Congressman Mike Thompson to Give Walt Klenz Lecture on Wine Business

The Department of Viticulture and Enology at UC Davis, together with Foster’s Wine Estates (formerly Beringer Blass Wine Estates) is hosting Congressman Mike Thompson to present the second Walt Klenz Lecture on Wine Business on Thursday, April 12, 2007. The lecture will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Alpha Gamma Rho Room at the Buehler Alumni Center, with a reception to follow immediately after the seminar.

“It is an honor to have Congressman Mike Thompson here to speak to our students, faculty and the community. We want our students to remain up to date and competitive in the global marketplace of wine. Congressman Thompson’s lecture will provide an important current perspective on the economic, environmental and political issues now facing the wine industry. We are very pleased he was able to come to UC Davis.” stated Interim Department Chair, Andrew Waterhouse.

Thompson represents California’s 1st Congressional District that includes all of Napa, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties and portions of Yolo and Sonoma Counties; prime grape growing and wine making areas of California. Thompson is co-founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Wine Caucus which is comprised of over 215 U.S. Senators and House members. He is also a small vineyard owner and was previously the maintenance supervisor for the Beringer Wineery.

The Walt Klenz Lecture Series was created and sponsored by Foster’s Wine Estates through the Department of Viticulture and Enology at UCD in honor of their former CEO, Walt Klenz, in recognition of his many contributions to the wine industry. Lectures focus on the business of wine and are aimed at students with the goal of giving them a glimpse of the many facets of the wine industry-based on the speaker’s expertise.

Although aimed at students, the lecture is open to the public. Those who attend the seminar are

1980s Cabernet Sauvignon Tasting Resounding Success

On Thursday, March 22, 2007, The Department of Viticulture and Enology hosted a tasting of 1980 Cabernet Sauvignon from 24 different wineries that had been stored under identical conditions for over twenty years. The evening began as Interim Department Chair; Andrew Waterhouse, welcomed the crowd of 100+ while giving them an introduction to how the evening was to unfold. Chik Brenneman, Staff Winemaker/Cellar Master, enlightened the crowd with the discovery of the wines and the historical value of the collection. The wines originated as a celebration of the Department’s 75th Anniversary and later traveled with then President Regan to China, where they were served at a State Dinner the Regan’s hosted during their visit abroad.

Darrell Corti led the crowd through the flights with details regarding the wineries. Winemakers who were in attendance also shared their thoughts on the winemaking process during the 1980s, the harvest conditions, and how things have changed over the years.

The winetasting was an outreach event to the community and proceeds will benefit the upcoming student’s summer trip to South America for a two week tour of the winemaking regions of Chile and Argentina.
I Heard it Through the Grapevine...

Thompson to Speak at Klenz Seminar  continued from page 1.

also invited to a wine reception that will take place immediately following the lecture. Parking is available for $6 at the lots nearest the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts; lots accept coin, bills, and credit cards.

Attendance is free, however RSVPs are requested so that adequate seating and refreshments will be provided. Interested parties are asked to contact Valerie Johnson at 530-754-8368 or vljohnson@ucdavis.edu.

UC Davis’ Department of Viticulture and Enology, which grew out of an 1880 mandate by the California legislature, is the nation’s premiere research and teaching university program devoted to the sciences of grape growing and winemaking. Its research program is focused on wine flavor and sustainable production and its teaching program is designed to graduate students who integrate science and critical thinking so that they can create the next generation of California wine styles. The department also extends its research to the industry with numerous personal appearances at grape days and regional technical group meetings as well as electronic delivery.

Kudos to
Lucy Joseph:
Secures Three Grants for Safety Issues

Lucy Joseph was successful in obtaining three “Be Smart About Safety” grants on the proposals she submitted. Her first project involves a training session for incoming students and TA’s on departmental safety and videotaping, this grant was for $600.00. A second grant covered ergonomically correct equipment for Dr. Bisson, for $552.00. The third grant involved shelving and guardrail upgrades in the Jacobsen Cellar, for $4,000.00

Department Move

The department is expecting to move into the new academic building sometime in June of 2008.

Staff is busy creating protocols and check lists to insure for as smooth of a move and transition as possible.

The RMI Grand Opening is scheduled for Thursday October 9, 2007 and the Campus Centennial will follow as a three day gala of events from October 10-12, 2008.

Staff and faculty are busy with “punch lists” and meetings to be sure the rooms have adequate industrial hookups for water, electricity, and steam.

DINNER UNDER THE WINKLER VINE

The Davis Enology and Viticulture Organization (DEVO) is planning the 7th Annual Dinner Under the Winkler Vine on Saturday, May 26th, 2007, the festivities are scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. The 2007 dinner menu is currently being created to complement the lovely selection of wines that have been generously donated. A live and silent auction is being planned to take place before and after the dinner.

The Dinner Under the Winkler Vine is a major fundraising activity for DEVO. Proceeds go to support students pursuing international winemaking internships. For more information, please contact Joshua Rubin at 530-204-7036 or jrrubin@ucdavis.edu.

“Plans are only good intentions unless they immediately degenerate into hard work.”

Peter Drucker
1909-2005
The 93rd Annual Campus Open House, known as Picnic Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 14th. Picnic Day begins at 10:00 a.m. with the Parade. Once the parade is over, the displays and demonstrations can officially begin and they end at 4:00 p.m. The department will sponsor a yeast display where folks can view various yeast examples through the microscope, grape vine pruning demonstrations, and the vine giveaway. Seguin-Moreau will bring in a crew to demonstrate barrel making for the crowd.

Winne Peterson-Nedry is orchestrating the DEVO activities for the department. Volunteers should contact her at: wpetersonnedry@ucdavis.edu

NEW PEOPLE:

Greg Hirson is now a GSR working for Sue Ebeler.
Tree Kilpatrick is a Junior Specialist in the Smart Lab.
Tom Shapland is also working in the Smart Lab.
Sabrina Prati and Mark Schabel are working with Mike Ramsey.

NEW DEPARTMENT PARENTS:

Cecilia Peppi-Barros and Sam welcomed their second child, Amelia on February 23, 2007. Amelia arrived at 8:14 a.m. and weighed in at 7 lbs 10 oz. She was 20 inches long. Older brother, Vicente adores his new baby sister.

Hiroshi and Kayoko Wada welcomed their first child on March 8, 2007. Saya Violet Wada weighed 5 lbs 11 oz, and was 17.5 inches long. Both families are doing well and the little girls are ...well, growing like vines!

"Be gentle with the young."
Juvenal (55AD-127AD)

The Walker Lab is hosting to foreign scholars: Sonet van Zyl from South Africa, and Patricia Leao is from Brazil.

Stop by and say hello when you get a chance.

DON’T FORGET TO PAY YOUR $5.00 FOR COFFEE EACH MONTH.
Lucy has added a new section to the departmental website dedicated to safety issues. It can be found on the external site under “Student Resources” and on the internal site under “Safety”. At this time, it contains the Departmental IIPP and Emergency Information and Handbook. The IIPP and Handbook can be downloaded for your convenience. As changes are made to these documents, you will be able to download them to update your files. Ultimately, it is Lucy’s goal to make the website your source for all safety related information and forms. LAW R has an excellent website for training that will be helpful in achieving this goal.

Help the Easter Bunny safely navigate the maze to the eggs so he can fill is basket.