



# GIPSA News

*A newsletter for the employees of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration*

*May 2003*

## Web-Based Inspection System

*Dave Shipman*

Our vision of a new web-based inspection system is taking shape. Imagine a paperless, real-time, automated system that helps us do nearly all of our work processes, from licensing to inspections to certification.

For nearly 6 months, a team comprised of **Chuck Smith**, a contractor with extensive expertise in assessing operations and developing IT infrastructures, **Karen Guagliardo**, FMD, and **Roger Friedrich**, TSD, have been working to develop the blueprint for this system.

What will a web-based inspection system look like? It will not be simply a certification program that databases results. It will be a system that streamlines the entire official inspection process and improves customer service. Every inspector in the field will have access to the system to do their job better and more efficient. And, every customer will have access to request service and receive final results in a real-time environment.

Here's what the future might look like with such a system in place. Field

inspectors arrive at work and log onto the National Grain Inspection System (NGIS) web site. The inspectors will complete a custom designed checklist for the specific service point (e.g. verification of D/T sampler, confirmation of correct protein and moisture meter calibrations, etc) Inspection results are entered into the laptop by the inspector or are automatically entered via direct instrument interface. The software applies quality control logic to the entered data and provides the inspector with immediate feedback about any questionable results. It also selects monitoring samples and sends the inspector an immediate message requesting that the selected samples be sent to FGIS. The inspection results are immediately available to the customer. The customer also can provide proxy rights to his or her customer to view the results on the web.

The NGIS can be used to check on the status of all licenses issued to inspectors and to renew licenses. The NGIS automatically reviews the performance of inspectors prior to the termination date of a license. Inspec-

tors not requiring a practical exam are notified to log in to the licensing program and complete a short renewal process which will include updated information on new policies.

The NGIS will monitor equipment performance and manage equipment check-testing. Field locations will receive test samples, test the equipment according to established procedures, input results to NGIS and receive immediate feedback on the status of the equipment. All records on equipment performance are maintained in the NGIS.

All required inspection service records will be on the web, eliminating the cost and burden of paper files

This vision of what the future of the inspection system might look like is taking real shape, thanks to the work of **Chuck, Karen, and Roger**. They have developed a blueprint, or enterprise architecture, that outlines our business functions, what a web-based inspection system might look like, timelines for developing components, and even hardware and software requirements.

Stay tuned for more details as this exciting new system comes on line!

# Names in the News

## PERSONNEL

**Frieda Achtentuch** is the new chief of the Applications Branch, Information Technology Staff. **Frieda** comes to GIPSA from the Department of Defense.

**David Will** is the new chief of the Operations Branch, Information Technology Staff. **David** comes to GIPSA from the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Frieda** and **David** came on board on April 21.

## CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to **Mark Beaupre**, president and official agency manager, Schneider Inspection Service, Inc., Lake Village, IN, and his family on the death of his son, **Ryan**, who was killed in action in a helicopter crash in Kuwait on March 20, 2003.

## In This Issue

Names in the News .....	2
Travel Bits & Pieces .....	3
Jenkins Receives Award.....	4
Iowa Service Agreement .....	4
Designation Renewals .....	5
Kids to Work .....	7
Idea Hotline Update .....	7
For Your Health .....	8
AAPI Month .....	8
Issuances .....	9
Regulatory Info .....	9
ELP Nominations .....	10
Women's History Month .....	10

**William Stockfleth**, former agriculture commodity grader, Galveston, died on April 1, 2003, in Galveston, TX. **William** started his career with FGIS in 1977 and retired in 1998.

## AWARDS

**Terrell Bailey, Garey Holmes,** and **James McLaurin**, ACGs, New Orleans, received time-off awards for quickly getting supplies for the disaster kits for the New Orleans field office.

