

Bioproducts Centre explores new ways of looking at agriculture

Researchers are revolutionizing the use of agricultural products at the new Bioproducts Discovery and Development Centre, a 250-square-metre facility located at the south end of the Crop Science Building.

Officially opened October 3, the centre will produce greener bioproducts to substitute non-renewable materials in many manufacturing sectors, consumer goods and services. This means turning crops into renewable biofuels to run vehicles, and into resins, polymers and tough fibres to produce biobased materials which can be used for everything from car parts and furniture to building materials and new kinds of rubber.

“This new centre positions Guelph as a world leader in the field of bioproducts,” said centre director Prof. Amar Mohanty, who holds a \$3-million Premier’s Research Chair in Biomaterials and Transportation in the department of Plant Agriculture.



▲ The cutting of a miscanthus leaf, which has been trialed as a biofuel, marked the official opening of the Bioproducts Discovery and Development Centre.

Lab equipment at the centre converts plant material into components in the manufacturing process, whereby residues and waste biomass from soy, corn and wheat have become plastics to make bumpers, seats, dashboards and other automotive parts. As prototypes of new products are designed, researchers continue to develop new industrial crops that can be turned into composite materials. As well as U of G users, the facility will also draw researchers from other universities and from industry. ■



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Dean's message

Welcome back! I hope your holiday season was filled with joy, laughter, and the company of good friends and family.

As you are all no doubt aware, the year ahead will be a period of significant transition as we work towards a new vision for OAC and the University of Guelph. The major financial challenges that face the university along with the rest of Ontario's postsecondary institutions will certainly be felt here in the college, as we find new ways to deliver on our commitment to outstanding education, research and service.

With those challenges also come opportunities to forge new partnerships and reshape our programs to meet the changing needs of the agriculture, food and environmental sectors.

Many things will not change. Our education programs will remain focused on developing tomorrow's global leaders. Our research programs will continue to emphasize innovation and enhanced value chains to serve the evolving needs of today's agri-food industry. And we'll continue to place a priority on service, providing support at the farm, county, provincial, national and international levels.

What's needed however, and what will evolve over the coming months, is a new vision for achieving our goals. We will build research

programs with capacity and evaluate new models for teaching, research and service. We're working on the development of a number of opportunities for externally funded faculty positions supported through endowments, or with assistance from industry or government.

We'll develop new approaches to build and focus our capacity within the college and across the university for environmental and agricultural education and research.

In teaching, we're working on new ways to promote our programs beyond traditional markets to ensure an adequate supply of well-qualified graduates in the years ahead.

So there are many changes in progress, with more on the horizon. To help in this transition, we are working on an enhanced communications process that will facilitate improved outreach, information exchange, and connection within the college and with our partners and stakeholders. As a starting point, I am committed to providing regular updates for you through *From the Dean's Desktop*, a bi-weekly blog that you will soon be able to access from OAC's homepage – www.oac.uoguelph.ca. I'll look forward to receiving your input and comments.

With thanks,



Robert Gordon
Dean, Ontario Agricultural College
Guelph • Alfred • Kemptville • Ridgetown



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Moving technology from the lab to the market

New opportunities are being created to provide research results to users, thanks to additional support from the province for the longstanding partnership between the University of Guelph and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

Prof. Rich Moccia, interim associate vice-president research (agri-food and partnerships), says several new developments in the partnership will help to stimulate more commercialization, moving knowledge, technology and information faster and more efficiently into the private sector.

Additional funding from the partnership will provide \$500,000 over five years to assist in the commercial development of OMAFRA-supported research. The proof-of-principle funds will provide support for market assessment activities through the University's Business Development Office for selected projects with commercial potential.

Combined with the new intellectual property rights agreement recently concluded between the university's administration and its faculty association (UGFA), which shifts a substantial portion of IP rights to the researcher, this support is expected to stimulate more commercialization, ultimately enhancing service to the industry and benefiting Ontario's agri-food sector.

As well, Knowledge Translation and Transfer (KTT) is a fundamental component of the new partnership agreement announced in April 2008. The KTT program has been initiated, with a joint U of G/ OMAFRA team currently developing goals and objectives for providing enhanced tech transfer and outreach to sector clients. Knowledge translation experts representing crop and livestock areas will build tech transfer programs for outreach to affected communities, resulting in an integrated approach to address sector needs.

