James Baldwin wrote “Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.” Academia allows us to face a fresh start each year, and I always look forward to the start of the fall semester.

Fall semester signaled the start of the University’s new General Education program. AGNR faculty created new courses and reengineered existing courses to meet the learning objectives of the new program. Advisors and program coordinators created new 4-year-plans in record time. My thanks to all of you for making that change happen.

Change has also come to Academic Programs with the addition of three wonderful people who you can read about in this issue. Beth Weiss retired after more than 20 years of service to the campus and AGNR. Beth, thank you for all your work supporting our recruiting efforts.

So, we have successfully transitioned into a new academic year, and we are certain to see more changes to come. We’ll be ready for those as well.

Sincerely,
Leon Slaughter
Associate Dean for Academic Programs

LARC Students Host Public Workshop in Cambridge

Graduate students in the Landscape Architecture program hosted a two-day public workshop at Long Wharf Park & Marina to learn how Cambridge residents use the space and envision the future of the park.

Students in their final studio course, LARC748: Advanced Special Topics Studio, are developing designs for the master plan of the park, which currently features a marina, a lighthouse, and spaces for recreation and community events, such as the farmer’s market and concerts.

Approximately 30 Cambridge residents came out to the workshops each day, with some residents participating both days.

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“Small Moves” May Inspire Big Change at Long Wharf

Continued from Page 1

The first day, Oct. 11, began with two presentations about the Long Wharf project. The residents were then divided into groups of ten and participated in three activities to explore how they use the park and what they would like to add to the space.

The second day, Oct. 12, focused on envisioning the master plan for the park based on the first day’s feedback. Participants discussed what Long Wharf Park may look like in three weeks, three months and three years. At the end of the day, students shared their vision statement for Long Wharf Park.

Sarah Watling, also a third year graduate student, said that the public workshop gave her a new appreciation of how valuable the park is to the community.

“What we didn’t realize going into this was just how precious this space is for an array of people,” Watling said.

Long Wharf Park is a center of tourism for Cambridge because many cruise ships dock there. Watling and her classmate, Risa Abraham, also a third year graduate student, agreed that renovating the entrance to the marina would be an important element to their designs.

But students also learned that making small changes, such as adding more trash cans to the park, could significantly improve the quality of the park.

Abraham said that these suggestions inspired the motto “small moves, big impact,” adding that the challenge of community design is learning how you can “tread lightly and make the changes that you think are best.”

Emilie Carter, a third year graduate student, said that working with an entire community to develop a design is not much different from working with a single client.

“One of the most important things I’ve learned from landscape architecture is there are very few places where you can design work without affecting a lot of stakeholders,” Carter said.

Victoria Chanse, an assistant professor for the Landscape Architecture program, said that the public workshop’s success and the students’ accomplishments so far exceeded her expectations.

“This group developed a very significant approach that really is unprecedented,” Chanse said.

“I have so much respect for them because they really pulled it off,” she added.

WEB SITE HIGHLIGHTS BY SURAN DE SILVA

This summer, AGNR introduced a new website design, making changes to improve usability for students. The redesigned website incorporates the main UMD design scheme, but adds its own AGNR elements. The site separates relevant information for prospective, undergraduate, and graduate students. Students can learn about foreign study, four year plans, peer mentors, and more, all organized in an easy to find manner. There is also information about jobs and scholarships related to agriculture and natural resources. The site improves its alumni relations by creating a “Get Connected” page that allows AGNR alumni to stay in touch with the College. We hope that it is easier for you to find the information you seek. Questions? Comments? Contact us.
When most American students think about studying abroad, they likely imagine themselves in a Parisian classroom or strolling across a Roman campus. But for many Chinese students, the University of Maryland matches the ideal vision of a semester abroad.

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) hosts Chinese students from China Agricultural University (CAU) through the 2+2 program, an educational partnership that allows Chinese undergraduates to complete their bachelor’s degrees in the United States.

Chuan Hao Lin is a junior from CAU studying agricultural resource economics. Lin decided to enroll in the 2+2 program after UMD president Wallace Loh visited CAU last year.

“I always wanted to go abroad, but I wasn’t planning to come to the United States until President Loh came to my university and gave a very wonderful speech about his American story, and it inspired me,” Lin said.

Yan Yu is a junior from CAU studying plant science and landscape architecture. Yu’s parents encouraged her to study abroad since she was young. She expressed an interest in the 2+2 program even before she attended university, selecting it as one of her preferred programs on her college entrance exam.

Although she was confident that she wanted to study abroad, she was not sure which American university to attend. 2+2 students can apply to programs at Purdue, Cornell, and the University of Maryland. One of Yu’s professors in China had attended UMD and encouraged Yu to do the same.

“He taught me a lot and just said this was a wonderful school,” Yu said.

Yu and Lin both appreciate the academic environment at UMD. Yu said that professors at UMD are more willing to help students complete their assignments, while Chinese professors are less likely to offer assistance. Lin said he enjoys the “sense of learning things” in the classroom.

“So far I feel good because I’m learning some things,” Lin said.

“Teachers are not just giving you the homework—they’re getting you to think in a class. It’s a feeling that I’ve wanted.”

Both students are enthusiastic about participating in clubs and activities. Lin is participating in activities with the Bahá’í Faith club and Yu is attended her first Terrapin Trail Club event last month.

When it comes to studying agriculture abroad, both students agree that the United States is the place to be.

Lin asserts that young people need to take up trades in agriculture to support their country.

“China has a lot of problems with agriculture. We don’t have enough farmers and most of the laborers are really old,” Lin said, adding that young people prefer to work in the cities and have little interest in agricultural occupations.

Lin and Yu agree that agriculture in the U.S. is very sophisticated and that China can adopt American agricultural techniques.

