

Positive Externalities +

A newsletter for the alumni and friends of the
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics



Riding the AREC Range

On any given week-day, when current faculty, students, and staff are in classrooms or offices, AREC's Trent Teegerstrom is just as likely to be giving computer workshops in risk management with residents of the Navajo Nation, working with beginning farmers and ranchers in southeastern Arizona, seated in a hotel conference

room in any of the western states, holed up in his AREC office conducting a conference call, or ensconced in his FRTEP (Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program) office in the Forbes building.

Teegerstrom is a member of the Cooperative Extension faculty at AREC and part of the larger Cooperative Extension unit in the College. He has been at the UA since 1997. And although he probably doesn't see himself this way, Trent is one of the more colorful members of the Department.

He comes from a true farm and ranch background with time spent growing up on a Wyoming ranch, in an Arizona city, and on a Kansas farm. As a young man he supported himself via the most quintessential occupation of the classic American Old West: he became a cowboy.

It was hard work, he admits. On large ranches in Wyoming, Montana, and Nebraska (in the Sandhills region where the least populous counties in the country are located) Trent was often responsible for "riding rough stock"—the "breaking" or training of horses to accept a rider. Why? "I was dispensable," he says, young and unmarried. "I had a 'sneaky snake' horse. He put four people in the hospital." Trent says he kept a tally of him versus the horse. He

won, but it was quite a contest. Being dispensable also encouraged him to compete in rodeos where his specialty was bare-back broncs—riding those untamed, wild horses and attempting to stay on the horse and not be catapulted off.



Ranch cook tent.

His ranch duties included herding, feeding, and moving cattle. Living quarters were generally tents in camps located a long ways from ranch headquarters. Eventually Teegerstrom gave it all up. "You can't cowboy forever," he says. The cowboy life left physical scars.

Trent has broken many, many bones, including his wrist, foot arch, toes, assorted ribs, lower back, fingers, and ankles. He's dislocated his shoulder six times. "I started young." At the age of eight, he rode his bike over a cliff and suffered head injuries. "The doctor said, 'he'll either live or he won't.'"

Continued on page 10.



"Turning Out the Horses": Trent Teegerstrom during his cowboying days on western ranches.

Alumni Doings

Afsana Karim (M.S. 2003) has finished an M.S. in biostatistics and is now on the job market.

Emily Anderkin (B.S. 2012) has been working as an agriculture assistant with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation on Sequoia Farms in Willcox, Arizona. She notes “I am still considering getting my master’s degree in statistics, but I am enjoying my time spent in the fresh air on tractors. I have not done any data analysis yet, but I have my fingers crossed that I will when we harvest our crops and do yield research.”

Andrew Duy (B.S. 2011) took a year off to work after graduation. Now he’s back at the UA pursuing an MBA in the Eller College of Management. “I encourage any AREC students who are considering business school to apply as I have found that my undergraduate studies in CALS prepared me well for the rigors of business school. I am set to graduate in May 2014. Bear Down!”

Valerie Ralph (M.S. 1997) is currently posted to Belgium as an agricultural attaché in the US Foreign Agriculture Service. She forwarded a photo of herself at

the Hamburg meat market. “I can tell you that Germany professes to be the largest market for U.S. beef exports to the EU. Our market share has been declining of late, however, while that of Uruguay and Australia seem to be booming.”



Valerie Ralph at Hamburg meat market.

Katie Pittenger Adams (M.S. 2006) and her husband Dave have welcomed a second daughter into the family. Cora arrived in early March joining big sister Lucy.



Cora with mom Katie and dad Dave.

Paul Bush (B.S. 1989) has been awarded the Bear Down Award by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

In June, **Fátima Luna** (M.S. 2013) became a U.S. citizen.



Fátima taking oath of citizenship and with daughter Metzli.

Todd Gaston (M.S. 2012), with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in Denver, writes “The job is going great. Just completed my first year and everything is going smoothly. I use econometrics pretty regularly—I am actually using STATA for a current project looking at residential irrigation water use in Southern California. I have done quite a bit

of field work in my first year. I work closely with a group of engineers and when they need an extra hand out in the field I am one of the first people they call on. Last month I was in California’s Central Valley helping out on a drill rig to test for water depth and soil structure/composition, so my undergraduate environmental science background has come in handy as well. Most of my travel for economics work is indoors—conferences, seminars, etc. We’ve had a few cold days here that make me miss Tuc-

son (high of 9 degrees!) but those are infrequent and overall Denver is a great place.”