**Teddi Baird** and **Christopher Gray**, marketing specialists, and **Jim Morcaldi**, supervisory auditor, Denver; **Tim Hansen**, marketing specialist, and **Durwood Helms**, former P&SP employee, Washington, DC; **Alan Houchin**, resident agent, Lexington, KY; **Mike Pacatte**, resident agent, Ft. Worth, TX; **Bob Schmidt**, supervisory auditor, and **Kevin Smith**, economist, Atlanta; and **Luis Sosa**, auditor, Des Moines, received extra effort awards for their sustained dedication, professionalism, and commitment during the investigation of the Nation's largest livestock marketing operation.

**Ritch Blew**, Technical Services Division, received an extra effort award in recognition of outstanding contributions toward the improvement of the rice inspection program.

**James Cannon, Susan Kleinman,** and **Ted Sakis**, auditors;

and **Pam Lake**, administrative officer, Atlanta, received time off awards for exercising extraordinary team spirit in working together to complete a high profile investigation.

**Tracy Gerke**, Technical Services Division, received a spot award for exceeding normal expectations in re-programming the TSD purchasing program and for providing excellent customer service in response to technical support requests.

**Morris Johnson**, Information Technology Staff, received an extra effort award for coordinating the orderly transfer of telecommunications functions for the South Building Phase II renovation project for GIPSA.

**Nathaniel Puryear**, ACT, New Orleans, received a spot award for exceptional performance in providing customer service.

**Niles Reed**, ACT, New Orleans, received a time-off award for exceptional performance.

**Steve Tanner** has been selected by the Board members of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration to receive the 2003 Federal Public Administrator of the Year Award.

**Henry Wang**, Economic and Statistical Support Staff, P&SP, Washington, D.C., received a spot award from Field Management Division for stepping in and devoting considerable time and effort to preparing the latest revenue projections for all FGIS trust fund accounts.

*Continued, see Names,  
on page 3.*

# Travel Bits & Pieces

*Peggy Smith, Washington, DC*

**Training and Conference Registration.** This is a reminder that training fees and conference registrations are NOT to be charged on a travel card. Training must be entered into the Training Management System and paid either on the VISA purchase card or through FFIS. Conference registrations must be paid on a VISA purchase card.

Also, please remember that the travel card is for official government travel business. The Department's Office of Inspector General (OIG) is auditing all USDA agencies' use of the travel card. GIPSA has already responded to two OIG audits. USDA and GIPSA have a "no tolerance" policy on the abuse of travel cards.

**Federal Premier Lodging Program.** The Federal Premier Lodging Program (FPLP) is a Government-wide program administered by GSA. It establishes contractual relationships with lodging facilities in over 70 top federal travel locations for room rates at or below per diem rates, is for use by all Federal employees, and is required by the Federal Travel Regulations as the first consideration for official travel lodging. FPLP benefits include guaranteed rooms at rates at or below per diem, more lodging choices, quality commercial hotels at geographically convenient locations, and compliance with safety and security requirements.

You are required to make your advance lodging arrangements through your Travel Management Center (TMC) unless impractical, such as when the traveler is on the road and does not know where lodging will be needed. All TMCs are familiar with the FPLP and should offer this plan to you when making lodging arrangements. For more information on the FPLP, visit [www.gsa.gov/fplp](http://www.gsa.gov/fplp).

## Names, from page 2

### 35-YEAR SERVICE AWARD

John Good, Washington, DC

### 30-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Wilburn Bennett, New Orleans, LA  
Lynn Bolte, Portland, OR  
William Braker, Toledo, OH  
Lynn Cain, League City, TX  
Michael Eustrom, Kansas City, MO  
Jerry Garner, Indianapolis, IN  
Glenda Lasseigne, New Orleans, LA  
Paul Molina, League City, TX  
Lawrence Poling, Kansas City, MO

### 25-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Kenneth Carter, Greenville, MS  
Kenneth Critchfield, Wichita, KS  
Carol Forest, New Orleans, LA  
John Giler, Washington, DC  
Jerry Kuseck, Portland, OR  
James Magee, New Orleans, LA  
Melvin McLaurin, New Orleans, LA  
Sarah Welch Hill, New Orleans, LA

