New Distance Masters Students: **Spring 2013**: Stacy Muncy, Big Lake, MN; Zell Zanarkand, Alamogordo, NM.

New Insect Science Student: **Alexandria Harris**, Lincoln, NE

**Thais Barros Rodriguez** is working in **Dr. Blair Siegfried’s** Toxicology Lab on a 12 month fellowship to develop RNAi techniques in *Diabrotica* species. Thais received her B.S. In Biological Sciences and her M.S. In Plant Biotechnology from Federal University of Lavras in Minas Gerais, Brazil. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. In Plant Biotechnology from the same university and conducting her research at the Embrapa Mihlo e Sorgo in Sete Lagoas, Brazil.

**Congratulations**

The National ESA Meeting was held November 11–14, 2012 in Knoxville, TN. **Dr. Shripat Kamble** received a recognition award as Director of the Certification Program. **Justin McMechan** received a 1st Place in the Ph.D. 10 minute oral presentation, and **Muhammad “Irfan” Ullah** received a 1st Place in the Ph.D. poster presentation. **Karen da Silva** received a 2nd Place in the M.S. poster presentation, and **Melissa Lein**, a forensic science major, received a 2nd place in the undergraduate poster presentation.

**Dr. Jeff Bradshaw** was selected to receive the 2012 Outstanding Postdoc Mentor Award. In recognition of this honor, Dr. Bradshaw, who was nominated by **Dr. Sean Whipple**, received $2,000 and a commemorative keepsake on November 7 at the Postdoc/PI Awards Luncheon which was held during this year’s Research Fair.

Chancellor Harvey Perlman’s annual State of the University Address and UNL’s Employee Service Award recognition program were held September 11 at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. The following employees were honored: **Karen Randall**, ASSIST Business Center, 20 years; **Jared Evert**, ASSIST Business Center, Center, 5 years; **Marissa Young**, ASSIST Business Center, 5 years, and **Mitch Stamm**, 5 years.

**Grants**

**Fred Baxendale/Tiffany Heng-Moss**

- Syngenta ........................................................................................................................................... $ 6,000
  - “Turfgrass Pest”

- FMC .................................................................................................................................................. $ 9,000
  - “Turfgrass Pest”

**Marion Ellis**

- Nebraska Department of Agriculture .................................................................................................. $20,000
  - “Exotic Bee Pest Survey”

**Lance Meinke**

- Dow AgroSciences .............................................................................................................................. $ 4,000
  - “Biology, Ecology, and Management of Diabrotica”

**Robert Wright**

- Syngenta ........................................................................................................................................... $22,500
  - “Crop Insect Management Research”

- Amvac Chemical Corporation .............................................................................................................. $ 5,400
  - “Crop Insect Management Research”
Gabriela Harvey

I learned at a young age what it meant to work hard and to share. When I was five, my family and I moved to the USA. We left Mexicali, the capital of the Mexican state of Baja California, so that we may have an opportunity for a better education and to live the American dream. My dad worked as a gardener while my mom stayed home to take care of me, my four brothers, and two sisters. These early childhood experiences are so important to me. Because of my parents, I am living my American dream, which is to live a simple, yet fulfilling life. I too will love, nurture and encourage my daughters just as they did with me. They say a parent is a child’s first teacher and role model.

It was in high school when I knew I wanted to pursue a career in healthcare, but little did I know that my future would be in entomology. I attended California State University of San Bernardino, where I received a B.A. in biology. Not only was I a student, but I married my soul mate and became a wife and mother. Studying and caring for two young daughters brought challenges and distress, however, I graduated. I am now a biologist working for the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. The district I work at protects the public health from disease transmitted by mosquitoes by engaging a three-pronged approach to Integrated Vector Management (IVM): chemical, physical, and biological control. Some of the things I currently do to reduce mosquito populations and protect the public involve laboratory bioassays of mosquito control products for our quality control program, physical monitoring of products applied to natural waters of the US as authorized by the Clean Water Act (CWA), and source reduction of mosquito breeding habitats in storm water structures.

Working as a biologist for the district is like no other job I have had. It gives me a sense of fulfillment. I’m able to use my education and experience to help others. Learning keeps life interesting and challenging. Pursuing an M.S. in Entomology will be a good investment for me and my family in the future and an instrument which will contribute to a lifelong experience of learning.

Meet an Off Campus Student

Gabriela Harvey

Publications


Faculty News

Dr. Ashley Hall has been elected to the Faculty Senate.

Drs. Nick Miller and Ken Pruess attended the International Congress of Entomology in Daegu, Korea, August 19-25.
The annual Insect Science Club Honey Sale was held November 7th and 8th at the City and East Campus Unions. This year the club had honey bears, cinnamon and regular creamed honey as well as a variety of beeswax candles. The club would like to thank Dr. Marion Ellis for donating the honey, and all of his assistance and guidance with the sale. This year the Club is taking post-sale orders! Stop by Room 105 or the mail room for an order form if you would like to make a post-sale purchase. Insect Science Club Officers are (l-r) Aaron Gilman, Gabby Cooper, Steph Endrulat and Katie O’Brien.

Swenk Fund Awardees for Fall 2012 are: Abdul Hafiz Majid, Kyle Koch, Lia Marchi, Justin McMechan, Ralph Narain, Travis Prochaska, Mitch Stamm, Ana Maria Velez, Ashley Yates, and Zixiao Zhao.

**Calendar of Events**

- **November 21, 2012**
  - Student Holiday (UNL Offices Open)
- **November 22-25, 2012**
  - Thanksgiving Vacation (UNL Offices Closed)
- **November 27, 2012**
  - Entomology Seminar—Mitch Stamm, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union
- **November 30, 2012**
  - Bruner Club Presents—Dr. John Borden, Contech Inc.
- **December 3—8, 2012**
  - Last Week of Classes
- **December 4, 2012**
  - Entomology Seminar—Erin Ingram, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union
- **December 10–14, 2012**
  - Fall Semester Final Exams
- **December 14, 2012**
  - Fall Semester Graduate Commencement and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony, 3:00 p.m.
  - Bob Devaney Sports Center
- **December 15, 2012**
  - Fall Semester Undergraduate Commencement, 9:30 a.m., Bob Devaney Sports Center
- **December 24, 2012—January 1, 2013**
  - Holiday Closedown (UNL Offices Closed)
- **January 7, 2013**
  - Spring Semester Begins