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Susanne Clement to Direct CNR Quinney Library

Susanne Clement has been appointed the new Director of the College of Natural Resources’ Quinney Library and will start July 1, 2008. She will also serve as the selector for all areas of natural resources in the Merrill-Cazier Library. “We’re extremely fortunate to have someone of Susanne’s caliber taking on this very important position,” said Dean Frazer. “Under her direction, I am confident that we will be able to extend the Library’s horizons to serve natural resources professionals who work in arid montane ecosystems across the globe.”

Susanne is currently head of Collection Development at the University of Kansas Libraries, a position she has held since January 2004. As such she is responsible for overseeing the policies and allocations of resources in support of the library as an integral partner in the teaching and research missions of the University. She is also the library’s liaison to the Communication Studies and Political Science departments.

Prior to joining the University of Kansas, Susanne was a senior manager for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) for nearly eight years. At GCSAA she established the association’s first information center – a library in support of turf grass management and agronomy. She also developed the association’s archives and historical preservation program, and started an aggressive program of collecting historical artifacts and documents in support of the profession and the association. She has a BS and a MA in history from Illinois State University and a MLIS (Masters in Library and Information Science) from Emporia State University, Kansas. Susanne is a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and has lived in the United States for more than 30 years. She and her husband, Rick (who will be the new Dean of Libraries at USU), have two daughters, Kristina (22) and Elizabeth (18).

“I am really looking forward to starting my position as the next director of the Quinney Library,” said Susanne.

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Graduation 2008

On Saturday, May 3, 2008, the College of Natural Resources held their annual graduation ceremony at the USU Morgan Theater and welcomed 40 undergraduates as CNR alumni. Dean Nat Frazer welcomed students, faculty, parents, and friends. Andrew “Drew” Braithwaite, CNR valedictorian, challenged graduates “…to use our knowledge to change and fix the world.” He said, “We have received the unique foundation to tackle complex environmental/culture issues, such as discovering and implementing alternative energies, or reversing global warming.”

CONGRATULATIONS
Class of 2008!
2008 Governor’s Scholar

Shannon Babb, a watershed and earth systems major, was named a 2008 Governor’s Scholar. She and 43 other Utah college students were honored April 15 by Gov. Jon Huntsman, Jr. for their academic accomplishments. Shannon was one of four USU student honorees.

A Quinney Scholar, Shannon is conducting petrographic mapping of sandstones in the Uintah Mountains as part of a USU ADVANCE grant-funded project with faculty mentor Carol Dehler. She participated in the 2008 Undergraduate Research Day on Capitol Hill and the 2008 Utah Conference for Undergraduate Research. This summer, Shannon heads to Alaska's North Slope to conduct research with Chris Luecke and his team at an NSF-funded Arctic Long-Term Ecological Research site near Toolik Field Station.

In its third year, the Governor’s Scholars program honors four students from each of Utah’s colleges and universities who have demonstrated academic excellence during their freshman or sophomore years.

(Mary-Ann Muffoletto)

USU Geographer Named AAUW Fellow

Utah State University geographer Claudia Radel is among 97 researchers in the nation awarded an American Fellowship for the 2008-09 academic year by the American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. Radel was one of 12 recipients of the foundation’s Short-Term Research Publication Grants.

Her research examines women’s participation in community-based organizations in rural farming communities of southern Mexico, along with those organizations’ participation in integrated conservation and development projects.

“I seek to understand women’s and households’ changing livelihood strategies, and the impacts of those strategies on wellbeing for people and environments,” says Radel.

Claudia, who joined USU’s faculty in 2005, presented her initial research findings at the 2006 Annual Meetings of the Association of American Geographers and at the 2007 Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers.

In addition to her work in Mexico, Claudia traveled to Ethiopia in 2007 as part of the USU-led Pastoral Risk Management project — known as PARIMA.