A very brief note from **Quatie Jorgensen** (M.S. 2010) says “Everything is great here in Oklahoma. We are just getting through wheat harvest here at work, so it’s been pretty crazy.”

Kevin Ray (M.S. 2012) has been selected to receive the AAEEA’s Outstanding Master’s Thesis—Honorable Mention for his work “Can Desert Dwellers Continue to Afford Lush Lawns?: Analyzing Consumer Response to Rate Changes in Four Phoenix Suburbs.” The formal presentation of the award is at this year’s AAEEA meetings in Washington, D.C. Congratulations!

Ashley Kerna (M.S. 2013) started with the Sonoran Institute before her graduation in December 2012 and is now working there full time.

From **Elizabeth Schuster** (M.S. 2012): “After moving every 1–2 years since 1996, happy and amazed that we just closed on our first home! A cozy cape in southern Jersey, relieved to finally settle for a few years.”

Positive Externalities+

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Phoenix Area Alumni Gathering

Phoenix area alumni got together in June to chat and mingle. Many thanks to Ana Kennedy for organizing the event, venue, and food.

(left to right all photos)

1) Trisha Grant (B.S. 2005) and Professor Roger Dahlgran; **2)** Ana Kennedy (B.S. 1997, M.S. 2004), Ibrahima Wane (M.S. 2004), Forster Okoli (M.S. 2005), Professor Gary Thompson; **3)** Roger Dahlgran, Richard Phelps (B.S. 2012), Professor Paul Wilson; **4)** Carmella Aja (B.S. 2010) and Gary Thompson; **5)** Richard Heiden, David Hutchinson (B.S. 2012), Richard Phelps, Robyn Ollerton (B.S. 2011), Carmella Aja, Jessica Perry (B.S. 2010); **6)** Fei Yi (M.S. 2011), Richard Heiden, David Hutchinson, Richard Phelps, Carmella Aja; **7)** Paul Wilson and Forster Okoli; **8)** Robyn Ollerton, Jessica Perry, Carmella Aja, Trisha Grant, David Hutchinson; **9)** Richard Phelps and Ana Kennedy; **10)** Roger Dahlgran, Gary Thompson, Fei Yi.



Mini Gathering for Alumni in Washington, D.C., Area

Department head Gary Thompson was able to add a little pleasure into a business trip this summer when he met with Washington, D.C., area alums. Pete Burns (M.S. 2011), standing next to Thompson, and Melissa Burns Sanabria (M.S. 2006), far left, are the only brother-sister pair of AREC grad alumni.. Also pictured are Arif Rashid (M.S. 2006), middle left, and Rob Ebel (M.S. 2009), center.

Life After AREC: What Alumni Are Doing Now

Fei Yi in Phoenix

Basically, my current role at American Express here is to analyze, predict, prevent, and track “credit abuse” behavior on Amex international cards. Based on the customer behavior patterns, I developed some strategies and business rules to prevent this kind of behavior. I communicated the results of my quantitative research to both Risk and Operations business partners. In addition, I developed and monitored reports to identify loss reduction and customer experience improvement opportunities related to credit

abuse for American Express.

I have been at Amex for more than a year and a half and I’m still enjoying what I’m doing here. My work has been hectic all the time though. My team in Amex is responsible for the ‘credit abuse’ issues for all the international markets. We have 21 proprietary international markets that need to be taken care of. I’m currently in charge of the ‘credit abuse’ issue for 8 markets. Last year, since my team was short of hands, I was managing another 4 markets. Things were going a little crazy for me. I had to work late every day and sometimes over the weekends.

However I enjoyed it, and I believe this is also a good opportunity for me to gain more experience and pick up more business knowledge.

I have to say 559 is really beneficial to our graduate students in AREC. From this class, we got exposed to real world business problems and indeed used econometric models to solve business issues. Thank you for giving us this opportunity, Dr. Thompson!