A recent agreement between U of G and the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre will also provide industry support and may serve as a new model for private sector partnership. The privatized not-for-profit centre will focus on the rapid development of commercializable technologies for the tender fruit and wine industries.

For updates on these and other developments related to the partnership, subscribe to *The Buzz*, a bi-weekly electronic newsletter produced through the Office of Research. To subscribe to *The Buzz* send an email to listserv@listserv.uoguelph.ca with no text in the subject line and the following message in the body of the e-mail: SUBSCRIBE THE-BUZZ your name. ■

OAC Volunteer Recognition Awards Call for Nominations

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The energy, enthusiasm and knowledge provided by volunteers enrich OAC's teaching and research programs, as well as the industries and communities we serve. Each year, the college recognizes the contributions of these volunteers at the annual OAC Recognition Banquet, to be held this year on April 22 at Creelman Hall. Nominations for volunteer awards will be open until March 1. Categories include:

- **Outstanding Service Award**
- **Volunteer Awards – Agrifood, Environment, Rural Communities**
- **OAC Cooperators-Partners**

Nomination packages and more information are available on the OAC website – www.oac.uoguelph.ca – or by contacting Brenda Bailey at bbailey@uoguelph.ca

International network marks one year of environmental initiatives

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The Kinross Canada-Brazil Network, a research and teaching partnership overseen by Prof. Richard Heck (Land Resource Science), focuses on the management and protection of natural resources, linking Guelph with 15 universities across Brazil.

Funded through a multi-year donation from the Kinross Gold Corporation, the network supports ten U of G research projects in Land Resource Science, Geography, Environmental Biology, Integrative Biology, and Engineering, as well as contributing to course development and international exchanges.

A new course introduced last spring, Soils in Tropical Ecosystems, provides a first-hand look at dominant soils of the tropics, natural factors influencing them, and issues arising from land use and exploitation. In April 2009, Heck will again lead the course with Paul Voroney and John Lauzon as 20 undergraduate students explore tropical regions of Brazil and visit the Kinross gold mine in Paracatu.

At the graduate level, Peter Van Straaten (Land Resource Science) introduced a new offering in agrogeology at the Federal University of Pernambuco and the Centre for Mining Technology, Rio de Janeiro. Over the past year, Land Resource Science has hosted two PhD students from the University of Lavras.

Cross-cultural enrichment is implicit in the activities, and sparked the creation of the new U of G course, Portuguese and the Culture of Brazil.

Moving forward, Heck sees significant opportunities for collaborations with OAC, and the broader engagement of the university on environmental, engineering and social issues in the ongoing development, rehabilitation and closure of the Paracatu gold mine. ■



▲ In Brazil, students investigate the relationship between land use and resource issues, from biofuel production of sugar cane to deforestation caused by grazing lands. Here, Meaghan Wilton overlooks Pierced Rock.



▲ Students visit mangrove swamps, coastal wetlands that are found in tropical regions and are infamous for their impenetrable maze of woody vegetation.

New Centre launched at Ridgetown

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Bioenergy research and the bioeconomy are the focus for the new Centre for Agricultural Renewable Energy and Sustainability (CARES), launched October 17 at the Ridgetown campus.

According to OAC dean Rob Gordon, the new centre will bring together highly skilled personnel and support applied research and knowledge transfer in renewable energy, which is relevant to the public, private and non-profit sectors. These efforts will support OAC's commitment to the development of new technologies to enhance our environment.

The objectives of the new initiative include strengthening the agriculture sector, improving sustainability and development, increasing alternative energy and energy conservation, and leveraging education, training and research.

Its first project, a farm-scale biodiesel demonstration plant, received funding through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food program delivered in Ontario by the Agricultural Adaptation Council. The Southwestern Ontario Bio-Products Innovation Network (SOBIN) was also instrumental in the conception of CARES and will continue to work with U of G to promote bioproduct research and development opportunities. ■



▲ Shaking hands on a Memorandum of Understanding between OAC and SOBIN are (from left): Matt McLean, executive director, SOBIN; Jim Nash, president, SOBIN; Art Schaafsma, director, Ridgetown Campus; and Rob Gordon, OAC dean.

