

Inside Agromedicine

Partners for Health & Safety in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

NORTH CAROLINA AGROMEDICINE INSTITUTE • SPRING/SUMMER 2018

SALUTE TO DR. HORNS



The success of a program is directly linked to the support of administration. Since transitioning to the Division of Health Sciences in 2013, the Institute has been fortunate to have the support of Dr. Phyllis Horns, Vice Chancellor-Division of Health Sciences at East Carolina University (ECU). Effective July 31, 2018, Dr. Horns will leave the Vice Chancellor's position and transition into a faculty position in the College of Nursing after concluding a year of research.

Referring to herself as a 'farm girl from Wilson County', Dr. Horns' understanding of the issues associated with agricultural health and safety has undergirded her commitment to the Institute. She was unwavering in her support for the Institute when it was reviewed by the UNC Board of Governors in 2014 and in the development of its current 5-year strategic plan.

Dr. Horns invested in the sustainability of the Institute by providing permanent state funding for the AgriSafe-NC Nurse Coordinator and the AgriSafe-NC Outreach Specialist positions. A new faculty position was also given to the Brody School of Medicine's Department of Public Health. The faculty member will have a joint appointment with the Institute to focus on agromedicine-related research.

Institute Board of Directors member Lawrence Davenport praised Dr. Horns' leadership. "Phyllis has been instrumental in leading a very sophisticated and comprehensive health sciences division", said Davenport. She has maintained ECU's focus on service and on the needs of the people of North Carolina, with an emphasis on the people of eastern North Carolina."

We salute and thank Dr. Horns for all that she has done for the Institute, ECU and most importantly the agricultural community of North Carolina!

NC AgrAbility Partnership: Spotlight on Diversity

The North Carolina AgrAbility Partnership (NCAP) showcased the diversity of its partners and activities at the AgrAbility National Training Workshop held in Portland, Maine, March 19-22, 2018.

NCAP client farmers, John Holshouser and Davon Goodwin participated as panelists on the Veterans Panel. They shared their experiences in the military and as individuals farming with a disability. Mr. Holshouser and Mrs. Goodwin also shared information about the help they have received through the NCAP.

Student poster presentations included 'The Johnson Universal Farm', featuring a high yielding, low input sustainable farm concept for a visually impaired NCAP client, 'NC AgrAbility Building Better Connections with Minority Landowners' and 'Ergonomic Adaptations for Poultry Growers'. Posters were presented respectively by NC Agricultural & Technical State University (NCAT) landscape architecture students Ron Cabbage, Selah Grant and Tyron Alford, NCAT and NCAP graduate assistant, Kristoff Minus and East Carolina University Master of Science-Occupational Therapy and Institute graduate assistant, Brooke Sudano.

NCAP Director, Dr. Janine Parker and NCAP Manager, Beatriz Rodriguez presented on 'NC AgrAbility: The 1890 Experience'. The pair shared information on NCAP efforts to serve small, limited resource, socially disadvantaged and minority farmers in collaboration with



NCAP graduate assistant, Kristoff Minus, displays poster on building better connections with minority landowners.

NCAT, Cooperative Extension and other institutions across the state.

Ms. Rodriguez also co-presented with Tammy Koger, NC Assistive Technology Program and Steve Brink, NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (NCDVRS) on 'Building Stronger and Successful Partnerships'. The session focused on overcoming partnership challenges to more effectively serve individuals farming with a disability. NCAP's longstanding partnership with the NC Assistive Technology Program resulted in a closer relationship with Mr. Brink and other staff at NCDVRS. This relationship resulted in increased services for individuals farming with a disability and Dr. Paula Faulkner, NCAP Co-Director served as a panelist on the International Panel. Panelists discussed their experiences and identified opportunities for AgrAbility to work with students to provide services and information to individuals farming with a disability in developing countries.

LePrevost: Inaugural Agromedicine Extension Specialist

The NC Agromedicine Institute ('the Institute') and the Department of Applied Ecology at NC State University (NCSU) welcomed Dr. Catherine LePrevost as the new Extension Agromedicine Specialist on August 15, 2017. Dr. LePrevost received her bachelor's degree in Biology from Wake Forest University, her master's degree in Toxicology and her PhD in Science Education from NCSU.

Dr. LePrevost is not new to Agromedicine—she has over 10 years of experience in agricultural safety and health, particularly in the areas of pesticide safety, curriculum development, educational intervention, program evaluation, and agromedicine-related research. Her work has engaged farmers, Spanish-speaking farmworkers,

state agency personnel, Cooperative Extension Agents, health care providers and community health workers. Dr. LePrevost's research includes studies of effective teaching and communication practices, particularly related to pesticides and environmental toxicology, in informal learning environments.

