjunction with MU’s “100 Years of Coming Home.” The College showed off “today’s CAFNR” Friday, Oct. 14, to alums, faculty, staff, students, colleagues and friends, with tours, open houses, booths of CAFNR services, handouts and giveaways, a Taste of CAFNR luncheon, and a presentation by Dean Tom Payne.

At the noontime event, Dr. Payne discussed the College’s impact on the University since its inception, and into the future, with a new brand messaging campaign: CAFNR, Collaborating for the Greater Good. This tagline embodies the way CAFNR teachers, advisors, researchers, staff, students and alumni all work together to solve some of the most important issues of the day, including environmental sustainability, food safety, human and animal health, and so much more. Dr. Payne’s presentation also unveiled a new collaboration with the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri to help boost healthy food donations.

See a video, exploring the ways CAFNR collaborates, at cafnr.missouri.edu/collaborating-video.php
Find more photos of the events on our Flickr stream at flickr.com/photos/cafnr

Dean Tom Payne with wife Alice and their grandchildren Caroline and Jack Payne with a cake in honor of Dean Payne’s birthday, which fell just a few days after the event.

CAFNR Comes Home! (photos across top, left to right)

CAFNR Associate Dean Bryan Garton mingles with alumni at the Taste of CAFNR luncheon, featuring Mizzou Meat Market brats and burgers and Buck’s Tiger Stripe ice cream.

It was a beautiful day to celebrate CAFNR’s past and future at MU! In addition to the noontime luncheon and presentation, attendees were treated to tours of CAFNR buildings and programs.

Roger Mitchell, CAFNR Dean Emeritus, enjoys a shuttle ride during a tour of the many CAFNR buildings as part of the festivities on Friday, Oct. 14.

Bobbie Kincade, director of development for The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, joins Tom Payne on stage for the collaboration announcement. The College hosted a healthy food drive over homecoming week and has pledged two acres of corn and 1,000 lbs. of meat to The Food Bank as part of a year-long partnership.

CAFNR Comes Home attendees hammed it up in the photobooth – just part of the day’s festivities!
Scholarship recipients and donors came together at the annual CAFNR Scholarship Donor Recognition Luncheon on Tuesday, October 18. The luncheon, hosted by Vice Chancellor and Dean Tom Payne and emceed by CAFNR students, is a great opportunity for donors and students to interact with one another and provides an opportunity for scholarship recipients to personally thank their scholarship donors. Attendees viewed the new CAFNR Recruitment Video in addition to hearing from scholarship recipients, See Yang and Alison Schwartz. Yang spoke of the impact scholarships provided for her to pursue undergraduate research opportunities. Schwartz provided insight to her selection as a 2011 Dr. Pepper Scholar and being featured on 70 million cans of Diet Dr. Pepper Cherry.

CAFNR awards more than $1,000,000 in scholarships annually thanks to the generous support of donors past and present. On behalf of the 3,400+ CAFNR students, we thank our scholarship donors for helping to make a Mizzou education possible.

(pictured at left, top to bottom)


Pat Westhoff, Elena Vega and Ben Grooms enjoyed meeting one another.

The Geiserts meet Lacy Jones.
Digging out the best way of making a gift to the University that is best for you can take a bit of research. Just ask Paul and Dolores Hanna who recently took advantage of a type of planned gift becoming increasingly popular among donors to CAFNR.

The couple established a charitable gift annuity to support the Jerry West Memorial Scholarship.

Jerry West, a celebrated MU professor and director of undergraduate studies in the agricultural economics department, died suddenly at age 63 in December 1993. He and his wife, Dolores, were married for 38 years and had three children. Shortly following Dr. West’s death the Jerry West Memorial Scholarship fund was established by MU faculty members. For several years, the faculty held an annual breakfast, Jerry’s favorite meal, to raise money for the scholarship. Then for several years, the faculty has held an annual BBQ lunch to continue to raise funds.

Fifteen years ago Dolores married Paul Hanna, whom she knew from her studies at Oklahoma Christian College. He was a widower and father of five. The couple has been regular contributors to the scholarship fund and are Fellow members in the Monticello Society. They rarely miss the College’s annual scholarship donor recognition luncheon. “We are always very pleased with the recipients we meet,” said Dolores.

Currently, the scholarship benefits four students. “We were interested in seeing the scholarship grow up to $100,000 or so. With the price of everything going up, it would be nice to give more than a few hundred dollars to the recipients,” said Paul. Ultimately that desire motivated the couple to establish a charitable gift annuity.