## Employee Assistance Program

For confidential assistance,

Washington, DC personnel, call...  
301-570-3900  
or 1-800-222-0364

Field personnel, call...  
1-800-222-0364

### 20-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Wesley Blake, Kansas City, MO  
Carl Jackson, New Orleans, LA  
Patricia Jackson, Kansas City, MO  
Philip Sapienza, New Orleans, LA  
Tom Schoelzel, Billings, MT

### 15-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Donald Damm, Minneapolis, MN  
Brenda Evans, Kansas City, MO  
Constance Grows, New Orleans, LA  
Tracey Paugh, Washington, DC

### 10-YEAR SERVICE AWARD

Charles Brown, League City, TX  
Jeanette Green, Washington, DC  
Karen Johnson, Atlanta, GA  
William Smith, New Orleans, LA  
Stacey Schofield, Denver, CO

# Ron Jenkins Receives Distinguished Science Award

*Don Kendall, Technical Center*

**Dr. G. Ronald Jenkins**, lead scientist, Biotechnology Branch, Technical Services Division, received the Margaret Crumbley Award for distinguished achievements in science from the Daytona Beach Community College (DBCC) on April 9, 2003.

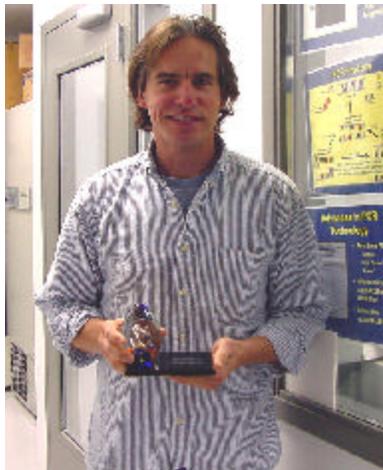
**Ron** attended Daytona Beach Community College as a full- or part-time student from September 1973 through June 1984. He received an associate of science degree in 1975. Ron subsequently continued his education at the University of Florida and received a bachelors degree in Food Science and Nutrition. After working for a short time, **Ron** went back to DBCC to take additional science courses and then obtained a bachelors degree in chemistry from the University of Central Florida. He obtained a Masters and Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry from the University of South Carolina.

**Ron** has conducted research in cancer, immunology, fibrinolysis, and toxicology at Scripps Research Institute in San Diego, CA, and the National Center for Toxicological Research, a Food and Drug Administration facility in Jefferson, AR.

**Ron** joined GIPSA in November 2000, and has worked in the Biotechnology Branch to implement DNA-based methods for the detection of biotechnology-derived grains. **Ron** brought expertise in Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technology to GIPSA, and has been the key person in bringing methods on line for all U.S. commercialized biotechnology corn and soybean events. He has trained Branch staff in all aspects of PCR methods, and is now investigating Real Time PCR for quantitative analyses. Ron has also developed professional relationships with various organizations, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). As a result of the collaboration with the NIST, a paper co-authored by **Ron** was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Food and Agricultural Chemistry. **Ron** is recognized for his expertise in the analysis of grains for biotechnology events and has been invited to present his work at various scientific conferences.

I could continue listing his credentials, but to know the real **Ron**, you should know that one of his real passions is surfing. Go figure how a guy who likes to surf ends up in Missouri! On a windy day, we look for **Ron** on a surfboard at nearby Smithville Lake!

We're delighted to have **Ron** as a member of the GIPSA team and to congratulate him on this exceptional achievement.



*Ron Jenkins*

# Iowa Joint Service Agreement

*Bob Crook, Cedar Rapids, IA,  
and Jan Hart, Washington, DC*

TCS Grain Inspection, L.C. was created in 1997 to meet the inspection needs of a large grain inspection cooperative in Iowa. The cooperative had grain elevators spanning the territories of three official agencies, Central Iowa Grain Inspection Service, Inc., Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company, and A. V. Tischer and Son, Inc.

