

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
**ENTOMOLOGY**  
**DEPARTMENT**

*<http://www.entm.umd.edu/>*

COLLEGE OF CHEMICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



**2007/08 NEWSLETTER**

Department Website  
and Online Features

*Entomology Department*  
<http://www.entomology.umd.edu/>

*Bug of the Week*  
<http://www.raupplab.umd.edu/bugweek/>

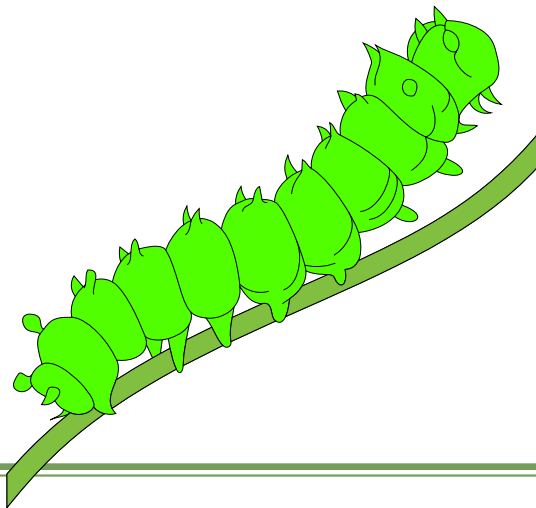
*The Maryland IPM Program*  
[www.mdipm.umd.edu](http://www.mdipm.umd.edu)

*Maryland Information Network  
for Pesticides &  
Alternative Strategies*  
[www.pesticide.umd.edu/MINPAS.html](http://www.pesticide.umd.edu/MINPAS.html)

*The Snodgrass Tapes*  
[www.life.umd.edu/entm/shultzlab/snodgrass/index.htm](http://www.life.umd.edu/entm/shultzlab/snodgrass/index.htm)

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See the “People” section  
on the Entomology Department Website to  
view roles and activities of current  
department members.

[www.entomology.umd.edu/people/index.html](http://www.entomology.umd.edu/people/index.html)

Angela M. Nelson

1914 - 2006

Angela M. Nelson, a figurehead on the Entomology Department staff for over 30 years, passed away June 17, 2006 in Aiken, South Carolina after a heart attack.

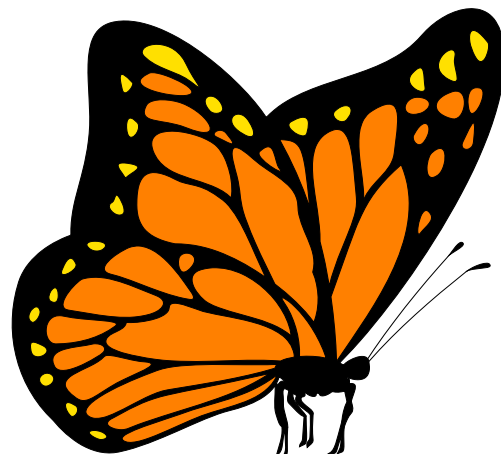
Angela was born in Greenup Kentucky in 1914. She moved to Washington D. C. in 1947 and became a salesperson in Jeleffs, a large clothing store. After a few years, she took a position in the College Park Citizen's Bank where she continued to work for almost 20 years. She was then hired as the business manager in the Department of Entomology where she continued to work for over 30 years. The process she enjoyed most was giving the checks out to the students who worked in the department.

Angela was still working as a part time desk clerk at age 85 when she contracted the flu which led to a stroke. She never fully recovered and in 1999 moved into a nursing home in Aiken, South Carolina to be near her son, William S. Flanagan.

In addition to her son, Angela is survived by a brother, two sisters, five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

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In addition, unfortunately, we also must report the passing of four other department alumni. Mrs Dorothy Lupton wrote saying that David W. Lupton died several years ago. Mrs. Doris Murray informed us that William S. Murray died Sept. 8, 2006. The niece of Irvin Schloss tells us her uncle died September 28, 2006. He was blinded in WWII but "always loved information on bugs". Mrs Beatrice Smith wrote that Lawrence (Bill) Smith, Jr. died November 2, 2006.





Floyd P. Harrison

Professor Emeritus  
1927 - 2007

Floyd's 2007 Newsletter contribution: "I was just thinking about how long I have been in this department. I came here in 1953. I was just a boy then. I hope that all of you presently in our department can someday look back with the good memories that I have. The Harrison family is doing fairly well. Perry, our oldest, is a Charlottesville businessman. Scott, our youngest, also is well and lives in Charlottesville. Amy, our daughter, lives in Nashville and is an x-ray technician. Those of you who remember me know how I once road a motorcycle. Well, I just gave it up because of old age and all the things that motorcycling demands. In the last year we went to Louisiana twice. The first time we got a tour of the damage in New Orleans. It was awful. To all of you who remember me I extend to you good wishes and for those I don't know, I hope I soon will know you."

Born on 18 October 1927 in Picayune, Mississippi, FLOYD P. HARRISON developed a keen interest in entomology early in his life from his father Perry who worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He grew up experiencing different research stations, as his father's career involved assignments in Mississippi, North Carolina, and eventually Louisiana, where Floyd graduated from Baton Rouge High School.

Floyd enlisted in the Navy after graduation and served as a gunnery crewman aboard the U.S.S. New Jersey, the most decorated battleship in WWII. After the war, he enrolled at Louisiana State University and completed his undergraduate degree in horticulture in 1950. His summers were spent fighting fires and eradicating pests for the U.S. Forest Service in Idaho and Montana. While at LSU, Floyd married Betty Ruth Heard, and together they shared a special bond for 56 years. Floyd began working in the nursery industry in Baton Rouge and also traveled the state as a cotton scout. During this time, he went back to LSU and earned his M.S. degree in entomology in 1953. Floyd then moved to Maryland and began work on a Ph.D in entomology with Dr. Louis Ditman as his advisor. Anxious to make up for lost time, he completed his doctorate in two years at the University of Maryland.