Words worthy of awards



From fiction to research publications to children's books to biographies, more than 80 books were celebrated at the University's third annual Campus Authors reception on October 30. The Campus Authors program is designed to commemorate the publishing accomplishments of the U of G community, and to further the Library's broader initiative to encourage and enhance reading. A complete listing of 2007-2008 honourees is available at: <http://author.lib.uoguelph.ca/viewBooks.cfm> ■

▲ OAC departments were well-represented among the published works of faculty, staff, students, alumni and retirees. Honourees from Environmental Design and Rural Development included (from left): Prof. Bob Brown, Bronwynne Wilton (PhD graduate), Prof. Don Reid and Jorge Nef (Professor Emeritus). Absent from the photo are Prof. Wayne Caldwell and Prof. Stew Hilts who collaborated with Wilton.

Fall awards ceremony celebrates excellence

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Outstanding students and faculty from OAC's campuses at Guelph, Alfred, Kemptville and Ridgetown received recognition for their achievements on November 25 at a banquet held at the University of Guelph's Peter Clark Hall.

Thanks to the generous support of alumni, friends and partners of the college, more than \$700,000 in awards and scholarships was presented to the OAC graduate, undergraduate and diploma students who best exemplify the leadership qualities that guide the course of the agri-food industry in Canada and around the world.

Awards presented for the first time this year include the W. Garfield Weston Scholarship for Food Safety Research and an International Research Scholarship named in honour of former dean Dr. Craig Pearson.

To salute high-calibre teaching and research within the college, the OAC Alumni Association and OAC Alumni Foundation also paid tribute to faculty members who have made exceptional contributions. Prof. John Walton (Animal & Poultry Science) received the Distinguished Teaching award, Prof. Istvan Rajcan (Plant Agriculture) was recognized for Distinguished Research, and Prof. Rickey Yada (Food Science) was honoured with the G.P. McRostie Award, which recognizes the importance of effective advising and mentoring by faculty. ■

Dean honoured for outstanding service and commitment



OAC dean Rob Gordon was recently honoured by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) with its Distinguished Alumnus Award, which recognizes outstanding service and commitment to the alma mater, alumni association, industry and community. The presentation took place at the Blue and Gold Awards Gala held at NSAC on November 14.

Gordon, who has a long history with Nova Scotia agriculture and NSAC, is known for his passion for agriculture, his enthusiasm for teaching and learning, and his dedication to public service. As a member of the NSAC Alumni Association, Gordon was selected for providing a positive role model for NSAC, making significant contributions to industry through teaching, research and extension, and implementing creative and innovative solutions to problems in agriculture and the environment. ■

^ **Jim Goit, executive director of development and external relations, congratulates Rob Gordon, the youngest recipient ever to be awarded NSAC's Distinguished Alumnus Award.**

>forward

Appointments

New chair for Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics



Alan Ker

Alan Ker, Professor of Econometrics and Resource Economics at the University of Arizona, will begin a five-year term as chair of the department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics as of April 30, 2009.

An OAC alumnus, Ker holds an MSc in agricultural economics from U of G as well as an undergraduate degree from the University of Waterloo and a PhD in Economics and Statistics from North Carolina State.

Dr. Ker joined the faculty at the University of Arizona in 1996, serving as head of the department from 2002-2007. His research and teaching interests include applied and theoretical econometrics, risk management, trade and institutional economics.

"I am honoured to be joining the Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics department in OAC at the University of Guelph," Ker said. "It is exciting to be part of a department delivering world-class research and teaching programs that critically impact so many economically vital sectors. As chair, it is my hope that we can continue to expand our impact within our discipline, within OAC and the university, and with respect to provincial and national food, agricultural, rural, environmental, and resource regulation and policy."

Alan and his wife Lynn have been married for twenty years and have three children: Kaden (13), Keenan (9), and Kyra (4). Although they have lived in the U.S. for the past seventeen years, Alan and Lynn both grew up in the Owen Sound area and have maintained a summer residence in the area for the past 10 years. ■

Public Lecture Series Winter 2009

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The OAC public lecture series features distinguished speakers on topical issues related to the environment, agriculture, food and rural communities in Canada and around the world. Developed with support from the alumni and friends of OAC, these lectures are provided free of charge for the University community and the public.