Fei Yi and friend.

At last, I hope all the professors in AREC and both Nancy are doing well! Thanks again for the education, help and support from everyone in my master study in AREC.

—Fei Yi, M.S. 2011

Alumni Triumverate at DNV KEMA

Paulo Tanimoto (M.S. 2009) is one of three AREC alums working for DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability. DNV KEMA, headquartered in the Netherlands, describes itself as “a global, leading authority in business and technical consultancy, testing, inspections & certification, risk management, and verification, along the energy value-chain.” The other two AREC grads are Ken Agnew (M.S. 1998) and Romilee Bool Emerick (M.S. 2008). Ken joined KEMA in 2001, starting as an analyst. He now serves as a principal consultant. Romilee joined in August of 2011 and works on billing analysis.

From Paulo Tanimoto



All of us were initially hired as energy analysts. An energy analyst helps in the project by using her analytical skills to answer questions involving energy data. Back to our previous example, to estimate savings, we may get billing data from utilities for a year before and after the measures were installed. The analyst would prepare the data for analysis, use statistical models to estimate savings, and help present our findings.

Over the past few years, DNV KEMA has been doing pretty well. DNV KEMA is, in fact, the merger of two companies, DNV and KEMA. We’re now in the process of merging with yet another company, Germanischer Lloyd (GL). To be able to handle all the work, our group, SUS, nearly doubled in size in ten years. This good performance also translates into opportunity for growth in our careers. There is a high demand for individuals that can step up and manage projects or offer technical advice in their area of expertise.

If you’re interested, you can find more information about DNV KEMA on our website: <http://www.dnvkema.com/>.

I’m a consultant working at the DNV KEMA office in Madison, WI. I joined the company in May 2008, soon after graduating from the AREC program. Over these five years I’ve been busy working on a variety of program evaluations, ranging from demand-response to upstream lighting. My job is now shifting to information security.

People sometimes ask me about the differences between doing research and working as a consultant, but I actually think they are pretty similar. This gives us a head start because our department works hard to promote skills that can be applied to both settings.

In my opinion, learning to work with others is extremely important. Remember that class project in which you ended up doing everything?

Well, it’s much harder to do that here because it’s too much for a single person to handle. When I’m working on projects, I have to spend a good amount of my time just checking in with others, to make sure we’re moving in the same direction. We have offices across the country, so we have to coordinate everything through emails, conference calls, and instant messaging. Technology helps, but there’s no substitute for practice. For example, I used to hang out in the computer lab to work on problem sets with others, even when I already knew how to solve all the questions. Homework was, in other words, another excuse to work with my classmates.

Back when I applied for the AREC program, my plan was to learn as much statistics as possible, because I thought it would be a useful skill for any future job, academic or not. Now I wish I had taken my plan more seriously. But I also want to

Continued on page 5.

Sarah Strahler in Kansas

Sarah Strahler (B.S. 2012) contributed to the last issue of Positive Externalities with a piece on her summer internship. Now she's in her first job since graduating from the UA and is experiencing life in the Midwest.

It is crazy to think that only a few months ago I was walking across the stage in Centennial Hall, receiving my diploma from Dean Burgess that signified the conclusion of a very wonderful time in my life. By the time that I graduated from the University of Arizona with my bachelor's degree in agribusiness economics and management, I already knew where my life was going to take me next. In August of 2012 I had accepted a management trainee position with CHS Inc. and anticipated starting a month after my graduation in December. CHS, an energy, grains, and foods company, is the same agriculture-based company that I interned at over the summer of 2012 and, because of the wonderful experience I had, I knew that this was a promising company that would allow me the opportunity to advance and grow. During my internship last summer, I was based out of Wiggins, Colo-

rado, but now, with the management trainee position, I am working out of several CHS locations throughout Western Kansas over the span of a year. Some of these locations are based in the towns of Quinter, Sharon Springs, Colby, and Tribune, KS. After growing up in Tucson my entire life, I was excited to move to a region of the United States where farms are abundant and rows of wheat and corn extend for miles. When I was looking for housing, I chose to live in Goodland, KS, so that I can be central to all of the locations that I will be working from (Quinter is the furthest location that I am working out of and I drive a company car about 90 miles to and from work, five days a week).