Shortly after graduating in 1955, Floyd was hired as an assistant professor in the department, with research responsibility for insect control in corn, tobacco and vegetables. He published some 40 research papers and experiment station bulletins and guided 28 graduate students to degree completion. Floyd received the Department's first IPM grant in 1972 for the implementation of a sweet corn scouting program. Soon after, he was instrumental in the hiring of Dr. Galen Dively to enlarge the scope of IPM work in Maryland. Enthused by his experiences as a cotton scout, Floyd encouraged the development of a successful non-thesis M.S. degree option to train IPM practitioners. During his teaching career, he taught Insect Ecology, Insect Pests of

Field and Stored Products, Insect Pests of Fruit and Vegetables, Introduction to Pest Management, Economic Entomology, and the Insects for non-majors. His passion for teaching went beyond the university, speaking at numerous school groups and education camps on the wonders of entomology. After 32 years, Floyd retired from the Department of Entomology in 1987. He continued to work as an IPM consultant for a sweet corn processor on the Eastern Shore for several summers and for fruit growers after moving to Palmyra, Virginia in 1991.

Floyd had a life long passion for the water and had a sailboat that he kept on the Chesapeake Bay. He believed that mentoring went beyond the classroom and his students were often involved in his sailing activities. His other favorite pastime was motorcycling, and he took many road trips on his beloved Harley-Davidson - sometimes as far as Mississippi. The last time the entire department saw Dr. Harrison, he had ridden his bike from his home in Virginia to attend the Entomology Department's annual spring banquet, where he had become a feature act, regaling us with his specialty, Cajun jokes.

Floyd was diagnosed with diabetes in the early 90's, which progressed until complications led to his death on 21 June 2007 at the age of 79. He is survived by his wife Betty Ruth, children Perry, Scott and Amy, and brother Kenneth, as well as several grandchildren. Floyd's warm, approachable personality, love for people, gentlemanly southern manner, and dry, laconic wit will always be remembered by his colleagues and students.

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### Allen Laurence Steinhauer, Professor Emeritus 1931 - 2008



June 2007: Al Steinhauer with son David and grandson Craig

Allen Laurence Steinhauer passed away on January 4, 2008. He had resided in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, since retirement in 1993. Al was born on October 17, 1931 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, the second son of Christian and Amanda. He spent his early years in Winnipeg, where he was an outstanding scholar and athlete, and graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1953. From there he moved to the United States for graduate studies, and received his Ph.D. from Oregon State University in 1958. In the same year Al also married a Jacksonville native, Mary Helen Speed, his surviving wife of over 49 years. Son David was born in 1959 and daughter Kathy in 1961.

Al arrived at Maryland as an assistant professor in 1958, advancing to associate professor in 1964. From 1966 to 1968 he de-camped to the University of São Paulo, Brazil, where he set up a still-thriving entomology graduate program with support from USAID. For this and other contributions he was honored by the Academy of Sciences in Brazil and had a Brazilian mite named for him. Returning to Maryland, Al became a full Professor in 1971, and served as Chair from 1975 until his retirement in 1993, a period during which the department's reputation increased greatly.

Al is one of the most distinguished entomologists ever to grace this department. He was internationally renowned for his contributions to the development of Integrated Pest Management, exemplified by the fact that at one point he was invited to address the United Nations on this subject. One of Al's early successes was development of an innovative control strategy for the Mexican bean beetle. His team introduced the idea of "nurse plots" of snap beans. These plots, by attracting over-wintering beetles, allow the biological control agent, an introduced tropical parasitic wasp which must be re-released each spring, to build up large populations before the bean beetles attack their main economic host, soybeans, which mature later than snap beans. This method is now implemented routinely by the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

In 1971, Al became the first editor of *Environmental Entomology*, which was founded in explicit recognition of the need for study of the relationship of insects to the environment as the basis for IPM. In the early 1980s Al played a significant role in the development of federal policies and procedures regarding IPM, through his service as a consultant to the president's Council on Environmental Quality, the USDA's National IPM Coordinating Committee, and a Special Analysis team that prepared the 1983 USDA budget request for IPM. Reflecting his commitment to international scientific exchange, Al served from 1985 to 1992 as Executive Director of the Consortium for International Crop Protection (CICP), a partnership of 13 universities and the USDA dedicated to the improvement of agricultural practices and crop protection in developing countries. Among other awards and honors, Al served an unprecedented two terms as President of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America, became a Council member and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and co-organized the Centennial Celebration of the Entomological Society of America.

Al leaves a rich legacy as a teacher, scholar, scientist, administrator, and cherished friend of many. He established a strong tradition of decision-making by faculty consensus and graduate student participation in department affairs, and by his own example made consideration toward others a watchword of the department. His family and friends will miss Al's relaxed unassuming nature, innate kindness, and warm sense of humor. He is survived by his wife Mary Helen, son David, daughter Kathy, grandsons Stephen, Christian and Craig, and big brother Herb. A memorial is planned at the University of Maryland at a date to be determined.

(Modified from the obituary composed by David Steinhauer, January 2008)

## 2007/08 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Entomologists,

*The department Plan of Governance enjoins the chair to publish an “annual report of the activities, accomplishments and achievements of the Faculty, Staff and Students” of the department.* The last such report was distributed in Spring 2003, so I have a bit of catching up to do. I apologize deeply for the delay, especially because I know that people really like to see the “Keeping in Touch” notes. The Newsletter is now under new management, and with this issue returns to annual publication. We will be posting the Newsletter (except the personal letters) on our web site ([www.entm.umd.edu](http://www.entm.umd.edu)), where you will also find interim news updates and notices of upcoming events in the department.

The previous Newsletter had scarcely gone out when, reflecting a national recession and a state fiscal crisis, the department suffered painful budget cuts and position losses which at least temporarily jeopardized our long-term viability. The succeeding several years became a Red Queen marathon, as we worked to recover financially while adjusting to, among other things: (a) a complete turnover in administration and outlook in one of our sponsoring colleges (Agriculture and Natural Resources; AGNR); (b) a dizzying pace of change in goals, priorities and procedures in the other (Chemical and Life Sciences; CLFS); and (c) a string of faculty disappearances, due to raids on our talent pool by higher administration as well as to retirements, which left us short of people for conducting the basic business of the department.