Stewart Lane Commemorative Lectureship:

Innovation in the Agricultural Industries: A Complex Adaptive System

Speaker: Michael Boehlje, Distinguished Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and the Center for Food and Agricultural Business, Purdue University

Friday, January 30, 3:00 – 4:30

Lifetime Learning Centre, OVC 1715

Superintendent in Residence Lecture:

Bringing Theory into the Real World

Speaker: Blake McMaster, Course and Property Manager, Royal Montreal Golf Club

Wednesday, February 11, 5:30-6:30

Lifetime Learning Centre, OVC 1714

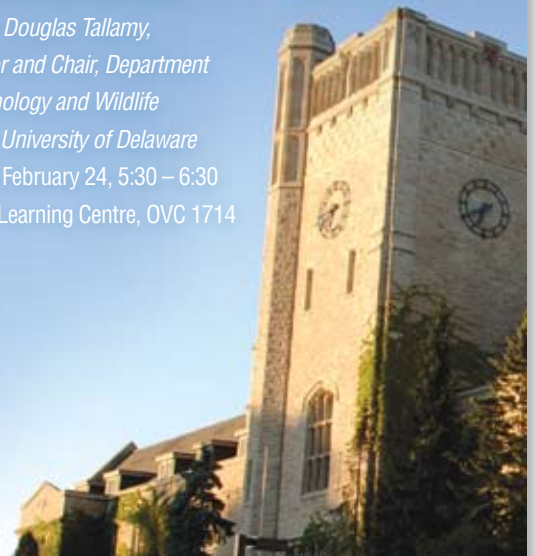
Jack & Gerry Vandergrift Lecture:

How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens

Speaker: Douglas Tallamy, Professor and Chair, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware

Tuesday, February 24, 5:30 – 6:30

Lifetime Learning Centre, OVC 1714



Congratulations!

- > **Lise Burcher** (Environmental Design and Rural Development) has been appointed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors to the Green Municipal Funds Council. The Council administers funds to support municipal governments in developing communities that are more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.
- > **Tom Funk** (Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics) was named the 2008 Agri Marketer of the Year by the Canadian Agri Marketing Association (CAMA). He was honoured for his accomplishments, innovation, leadership and commitment to agriculture and marketing at the Best of CAMA in Quebec City on November 6.
- > **Massimo Marcone** (Food Science) was honoured as one of the recipients of the Distinguished Professor Awards presented on October 23 by the U of G Faculty Association. The awards recognize faculty and librarians who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to teaching, research or service, or a combination of the three, and have made significant career contributions.
- > **Steve Marshall** (Environmental Biology) received the Thomas Say Award at the annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America held in November in Nevada. Sponsored by the Maryland-based Entomological Foundation, the award recognizes significant and outstanding work in insect systematics, morphology or evolution.
- > **David Johnston Monje** (PhD candidate, Plant Agriculture) led a U of G student team in capturing a bronze medal at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's annual International Genetically Engineered Machines (iGEM) competition in November. Their project aims to prevent blindness in children by using genes taken from soil bacteria and microbes found in the human gut to produce beta carotene which the body converts to vitamin A.
- > **Jim Taylor** (Environmental Design and Rural Development) was awarded the American Society of Landscape Architects President's Medal. Taylor was recognized for his work as chair of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) Education Committee, his leadership in the development of the UNESCO/IFLA Charter for Education in Landscape Architecture, and his work on the Guidance Document for International Accreditation and Recognition.
- > **Nonita Yap** (Environmental Design and Rural Development) was one of 60 senior experts and stakeholders invited to attend the first workshop on sustainable consumption and production held at George Washington University Law School. Organized by UNEP and the Canadian and U.S. governments, the workshop aimed to define a framework for programs and implementation measures on sustainable consumption and production in North America and will provide input to the deliberations of the Council on Sustainable Development on the Marrakech Process. ■

Looking for updates on the OMAFRA - U of G partnership?

The Buzz

Bi-weekly electronic newsletter produced through the Office of Research

Back issues & subscription info:

www.uoguelph.ca/research/omafra/



The Royal tradition grows

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Agricultural heritage and new insights into Ontario's agri-food sector merged at the 86th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. From November 7 to 16 at Exhibition Place in Toronto, OAC and the university showcased cutting-edge research, education and innovation in life sciences. U of G students, staff, faculty and alumni participated throughout as competitors, judges and ambassadors.

OAC teamed with the Colonel K.L. Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare and the Youth Science and Technology Outreach Program in a display to raise awareness about their programs and research. Activities included exploring housing preferences for chicks and observing Arctic charr in a fish tank provided by the Alma Aquaculture Research Station. Representatives from U of G's Kemptville campus participated in the Equine area to educate young people about horse health care, and to promote the Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management in Equine Management.

