



Action in Agroforestry

July 2015
Vol. 6, No. 7

Michael Gold and
Taylor Wanbaugh, editors

CAFNR/UMCA Launching New Study Program in Indonesia

A **new** Nature, Culture and Agriculture Study Abroad program in Indonesia (December 27, 2015 to January 18, 2016) was recently approved by the CAFNR Study Abroad office and the MU International Center. Details available on the web at: <http://cafnr.missouri.edu/study-abroad/indonesia/>

Led by Center Director, Dr. Shibu Jose, and the Center's Education and Outreach Coordinator, Gregory Ormsby Mori, the program will explore themes of agricultural production, conservation of natural resources and Indonesian culture. Local partners include faculty at two host institutions on the Island of Java: the Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB) in Bogor and the Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) in Yogyakarta, among the most prestigious academic institutions in Indonesia. The program will consist of numerous site visits and field trips along with informative presentations at IPB and UGM on the themes of agriculture, forestry, food security, and conservation in Indonesia. Students will also have the opportunity to visit the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the



Bogor Botanical Garden, and The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). While traveling between Bogor and Yogyakarta

students will visit National Parks, agricultural landscapes, community managed forestry sites, and marine conservation projects. In Yogyakarta, participants will be hosted by UGM. Yogyakarta is considered to be the “cultural capitol” of Indonesia, where both traditional and modern styles of art are found intermingled with music, theatre and other forms of cultural expression. Yogyakarta is home to a vibrant student culture reflected in the rich and visible cultural activities, entertainment and visual arts, and social and environmental activism. Special opportunities will be arranged for academic and cultural interaction with local Indonesian students.

KUDOS: Moving Up

Dr. Thi Ho, former postdoctoral scientist at UMCA, took administrator position as vice head at Department of Cropping Systems at International Cuu Long Delta Rice Research Institute, Vietnam.

MU Signs New MOU with INBio

The MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and the National Biodiversity Institute of Costa Rica (INBio) have recently finalized a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). INBio is a nonprofit Costa Rican NGO dedicated to the preservation of tropical biodiversity. The joint MOU comes as the result of a visit by Dr. Chung-Ho Lin to INBio and a subsequent return visit from INBio scientists Allan Jimenez-Ardon and Adrian Alberto Pinto-Tomas to MU in March, 2015. Specific areas of collaboration include: 1) Pharmaceutical-drug discovery and mode of actions (joint with the KU High Throughput Screening Laboratory; Director Anuradha Roy); 2) Energy-biofuel development; 3) Microbial ecology and microbial symbioses-in-

cluding insect gut microbiota and nitrogen-fixers, informatics, and they work on leafcutter ant-fungus-bacteria-chemistry interactions; and 4) Agricultural biotechnology-biocontrol and crop protection. The extensive list of participating MU facilities and faculty includes: MU Life Science Center (Jack Schultz); MU Center for Agroforestry (Chung-Ho Lin, Shibu Jose); Forestry (Francisco Aguilar); Veterinary Pathobiology (George Stewart); Biological Engineering (Ellen Wang, Teng Lim, William Jacoby); Animal Core (Natalia Karasseva); MU Metagenomics Center (Aaron Ericsson); Biochemistry (Joseph Polacco); and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health, MU School of Medicine (Susan Nagel).

Chestnut Honey, Anyone?

Adrian Juttner (MU Forestry '68) has an apiary in Louisiana. He is also a chestnut enthusiast interested in further developing his chestnut honey enterprise. He wanted to find out how much chestnut honey would be produced if he placed his beehives within highly productive chestnut orchards and is familiar with the Center's chestnut orchards at the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center (HARC), New Franklin, MO. On June 9, 2015, Adrian brought 11 bee hives up from Louisiana to be placed in the chestnut orchards at HARC. We are all eagerly looking forward to measuring the honey production in those hives (and tasting the chestnut honey later this year).

RESEARCH

The Center's Dr. Carol Williams has co-authored a new research paper that developed spatially explicit landscape scenarios of increased bioenergy crop production in an 80-km radius agricultural landscape centered on a potential biomass-processing energy facility and evaluated the consequences of each scenario for bird communities. Key findings included: 1) Clustering grasslands had a stronger positive influence on the bird community than locating grasslands near the central plant or at random; and 2) Expansion of bioenergy grasslands onto marginal agricultural lands will likely benefit grassland bird populations, and bioenergy.

Blank, PJ, CL Williams, DW Sample, TD Meehan and MG Turner. 2015. Alternative scenarios of bioenergy crop production in an agricultural landscape and implications for bird communities. *Ecological Applications*. In press. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1890/14-1490.1>

Upcoming Events

July 27-29, 2015:

106th NNGA
Annual Meeting;
LaCrosse, WI

<http://www.northernnutgrowers.org/meetinfo.htm>



A Global Center for Agroforestry, Entrepreneurship and the Environment

203 Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources
(573) 882-0240
centerforagroforestry.org
Shibu Jose, Ph.D., Director