As Spring Semester drew to a close, the UGA Turf Club hosted its annual banquet to thank faculty, staff, students and industry representatives for their hard work and support. After a short program to highlight the past year’s activities and acknowledge contributions by various individuals and groups, guests were treated to an inspirational talk by UGA head football coach, Mark Richt.

Coach Richt began his talk with the good and the bad of being a head football coach in the SEC, including some insights on how he deals with the associated media attention that comes with such a high profile job. He then changed his focus to how he manages his priorities in life, and how these assist him in handling both the triumphs and perils of his current position. He talked specifically to the students, encouraging them to set goals for their future and reach for them, while advising them to never forget those who have helped them along the way. At the banquet’s end, Coach Richt generously posed for pictures and signed autographs, taking time to speak with all who approached him.

IN MEMORY: Dr. Doyle Ashley

Dr. Doyle Ashley went to be with the Lord on November 3, 2011. Dr. Ashley’s first faculty appointment was to the Crop and Soil Sciences Department (then Agronomy) in 1968. He served with distinction and was a world renowned crop physiologist who dedicated his career to understanding the relationships between photosynthesis and other plant functions in soybeans and peanuts. He published extensively and his contributions earned him the distinction of “Fellow” in the American Society of Agronomy. Despite his research accolades, Dr. Ashley’s fondest memories during his tenure at the University of Georgia were the interactions he had with the undergraduate and graduate students. He was faculty advisor to the Agronomy Club in the 1960’s and 1970’s when the Cub constructed the Fellowship Pavilion at the Plant Sciences farm, and took pride in the personal and professional accomplishments of his undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Ashley was preceded in death by his wife, Francis. Dr. Ashley is survived by his son and daughter, their spouses, and his grandchildren.
Whether you were one of Dr. Hoveland’s colleagues or one of his former students, you no doubt know Carl to be an outstanding scientist, teacher, and friend. At their annual meeting in January, the American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC) recognized these attributes by awarding Dr. Hoveland with their highest honor, the Allen Award of Illumination. Though the award was presented in absentia (Dr. Hoveland was at the bedside of his beloved wife, Pat), the crowd of nearly 300 attendees at the 2012 annual meeting stood to provide a 3-minute standing ovation for Dr. Hoveland.

Dr. Hoveland has had an incredibly distinguished career in forage ecology and management. Among his many accomplishments, Carl’s work was instrumental in identifying and remedying tall fescue toxicosis issues and co-authoring the preeminent textbook, “Southern Forages.” Indeed, it would be impossible to adequately summarize his professional accomplishments in this brief newsletter article. Dr. Hoveland’s professional accomplishments have been honored by many professional organizations and societies in the past, including the AFGC. However, this award is different.

The Allen Award of Illumination is the AFGC’s most prestigious award and has only been awarded to four other individuals. The Allen Award of Illumination was set up to recognize individuals who have “illuminated in others a passion for grazing lands and grazing animals and an appreciation of their essential role in human existence.” It is awarded not to great researchers or educators, but only to those who “inspire others to achieve a greater depth of understanding of grazing lands and to recognize that such understanding comes through teamwork and collaboration across multiple disciplines.”

Many in the forage management discipline have a story about how Dr. Hoveland has played (or continues to play) a pivotal role in shaping their professional career and personal life. In fact, being exposed to the Southern Forages book was an experience that inspired me to pursue a career in forage ecology and management. Though I came along too late to be one of Dr. Hoveland’s graduate students (believe me, I tried!), I am proud to say I have had an experience that rivals it. Dr. Hoveland was instrumental in attracting me to the University of Georgia and has taken me under his wing in my first few years here. In addition to kindly and patiently dealing with the many questions I have asked him, he has encouraged me to take time to see the larger picture and enjoy the experience of working in this discipline.

I know of no one who is more deserving of the AFGC’s Allen Award of Illumination. I hope you will join me in congratulating Dr. Hoveland on his receipt of this very prestigious award.

contributed by
Dennis W. Hancock, PhD.
Asst. Professor and State Forage Extension Specialist
Dr. Andrew Paterson was appointed a Regents’ Professor, effective July 2012.

