This has been an exciting month with many international activities and opportunities. We have been actively engaging several institutions from Brazil regarding interaction with their sandwich programs, graduate training programs as well as post-doc, visiting scientists, sabbaticals and grant programs. We thank those that took both the time to travel to College Station as well as those from the Department that engaged in the discussion. There have also been many AID projects with deadlines approaching in late November, December and early January. Thanks to those that have participated in numerous discussions about opportunities to meet these RFP’s and provide leadership for development around the world. From Ukulima to Burma to the Horn of Africa to Bangladesh we continue to make a difference.

Whoop! -- to those receiving recognition at ASA-CSSA-SSSA this year. Not only were several recognized with awards, but A&M leadership was apparent throughout the meeting across our science disciplines. A special thanks to Dr. Chandler for his leadership of the awards committee for the past several years and to Dr. Feagley for taking over. Recognition of our faculty, students and staff for their excellence at all levels is especially important to the stature of the Department. Congratulations to Dr. Wayne Smith on his recent recognition by the Commercial Plant Breeders as the Public Plant Breeder of the Year. Whoop! -- to our Soil Judging team and Dr. Cristine Morgan as they head to Platteville, WI this spring following a strong showing in Oklahoma this fall.

We continue active discussions with several companies from mining, bioenergy, rice and water. We also are working to develop broad based competitive proposals regarding water issues. Dr. Ronnie Schnell has started to coordinate our sorghum, corn and cropping system activities and provided a spark of activity that should lead to some exciting new programming. We had an opportunity to review our variety testing in conjunction with the Texas Seed Trade Association in Galveston as well as participate in the Texas Seed and Plant Board Meeting to approve several new peanut, corn, wheat, sorghum, rye, and turf lines for registration in Texas. We look forward to the annual conference of the Texas Seed Trade Association starting on super-bowl weekend.

It was special to have Dr. Molly Jahn visit our campus as part of our ongoing celebration of the genomics display at the bush library. Many had the opportunity to meet with the former Undersecretary of Agriculture and former Dean of the University of Wisconsin and plan exciting future interactions.

Our faculty meeting this month was focused on our strategic plan, hiring opportunities and progress filling positions. It is great to be refocusing on our future. Thanks again to Dr. Scott Senseman for his leadership of this process.

Thanks to all for the new faces and long term members on the team that put together the Harvest Celebration at the Wellborn Community Center in November (see photos inside). Happy Thanksgiving! We look forward to seeing you at our annual feast on November 20 at 11:45 in HEEP.
Condolences

Tony Bockholt passed away November 4, 2012. “Anton J. “Tony” Bockkholt was born in Westphalia, Texas on September 23, 1930. In 1935 he moved with his family to the Corpus Christi area where he was reared on a cotton, grain sorghum, and corn farm. he graduated from Robstown High School in 1948. In September of 1948, he came to Texas A&M where he majored in Agronomy and received his B.S. degree in Agriculture in May, 1952. Tony received his M.S. degree in Agronomy from Texas A&M in 1957 and his Ph.D. in Plant Breeding from Texas A&M in 1967.

Tony’s career with Texas A&M included a joint teaching and research appointment. In addition to teaching Agronomy 105 and Agronomy 601 and carrying out research responsibilities in corn improvement, he supervised numerous graduate students. Tony has an extensive program underway to develop high lysine corns with a hard vitreous endosperm known as quality protein maize (QPM). The nutritionally improved materials are highly sought by the the Snack and Mexican food industry and swine feeders. Since 1962, Tony has released 11 corn hybrids, 26 inbreds and 8 composites. Four new yellow and 6 new white inbreds, and a white QPM are being proposed for release.

Tony and his wife Virginia are the proud parents of two daughters, Ginny and Christy. Ginny married Mike Bodman and they have 3 sons, Paul, Mark and Robert. Christy married Gary Wittie and they have two daughters, Jane and Kathryn and a son, Todd.”

Please remember Donald Dorsett as his wife Catherine, passed away November 10, 2012. Donald was Associate Professor and Extension Specialist for Soil and Crop Sciences in College Station before his retirement.

Kathy Schmitt is still at home recovering from surgery. You can contact Linda Carpenter for her address and phone number if you would like to send her a card or give her a call.

Christmas Open House

You and your guest are invited to the home of

David & Jeanne Baltensperger

5202 Cascades Dr., College Station, TX

Saturday, December 8, 2012

RSVP Appreciated  845-3041
Congratulations to **Dr. Sam Feagley** on receiving the American Society of Agronomy Fellow’s Award in Cincinnati at the International ASA, CSSA, SSSA meeting. Sam is our Extension Environmental Specialist.

There were 26 oral presentations and 17 posters in the graduate student competitions in Cincinnati. The judges were very impressed by the overall high quality of the talks and posters. Congratulations **Sean M. Thompson** on winning 3rd place in the Graduate Student oral presentations at ASA.

**Regents Professors and Fellows Named By Texas A&M Board**

College Station-based recipients of the Regents Fellow Service Award, some of whom also hold joint appointments with Texas A&M, are: Jim Mazurkiewicz, AgriLife Extension Service and Leadership Program Director; Ari M. Michelsen, AgriLife Research and professor and resident director of agricultural economics; and Jackie C. Rudd, AgriLife Research and professor of agronomy.

Congratulations to **David Chalmers** on being recognized for distinguished service to Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A&M University System and granted Emeritus Status.

Kudos to **Dianna Bagnall** on receiving the Hank Beachell Future Leader Scholarship. Cristine Morgan is Dianna’s advisor.
ASA, CSSA, & SSSA International Meetings Mixer Moments

Harvest Celebration 2012 Pics
Join us tomorrow (Nov. 20) for our Annual Thanksgiving Lunch at Heep. Come to the 4th floor, 11:45 am and bring a dish that will serve 8. Everyone is invited!