Charitable gift annuities are created when a donor transfers cash or securities to the University in exchange for the promise of annuity payments for one life or two lives. Annuity rates are based on age and are very favorable. After payments end, the balance goes to support the designated program or purpose; in the case of the Hannas the remaining balance will go to the Jerry West scholarship endowment.

“We thought the charitable gift was a good way to give. We received a tax deduction in the year we made the gift. Secondly, we receive a generous annual payment,” said Paul. Dolores said her belief in supporting higher education comes from Jerry’s and her father’s passion for education and the “need for some smart people in the world.” In fact, all but one of Dolores’ and Paul’s children earned college degrees, and they hope their 24 grandchildren will carry on that tradition.

The Columbia couple stays busy volunteering at their church teaching Sunday School classes and maintaining the grounds, helping out their neighbors and delivering Panera bread once a week to the senior center. They also enjoy traveling to various destinations.

The Hannas did their research and decided a charitable gift annuity was the best way to accomplish a philanthropic goal and still have income when they need it.

By Claire Deneen

The Hannas at the 2010 Annual Scholarship Donor Recognition Luncheon.

A Gift that Gives Back in More Ways Than One

By Claire Deneen

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The Hannas at the 2010 Annual Scholarship Donor Recognition Luncheon.
More than 120 Monticello Society members gathered at the Les Bourgeois Winery on a sunny Saturday in April to honor those who support the College. CAFNR recognized new members and those current members who had achieved new giving levels during the 11th annual brunch with a beautiful view of the Missouri River in the background. Guests were treated to a delectable buffet from Les Bourgeois, which was complemented by paddlefish caviar gifted from Monticello members, the Kahrs Family of L’Osage Caviar Company. The program, “Wined, Dined and Healthy,” featured Dr. Jinglu Tan, Dr. Marco LiCalzi, Dr. Ingolf Gruen and Brandon Fick, who entertained the crowd with information about CAFNR’s involvement and research into food science, enology, viticulture and hospitality.

The 2012 Brunch will be held on April 28. We hope you can join us then!

1. Jean Peters and Shermaine Riggins and others delight in the presentations during the brunch.
2. Morris and Dolores Burger, Lillie and Buddy Raasch, and Joyce and Norman Rohrbach on the blufftop.
3. Tom Payne and Jim and Mimi McRoberts enjoy each other’s company before the brunch.
4. Brunch attendees on the blufftop.
5. Kristin Perry, Dave Baker, and Robin Walker at the brunch.
M-O-N-T-I-C-E-L-L-O Society Members *

Through the Monticello Society, the College acknowledges the generosity of its major benefactors who set a standard for commitment. Membership is available to alumni and friends of CAFNR whose gifts support CAFNR.

**Ambassador**
Douglas T. Allen
Miss Hortense Greenley**
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Gust
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Gust
Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Lemcke
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin R. Lennon
Bruce J. Loevenberg
Mr. Alvin E. (Al) and Mary Agnes McGuinn

**Diplomat**
Pax and Mary Campbell
Ed and Diane Creed
Ann King Dickinson
Lowell Miller, Sr., Ph.D.

**Very Distinguished Fellow**
Dr. and Mrs. Gary L. Aike
Charles R. and Ina R. Brazzale
Pax and Barbara Cleveinger
Carl E. Ferguson
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas A. Parr
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Dudley and Virgie Alexander
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Jack and Mille Smith
Robert R. and Gretchen Y. Thompson

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Brett and Katharine Begemann**
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Charles Brock
Dr. Scott and Julie Brown**
Morris and Dolores Burger
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Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hanna
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Roger and Joyce Mitchell
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Owens
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Kelly E. Rosenkrans, D.V.M.
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Post
Bary and Marjorie Slayton
Pauline D. Watkins
Pat Westhoff and Elena Vega**
Mr. Robert S. Wheeler
Walt and Norma Wilkening
Drs. Handy and Barbara Williamson

* denotes new members
** denotes new giving level

(continued on page 8)
MONTICELLO Society Members *

(continued from page 7)

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William P. and Nancy A. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Johnson
Mr. Weldon A. Jones
Mrs. Elizabeth Kahrs
Mr. and Mrs. Pete Kahrs
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Kahrs
Bob and Mary Keel
Mrs. Carole E. Kullmann

* denotes new members

John and Linda Poehlmann
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Peters
Josh and Joey Peck*
Mr. and Mrs. Steven G. Newcom
Kelly and Teak Nelson*
Dr. Gunilla J. Murphy and
Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Miller
Randy and Patricia Miles*
Mr. Dean L. McKibben*
Mr. and Mrs. David E. McCaslin
Mr. and Mrs. David Maupin
Mrs. Wanda Matteson
Mr. and Mrs. Hugo E. Martz*
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Marshall*
Mr. and Mrs. Dave McClain
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Randy and Patricia Miles
Dr. Richard S. Zack, Jr.
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James R. Ahrenholz, Ph.D.*
Annual