(Mary-Ann Muffoletto)

Susanne Clement to Direct CNR Quinney Library (Continued)

“I am looking forward to working with Dean Frazer, Patsy Palacios, the department heads, faculty, and students, as well as my fellow librarians in Merrill-Cazier, to develop a shared vision of how to collect and disseminate the unique information resources of the various disciplines within the College of Natural Resources. We want the Quinney Library to be an important resource for information not only for faculty and students in the College and across USU, but also for natural resources professionals regionally, nationally and internationally. I feel very fortunate and excited to be part of developing and implementing this new vision.”

Welcome, Susanne!
Dr. Fred Provenza, Department of Wildland Resources, was selected to receive the 2008 D. Wynne Thorne Career Research Award at Utah State University. Named after USU’s first Vice President for Research, the Thorne Award is the most prestigious research commendation given by the University.

For the past 30 years, Dr. Provenza’s team has produced ground-breaking research that laid the foundations for what is now known as behavior-based management of livestock, wildlife and landscapes. Their work has inspired researchers in vastly diverse disciplines, including chemical ecology, ruminant nutrition, human nutrition and biopsychology, animal welfare, landscape restoration ecology, pasture and rangeland science and management, and rural sociology and ecodevelopment. Dr. Provenza’s research has led to the creation in 2001 of a consortium known as BEHAVE (Behavioral Education for Human, Animal, Vegetation and Ecosystem) Management. His work has become a keystone in the field of rangeland ecology. Since the initiation of BEHAVE, Provenza has given 96 invited presentations at national and international conferences. As senior author or coauthor, Provenza has published 160 original research articles in peer-reviewed journals and another 70 invited synthesis papers in journals, books and proceedings. His most cited paper has been cited 224 times, which signifies the impact he has made on his field of study. In 1999, he received the W.R. Chapline Research Award from the Society for Range Management for outstanding research accomplishments. This is the most prestigious research award given by the society. That same year, he also received the University Outstanding Graduate Mentor award from Utah State University. He has supervised nearly 60 M.S. and Ph.D. graduate and post-doctoral students from 19 different countries. (Vice President for Research Office)
Alumni Profile - Alan Carpenter
1986 PhD, Ecology, Department of Wildland Resources

After graduating from USU with a newly minted PhD in range ecology in 1986, Alan worked for two years as a post-doc in the range science department at Colorado State University on a mined land reclamation project in northwestern Colorado. At that time he was pursuing an academic path; however, he and his wife, Betsy Neely, were offered attractive positions with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Boulder. He decided to forego the academic route in favor of applied conservation.

Working at TNC was a wonderful experience that gave Alan the opportunity to learn many new things and expand the scope of his professional work. He had the good fortune to work on occasion with two of his former USU range colleagues, Chuck Warner, ’83 (as well as his wife Nancy, ’85), and Rich Reiner, ’82, all of whom worked for TNC.

After nine years at TNC, Alan decided it was time for something different. His family did not want to leave Boulder, and Alan enjoyed biking to work and did not want to commute to Denver (or anywhere else).

Since he could not find a ready-made job that suited him, he decided to start a consulting business, Land Stewardship Consulting, Inc. For the past eleven years, he has worked on a wide variety of ecologically related projects, such as conservation easements, land management plans, wetland mitigation, vegetation monitoring and stream restoration.

During the past year Alan has reduced his workload to about half time so he can spend more time on other pursuits, such as volunteer work, reading, investing, backpacking and chauffeuring his son Riley to ice and in-line hockey.

Over the past 22 years, he has had the good fortune to apply his academic knowledge and work experience to intellectually challenging projects that have kept biologically important lands in their undeveloped condition or have improved degraded areas.

Alan says, “I am grateful that I have been able to work with colleagues and clients whose company I enjoy, not to mention the joys of my family and living in a place as attractive as Boulder. It’s been a great run with even more to come.”

Note: In an effort to profile the many exciting and innovative careers our alumni are involved with, we are starting a regular alumni profile column. In future issues we will profile alumni from all of the departments and major areas.