The purpose of the management trainee program is to provide me with the experience of managing both an agronomy and grain location within the company. This means that every few months I will be rotated to a different location, learning from knowledgeable employees, and eventually obtaining the skills necessary to move into a supervisor role of my own after a year. Until June, I was working at an agronomy location in Quinter, learning how to manage inventory and use the company's accounting system

to keep track of all the seed and chemicals that are sold to farmers. After just my first two weeks,

I was trained on how actualize and bill out invoices, take month-end inventory, dispatch orders of fertilizer and herbicide that need to be transported to a location, and stock additional new products. I am also becoming familiar with the different types of products that the company has on hand, as well as the entire process that exists from ordering a product to getting it physically delivered. Meanwhile, I have also been chosen to serve on the CHS Harvest for Hunger committee for Western Kansas to plan for an annual food drive that is held in March. Every year, all of the CHS locations nationwide coordinate Harvest for Hunger to gather food and donations that will be given back to all local food pantries. Therefore, I have been busy planning a Soup Supper and



Sarah Strahler, far left in top photo.

contacting local schools to try to get as many people as I can to donate and get involved. I love my job so far and I consider every day to be an exciting opportunity for me to learn from some of the most experienced employees in the region. While I am certainly learning a lot and making wonderful friendships with my co-workers, I also enjoy living in a small town in the heart of the Great Plains. Overall, I am very excited for the upcoming year and I only hope to continue moving upward within this amazing company.

—Sarah Strahler, B.S. 2012

DNV KEMA continued from page 4. note that statistics is not about throwing sophisticated models at problems, hoping that they'll get solved. At our job we need to carefully consider the pros and cons, including the costs, of adding more complexity. I try to produce results using multiple approaches, and compare the answers. I often find that they

are not as different as I initially anticipated.

If you have ever talked to me for a few minutes, you know that I enjoy automating things. Just like in school, there are many opportunities for improvement at my job. While I personally dislike SAS, it is a program widely used in the energy industry, so us-

ing it in some of our courses and class projects proved to be helpful at my job. If this is your cup of tea, I recommend that you learn one programming language very well, but spend some time expanding your horizons as well.

After five years on the job, I still get most of my satisfaction from solving problems.

When I took my first vacation, I started a tradition of including a puzzle in my out-of-the office email, and today we have a small group of people working on interesting puzzles when we find them. The fun lies, of course, not in solving the puzzle, but in discussing the different approaches we used to solve it.

So...What Does an Environmental Economist Do?



Elizabeth Schuster at her new job.

It has recently been brought to my attention that not a lot of people in the general public understand what an environmental economist does. Since I was hired by the Nature Conservancy (TNC) in March of this year, I have been barraged with questions. I explain to people that I ensure that economic considerations are incorporated into all of our conservation projects. Then, for the skeptics, a disclaimer: we can choose to move forward with a project even if it doesn't make sense economically, but at least we will have considered the tradeoffs and are making an informed decision.

In my short tenure in my new position, I have observed that many people think that environmental economists do nothing but cost-benefit analyses; I have resisted the urge to list for these people the wide range of methods from which we can choose. Others think I am simply an accountant who focuses on natural resource management. Even some think my role with TNC has something to do with the new field of "conservation finance," and that environmental economics might have something to do with

funding conservation goals. An occasional optimist thinks having an economist on staff is the silver bullet that will solve all conservation problems (e.g., "Finally, we'll have a dollar value that will prove to people that oyster reef restoration is more profitable than sea walls!"). Other responses are less neutral. For instance, I recently attended my first multi-chapter event with TNC. The mid-Atlantic chapters united as part of a flood plain restoration and planted 320 trees in the Neversink Preserve in New York. A TNC employee commented to me, "I bet you didn't expect to be digging holes when you decided to become an economist." It is interesting how often I hear this perspective, as if there were some inherent incompatibility between economics and conservation. Or between economists and natural scientists. (It seemed beside the point that I had, in fact, dug many holes in my life while leading reforestation projects in the cloud forests of Honduras.)