“China is a big country and it’s based on agriculture,” Yu said. “The United States is smaller than China, but it still has a very advanced agricultural system, so they must have something we can learn.”
Meet New AGNR Staff Members!

Alyse Carter
Alyse is the Administrative Assistant to the Office of Academic Programs and the Associate Dean. Alyse helps with the daily operation of the Academic Programs office and is the contact for Dr. Slaughter. A recent 2011 graduate of the University of Maryland, Alyse was an Environmental Science and Policy major with a concentration in Society and Environmental Issues.

April Brohawn
April Brohawn is the Assistant to the Dean for Recruitment at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. April works directly with prospective students and transfer students interested in AGNR programs. During the fall semester, April represents AGNR at open houses, college fairs, and high school events. She also connects prospective students with AGNR Ambassadors.

Dr. Evelyn E. Cooper
Dr. Evelyn E. Cooper is the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. Cooper oversees major academic advising, exceptions to academic policy, and permission to enroll registration. She organizes Change of Major workshops, which help students adjust to their new programs. In addition, Dr. Cooper coordinates and teaches UNIV100 courses and represents AGNR at recruitment events.

Fun Fact?
Alyse participates in Scottish country dance, a form of social dance in which couples perform choreographed dances such as reels, jigs and strathspeys.

Fun Fact?
When April was 16, she won a Crayola name-a-crayon contest for the Baltimore area. The winning name? Ravenous Purple.

Fun Fact?
Dr. Cooper is a two-time Iron Girl triathlete. She plans to participate in the Olympic Distance and Maryland triathlons next year.
Recruitment News from April Brohawn

In the academic world, fall marks a time of new beginnings and the same was true for recruitment for AGNR. I’m excited to be a part of this beginning and have been working hard to continue the quality of the past while putting my own stamp on the process. I’ve spent a lot of time building relationships, attending high school and community college fairs, and learning the ropes while putting my own mark on them. Check out the numbers to see some of our accomplishments so far this fall.

We are currently seeking a few good Terps to serve as AGNR Student Ambassadors. Ag Ambassadors are dedicated leaders who help prospective students learn more about AGNR at Maryland. Our Ambassadors attend recruitment events, answer email inquiries, and serve as the go-to resource for students considering AGNR majors. Ambassadors learn valuable communication and leadership skills which help build their resumes. With some exciting new opportunities in the works for Ag Ambassadors, it’s a great time to join! If you are interested in this opportunity or would like to nominate someone to be an Ag Ambassador, please email April no later than November 23.

The Numbers

- 50 students requested more information via our website
- 62 students were audience to in-classroom presentations about AGNR majors and careers
- 74 prospective AGNR students registered to attend on-campus visit events this fall
- 405 completed freshman admissions applications for AGNR majors submitted as of Nov. 3

Ready to join the AGNR family?

Attend a Change of Major Workshop today!

New this semester is the AGNR Change of Major Workshop. Current UMD students who wish to change their major to one within our College must submit a Change of Major Form and attend a Change of Major Workshop. This workshop is designed to welcome new students into our College by introducing them to the staff, the services we provide and to answer any questions regarding advising, registration, academic policy and student support. Students can sign up for a workshop by visiting https://agnr.umd.edu/students/change-your-major, where they can choose from multiple dates throughout the Fall semester. Spring 2013 workshop dates will be released before the start of the new semester.

2+2 Walk-in Advising

Tuesday: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Wednesday: 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Academic Programs Office
0107 Symons Hall

Develop 4-year plans, evaluate CORE and GenEd requirements, and review transfer courses
The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources congratulates Lyndsay Ames, a senior dietetics major, for her recognition as a 2012-2013 Philip Merrill Presidential Scholar.

Ames is passionate about educating all people about the benefits of a good diet. Last year she was one of six students who interned with the health center dietitian Jane Jakubczak and met with students, faculty and staff to discuss ways they can improve their diets. She previously shadowed dietitians at MedStar Harbor Hospital in Baltimore and worked with the Harford County Public Schools dietitian.

Ames is also a member of Terp Runners and the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

When she graduates next year, Ames hopes to secure a challenging internship and pursue her goal of becoming a private counselor.

Ames selected Margaret Udahogora, the Director of the Undergraduate Dietetics Program, and Ethan Jennings, her Advanced Placement Biology teacher at Harford Technical High School, as the professor and teacher who had the most influence on her academic success.

“It’s a great opportunity to recognize my professor and teacher in this way and show how much I appreciate their hard work,” Ames said.

“I also see it as an award for them. Their input and hard work allowed me to get to this place,” she added.

All the Philip Merrill Presidential Scholars and their mentors were recognized at a luncheon Nov. 2 at the Riggs Alumni Center.

Check out the office hours of our AGNR Peer Mentors! Visit Tim, Sindu, Stephanie, Hanum, Chris, Lisa and Lindsey today in 0100 or 0107 Symons Hall. To learn more, click here!

Tim Von Thun (AGST)  
Mon 9am-10am,  
4pm-5pm  
or Thurs 3:30pm-5pm

Sindu Manoharan (ANSC)  
Mon 10am-10:50am or  
Wed 10am-10:50am,  
2pm-2:20pm

Stephanie Marino (LARC)  
Mon 10:50am-12:50pm  
or Wed 10:50am-12:50pm

Hanum Wensil-Strow  
(ANSC/ENSP)  
Mon 1pm-3pm

Chris Riley (ENSP)  
Tues 12:30pm-2:30pm or Thurs  
12:30pm-2:30pm

Lisa Kaufman  
(NFSC)  
Tues 2pm-4pm

Lindsey Yarbrough  
(NFSC)  
Wed 9am-10am  
or Thurs 9am-12pm