Jason Sarver, an Ph.D. student under Dr. Scott Tubbs, placed second in the CSSA, C03 Graduate Student Poster Contest at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA annual meeting in San Antonio, TX.

Justin Moss, an M.S. student under Dr. Scott Tubbs, placed second in the Graduate Student Oral Competition at the APRES International Annual Meeting, July 2011.

Justin Moss placed first in the CSSA, C03 Graduate Student Poster Contest at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA annual meeting in San Antonio, TX.

Justin Moss received a Georgia Feed and Grain Association Fellowship in the amount of $2000.

Kate Cassity, a Ph.D. student under Dr. Mussie Habteselassie, was awarded a G.A. Harris Research Instrumentation Fellowship. She will receive $5000 worth of Decagon Devices research instrumentation to assist with her doctoral research.

Sudeep Sidhu, a Ph.D. student under Drs. Qingguo Huang and Paul Raymer, won first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition, Crops Division, at the ASA-Southern Branch annual meeting in Birmingham, AL, Feb 2012.

Jared Wilmoth, an M.S. student under Dr. Aaron Thompson, received a 2012 Goldschmidt award in the amount of $1000, to be used for travel to the 2012 Goldschmidt International Conference in Montreal, Canada.

Rashmi Singh, a Ph.D. student under Dr. Qingguo Huang, won first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition, Soils Division, at the ASA-Southern Branch annual meeting in Birmingham, AL, Feb 2012.

Taylor Cyle and Rebecca Lindner, undergraduates working with Dr. Aaron Thompson, each received CAES Undergraduate Research Grants.

Dr. Patrick McCullough and his wife welcomed their first child, William Patrick McCullough on December 2, 2011.

Dr. Brian Schwartz and his wife, Susan, welcomed their second child, Marlee Rainn Schwartz, on January 27, 2012.

Dr. Scott Tubbs and his wife welcomed their third child, Sullivan Ronald Tubbs, on May 17, 2012.

Coleman Perry, an undergraduate student, was selected for the 2012 Sanford Bishop Ag Fellowship, and will spend 12 weeks in Washington, DC. He will also receive a CAES scholarship in the amount of $3000.

Jared Koenig, Jeremy Griffin and Brendan Hoban, undergraduate students in the Turfgrass program, each won a Moncrief Scholarship from the Georgia State Golf Association Foundation.

Erico Mattos, a Ph.D. student under Dr. Miguel Cabrera, was selected to represent UGA at the Singularity University Graduate Studies Program, Singularity University at the NASA Research Park campus, Silicon Valley, summer 2012.

Dr. Wayne Hanna was inducted in to the Georgia Ag Hall of Fame on September 16, 2011.

Dr. Wayne Hanna received the US Golf Association Green Section Award at the GC-SAA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, March 2012.

Yi-Teng “Emmy” Deng successfully completed the requirements for an M.S. in Crop and Soil Sciences. She is now working as a lab professional in the School of Ecology at UGA.

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Dr. Wayne Hanna received the US Golf Association Green Section Award at the GC-SAA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, March 2012.

The following students received their B.S.E.S. in Water and Soil Resources:
- William Christopher Fletcher
- Natalie McCrea Stone

The following students received their B.S.E.S. in Environmental Chemistry:
- Kevin Taylor Cyle
- Ryan Paul Harren
- Rebecca Anne Lindner
- Markus Werner Scherer
- Andrew John Wheeler
- David Michael Zweig

Sudeep Sidhu, a Ph.D. student under Drs. Qingguo Huang and Paul Raymer, won first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition, Crops Division, at the ASA-Southern Branch annual meeting in Birmingham, AL, Feb 2012.

Rashmi Singh, a Ph.D. student under Dr. Qingguo Huang, won first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition, Soils Division, at the ASA-Southern Branch annual meeting in Birmingham, AL, Feb 2012.

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