Despite the confusion over my job description, in many ways, this job is my dream job. I appreciate the opportunity to be creative in my work, and what could be more creative than having the potential to design innovative, on-the-ground solutions that benefit land, air and water and are also compatible with economical goals? And, I am pleased to find that AREC has prepared me well for the task. I believe that AREC's focus on

how to present data to non-technical audiences has been among the most useful skills I gained during my graduate program. Based in southern New Jersey, I am currently working on a variety of collaborative projects, including quantifying the value of native pollinators in agricultural production and conducting an economic analysis of the benefits of the ecological restoration of the South Cape May Meadows Preserve. As environmental economists, we have a lot of work ahead of us. Over time, we must get the word out to a wider range of stakeholders that economics and conservation goals can be compatible. And second, we must help the public overcome the stereotypes, particularly those that portray environmental economists as exclusively managing for profit maximization. I am encouraged by the positive changes we have already seen in the field in the past ten years, and perhaps in another ten years, I will have fewer people asking me what an environmental economist does.

—Elizabeth Schuster, M.S. 2012

For more of Elizabeth's writing, see <http://blog.nature.org/science/2013/08/06/wild-pollinator-habitat-benefits-agriculture/>.



Sunset over the Maurice River (a view from Elizabeth's backyard of what is the largest tributary to the Delaware Bay).

Interning with FAS

My name is Yadira Caballero. I'm a recent graduate from the University of Arizona, receiving my bachelor of science degree in agribusiness economics and management with a minor in American Indian studies. I'm currently enrolled at the University of Tulsa pursuing my master's degree for jurisprudence in Indian law. I started law school in fall 2012, where I plan to finish in May 2014. Once I complete my MJIL program I plan on working closely with my tribe (Navajo) or surrounding tribes in Arizona. Another exciting thing is I will be expecting my first child this coming May, which I'm looking forward to. [Editor's note: We haven't heard yet about the arrival.]

The summer of 2012, I had the opportunity to intern with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. Interning for the USDA for two months was a greatly fulfilling experience. I was assigned as an associate desk officer in the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Country and Regional Affairs (OCRA) within the Africa and Middle East (AME) Division.

As an associate desk officer, my duties were to keep up to date on incoming reports that were provided from emails, Global Agricultural Information Network reports, and cables. I had the opportunity to gain valuable insight into OCRA and its operations by



Yadira (middle) with FAS co-workers.



Yadira (at right) in traditional dress. updating reference tables on U.S. agriculture, fish, and forestry (AgFF) exports to Africa and the Middle East plus other parts of the world.

One of my big project assignments for the summer was putting a report together and presenting my research to OCRA. The research I worked on focused on agricultural marketing orders within the United States. In particular, I analyzed the potential impact of a U.S. marketing order for olive oil, and I had to finalize a report for the FAS office in Rabat, Morocco.

Having the opportunity to intern with USDA has given me first-hand experience and knowledge that I hope to apply in the future working closely with tribes that are seeking to export to other countries. My placement with the USDA was thanks to the Washington Internship for Native Students summer program. Not only did I have the opportunity to intern with USDA, but with the WINS program I was able to meet with tribal leaders that are serving in D.C., take two classes at the American University, and sit in on the meetings at the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs regarding impacts of environmental changes on treaty rights, traditional lifestyles, and tribal homelands.

—Yadira Caballero, B.S. 2012

Undergrads Clarke and Haught Attend Conference

In November 2012, Prof. Paul Wilson invited Byron Haught and me to attend on behalf of AREC the 2013 Wheatley International Affairs Conference (WIAC) sponsored by Brigham Young University (BYU). WIAC 2013 was held at BYU's conference center in scenic Aspen Grove, Utah, from February 27 through March 2 and featured the theme of international development. Byron and I were among 60+ student delegates from universities around the country who attended.

Throughout the weekend, we were given the opportunity to hear lectures from several distinguished scholars and practitioners in the field of development, including Harvard professor Lant Pritchett and Georg Kell of the United Nations' Global Compact. We also got to dialogue with the other delegates in roundtable groups chaired by scholars or practitioners who specialize in particular areas of development, including human rights, violence, NGOs, foreign aid, development evaluation, and natural resources. By the end of the weekend, each of our roundtable groups was responsible for crafting two recommendations for U.S. policy intended to promote international development.