You may recognize her from her roles on Institute projects, including evaluator for Certified Safe Farm of NC and lead developer of the Pesticides and Farmworker Health Toolkit curriculum for Spanish-speaking farmworkers. Dr. LePrevost recently partnered with Dr. Greg Cope, NCSU Agromedicine Campus Coordinator, to offer a new graduate-level course entitled Agricultural Chemical Risk Assessment.

Her current focus is a research-to-practice project involving an examination of farmworkers' risk beliefs and protective behaviors in the field and the development of a handwashing intervention tool with community health workers.



Dr. LePrevost, Agromedicine Extension Specialist

Dr. LePrevost looks forward to working closely with Institute faculty, Extension personnel, and community and agency partners in developing and delivering agricultural safety and health programs and conducting applied research.

Institute Initiates Undergraduate Public Health Internship

Known for its long-standing commitment to providing graduate assistantships and internships for East Carolina University's (ECU's) Master of Public Health (MPH) students, the Institute has added a new leaf. Beginning Spring semester 2018, the Institute now offers an undergraduate public health internship.

Unlike the MPH program which is located in ECU's Brody School of Medicine, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health Studies (BSPH) is located in ECU's College of Health and Human Performance. In contrast to the 240 hour MPH internship requirement, BSPH interns must complete a minimum of 385 hours.

The work of inaugural BSPH intern Maggie McGee focused on two areas: developing social media and farm safety and health materials in a format preferred by young farmers and ranchers (YFR) and assisting with the Institute's respiratory protection program. The social media project was conducted in follow-up to MPH intern Mary Peaks' research with YFR. Mrs. Peaks found that YFR preferred to receive farm safety and health information primarily through FaceBook or face-to-face interactions. Social media messages and handouts, if used, should be limited to no more than five brief bullet points.

Using this information, Ms. McGee redesigned the farm safety and health education materials most frequently used by the Institute. Materials are being used to systematically release new FaceBook posts. Work to increase the Institute's social media presence will continue with the arrival this summer of the Institute's next BSPH intern, Gwen Krause. Be sure to like the Institute on FaceBook!



Lamar Graffi, Associate Director attends Maggie McGee's final internship presentation.

Institute Receives Support For WPS Respiratory Compliance Projects

The NC Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund (PETF), NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (TTFC) and Syngenta awarded complimentary grants to the Institute to assist agricultural establishments with the Environmental Protection Agency's Worker Protection Standard (WPS).

The PETF award provided cost share funds for individuals to purchase respirators and cartridges provided documentation of current medical clearance and respirator fit test. Individuals attending respirator fit test events conducted by the Institute are able to purchase respirators and cartridges on-site at 50% of state contract rate. Others are able to submit written documentation of purchase elsewhere to receive 50% reimbursement.



Funds from the TTFC are enabling the Institute to conduct qualitative respirator fit test train-the-trainer classes for individuals wishing to conduct respirator fit tests, provide at least one qualitative respirator fit test and sizing kits to at least half of NC counties and provide treated area and required WPS posters. The funds also support staff time and travel to conduct qualitative respirator fit test events across the state independently or in collaboration with local Cooperative Extension offices.



Syngenta provided support for the development of a train-the-trainer module on respiratory protection. The module will include a flip chart in English and Spanish to be used by pesticide safety educators with farmers, nurserymen and their workers. Release is expected by Fall 2018.



Avery County Extension Director, Jerry Moody, conducts respirator fit tests with Christmas tree workers.

CARE4CAROLINA: Working for Affordable Health Insurance



Care4Carolina (C4C) is a coalition that's sole mission is to support an effort to find a North Carolina solution to close the health insurance coverage gap. Currently, there are nearly 340,000 people in our state that are uninsured and approximately 208,000 of those have no health insurance options at all. They represent working families whose income is too much to qualify for Medicaid and too little to qualify for affordable coverage in the federal marketplace.

Too many people in North Carolina face each day without health insurance, forcing them to delay care or visit emergency rooms, driving up health costs for everyone. Most of the individuals lacking coverage come from working families and/or have incomes 100% of the federal poverty level or less which is \$12,060 for a single and \$24,600 for a family of four.

Care4Carolina is aware the folks in the gap in NC are our farmers, volunteer firefighters, fishermen, small business owners, and veterans. "These are the people that bring your lunch,

cut your hair, lead your church services and make our state work," says Carla Obiol, C4C director.