The university and the city of Guelph combined forces to promote a Grow Guelph message highlighting bioproducts, foods to improve health, crops that promote increased yield and disease resistance, DNA bar-coding, and contributions of plants to life support in space.



▲ An agriculture-themed mystery box attracted visitors of all ages to OAC's booth.

OAC Kent, an Ontario soybean variety developed by Prof. Istvan Rajcan (Plant Agriculture) and technician Wade Montminy, took first prize at the 2008 Seed of the Year competition. Other events held in conjunction with the Royal included the 8th annual Canadian Agri-Food Awards of Excellence, honouring outstanding Canadians for their achievements and leadership, and the 2008 Outlook Conference, which brought together world-renowned researchers, decision-makers and influential representatives from the agriculture, food and health sectors to discuss future directions and opportunities for agri-food. ■

Building capacity in agri-food research & policy



Dave Hope

Dave Hope, assistant deputy minister of the Regulated Marketing Division, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), has been appointed to the role of Senior Fellow of Agricultural Policy in the department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Hope, on secondment from his OMAFRA role to participate in this new developmental initiative, will assume a variety of duties designed to further enhance the relationship between agricultural economics research and policy for agriculture and rural initiatives in Ontario.

Hope, who joined OMAFRA in 1989, holds a BSc and MSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Guelph. ■

Calendar of EVENTS - Winter 2009

JANUARY

5	Classes commence
6	Café Scientifique at The Bookshelf – <i>Has conservation failed us?</i> , Vernon Thomas
6 - 8	Landscape Ontario Congress, Toronto
10	15 th Annual Environmental Sciences Symposium, <i>Towards Climate Positive</i> , Rozanski Hall, Guelph Campus
19 - 23	Career Week
20	Breakfast with the Best 2009, <i>Speed Networking</i> , Peter Clark Hall
23	Aggie GoodTimes Banquet, Country Heritage Park
30	Stewart Lane Lecture – <i>Innovation in the Agricultural Industries: A Complex Adaptive System</i> , Mike Boehlje, Purdue University
30 - 31	Ontario Provincial Agricultural Colleges (OPAC) Winter Games, Kemptville

FEBRUARY

1	University of Guelph Alumni Association Awards – Deadline for Nominations
3	Café Scientifique at The Bookshelf – <i>Environment and the evolution of human behaviour</i> , Stefan Linquist
11	Superintendent in Residence Lecture – <i>Bringing Theory into the Real World</i> , Blake McMaster, Royal Montreal Golf Club
16 - 20	Reading Week
17 - 18	Winter Convocation
24	Vandergrift Lecture – <i>How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens</i> , Douglas Tallamy, University of Delaware
25	Journée d'information, Alfred
28	Veterinary Technology Applicant Testing and Tour Day, Ridgetown

MARCH

1	OAC Volunteer Recognition Awards – Deadline for Nominations
2-23	Course Selection for Summer 2009 and Fall 2009
3	Café Scientifique at The Bookshelf – <i>How can we green business?</i> , Rumina Dhalla, Department of Business
6	Applicant Discovery Day, Kemptville
6 - 7	College Royal, Kemptville
6 - 7	Hammond Lecture Series – <i>Energy and the Environment</i> , www.envsci.uoguelph.ca
7	Veterinary Technology Applicant Testing and Tour Day, Ridgetown
10 - 15	World Association of Agricultural Councils (WAAC) Conference, University of Saskatchewan
18 - 22	Canada Blooms, Metro Toronto Convention Centre
19 - 20	Campus Days for Applicants, Guelph
20	Degree & Diploma Applicant Information Day, Ridgetown
20 - 21	Spring Expo Open House, Ridgetown
21 - 22	College Royal Open House, Guelph
27 - 28	OAC Alumni Association 51 st Annual Curling Bonspiel, Guelph

APRIL

3	Classes conclude
6 - 20	Examinations
7	Café Scientifique at The Bookshelf – <i>The influence of people and pets on each other's health</i> , Scott Weese
22	OAC Recognition Banquet
23 - 24	Interaction for Grade 10/11 Students, Guelph
24	Certificate Applicant Information Day, Ridgetown
24	OAC Alumni Association Distinguished Faculty Awards – Deadline for Nominations