*I am happy to report, however, that we actually came out of this string of crises stronger than before.* Despite the downturn we were able, with strong support from CLFS, to hire two outstanding insect molecular/developmental biologists, Leslie Pick and Jian Wang. With these appointments we vigorously addressed an imbalance among disciplines which our 2002 external review had termed a chief weakness. And, the department as a whole, I am grateful to say, rallied for an inspired response to the budget cuts. With the ever-astute guidance of our consigliere Bill Katsereles, a consensus was quickly reached on a set of cost-saving measures, and these were implemented without complaint despite bringing pain and higher costs to individual laboratories. Voluntary contributions, moreover, kept alive some valued traditions which the department could no longer support, such as our weekly communal lunch after Friday noon colloquium. People kept a positive outlook and sought opportunity in adversity.

*Especially severe cuts to Cooperative Extension prompted our extension group to take a leading role in an innovative restructuring and revitalization of Maryland’s endangered programs in IPM.* This initiative, now called the Plant Protection Center, calls for much closer partnership among relevant



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state and federal agencies, to identify the essential services to be maintained, and determine and find the resources to maintain them. Further, it seeks to take advantage of this new working relationship to build a leading center for research and training in plant protection, capitalizing more fully on our proximity to major USDA units. The initiative, with strong leadership from Plant Protection and IPM Coordinator Sandy Sardanelli, was embraced by Cooperative Extension, and in its first two years has already brought major benefits to the department. Under the Plant Protection banner we have worked closely with AGNR's newly-reconstituted Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, our downstairs neighbor in the Plant Sciences Building, to jointly hire an outstanding new Director, Karen Rane, for the Plant Diagnostic Lab.

A strong basis for partnership had been previously established when our two departments had the good fortune to jointly hire an outstanding young conservation biologist Maile Neel, who became the first faculty member with a shared appointment between the two colleges. Enthusiasm for the Plant Protection Center, with strong support from both colleges, also helped us to make two outstanding junior faculty hires in applied/basic ecology last spring, Cerruti Hooks and Dan Gruner. Most recently, the Plant Protection partner units have been working to develop training and internship programs that will help both graduate and undergraduate students to take full advantage of the diverse and expanding array of career opportunities in plant protection. A first step was a jointly-presented "Adventures in Plant Protection" lecture series in Fall 2007 (available in video at <http://www.leptree.net/plantprotection>).

*Although many have felt that the department must surely have risen in prominence over the past couple of decades, until now there have been no formal comparisons by which one could gauge that progress.* A couple of years ago a new company called Academic Analytics, owned partially by the State University of New York at Stony Brook, started publishing a "Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index" for departments of all kinds including entomology. Their new index combines multiple measures of productivity and impact in a formula designed to track the well-known National Research Council (NRC) rankings. By this yardstick we stood 8th, 3rd, and 6th among entomology departments nationwide in 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively, for an average rank of about 6th. While we clearly have room for improvement, this is a very respectable showing on which to build. As the Chronicle of Higher Education has reported, there is controversy about the value of these new rankings, as compared to long-standing ones from sources such as U.S. News & World Report or the NRC. The NRC will include entomology for the first time in its forthcoming report, and I have no idea whether our standing there can be predicted from the Academic Analytics rankings. What I can say about the latter, however, is that unlike the others, they are based entirely on objective criteria, and thus would appear to represent something substantive and good about us. This department has long prided itself on its collegiality, and I interpret the new rankings to confirm the view, supported by much research, that a happy workplace is a productive workplace and vice versa. Our harmony and productivity reflect the combined efforts over the long term of every department member - past and present, staff, students, post docs and faculty alike. I am grateful to all.

*Appreciation for our predecessors was much on our minds in Spring 2006, as the university celebrated its 150th anniversary.* Entomology as a profession in the U.S. dates to about the same time. Entomology was one of the first subjects taught at Maryland, and the materials assembled for the birthday celebration held by the College of Chemical and Life Sciences included many pictures and memorabilia of prominent former members of our department.

*The highlight of the festivities for us was a visit from members of the family of Professor Ernest N. Cory, one of the foremost figures in our history.* Dr. Cory, who retired 50 years ago last spring, led the department from 1914 until 1956, the period of greatest growth for this department and for Maryland agricultural research and extension more broadly, a development in which he was a guiding force. Dr. Cory was one of the most influential entomologists of his time. As President of the American Association of Economic Entomologists, he was instrumental in re-integrating that society with the Entomological Society of America, thereby helping to heal the great rift between applied and basic entomologists that had originated with the two 19th century giants of American entomology, C.V. Riley (USDA and Maryland) and J. H. Comstock (Cornell). Few in our profession have ever had as much influence as Ernest Cory, and we are very proud to claim him as our own. On the day of the celebration, we were privileged to have as guests Professor Cory's grandson John Cory of Darlington, Maryland, and his fiancé Boo Hopkins; Professor Cory's son William Cory, Esq., of Louisville, Kentucky; and Ms. Lee Cory, wife of William Cory's son Neal Cory, also of Louisville. At the university Scholarship Luncheon, the Cory party met last year's recipients of the Cory Scholarship, established in Dr. Cory's honor at his retirement, which supports outstanding undergraduates working in the labs of Entomology faculty. We then gathered with past and present department members for a retrospective on the career and life of Professor Cory, using old photographs and documents to prompt recollections by those who knew him. For many this was an unforgettable experience, tangibly evoking the look and feel of department life in a previous age, and increasing our pride in our history. The spell was sustained through the evening at the all-college historical review, to which Bill Cory contributed moving vignettes of his father's career. This collective history reconstruction effort is now compiled into an illustrated account of the Cory era which will soon be posted on our web site. We were delighted to re-connect with the Cory family, and look forward to continuing interaction.