The NC Agromedicine Institute is a vital partner to Care4Carolina as their work informs C4C of the challenges our citizens in agriculture face with health insurance options. It puts them directly in touch with working people who often-times have a tough time affording health insurance premium for their families. According Institute Director Dr. Robin Marcom, it's our farmers, fishermen, and loggers who need access to affordable health insurance. They don't need to worry about the one health event that would take them away from work and create a financial hardship."

To learn more about Care4Carolina visit the website at www.care4carolina.com or contact Carla Obiol at Carla.obiol@heart.org.

Child Agricultural Injury Prevention Workshop

Article credit: National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

A national workshop that will help America raise its next generation of farmers and ranchers has been scheduled for August 14-15 in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

"The Child Agricultural Injury Prevention Workshop is all about working together to safeguard youth," said Marsha Salzwedel, M.S., National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety. "By working with other organizations we can get the information and resources to farmers and ranchers, enabling them to implement safety strategies," Salzwedel said. "Protecting our children needs to be a priority. A youth dies in an agricultural incident about every three days in the United States."

The workshop will be limited to the first 60 registrants. Early bird deadline is July 1 (\$199 registration fee). To register, go to <http://www.marshfieldresearch.org/CAIP-Workshop>. The workshop is designed for farm organizations, insurance professionals, healthcare providers, Extension, agribusiness, public health officials and media. The interactive workshop will enable participants to understand the leading causes of injuries to children who are either working or playing on farms; describe interventions most likely to be effective in preventing childhood farm injuries; and identify their (and their organization's) unique role in helping farm children grow up happy and healthy.

For more workshop information, email nccrahs@marshfieldresearch.org or call 1-800-662-6900. The National Children's Center is part of the National Farm Medicine Center at Marshfield Clinic Research Institute. It is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



National Children's Center
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety



FARM TO SEA: ANCHORING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
WE CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME YOU *Halifax, Nova Scotia*
June 24 to 27, 2018

Photo Credit: Tourism Nova Scotia

This June 24 to 27, join agricultural health and safety professionals from around the world in historic Halifax, Nova Scotia at ISASH 2018.

Showcasing the best of agricultural health and safety, the 2018 ISASH conference brings together research, learning, and networking.

From dynamic keynote speakers, to tours showcasing the best of Nova Scotia agriculture; from innovative research, to an inspiring and practical professional improvement session, ISASH 2018 promises to energize, inform and inspire.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
June 24 to 27, 2018

Join us! Register now at isashconference2018.ca.

WPS: Respirator Road Show

New England in late October provided a picturesque background for the Institute's AgriSafe Nurses, Jessica Wilburn and Cynthia Smith to share their expertise in respiratory protection.

At the invitation of Kerry Richards, University of Delaware, the pair joined forces with Candace Bartholomew, University of Connecticut, Rachel Maccini, University of New Hampshire to conduct respirator fit test train-the-trainer sessions in Delaware, New Hampshire and Connecticut. Michael Wierda, University of Arizona

and Jan Hygnstrom, University of Nebraska joined on as observers to enhance their own work in respiratory protection.

The forty-nine participants included farmers, Cooperative Extension agents and pesticide inspectors. The 4-hour training included information on federal regulations governing use of respirators in agriculture, strategies for complying with regulations and selection, fit, use and care of respirators. Emphasis was placed on respiratory protection requirements associated with the Environmental Protection

Agency's revisions to the Worker Protection Standard (WPS).

At the invitation of Dr. Michael Wierda, Pesticide Safety Education Coordinator, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Ms. Wilburn and Institute Director, Dr. Robin Marcom, travelled to Arizona the first week of May to conduct two respirator train-the-trainer sessions with a total of 43 participants.

"Respiratory safety was identified as the number one pesticide safety education need in Arizona by

