

New Gators Roaming the Hall—Meet our new employees!



Dr. Whitaker's lab welcomes a new bio scientist. Cheryl Dalid will be taking over the position filled by Zhen Fan. Zhen is now a PhD student in Whitaker's program and received a graduate school fellowship. Great job Zhen. Good luck!

Cheryl comes to our center from University of Tennessee in Knoxville where she completed her Ph.D. in Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences with concentration in Plant Breeding. Welcome Cheryl and best of luck in your new career here at GCREC.



Dr. Agehara's lab is pleased to welcome a new Research Scholar to the team. Dr. Atsushi Sanada is an Assistant Professor at the Tokyo University of Agriculture. His current research includes work on establishment of suitable vegetable cultivation methods in tropic and sub-tropic areas. Florida certainly fits that bill! He has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Development and will be here for one year. Dr. Sanada will be conducting research trials, writing publications and presenting research results at various scientific conferences.



Dr. Agehara's lab also welcomes a couple of new OPS employees. Lillian Pride, pictured here, and her new co-worker in the lab is Will Ruff. Lillian is completing a M.S. degree from UF in Interdisciplinary Ecology. Will is working on a degree locally at USF (Go Bulls!). His career path is geared towards public health. Welcome to both of the newest members of the Agehara Team!

Dr. Deng also welcomes two new OPS Employees—Melissa Perez and Pranil Pandey. Melissa come to us with a lot of great customer service experience, and Pranil is a graduate from Tampa Bay Tech H.S. They will certainly keep busy in the Deng Lab with all the new projects the lab is working on. Welcome Melissa and Pranil!



But wait! There's more! Dr. Hutton welcomes Le Kang, a visiting research scholar from Taiwan. Le Kang is an assistant researcher for the crop science division of the Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute. His research in Taiwan included tomato breeding, tomato core collection and vegetable cultivation techniques under protective structures. While working at our center, his research will include tomato breeding and genetics focusing on genetic studies tomato fruit quality and disease resistance. Best of luck during your stay in Florida.



As Dr. Lusk continues building her program here at GCREC, she welcomes two new members to her lab. Pictured here is her new student intern Juma Bukomba. Juma is student at Earth University in Costa Rica and is originally from Uganda. He will only be here until December, but will gain a wealth of knowledge under Dr. Lusk's guidance. Another addition to the Lusk Lab is Audrey Goeckner, who is a grad assistant. She will be taking charge of the lab as well as conducting research with Dr. Lusk. Best of luck to both of these fine students now working in Dr. Lusk's lab.



Meet Jackie Coburn, the newest grad student working with Dr. Desaeger through the fall semester. Her work in the nematology lab will include literature research and planning experiments that relate to her M.S. degree. She comes to Florida from Delaware and hopefully will enjoy the Florida winter during her stay. Welcome Jackie!



Gabriella Steele is the newest addition to Dr. Smith's lab. She is also a grad assistant and her research will focus on evaluating the influence of viruliferous status on dispersal behavior of white flies. Good luck Gabriella!

More Employee News—

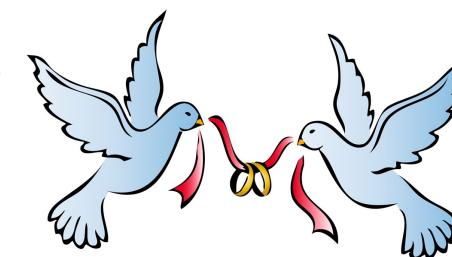
Welcome to Professor Hak Soo Seo from South Korea, who will be working with Dr. Seongee Lee. As a visiting research scholar he will be working closely with Dr. Lee in the strawberry breeding lab focusing on molecular breeding and genetics. In the past he has completed research at Rockefeller University and University of South Carolina, along with work at Seoul University. We look forward to having his knowledge at our center.