The cooperative wanted an efficient grain inspection service that would equal the pace of their marketing plans. They also wanted one contact for inspection service requests, onsite laboratories, licensed inspectors available both day and night, and uniform administrative functions such as billing and certification among the official agencies providing service.

Central Iowa, Tischer, and Sioux City met the challenge by creating TCS. The three agencies have operated TCS as a partnership to provide inspection service to the cooperative.

The cooperative has continued to grow and now has grain elevators in D. R. Schaal Agency Inc.'s territory. Official agency manager Lewis Schaal recently joined the TCS joint service agreement. Schaal's addition will enhance the ability of the existing TCS members to provide official service and strengthen the management capabilities.

Congratulations to these official agencies on having the foresight and commitment to meeting the inspection needs of their customers in a unique way and to continuing to grow to meet emerging needs.

# Designation Renewals

*Jan Hart, Washington, DC*

Administrator **Donna Reifschneider** and I had the pleasure of traveling to four official agencies to present designations to them and visit with agency personnel. We visited the Lincoln, Omaha, Sioux City, and Tischer private agencies in Iowa and Nebraska. During our travels, we also visited with personnel from Central Iowa Grain Inspection Service, Inc., Iowa Falls, IA, and Mid-Iowa Grain Inspection, Inc., Cedar Rapids, IA.

Official agencies provide official permissive domestic grain inspection services to the grain trade and related industries on GIPSA's behalf. GIPSA granted full 3-year designations to the following six official agencies to provide official inspection services under the authority of the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA): Grain Inspection, Inc. (Jamestown); Lincoln Inspection Service, Inc.; Memphis Grain Inspection Service; Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc.; Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company; and A. V. Tischer and Son, Inc.

**Jamestown.** Jamestown inspects barley, oats, and wheat in south central North Dakota. Its headquarters and only laboratory, or specified service point (SSP), is in Jamestown. During fiscal year (FY) 2002, they performed 18,500 full grade inspections (hopper cars and submits), 1,500 factor-only inspections, 8,500 wheat protein tests, 3,000 vomitoxin tests, and 700 StarLink tests.

Jamestown started as a group of business people, including an elevator manager and a baker, who wanted to establish Federal grades and protein

under the Agricultural Marketing Act. The five principals incorporated as Grain Inspection, Inc., in 1956, and, with any conflicts of interest resolved, Jamestown was first designated in 1978. The present corporation is owned by a group of retirees, bankers, farmers, and business people. **Jack Trautman** has been the official agency manager since 2001.

**Lincoln.** We visited president and official agency manager **Dave Reeder** on March 28, at their headquarters and SSP in Lincoln. Other official agency employees, **Diane Palecek**, Kansas City field office manager, and **Bob Krouse**, Kansas City compliance officer, Review



*Lincoln Inspection Service, Inc. L to R: Donna Reifschneider, Dave Reeder, and Jan Hart*

Branch, also were present.

Lincoln inspects corn, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat in southwestern Iowa and southeastern Nebraska. In addition to the Lincoln SSP, they have two applicant-specific SSPs in Iowa and Nebraska. In FY 2002, they provided 29,500 full grade inspections (barges, hopper cars, and submits), 30,000 official commercial inspec-

tions (trucks and submits), 500 stowage examinations, 1,500 wheat protein tests, 3,500 aflatoxin tests, and 2,000 StarLink tests. Lincoln is one of the few agencies to offer fumonisin testing services.

The Lincoln Grain Exchange and its grain inspection department were established in 1905. Lincoln received an interim designation in 1978 and its first full designation in 1979. That and subsequent designations were granted with a conflict-of-interest waiver stemming from Lincoln's relationship to the Lincoln Grain Exchange, which has ties to the grain trade.