2008 United Way campaign

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The U of G community joined together to raise almost half a million dollars for the 2008 United Way campaign. OAC exceeded its target by collecting more than \$82,000 across all units, including the regional campuses, to contribute towards this year's fundraising goal. At the close of the campaign in December, President Alastair Summerlee announced that the university had surpassed its target by \$50,000 in its largest United Way contribution to date. ■



^ In a university-wide talent competition organized by the Office of Research, OAC was represented by Majid Hassas Roudsari, a violinist and PhD candidate in Food Science. After entertaining an audience of hundreds at a luncheon event on October 31, Roudsari earned first place with \$761 in pledges. Earlier, he introduced his talents to the OAC community on October 29 at a chili lunch and silent auction that collected \$1074.



^ The department of Plant Agriculture hosted an Indian lunch for the university community at the Bovey Tropical Greenhouse on November 27 and added \$746 to the campaign.



^ As one of three United Way campaign co-chairs, Jim Atkinson (Animal and Poultry Science) accepted a fishnet stocking challenge and raised \$395.

Tractor Tug pulls in funds for charity



The 3rd annual Tractor Tug for Tots raised more than \$10,000 for the Starlight Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington, which helps underprivileged and at-risk children and youth gain access to social, educational and recreational experiences vital to their well-being. Groups from the university community, the city of Guelph and surrounding areas competed to pull tractors along 100 feet across a finish line on Reynolds Walk. A team led by Prof. Mary Buhr (Animal and Poultry Science), was recognized as Top Fundraiser. The Plant Agriculture graduate students' team clocked in as the fastest. ■

^ Representing one of four teams entered by Environmental Design and Rural Development are (from left): Maurice Nelischer, Brett Lucyk, Wendy McWilliam, Larry Harder, Cecelia Paine, Jim Taylor, Karen Landman and Sean Kelly.

A Tribute to Rick Richards



Norval Richard (Rick) Richards
1916-2008

A visionary who clearly understood how education, research and extension benefited the larger community, and a soil scientist who impacted Ontario agriculture are some ways Rick Richards has been described. From 1962 to 1972, he served as the first dean of the Ontario Agricultural College. On October 19th, OAC was deeply saddened by the loss of this alumnus and friend of the college.

Originally from Bruce County, Richards graduated from the OAC in 1938 and worked as a soil surveyor until 1951. He coordinated the work of four survey teams contributing to the Canada Land Inventory, which continues as a basis for government policy relating to land use.

In 1950, Richards assumed the role of chair in OAC's Department of Soils and played a key role in the development of new facilities, including a new Soils Building in 1959. That facility was renamed the Richards Building in 1989 in recognition of his influence in basing soil studies on a scientific approach.

As OAC's first dean, he retained the identity and function of the college while enthusiastically embracing and supporting the formation of the

University of Guelph. He provided leadership in reorganizing the college to include new academic units, research stations and buildings based on a long-term management plan in a period of rapid expansion.

Through the university's Centre for International Programs and the Guelph/Ghana Co-operative Project with CIDA, Richards strongly supported the agriculture and food programs of developing countries.

Richards conducted a study for the reorganization of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. He served as the first chair of the Canadian Agricultural Research Council created by Agriculture Canada and provincial ministries to improve coordination of research.

He was inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2002 and the Order of OAC in 2003. The OAC Alumni Foundation's N.R. Richards Scholarship continues a legacy in his honour for a new generation of scientists seeking answers to current and emerging production, environmental and social challenges. ■

In Memoriam

> **Vernon Smith**, a retired faculty member in the department of Environmental Biology, died June 17 at age 88. A two-time OAC graduate, a PhD graduate of Cornell University, and an RCAF veteran of the Second World War, he taught at U of G from 1946 to 1983. He is survived by four children, nine grandchildren and one great grand-grandchild.

> **Norval Richard (Rick) Richards**, first dean of the Ontario Agricultural College of the University of Guelph, passed away October 19. Following graduation from OAC in 1938, Rick worked as a soil surveyor, but returned to the college in 1951 where he remained throughout his career. He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Sciences degree by Laval University in 1967 and named a Fellow of the University of Guelph. He is survived by his wife, Mary Katharine, son Gregory, and six grandchildren, and predeceased by son Robin. Memorial contributions to the N.R. Richards Scholarship Fund would be appreciated. Please contact Paulette Samson, psamson@uoguelph.ca, for details. ■