James R. Ahrenholz, Ph.D.*
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John and Linda Poehlmann
Ron W. Pribylinski
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Mr. and Mrs. Ron Walberg
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Dr. Paul M. Walker
Mr. John J. Wayne
J. Alan and Karen Weber
Ms. Robyn Ryan Weinman*
Bill Wiesbald, Ph.D. and Wendy Wiesbald*
Aner Wimack, Ph.D. and Sandra D. Womack*
In Memoriam

Emily J. Bishop
Betty Brock
Charles Cramer
Jim Fulkerson
Richard L. “Dick” Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Walberg
Professor and Mrs. John C. Walker*
Dr. Paul M. Walker
Mr. John J. Wayne
J. Alan and Karen Weber
Ms. Robyn Ryan Weinman*
Bill Wiesbald, Ph.D. and Wendy Wiesbald*
Aner Wimack, Ph.D. and Sandra D. Womack*

* denotes new members
** denotes new giving level

Membership levels as of April 20, 2011

See more information on the Monticello Society at cafnr.missouri.edu/givingtocafnr/monticello
To see more pictures from the 2011 Brunch visit cafnr.missouri.edu/givingtocafnr/2011/wined-dined-and-healthy.php
To see pictures from the Monticello Society’s 10 year Celebration visit cafnr.missouri.edu/givingtocafnr/10-years-monticello.php

John & Eunice Campbell with Vice Chancellor and Dean Tom Payne. 

Bruce Loewenberg with Marco LiCalzi and Brandon Fick.
Most eight-year-olds can’t wait to unwrap presents at their birthday party, but Kahlil Roth-Folly was not one of them. He had a different idea.

“My friend Ben donated money from his birthday party to help lizards and I thought that I could donate money to help tigers,” said Kahlil.

His mother, LuAnne Roth, who teaches in the English Department at the University of Missouri, said that tigers have always held a special place in her son’s heart, yet she was surprised in 2009 when Kahlil approached her with the idea of using his party to raise money for tigers. She didn’t have to search hard for the right organization – Mizzou’s Tigers for Tigers.

Established in 1999 by the University of Missouri, the organization was the nation’s first tiger mascot conservation program. Faculty, staff, students and alumni from the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources work alongside other University departments to “ensure that there will be wild tigers as long as there are Mizzou Tigers.”

The organization creates awareness about the endangered status of tigers, raises funds to aid tiger populations and works to enhance both educational and research opportunities for University students that contribute to tiger conservation.

Instead of receiving gifts at his party Kahlil asked his friends to donate to Tigers for Tigers. The party raised $200 for the organization. He did the same in 2011 and now says he plans on using his party to raise money for Tigers for Tigers every other birthday.

Kahlil plans to attend Mizzou when he grows up and is interested in architectural engineering or “doing something like Bill Gates.” When he is not helping tigers, he is busy playing sports like baseball, basketball and soccer, playing on the computer or jamming on his guitar. Recently Kahlil participated in his school’s relief efforts following the hurricane in Haiti and the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

LuAnne Roth said she strives to set a good example for her son and frequently discusses the importance of charity with him. The family regularly gives to the World Wildlife Fund, True North, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Pennies for Peace and Heifer International; and at their wedding, LuAnne and her husband Frankie asked guests to contribute to the local charities instead of giving gifts.

“I also believe it is more important to do things like volunteer at a homeless shelter or outdoor clean-up day than just giving money. Anyone can do that. If possible it is important to meet the people who will benefit from your time and donations,” said Roth.

Those interested in learning more about Tigers for Tigers can visit tigers.missouri.edu.
In September 2011, the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources ran its fifth annual Sonja Hillgren/Farm Journal Agricultural Journalism Field Reporting Institute for students at the University of Missouri.

The Institute, nicknamed the "FRI," is the backbone of the course "Field Reporting on the Food System and Environment," taught each fall by CAFNR's Science and Agricultural Journalism Program.

The FRI is an intensive, three-day trip through a region of Missouri to explore and report about issues in the food system, conservation and the environment.

The course and FRI are designed to give students an on-the-ground taste of the art, science and discipline explaining to the public agriculture and the environment.

(top of page) Led by Ranger Bill O'Donnell, students and faculty on the September 2011 Sonja Hillgren/Farm Journal Agricultural Journalism Field Reporting Institute hike near Round Spring in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways.

