

## UMCA Welcomes Shibu Jose as Director

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry has a new leader.

Shibu Jose, Ph.D., has become director of the Center, effective Nov. 1. Upon Gene Garrett's retirement Dec. 31, Jose will assume the endowed professorship, the H. Gene Garrett Chair of Agroforestry.

Shibu comes to MU from the University of Florida in Gainesville, where he served as a professor of forest ecology with the School of Forest Resources and Conservation and held affiliate faculty status in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment and the soil and water science department.

He received his B.S. in forestry from Kerala Agricultural University, India, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in forest science from Purdue University.

He is the author of more than 80 refereed articles and has edited six books.



Shibu's research program has the overarching goal of identifying and quantifying key ecological processes and interactions that define ecological sustainability. He examines how resource availability and disturbances influence ecosystem structure and function in agroforests, natural forests and plantation forests. He uses the ecological information in designing agroforestry systems and restoring degraded and damaged ecosystems. Over the past 20 years Jose and his research team have conducted studies in the U.S., Australia, Costa Rica, Belize, Bangladesh and India.

He is Editor-In-Chief of Agroforestry Systems; Associate Editor, International Journal of Ecology; and Associate Editor, Journal of Forestry. Most recently, he spent six months in Bangladesh as a Fulbright Scholar conducting teaching and research.

Contact Shibu at 882-0240 or [joses@missouri.edu](mailto:joses@missouri.edu).

### WELCOME TRICIA!



The MU Center for Agroforestry welcomes another new face to the staff. Tricia Oswald started Oct. 1 as the Center's administrative associate, taking over for Bonnie Beckett, who retired Oct. 30.

Tricia has been at the University of Missouri since February 2006. She received a bachelor's degree from Columbia College in business administration with an emphasis in management in December 2006. Reach her at 884-2874 or [elliotttl@missouri.edu](mailto:elliotttl@missouri.edu).

Welcome Tricia!

nior administrative assistant, and 37 years with MU. We said good-bye with a lively party at HARC, at a tent set up next to the Hickman House. It was a great night to thank Bonnie, reminisce and wish her well.

We'll miss you Bonnie!

### SAYING SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



The week after Bonnie's party we "roasted" Gene Garrett on the eve of the Missouri Chestnut Roast. Gene retires at the end of 2009 after 34 years at MU, but will continue on as superintendent of the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center and professor emeritus of forestry.

We enjoyed hearing from colleagues, former students and associates of Gene at his entertaining dinner!



### SAYING GOOD-BYE

It's been a time of welcoming and saying good-bye at the Center for Agroforestry. In October, Bonnie Beckett retired after 11 years at the Center, most recently as se-

# ACTION IN AGROFORESTRY

## OUTREACH

The University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry hosted the 11th North American Agroforestry Conference May 31 - June 3, 2009. The conference, sponsored by the Association for Temperate Agroforestry, brought researchers from around the world to Columbia to present their work and see what the MU Center for Agroforestry is all about. The week included tours of MU and UMCA's research farms and of area landowners practicing agroforestry. Thirty-one associates of the MU Center for Agroforestry presented papers and/or posters at the conference. A special issue of Agroforestry Systems with selected manuscripts is forthcoming in 2010. The conference proceedings, cited below, are available in hard-copy for \$25 by contacting Michelle Hall, 882-9866 or hallmich@missouri.edu, or by download at <http://www.centerforagroforestry.org/pubs/index.asp>

**Gold, M.A., and M.M. Hall, eds.** 2009. "Agroforestry Comes of Age: Putting Science into Practice." Proceedings, 11th North American Agroforestry Conference, Columbia, Mo., May 31-June 3, 2009.

## KUDOS

The MU Center for Agroforestry has received approval for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Specific Cooperative Agreement (SCA) "Economic and Environmental Benefits from Multiuse Agricultural Landscapes to Family Farms" jointly with the ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farm Research Center, Booneville, Ark. This plan details the ARS-sponsored research program that will be carried out jointly between UMCA and the ARS. The agreement runs 2009-2013.

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**Dr. Chung-Ho Lin** has been invited to join an international team of scientists who will develop strategic plans for decontamination of dioxin at An-Shan, Taiwan, and munitions explosive residues in military bases in Kin-Man County, Taiwan. He will travel to the country in December 2009.

## RESEARCH

**Udawatta, R.P., R.J. Kremer, H.E. Garrett, and S.H. Anderson** published "Soil enzyme activities and physical properties in a watershed managed under agroforestry and row-crop system." 2009. *Agric. Ecosyst. Environ.* 131:98-104.

## COMING SOON...

Jan. 6-7 Annual ARS Review, Center for Agroforestry Ballroom, 1st Floor, Memorial Union

**Agroforestry buffers in croplands improve carbon sequestration.** Work by Udawatta et al. (2009) has shown that establishment of agroforestry and grass buffers on land previously under row crop management in watersheds improves soil carbon content, water stable aggregates and various enzyme activities. These beneficial changes will help reduce atmospheric carbon content and store carbon in the soil for extended periods. The lowest amount of soil carbon was found in the crop areas and the highest in the buffer areas. Other transformations such as water stable aggregates and enzyme activities may help improve environmental quality by improving soil and water quality.

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**Dr. Gene Garrett** edited the second edition of the popular textbook "North American Agroforestry: An Integrated Science and Practice," published in 2009. Of the 13 chapters, more than half were authored or co-authored by affiliates of the MU Center for Agroforestry. For more information or to order the book, go to <https://www.agronomy.org/news-media/releases/2009/0624/272/>

**Garrett, H.E. (ed.)** 2009. *North American Agroforestry: An Integrated Science and Practice. 2nd Edition.* American Society of Agronomy, Madison, WI.

## IMPACT

Improved eastern black walnut cultivars developed by **Dr. Mark Coggeshall** yield 25-35 percent kernel (a four-fold increase in saleable kernel per pound of black walnut processed) leading to growth in black walnut orchard production and a \$15-30 million boost to Missouri's agricultural economy.



Above and right are the big stars of the 7th annual Missouri Chestnut Roast: the restored 1819 Hickman House and, of course, chestnuts! The Roast was held Saturday, Oct. 17; the Hickman House was dedicated as the Roast began. On hand were descendants of the Hickman family, former residents of the home and donors who contributed to making the restoration a reality.



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