Byron and I both attended the natural resources roundtable. Our group ended up producing a policy paper discussing ways to make foreign aid to the Sahel region of Africa more politically feasible and effective in the face of political and economic instabil-

ity in the region due to climate change and Islamism. Our recommendations focused on combating regional instability by making aid contingent upon the establishment of community-level initiatives and included outlines for initial efforts concentrating on agricultural risk management and community forest management and reforestation efforts.

For me, the highlights of the weekend were the meals and the company. BYU's chefs did an impressive job, and Byron and I were ecstatic about the fact that every meal had some type of meat or fish, all excellently prepared. It seemed like at any point during the weekend, we were either going to a meal or just coming from one.

The other students were fantastic. They came from all different backgrounds and disciplines, including business, international relations, sociology, and economics. It was great to be around so many intelligent people with shared interest in a particular issue. One of my favorite points of the weekend involved what were called bilateral discussions; each roundtable group would rotate for about 15 minutes at a time and discuss their unfinished policy recommendations with the other groups. I gained valuable insight from talking to the foreign aid group about how to encourage community involvement and the NGO group about how to ensure that aid money is spent effectively. I was even able to give advice on water pricing strategies (which my Honors thesis is currently focusing on) to the human rights group, which was trying to develop

Continued on page 8.



Brett Fleck.

Brett Fleck Is Presidential Management Fellows Finalist

Brett Fleck (M.S. 2013) is just completing the last revisions on his thesis and finds himself considering the inevitable question that faces all alums: what am I going to do after I finish? In Brett's case, he was pushed into action by an older brother who told him about the

Presidential Management Fellows program (PMF). The PMF program began in 1977 and serves as a way for grad students who have just finished their degrees to gain experience and develop their skills by working for different U.S. federal agencies. Think of it as a high-level paid internship, but an internship with the added benefit of conversion to a permanent job

in many cases or placement in an exempted hiring pool for federal agencies. Other benefits of the two-year program include leadership, management, and policy training, several rotations within an agency, and one rotation elsewhere. The PMF website describes the program as a pathway, a way to acquire leadership skills.

But let's get back to Brett. He was one of the 12,000+ applicants to the program this year. Some 1,600 or so were selected as semi-finalists and Brett was among them. He then flew to Washington, DC, for a five-hour assessment that included role playing, an interview, a mock press conference, and a written section. In April, the finalist list was posted and Brett was one of the approximately 650 people to be chosen.

"Finalist" is a bit misleading in context of PMF. PMF finalists are "winners" because they are now eligible for employment by fed-

eral agencies in PMF positions. They are allowed to apply to agencies that list openings or they may be contacted directly and offered a position by an agency. In Brett's case he's had two direct offers, one as a budget analyst with the Federal Transit Administration and the other working for the FDA as an economist. Brett acknowledges that the economist position would be great. He doesn't plan to accept it, though, since he's already spent two years working for the EPA in Washington and he's just not ready to go back there.

Now Brett's looking at positions in other parts of the country. Whether or not he gets a job via PMF, he wants to get the word out that other AREC grad students should consider applying. It's a way into the federal system and it's a fast track to higher pay grades. For more information on the PMF program and how to apply, please visit pmf.gov.

The Latest AREC 559 Class



Fall 2012's AREC 559 class in Phoenix. Left to right: Placide Hiol, Anubhab Gupta, Brett Fleck, Gan Gin, Gary Thompson, Tatiana Marquez, Michael Dehn, Georgia Pfeiffer, Hunter Richards, Jianhua Wang Hilgaertner, Jingyu Liu, and Chuck Lyon (M.S. 1988, with *American Express*).

Conference continued from page 7.

a policy to protect indigenous rights to water supplies in Bolivia. The collaboration and exchange of ideas during that time, though it made up a small portion of the weekend, was invaluable to both the strength of my group's policy recommendations as well as the quality of my experience.

Finally, I just enjoyed the time seeing new country with a good friend. Byron and I got to go cross-country skiing, a new experience for both of us, and we both got to see an area of our beautiful country that we'd never experienced before. Utah's mountains were simply stunning, as was seeing the Grand Canyon from the air.