(above left) Atop a Mississippi River levee, the Mizzou group interviews Milus Wallace, who farms near East Prairie.

(left) Students ask questions about sustainable forestry just before witnessing a forester cut down a tree in Pioneer Forest south of Salem.
“Some things are not comprehensible until you experience them yourself.”
—Joe Pecoraro, Science and Agricultural Journalism junior

of professional-level news-gathering with an eye toward communicating to the general public.

“We need more young journalists prepared to explain these complex and critical issues,” said Bill Allen, assistant professor of science journalism and leader of the course. “We’re trying to show students that the best journalism is done by getting out of the newsroom, leaving their preconceived notions behind, and talking with people on the land where the stories are unfolding.”

The trip is free to students thanks to support from Farm Journal in memory of the eminent agricultural journalist Sonja Hillgren, who died in 2006. As an alumna and long-time supporter of the University of Missouri and its School of Journalism, Hillgren saw great value in the mission of the FRI. Through their gift, Farm Journal editors have made it possible for her spirit to live on. Just before she died, Hillgren applauded the pilot year of the Institute and its efforts to get students in the field to practice their craft. She also liked the opportunity for students to interact with practicing journalists who take part in the trip.

The Institute explores the scientific, economic, political and social changes under way in U.S. agriculture and their impact on the food supply and the environment. Students meet, learn from and interview leading researchers, government officials, food industry representatives, farmers and others—out in the fields, on the rivers and at the facilities where these issues take shape.

“Some things are not comprehensible until you experience them yourself,” said Science and Agricultural Journalism junior Joe Pecoraro, reflecting Hillgren’s ethic of going to the scene to get the story.

Pecoraro was one of the 16 students on the 2011 Institute. They covered 893 miles on a bus affectionately known as “The Mothership.” Aboard this classroom on wheels were eight “Traveling Faculty,” including CAFNR and School of Journalism professors, professional journalists, a farmer, foresters and a scientist from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. When not in the field, the students took part in on-bus group discussions and one-on-one mentoring sessions with the faculty aboard.

The Fall 2011 trip focused on issues surrounding forestry, woody biomass energy, karst features of the Ozarks, cotton farming, the 2011 flood on the Mississippi River and the biology and natural history of the river. Stops included an eastern Ozarks sawmill, several forest and logging sites, karst springs, a Bootheel cotton farm and cotton gin, a state park, small farming communities, the Birds Point Levee breach area along the Mississippi River, and a boat launch shelter with river biologists (a lightning storm forced cancellation of the planned boat trip – but not the interviews).

Students walked the sites, talked with sources and took notes, pictures, video and sound. At night, after a late dinner, their laptops came out and they worked on stories and reflections from the day in the field. Some of their work was posted on their “MUddy Boots News” blog (muddy-bootsnews.wordpress.com) and on the Farm Journal website (www.agweb.com/farmjournal/sonja_hillgren_field_reporting_institute.aspx).

“When students get out to see the places where these issues play out and meet the people involved for civil discussions, accuracy and understanding can only improve,” Allen said.

“More students are now applying for the course than can be accepted,” he said.

With additional support, the FRI will be able to grow, to educate more student journalists and to offer expanded perspectives on the food and agricultural system that Hillgren covered for more than 30 years. If you would like to make a contribution to this Institute, contact the Office of Advancement toll free at (866) 400-4483 or via e-mail at givingtocafnr@missouri.edu.

(above) Charles Parker, who farms near Senath, explains the intricacies of growing cotton.

(left) “Round ‘em up — back on the bus!” says Bill Allen, assistant professor of science journalism and leader of the Institute.
memorialize or recognize the contributions of a special faculty member, notable graduate, or anyone who wants to leave their mark at Mizzou.

The donation of plants and other materials, and the help of students to install the features, makes this a truly unique, collaborative project. Students in CAFNR and beyond will continue to benefit from this project for years to come. The new gardens will serve as an outdoor laboratory for plant science classes and an outdoor classroom for others. Community members will enjoy the beautiful spot and learn more about the plants and trees in the plan. The design incorporates vegetation that is colorful and welcoming in every season!

The overall naming opportunity for the project is $250,000. This naming opportunity will provide an endowment that will be used to cover annual maintenance for the landscape. Other areas in the project that are available for naming opportunities include:

- Tribute Trees ranging from $2,500-$3,500
- Tribute Gardens ranging from $25,000-$50,000

For a more comprehensive list of naming and tribute opportunities and for additional perspectives of the landscaping plans be sure to visit cafnr.missouri.edu/landscape