*The current year has brought a more somber reflection on the past, with the deaths of two highly esteemed emeritus colleagues from the immediate post-Cory era, Floyd Harrison and Al Steinhauer, whose obituaries can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Dr. Steinhauer, our longest-serving chair after Ernest Cory, deserves much of the credit for guiding us to the recognition we have subsequently achieved. Later this semester, on Friday, April 4th we will host a department homecoming and celebration of Al's era, career and continuing influence, to which all are cordially invited.*

## FACULTY AND STAFF RETIREMENTS

Since the last Newsletter we have had to contend with a series of retirements by key citizens whose departures we never expected to actually happen. Fortunately, they haven't gone far.

*Ms. Mary Lou Matovich retired in November of 2003* after more than 18 years in the department and 26 years total on campus. Prior to arriving in entomology she worked in the Agricultural Experiment Station. Many of us owe Mary Lou a debt of gratitude for her excellent administrative support in years past, and I am happy to say that she continues to help out in the office one day a week.

*Ms. Shirley Donkis retired in January of 2004.* Shirley's career spanned over 40 years at the University of Maryland, starting in 1953. She worked first in the office of President 'Curly' Byrd, and later as secretary to the Director of Admissions. After time off to raise her children, Shirley returned to College Park in 1977, and served 24 years in our department starting in 1981. She became secretary to the chair in 1986, bridging the terms of three chairs, at least one of whom (myself) could not have survived in the job without her. Shirley's steadfast efficiency, courtesy, diplomacy, dependability, and her unsurpassed knowledge of the university, were universally admired. The excellence of her contributions was recognized by Staff Excellence awards from both the College of Life Sciences (2000) and the President's Commission on Women's Issues (2001).

*Ms. Debbie Wilhoit retired in October 2007* after 20 years on campus and seven years as our extension secretary. Prior to arriving in our department, Debbie worked for 11 years in the Department of Agronomy. Debbie will especially be missed for her excellent work on extension conferences.

*Dr. Dale Bottrell retired on 1 June 2006* after 22 years in the department. Dale earned his Ph.D. in Entomology at Oklahoma State in 1968 and moved to a faculty position at Texas A & M University, establishing a leading program in agricultural IPM and becoming an associate professor in 1970. Subsequently he served as a staff consultant for the President's Council on Environmental Quality (1976-1978) and then (1978-1984) as a pest management specialist for the newly-established Consortium for International Crop Protection (CICP), located at U.C. Berkeley. The purpose of CICP, formed by a group of U.S. universities under funding from US-AID, was to assist developing nations reduce food crop losses caused by pests while also safe-guarding the environment.

In 1984 Dale became a Professor in our department as CICP moved to Maryland, with former chair Al Steinhauer as director. For the next decade Dale was at the center of an intense and exciting period of international activity for the department. From 1990 to 1993 he served as head of the Entomology Division of the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines, one of over 50 countries in which he worked at some point in his career. When he returned, the department was struggling with the necessity of making a greatly increased contribution to the undergraduate Biology program. While maintaining his program in IPM, Dale became a pillar of our instructional program as well. In addition to developing a succession of well-received courses, Dale played a

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leadership role in the newly-established Biological Sciences program that included two terms (1997-98 and 2001-02) as chair of the College PCC Committee. Dale set the standard for our adoption of new instructional technology, exemplified by the new web site he constructed for BSCI 120, and he volunteered to fulfill the department's obligation to offer a class at the university's new Shady Grove campus.

For these and his many other contributions, Dale won the LFSC College Teaching Award in 2003. Dale's career-long commitment to international collaboration led to his receipt of the University of Maryland Distinguished International Service Award for 2004. That same year, his contributions to our profession were recognized in his being named a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America. The foregoing recitation can give only a hint at the intense energy and commitment to excellence and to serving the interests of the community that Dale sustained throughout his career. Few entomologists have achieved equivalent respect and distinction from their peers, and no one has ever worked harder on behalf of this department.

*Dr. Galen Dively retired on 1 July 2006.* Galen joined us in 1972 as an Extension Pest Management Specialist for vegetable crops. In his first 16 years, while serving as Maryland's IPM Coordinator, he introduced a remarkable number of new techniques that significantly reduced pesticide use on vegetable, field and fruit crops. One of his most notable innovations, achieved through rigorous experimentation and outreach, was convincing sweet corn growers, in Maryland and ultimately across the country, that calendar-spray applications of soil insecticides to control rootworms were unnecessary. He thereby helped to reverse a long-standing practice that was economically unsound and environmentally detrimental. Galen is also well known for helping to pioneer deployment tactics for newly-developed insecticidal products that would minimize the environmental and resistance risks associated with earlier pesticides.

Galen was one of the few entomologists who foresaw early that innovations such as Bt-containing crops could be quickly rendered useless by pest resistance unless preventive management was practiced. He made the world's first effort to measure baseline levels of resistance to, and cross-resistance between, Bt potatoes and corn as well as the novel insecticides abamectin and imidacloprid, so that changes in resistance could be tracked after these products went into widespread use. Galen helped to bring about a major shift in outlook by industry and federal regulators, leading to acceptance of resistance management as an integral part of product development and use.

Most recently, he has helped to lead research on the potential impact of insecticidal transgenic crops on non-target species such as monarch butterflies and honey bees. Long recognized as a leading agricultural entomologist, Galen was selected by *Farmer's Digest* in 1998 as one of the 25 most influential people in American agriculture, and he has won a number of professional awards.

Beyond his scientific accomplishments, Galen is admired by his colleagues for his extraordinary career-long dedication to the ideal of service, recognized by the 2002 CLFS Service Award. Galen takes great pride and pleasure in communicating his findings, in person and generally in the field, to his grower clientele. The same energy and generosity are also directed to his department, as

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exemplified by his highly effective term as our graduate program director and his perennial role as chef and provider to our community. Most recently, Galen played a central role in the just-concluded search for his successor, who will start in March 2008, and has continued to perform the most essential extension duties expected from this position in the interim. Indeed, although he is “retired,” Galen remains one of the most active and well-funded faculty members in the department. We have no plans to let him leave.