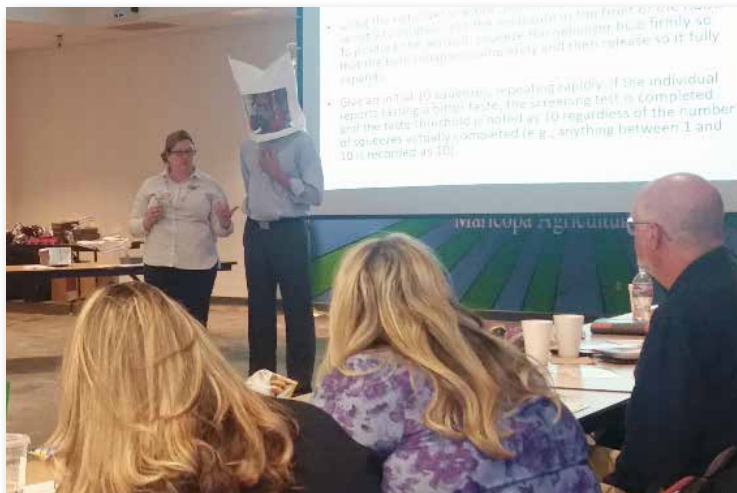
our stakeholders and the Arizona Department of Agriculture," shared Wierda. He continued to say that "The NC Agromedicine Institute's program was a perfect fit for our needs! One of our main goals for these events was to train people to become in-house respiratory safety program administrators who can provide fit testing and provide respiratory safety for their employees." If you have a need like we did I would strongly recommend having Robin and Jessica come and deliver their thorough and dynamic program."



AgriSafe-NC RN Cynthia Smith (right) works with a New England participant to conduct N95 respirator seal check.



Dr. Mike Wierda and AgriSafe-NC Nurse Coordinator, Jessica Wilburn demonstrate negative respirator seal check.



Participants at the Maricopa Ag Center look on as Dr. Mike Weirda and AgriSafe-NC Nurse Coordinator Jessica Wilburn demonstrate qualitative fit test steps.



Dr. Michael Wierda hosted Dr. Marcom and Mrs. Wilburn at the Maricopa and Yuma Agriculture Centers



North Carolina Agromedicine Institute
 West Research Campus
 1157 VOA Site C Road
 East Carolina University
 Greenville, NC 27834

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 110
 Greenville, NC

DONATE TO THE INSTITUTE

East Carolina University / ECU

Make check payable to "East Carolina University Medical & Health Sciences Foundation Inc." with memo designation "NC Agromedicine Institute Fund." Mail to NC Agromedicine Institute, c/o Director, 1157 VOA Site C Road, Greenville, NC 27834. To receive an on-line donation link, please email Tina Clift cliftt@ecu.edu or call 252.744.1008.

NC State University

Make check payable to NC Agricultural Foundation and include a notation as for either North Carolina State University Agromedicine Endowment (for long-term sustainability of Institute) OR North Carolina State University Agromedicine Enhancement Fund (for current and ongoing activities). Mail to NC Agricultural Foundation, c/o Chris Wessel, Campus Box 7645, Raleigh, NC 27695-7645.

Make a secure online donation at www.cals.ncsu.edu/givenow.

For up to date announcements, event information, photos and more.

PLEASE FOLLOW ALONG!

facebook (<http://www.facebook.com>; search: NC Agromedicine Institute)

twitter (<http://twitter.com>; search: NCAgromed)

YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/ncagromedicine>)

NC Agromedicine Institute / Inside Agromedicine • Spring/Summer 2018

www.ncagromedicine.org • ncagromedicine@ecu.edu • 252.744.1008

Dr. Robin Tutor-Marcom, MPH, OTR/L
 Director, tutorr@ecu.edu

Editor: Dr. Robin Tutor-Marcom
 NC Agromedicine Institute

Contributors: BBeatriz Rodriguez, Carla Obiol, Dr. Catherine LePrevost, Jessica Wilburn, Dr. Robin Tutor Marcom

Design and Layout: Landmark Printing

Photo Credits: ECU Health Sciences, Beatriz Rodriguez, InTandem, Maggie McGee, Dr. Robin Tutor Marcom, Dr. Kerry Richards

INSTITUTE MEMBERS

East Carolina University
 NC A&T State University
 NC State University



NORTH CAROLINA PARTNERS:

Albemarle Regional Health Services
 EI Group
 NC Cooperative Extension
 NC Departments of:
 Agriculture & Consumer Services
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Health & Human Services
 Labor
 Eastern AHEC
 NC Assn. of Professional Loggers
 NC Farm Bureau
 NC Fisheries Association
 NC Forestry Association
 ..and many more!

NATIONAL PARTNERS OR AFFILIATIONS

AgriSafe Network
 Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America
 Certified Safe Farm Coalition
 Childhood Agricultural Safety Network
 International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health
 Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health
 National AgrAbility Project
 National Institute of Environmental Health Science/National Institutes of Health

Printed on recycled paper with non-state funds; 350 copies of this newsletter were printed at a cost of \$987 or \$2.82 per copy.