New Face in the Front Office—

Although she's not a new GCREC Employee, she's new the front office. We are pleased to report that Nicole Brown has accepted the position of Admin Assistant for the center. It's quite a change from working in Dr. Boyd's weed science lab, but we're sure Nicole will be a great fit for the front office team. Promoting from within can be tricky, but we lucked out finding someone who is already knows the ins and outs of the center. Stop by and wish her luck in her new position.

And finally—

Congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hooks. Patrick works in Dr. Deng's lab and soon after his hire date he was off to get hitched to his lovely new bride, Macy. Childhood friends, they have been an official item for about two years. On August 4th, they made it official. Then it was off to Porta Verata Mexico for a tropical honeymoon. Best wishes to the happy couple.



UF

Superior Accomplishment Awards

Now is your chance to nominate a Deserving Employee

Nomination Period:
September 10 - October 31, 2018

Nominate an employee for excellent performance during the previous academic year:
August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018

Award categories:

- 1-Clerical/Office Support
 - 2-Support Services
 - 3-Scientific/Technical
 - 4-Administrative/Supervisory
 - 5-Administrative/Professional
 - 6-Academic Personnel
- Community Service Award
Diversity & Inclusion Award

Nomination form can be found here:
www.hr.ufl.edu/awards/saa/default.asp

Make sure GCREC is represented at the award's ceremony and nominate a co-worker today! We have a lot of deserving employees. If you need assistance completing a form, see Christine Cooley or Trish Todd.

UF Holidays for the rest of 2018

Friday, 11/2
Homecoming

Monday, 11/12
Veteran's Day

Thursday and Friday,
11/22 and 23
Thanksgiving
Holiday

Winter Holiday
12/25—1/1/2019

What new crop did the farmer plant? (Beets me!)

Why shouldn't you tell a secret on a farm? (Because the potatoes have eyes and the corn has ears!)

Farmers earn a meager celery, come home beet and just want to read the pepper, turn-up the covers, en-dive into bed!

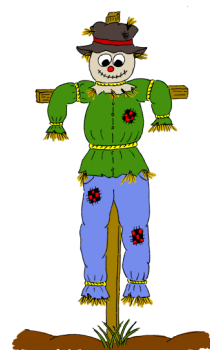
What did the baby corn say to the mama corn? (Where's pop?)

What is a sheep's favorite game? (Baa-dminton!)

Why did the cabbage win the race? (Because it was ahead!)

Why was the cucumber mad? (Because it was in a pickle!)

What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit? (Strawberries!)



BIRTHDAYS

- 1...Shaun Sharpe
- 3...Curtis Nagle
- 3...Vinny Nquyen
- 4... Gary Vallad
- 9... Jose Diaz
- 10...Justin Carter
- 24...Deepak Shrestha
- 25...R. Matt Brown
- 29...Tia Silvasy

Name that Band! Who was the band who make these words into a classic hit?

Do you remember the 21st night of September?
Love was changing the minds of pretenders
While chasing the clouds away

Our hearts were ringing
In the key that our souls were singing
As we danced in the night
Remember how the stars stole the night away

Ba de ya, say do you remember
Ba de ya, dancing in September
Ba de ya, never was a cloudy day

GCREC Employee News

September 2018

GCPSA Announces Research Seminar Speakers for September

Sept. 13, Kshitij Khatri (Dr. Boyd), 11:30 a.m.

Sept. 27, Marcus Marin (Dr. Peres), 11:30 a.m.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Basic Research Seminar presented by students and postdoc associates throughout the year. The Gulf Coast PostDoc and Student Association (GCPSA) was formed earlier this year and continues to provide the center with a wide variety of interesting seminars. Not only do faculty and staff learn about the research our students and postdoc are conducting, but the seminars give the presenters more experience and builds confidence for future public speaking events. Be sure to check your email for the *Weekly Update* to learn about upcoming GCPSA seminars and workshops.



Florida Ag Expo is Wednesday Nov. 7

After a slight delay, registration for our Annual Florida Ag Expo is now available at this link www.floridaagexpo.com. Remember to register online as soon as possible. This year's event will include a focus on precision agriculture, educational sessions, hands-on ID sessions for pests and disease, field tours, vendor show and more.