*Ms. Ethel Dutky retired in December 2006* from her position as founding Director of the Maryland Plant Diagnostic Clinic, in which she served with distinction since earning a Master’s degree in Botany and Plant Pathology at Maryland in 1978. Previously she had been an undergrad in our department. Due to Ethel’s efforts, the then-new Plant Diagnostic Laboratory quickly gained recognition as one of the most vital services provided by Maryland Cooperative Extension.

The clinic has an interesting history, originating when our department, because of the need for such expertise to support IPM programs, proposed and provided a majority of the funding for creating a new plant disease diagnostics position in the former Botany department. Ethel’s broad training made her an ideal choice because in addition to plant diseases she could identify insects, mites and the plant itself if necessary. Interdepartmental sponsorship of the Plant Clinic worked well until the Botany department underwent nuclear fission in 1995, at which point the diagnostics positions lodged in Entomology, and we welcomed Ethel home.

In addition to providing outstanding diagnostic service, Ethel made major contributions to her broader professional community. An active member of the American Phytopathological Society, she founded and led that society’s Diagnostics Committee, from which she received a lifetime service award in 2000, and served as President of the society’s Potomac Division. A Maryland IPM team member extraordinaire, Ethel worked with campus and field colleagues in developing many excellent programs, exemplified by the “Total Plant Management” project for landscapes and the green industry, and helped to design the Home and Garden Information Center. Ethel formed close working ties with her local federal and state counterparts, and provided major assistance as the Maryland Department of Agriculture set up its own diagnostic service. Some major publications resulted from these partnerships, such as her landmark 2002 book with Stanton Gill and Dave Clement, *Pests and Diseases for Herbaceous Perennials*.

Ethel was in great demand as a speaker and teacher, making 30-40 presentations per year for workshops, Master Gardeners, grower groups and many others. She also assisted in setting up diagnostic labs in both Africa and South America. As the coda to an outstanding career, Ethel starting lobbying long before her retirement to make sure we recognized the importance of replacing her, helped us to recruit the best possible replacement (which we surely did), and worked to ensure a smooth transition. I am happy to report that she remains associated with the department as a valued resource person, in addition to her full time duties as a grandparent.

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

*Fortunately, in view of all these retirements, the department has also been able to make a series of truly outstanding staff and faculty hires in the past few years.*

*Dr. Leslie Pick joined the department in August 2003 as an associate professor of insect molecular biology.* Leslie earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry at Albert Einstein School of Medicine, then did postdoctoral training in *Drosophila* developmental genetics in the lab of Walter Gehring in Basel. Prior to joining our department, Leslie was an associate professor at Mt. Sinai Medical School in New York. Leslie's research addresses basic mechanisms underlying pattern formation, determination, differentiation and morphogenesis in animal development, using fruit flies (and other arthropods) as models. Among the many projects ongoing in her lab are studies of Hox gene function and evolution, and of axon guidance during brain development.

*Dr. Maile Neel joined us in August 2003 as an assistant professor of conservation biology,* with a split appointment between Entomology (33%) and Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture (67%). Maile obtained a Ph.D. in Botany from U. C. Riverside, and prior to arrival here had been a Nature Conservancy Smith Research Fellow at the University of Massachusetts. Maile's research analyzes biological diversity and its conservation at all levels, from genes to ecosystems, treating topics ranging from evolutionary distinctiveness of individual rare species to landscape pattern analysis and reserve design.

*Ms. Donna Brown joined us in August 2004,* and has proved to be an outstanding member of our administrative office staff. Among Donna's many responsibilities is provision of administrative support for the Molecular and Cellular Biology graduate program, currently directed by Leslie Pick.

*Dr. Jian Wang joined us in August 2005 as an assistant professor of insect molecular biology.* Jian obtained his Ph.D. in insect physiology from the Shanghai Institute of Entomology in 1998. He then moved to a postdoctoral position at the University of Illinois. Jian's current research focuses on the fundamental molecular mechanisms that guide the formation and maintenance of the nervous system, using the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* as a model system. Among the projects underway in his lab are studies of a homolog to a gene associated with Down Syndrome in humans, which in flies is necessary for normal axon branching and guidance during development. Jian's teaching assignment will include introductory entomology and insect physiology.

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

*Dr. Dan Gruner joined us in August 2007 as an assistant professor of insect ecology.* Dan obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Hawaii in 2004, then spent three years as a postdoc with Don Strong at the U.C. Davis Bodega Bay lab before coming to College Park. Dan's research emphasis broadly defined is on species interactions and maintenance of biodiversity in ecological communities, and the implications of these for conservation and sustainable agriculture. His teaching assignment will include insect ecology.

*Dr. Karen Rane joined us in September 2007 as the new Director of the Plant Clinic.* Previously Karen had worked in a similar capacity at Purdue University, after receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts. The search that hired Karen was conducted under the auspices of the Plant Protection Center, in which she will play a key role, and her appointment is a partnership with the Department of Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture.

*Ms. Avis Koeiman joined our administrative office staff in December 2007.* Among Avis's many responsibilities is providing administrative support to our Extension short courses.

*Dr. Cerruti Hooks will join us in March 2008 as an assistant professor and extension specialist in agricultural pest management.* Cerruti earned a Master's degree in weed science at N.C. State, and received his Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Hawaii in 2000, where currently he holds the title of (self-supporting) junior researcher. Cerruti's research and outreach program focuses on integrated crop production, sustainable agriculture and agroecology – in short, on finding ecological ways to improve crop health.

*I am also happy to report that we have made a number of additional excellent adjunct/ affiliate appointments* to our faculty over the past several years, capitalizing further on the unique advantages of our location. *Dr. Jerry Brust*, a regional IPM specialist based at the Upper Marlboro Research and Education Center, has been an outstanding addition to our IPM team. *Dr. Jeff Pettis* the Research Leader of the Bee Research Laboratory at the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, has been a superb ally in our effort to sustain bee research and extension in Maryland in the absence of a full-time faculty member in that field. *Dr. John Lill*, an assistant professor at George Washington University whose research is in forest insect ecology, has been a very valuable collaborator and student committee member for multiple labs in our department. *Utpal Pal* is an assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine, specializing in medical entomology, an area in which the department hopes to hire in the next year or two.

## FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS, PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Were I to give a full accounting of the many signal accomplishments by faculty and staff since the last report, we would have to send the Newsletter by parcel post. This time out, therefore, I will limit myself to noting that in the past few years, an impressive number of our people have been singled out for special recognitions, including many highly-competitive awards. In addition, a remarkable number have been asked to take on high-profile leadership roles, on campus and elsewhere, attesting to the high quality of our talent pool. Without exception, these are major recognitions for work well done. Congratulations to all.

*Here are some of the highlights:*

### *2003*

*Dale Bottrell* received the College of Life Sciences Teaching Excellence award. Dale was also named a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America.

*Galen Dively* received the College of Life Sciences Service Excellence award.

*Dave Hawthorne* was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

*Brett Kent* was named Associate Director of the highly successful on-line Master's of Life Sciences graduate program, which is directed by former dean Paul Mazzochi.

*Judd Nelson* was named a Fellow of the Agrochemicals Division of the American Chemical Society.

*Mike Raupp* was elected President of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

*Ray St. Leger* won the College of Life Sciences Research Excellence award.

### *2004*

*Earlene Armstrong* received the Chancellor's Award from North Carolina Central University, and was named the campus Outstanding Woman of Color at the University by the President's Commission on Women's Affairs.

*Dale Bottrell* won the campus Distinguished International Service Award.

*Joanne Lewis* was officially appointed Administrative Assistant to the chair after acting in that capacity for an extended interim. In her new post she has been superb.

*Leslie Pick* was appointed to a four-year term as Director of the campus-wide graduate program in Molecular and Cellular Biology (MOCB), a very large responsibility.

*Mike Raupp* led an award-winning graduate student Extension team – the Cicadamaniacs – in a spectacularly successful public information campaign during the May periodical cicada emergence, and simultaneously launched an additional career as Bug Man & international media star.

*Sandy Sardanelli* was the campus nominee for the Board of Regents' University System of Maryland Staff Award in the category of Extraordinary Public Service.

*Paula Shrewsbury* received the Outstanding Junior Faculty Award from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

*Barbara Thorne* was appointed to a five-year term as the Director of the very-high-profile University of Maryland Honors Program.



## FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS, PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

### *2005*

*Amy Brown* was promoted to the rank of Professor, and in a Byzantine plot twist, simultaneously became, for the first time, an official member of our faculty.

*Dale Bottrell* was named a Distinguished Honors Professor by the campus honors program.

*Mike Ma* was appointed Executive Director of the Institute of Global Chinese Affairs as well as Deputy Director for the Confucius Institute at Maryland. He continues to make a major contribution to the university's rapidly growing connection with China.

*Margaret Palmer* was appointed to the position of Director of the Chesapeake Biological Lab in Solomons, Maryland. CBL is one of three facilities making up the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, a research institute which in turn is one of the 13 units of the University System of Maryland. While she is based now primarily at Solomons, I am happy to say that Margaret retains the title of Professor in our department, where she continues (somehow!) to maintain a lab, teach, and supervise graduate students. Margaret was also named a National Network Design Team member for the NSF National Ecological Observatory Network.

*Sandy Sardanelli* agreed to take on the role of Coordinator of the new Plant Protection Center, in which she has done an outstanding job.

*Paula Shrewsbury* was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

### *2006*

*Earlene Armstrong* was named a finalist for the Banneker Legacy Award from the Benjamin Banneker Institute for Science and Technology.

*Pedro Barbosa* was named an Honorary Member of the Entomological Society of America.

*Mike Ma* was appointed a senior program officer at the National Research Council, where he directed an NRC study of emerging technologies serving agriculture in developing countries. Mike also chaired a blue-ribbon committee which prepared the "roadmap" for a major upgrade to the campus's animal care facilities.

*Margaret Palmer* won the Distinguished Service Award from the Ecological Society of America. Margaret was also appointed to the National Advisory Board for NSF's Long Term Ecological Research program.

*Mike Raupp* served for much of the 2006-07 academic year as Acting Associate Dean and Director for Maryland Cooperative Extension.

### *2007*

*Pedro Barbosa* won the College of Chemical and Life Sciences Research Excellence Award.

*Nancy Breisch* received a Distinguished Service Award from members of the National Pest Management Association as well as local and regional pest management professionals in honor of her 25 years of outstanding leadership of the Interstate Pest Management Conference, one of the largest and most acclaimed meetings of its kind.

## VISITORS AND POSTDOCS

*The department continues to host and benefit from a steady stream of outstanding visiting scientists and postdocs. We are very proud of the placement record of the latter.*

*In the St. Leger lab*, Chengshu Wang, who arrived in 2004, has recently left to take a faculty position at the Shanghai Institute of Entomology. Recent arrivals are Weiguo Fang, who received his Ph.D. from Southwest Agricultural University, China, and Sibao Wang, who received his Ph.D. from the Institute of Plant Physiology & Ecology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

*In the Thorne lab*, Philip Johns, who joined us in 2005, has just started as an Assistant Professor at Bard College. His successor is Ken Howard, who recently arrived following a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin.

*Postdocs in the Wang lab* include Cheng Peng, who arrived in 2006 following a Ph.D. at Beijing University, and recently-arrived Jinhua Huang, who received his Ph.D. from the Shanghai Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology.

*In the Denno lab*, Gina Wimp, who arrived in 2004 following a Ph.D. at Northern Arizona University, has just started as an assistant professor at George Washington University. Shannon Murphy, who arrived from Cornell in 2005 as a National Parks Ecological Research Postdoctoral Fellow, has recently moved to a postdoc with adjunct faculty member John Lill at George Washington University.

*In Bill Lamp's group*, Peter Jensen, who joined us in 2006 after getting his Ph.D. at U.C. Riverside, has just taken a position at Integral Consulting Inc.

*In the Palmer lab*, Emily Bernhardt left in 2004 to take a faculty position at Duke University.

*In the Pick lab*, Dongyu Guo, who arrived with Dr. Pick in 2003, has moved to the lab of Howard Nash at NIMH, while Hua Zhang arrived in 2005 following a Ph.D. in Plant Biology at Michigan State.