Andrew Clarke with Professor Paul Wilson.

Altogether, WIAC 2013 was a very valuable experience, both in terms of the intellectual engagement and the new experiences. I'm grateful to have been given the opportunity to attend.

—Andrew Clarke, B.S. 2013

Grad Students Field Soccer Team



Front row, left to right: Xiangrui (Alex) Wang, Placide Hiol, Anubhab Gupta, Avralt-Ol Purevjav. Second row: Hunter Richards, Tatiana Marquez, Ashley Kerna. At back: Nurseit Baizhanov.



Fielding a sports team—for at least a game or two—has become a usual activity for many AREC grad students. Fall 2012 saw a return to soccer with both first- and second-year students participating.

Front row, left to right: Xiangrui (Alex) Wang, Hunter Richards, Tatiana Marquez, Anubhab Gupta. Back row, left to right: Avralt-Od Purevjav, Sidra Heye, Xiaoyi (Dora) Yang, Chia-Yun (Debbie) Tsai.



Nancy Smith.

AREC Staff: Goodbye and Hello

This year has brought big changes to the AREC staff. Any grad alums from the last dozen years will likely remember Nancy Smith who worked with all of the grad students. Nancy was often your main contact while you were applying to the AREC program. She greeted you when you arrived, made sure you were registered for classes, hounded you about this, that, and the other, and was the one who made sure your final paperwork and forms were sent to the Graduate College so you could graduate. Nancy was always available—or so it seemed—and many of you made your way to her office to chat or pour out your problems.

This summer Nancy retired. She told us her plans for the future included her art and

animation work. She intends to sign up for a ton of classes in drawing and photography that are offered by the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum Art Institute. And she'll likely be enrolled in digital and animation art classes when she can fit those in. If you'd like to find Nancy, your best bet would be to go out walking early in the morning along some of the river trails and bike paths here in Tucson. Nancy will be out walking with her dog Trixie. Or head over to the Sweetwater Preserve where Nancy will be snapping photos of the birds and other wildlife.

To continue taking care of all the graduate students will be Angela Seidler. Angela joined AREC in January as an academic specialist working with the AREC undergrad majors. Now she'll expand her advising activities to all AREC students.

Angela is that rare bird, a Tucson native. She's also a UA alumna who graduated in 2009 with a double major in geography and Middle Eastern studies.

Angela has spent time working in Syria and Turkey. In Aleppo, Syria, she was with ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas). In Turkey, she volunteered on organic farms and also taught English.

Along with her advising duties, Angela will be taking a course or two in preparation for a master's degree. She plans on working in science or environmental management but hasn't quite decided what precisely.

If you have any advice or perhaps would just like to say hello and introduce yourself, feel free to email her at angie@email.arizona.edu.



Angela Seidler.



Caribbean scuba diving.



Picking tea in Hawaii.



Shoeing a horse in Arizona.



Feeding cattle on a ranch.



Teaching a workshop in Shiprock, NM, on the Navajo Reservation.

Riding the Range continued from page 1.

Leaving the cowboy way of life led to grad school in West Virginia and from there to the Lakota Tribe on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. Trent set up an agribusiness program for the tribal college. Next was an Extension appointment at Cornell and from there he came to Tucson.

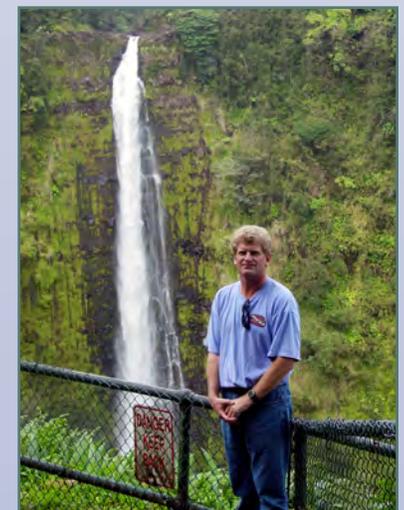
Trent is married to Rainy, who is part of a third or fourth generation Arizona ranching family from the Roosevelt Lake area. She's a veterinarian (full spectrum, not just small animal) who loves to ride horses. The couple have a son Davin, now thirteen, who shares another passion of his parents. The family scuba dives—no, not in Tucson, but as often as they can get to the Caribbean. Davin is so enamored of the sport that he took and passed the scuba diving certification test as soon as he reached the minimum age of ten.