*In the Regier lab*, Andreas Zwick has just arrived, following a Ph.D. at Australian National University, for a postdoc with the Regier/ Mitter Lepidoptera Tree of Life Project. Visiting scientist Soowon Cho, from Chungbuk University in Korea, is also collaborating on this project.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

*Our graduate student corps, a point of special pride for the department, has continued to increase in excellence and diversity, and their placement record remains excellent.*

I have appended to this report a summary account of all of the grad students who have been in the department at any point since the last Newsletter, so you can see for yourselves. In a subsequent Newsletter I will bring you more up to date on their many accomplishments and honors.

A notable trend over the past five years has been increasing participation of our faculty in campus interdepartmental graduate programs. Thus, of the 46 graduate students currently supervised by our faculty, half (23) are in the Entomology graduate program, while the remainder are spread across five other programs, with the largest numbers in BEES (Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, Systematics; 10 students), MEES (Marine and Estuarine Environmental Studies; 6 students), and MOCB (Molecular and Cellular Biology; 4 students). Many labs have students in two or more different programs. The department treats all of these students as its own, and our highly enterprising graduate student organization, open to all, works hard to maintain the strong sense of community which has long characterized us.

The department is very proud of the tradition of excellence established by our Graduate Teaching Assistants, and begins each academic year with a presentation of our two highly competitive teaching awards. The winners over the past several years are listed in the table below.

The department is fortunate to have its own endowed graduate fellowship, the Gahan Scholarship, made possible by the generosity of the Gahan family. This fellowship, which allows senior graduate students to pursue their research without teaching or other obligations, is keenly competed for. The table below lists the Gahan Fellowship winners over the past five years.

**Department Graduate Student Awards**

Year	A.L. Steinhauer Teaching Excellence	Teaching Achievement	Gahan Fellowship
2003-2004	Andrew Sensenig	Jessica Hines Miles Lepping	Debbie Finke Andrea Huberty
2004-2005	Robert Ahern, Laurie Alexander, Steven Frank Jessica Hines, Miles Lepping	Gwen Shlichta Robert Smith	Laurie Alexander Catherine Long
2005-2006	Tammatha O'Brien, Gwen Shlichta, Robert Smith		Steve Frank Robert Ahern
2006-2007	Julie Byrd	Jane Bownes Akito Kawahara	Ian Kaplan, Andrew Sensenig Ada Szczepaniec

## Appendix. Graduate students in the Department of Entomology in the interval 2003-2008

Student name	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Advisor	Program	Degree(s), Date(s)	Position after graduation	Permanent position
Menon, Sunil	2001	Brown	CHED	M.P.H., 2005	→	Orthopedics Dept., Lakeshore Hospital, Kochi, India.
Kane, Ethan	1999	Shultz	ENTM	M.S., 2003	Entomologist, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA-ARS	Acarologist/Entomologist, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Moore, Aaron	2000	Palmer	BEES	M.S., 2003	→	Survey Entomologist, DE Dept. of Agriculture
Mignault, Andre	2000	Mitter	ENTM	M.S., 2004	→	research & development team, biotech industry
Bejleri, Kreshnik	2001	Raupp	ENTM	M.S., 2004	Lab Tech, Environmental Science & Tech, UMCP	
Clark, Lisa	2002	Brown	MEES	M.S., 2004	Ph.D. program, Georgetown U.	Environmental consultant
Ladner, Deborah	2003	Hawthorne	ENTM	M.S., 2004	→	Science teacher, Prince Georges' County public schools
Lynch, Margaret	2001	Denno/Dively	ENTM	M.S., 2005		
Waterworth, Rebeccah	2003	Shrewsbury	ENTM	M.S., 2005	Ph.D. program, U.C. Riverside	Lab Coordinator, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of MD, College Park
Lemke, Hans	2003	Raupp	ENTM	M.S., 2005	→	
Smith, Lisa	2000	Nelson	MEES	M.S., 2006		
Micheli, Charyn	2001	Mitter	ENTM	M.S., 2006	→	Museum Technician Zoologist, USDA-ARS
Han, Kin-Lan	2003	Mitter	BEES	M.S., 2006	Ph.D. program, U. Florida	
Hassett, Brooke	2003	Palmer	MEES	M.S., 2006	Lab Tech, Duke Univ. Research technician, Univ. of Vermont	
Lewins, Scott	2003	Barbosa	ENTM	M.S., 2006	Ph.D. program, U.C. Santa Cruz	
Moreno, Carlo	2003	Barbosa	ENTM	M.S., 2006		
Ganser, Leanne	2004	Brown	MEES	M.S., 2006	Consultant, Dynmac Corp.	
Rung, Alessandra	1996	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D., 2003	Postdoc, USDA-ARS	Assistant Biosystematist, California Dept. of Food and Agriculture
Swan, Chris	1998	Palmer	BIOL	Ph.D., 2003	→	Asst. Prof., UMBC

## Appendix. Graduate students in the Department of Entomology in the interval 2003-2008

Student name	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Advisor	Pro-gram	Degree(s), Date(s)	Position after graduation	Permanent position
Desjardins, Chris	1997	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D., 2004	postdoc, IIGR, postdoc, Univ. of Rochester	California Dept. of Food and Ag., Plant Pest Diagnostics
Kerr, Peter	1997	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D., 2004	postdoc, UC Davis	Asst. Prof., Colby-Sawyer College
Baer, Nicholas	1998	Lamp	MEES	Ph.D., 2004	→	Asst. Prof., Shepherd University
Mathews, Clarissa	2001	Bottrell	ENTM	Ph.D., 2004	→	Assistant Professor, Texas A&M Uni
Medina, Raul	1996	Barbosa	ENTM	Ph.D., 2004	→	Bioinformaticist, NewFields Environmental
Hu, Gang	1997	St. Leger	ENTM	Ph.D., 2005		Forensics, Boston
Huberty, Andrea	1998	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D., 2005	AAAS/USDA Risk Policy Fellow	Biotechnology Regulatory Service, USDA-APHIS
Finke, Deborah	1999	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D., 2005	postdoc, Washington St. Entomologist, American	Asst. Prof., University of Missouri
Long, Catherine	2000	Thorne	ENTM	Ph.D., 2005	Pest Management	Research Scientist, Syngenta Crop Protection
Rose, Robyn I.	2000	Dively	ENTM	Ph.D., 2005	→	Regulatory Scientist, USDA-APHIS
Alexander, Laurie	2000	Lamp	ENTM	Ph.D., 2007		
Menninger, Holly	2000	Palmer Shrewsbury/	BEES	Ph.D., 2007 M.S., 2003;	→	Public policy associate, American Institute of Biological Sciences
Lepping, Miles	2000	Dively	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Ahern, Robert	2001	Raupp Shrewsbury/	ENTM	Ph.D., 2007 M.S., 2003;	postdoc, Michigan State	
Frank, Steven	2001	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D., 2007	postdoc, Texas A & M	
Winkler, Isaac	2001	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D., 2007	postdoc, N. C. State	
Kaplan, Ian	2003	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D., 2007	postdoc, Cornell	
Hutchings, Roger	1996	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
West, Joan	1999	Hawthorne	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Lewis, Danny	2000	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Pollack, Sara	2001	Lamp	MEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Byrd, Julie	2002	Hawthorne	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		

## Appendix. Graduate students in the Department of Entomology in the interval 2003-2008

Student name	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Advisor	Pro-gram	Degree(s), Date(s)	Position after graduation	Permanent position
Craig, Laura	2002	Palmer	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Pearson, Rachel	2002	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Richardson, David	2002	Palmer	MEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Smith, Robert F.	2002	Lamp	ENTM	M.S., 2006; Ph.D. in progress		
Anderson, Ray	2003	Pick	CBMG	Ph.D. in progress M.S., 2007;		
Kawahara, Akito	2003	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Lind, Eric	2003	Barbosa	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Martinson, Holly	2003	Denno/Fagan	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Nelson, Jessica	2003	Dively	MEES	M.S. in progress M.S., 2002;		
Sensenig, Andrew	2000	Schultz	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Shlichta, Jennifer	2003	Barbosa	BEES	Ph.D. in progress M.S., 2007;		
Sosa, Jeffrey	2003	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Szezepaniec, Adrianna	2003	Raupp	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Hines, Jessica	2004	Denno	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Johnson, Stephanie	2004	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Laub, Brian	2004	Palmer	BIOL	Ph.D. in progress		
Li, Caroline	2004	Pick	MOCB	Ph.D. in progress		
Moore, Laura	2004	Denno	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
O'Brien, Tammatha	2004	St. Leger	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Paustian, Megan	2004	Barbosa	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Pava-Ripoll, Monica	2004	St. Leger	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Welch, Andreeanna	2004	Hawthorne	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Blank, Peter	2005	Dively	MEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Feng, Siqian	2005	Wang	MOCB	Ph.D. in progress		
Grant, Evan	2005	Palmer	MEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Raghavan, Sangeetha	2005	Wang	MOCB	Ph.D. in progress		

**Appendix. Graduate students in the Department of Entomology in the interval 2003-2008**

<b>Student name</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year</b>	<b>Advisor</b>	<b>Pro-gram</b>	<b>Degree(s), Date(s)</b>	<b>Position after graduation</b>	<b>Permanent position</b>
Sohn, Jae-cheon	2005	Mitter	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Vodratska, Ellery	2005	Shrewsbury	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
Castaldo, Chris	2005	Fagan/Dively	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Bownes, Jane	2006	Lamp	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
Creary, Scott	2006	Raup	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
Culler, Lauren	2006	Lamp	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
Heffer, Alison	2006	Pick	MOCB	Ph.D. in progress		
Lombardi, Susan	2006	Lamp	MEES	M.S. in progress		
McDonough, Owen	2006	Palmer	BEES	Ph.D. in progress		
Van Tull, Lie'An	2006	Palmer	ENTM	M.S. in progress		
Abdou, Mohamad	2007	Wang	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Johnson, Susan	2007	Thorne	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Matheny, Amanda	2007	Brown	MEES	M.S. in progress		
Thompson, Brian	2007	St. Leger	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		
Wille, Bridget	2007	Lamp	ENTM	Ph.D. in progress		

Key to Graduate Programs: BEES = Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, Systematics; BIOL = Biology; CBMG = Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics; CHED = Community Health Education; ENTM=Entomology; MEES=Marine and Estuarine Environmental Studies; MOCB = Molecular and Cellular Biology.

## **DEPARTMENT PROSPECT - A FINAL OBSERVATION**

In an era which has seen the dissolution and/or submergence of many entomology departments elsewhere, we are more resolved than ever to continue thriving under our historical identity.

Our Land Grant mission, of advancing fundamental understanding of biology as it relates to insects, while using the results to advance education and address public needs, remains as important as ever. Our effectiveness in that mission is strengthened by our service as a “bridge” department between our two colleges, and we have strong hopes and plans for continuing to improve as a department.

Our ability to advance despite the continuing decline in federal and state “formula” funding for agricultural research and extension rests primarily, as it must, on the brute cleverness of our faculty and staff in finding other ways to support their programs.

We also depend strongly, however, on the past and continuing help and generosity of friends of the department. One form of such support, of course, is financial. Our endowed scholarships, the Cory and Gahan, have repeatedly provided the critical resources ensuring success of our students’ careers. Both funds continue to grow through ongoing donations. We also hope to establish a new fund in honor of former chair Al Steinhauer, in conjunction with the upcoming memorial event. We would of course be most grateful for donations to any of these and you can contact me ([cmitter@umd.edu](mailto:cmitter@umd.edu)) or our CFO Bill Katsereles ([wck@umd.edu](mailto:wck@umd.edu)).

Equally important to our success, however, is simply the continuing involvement of so many alumni, emeriti and friends. Their help, advice and friendship bring rich benefit to our programs, our students, and our sense of community.

To all I say, thank you, we will always need you, stay in touch, and come see us.

Charlie Mitter





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### GOING GREEN!

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