Teegerstrom is an Extension specialist as well as director of the Arizona FRTEP. When he was originally hired at the University, his position was to generate several series of budgets for use by Arizona farmers and ranchers, but it immediately became apparent that other Extension projects needed tackling. He began to apply for and receive grants and to join multi-regional projects. The areas he works in include farm and ranch management with the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers program, production economics, taxes (mainly tribal), some

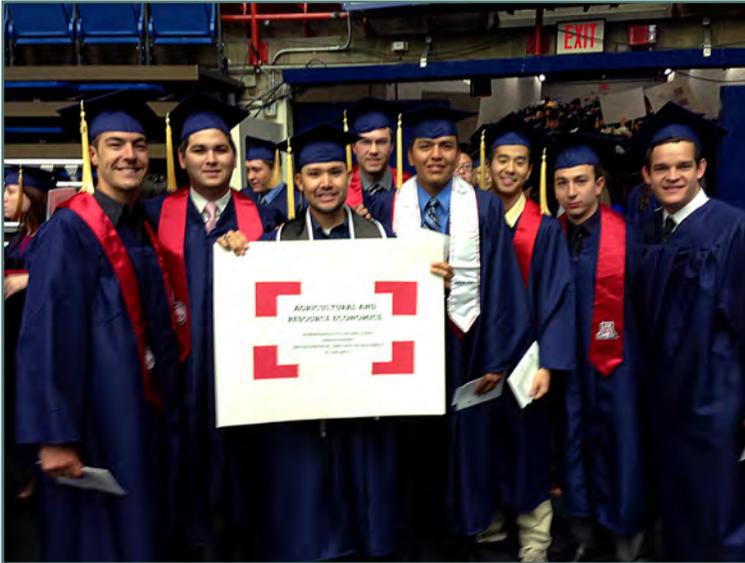
labor work, lecturing, and chairing the Outreach Committee of the AAEE. He is a topics leader for the Extension section of the AAEE.

Wearing his FRTEP director's hat, Teegerstrom works with Arizona tribes and with FRTEP agents in Arizona, New Mexico, and Nevada. He'd like to see the program expand from the current 7 to 18 agents and to increase its partnering with tribes. Another goal is to undertake an expansion of tribal tourism capacity in a grant-funded, multi-state project. He's waiting to see if the funding comes through. He'd also like to continue his risk management work. "Yeah, risk management's been a critical program," he says and then admits "And I want to continue with labor stuff and tribal taxes."

And the future? "I love it here." He thinks he'll stay.



Hawaiian waterfall.



Undergrads, left to right: Antonio Barcelo, Pablo Elias Hopkins, Luis Carmargo, Cameron Kerr, Vincent Littleman, Yuta Hori, Marco Haro, Marco Llano.



Undergrads Andrew Clarke on left and Byron Haught on right.

Commencement May 2013



Grads, left to right: Gan Jin, Brett Fleck, Michael Dehn, Tatiana Marquez, Hunter Richards, Anubhab Gupta, Placide Hiol, Jacob Kavkewitz.

Here are some of this year's crop of newly minted AREC graduates just having had bachelors and masters degrees conferred. Of note are Andrew Clarke, AREC's Outstanding Graduating Senior for May Commencement, and Sarah Strahler (not pictured), the Outstanding Graduating Senior for December 2012.



Left to right: Professor Dean Lueck, Placide Hiol, Professor Gary Thompson, Michael Dehn, Professor Russ Tronstad, Hunter Richards, Professor George Frisvold, Tatiana Marquez, Gan Jin, Anubhab Gupta, Professor Satheesh Aradhyula, Brett Fleck, and Jianhua Hilgaertner. Missing is Georgia Pfeiffer.



Grads, left to right: Brett Fleck, Michael Dehn, Hunter Richards, Tatiana Marquez, Placide Hiol, Anubhab Gupta, Gan Jin.



Placide Hiol and Professor Gary Thompson.