**Memphis.** Memphis inspects corn, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat in the entire State of Arkansas, southwestern Tennessee, and northeastern Texas. In addition to headquarters and an SSP in Memphis, they have a full-service SSP in Little Rock, AR. In FY 2002, they provided 10,500 full grade inspections (barges, hopper cars, and submits), 1,000 wheat protein tests, 3,500 aflatoxin tests, and 500 StarLink tests.

The Memphis Board of Trade, organized in 1882, is one of the oldest grain exchanges in the country. Its grain department was established in 1904. Memphis received an interim designation in 1978, and full designation in 1979. All designations were granted with a conflict-of-interest waiver stemming from Memphis' relationship to the Memphis Board of Trade, which has ties to the grain trade.

*Continued, see Designations  
on page 6.*

## Designations, from page 5.

**Omaha.** We visited with president and official agency manager **Bruce Probst** on March 28, at their headquarters and only SSP in Omaha, NE. Other official agency employees, **Diane Palecek** and **Bob Krouse** were present.

Omaha inspects corn, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat in southwestern Iowa and eastern central Nebraska. In FY 2002, they provided about 20,000 full grade inspections (hopper cars), 1,500 wheat protein tests, and 1,000 aflatoxin tests.

Omaha started as a grain exchange in 1903. It was designated on an interim basis in 1978, and got its first full designation in 1979. They eventually resolved their conflict of interest by selling their corporation to “chief inspector” **Richard Probst** and spouse **Darlene** in 1986. **Richard** still owns the agency, but sons **Bruce** and **Brian** handle day-to-day management and operations. **Bruce** is the official agency manager.

**Sioux City.** We visited president **Gary Smith** and official agency manager **Tom Dahl** on March 27, at their headquarters and SSP in Sioux City. Other official agency employees were present, as was **Bob Crook**, Cedar Rapids compliance officer, Review Branch.

Sioux City inspects corn, soybeans, and wheat in northwestern Iowa, northeastern Nebraska, and southeastern South Dakota. In addition to the Sioux City SSP, they have six applicant-specific SSPs located throughout Iowa and South Dakota. During FY 2002, they provided about 37,000 full grade inspections (hopper



*A.V. Tischer and Son, Inc. L to R: Bob Crook, Donna Reifschneider, Bob Wingerson, Kathy Lynch, and Bea Wingerson*



*Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc. L to R: Donna Reifschneider, Diane Palecek, Bruce Probst, and Bob Krouse*



*Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company L to R: Jan Hart, Donna Reifschneider, Tom Dahl, and Gary Smith*

cars and submits), 1,000 reinspections, 71,500 official commercial inspections (trucks, hopper cars, and submits), 1,000 aflatoxin tests, and 3,500 StarLink tests.

Sioux City also began as a grain exchange about 80 years ago. It was designated on an interim basis in 1978, and received its first designation in 1979. They eventually resolved their conflict of interest by selling their corporation in 1993 to a group of private investors, including manager **Dahl**. Sioux City is now entering its 10<sup>th</sup> year of operation as a private agency.

**Tischer.** We visited president and official agency manager **Kathy Lynch** on March 26, at their headquarters and SSP in Ft. Dodge, IA. Former agency owners and managers **Bob** and **Bea Wingerson** (also **Kathy**'s parents) were present, as were other official agency employees and **Bob Crook**.

Tischer inspects corn and soybeans in northern central Iowa, and provides official weighing services at six facilities in Iowa. In FY 2002, they provided about 41,500 full grade inspections (hopper cars, submits, and warehouse samples), 1,000 reinspections, 71,500 official commercial inspections (trucks, hopper cars, and submits), 2,000 StarLink tests, 1,000 Class X outbound weights, and 100 Class X export weights.

Tischer started as a private agency run by the Tischer family in 1945. It was designated on an interim basis in 1978, and first designated in 1979. **Bob** and **Bea Wingerson** purchased the corporation from the **Tischer** family in 1989. They owned and managed Tischer until 1996, when daughter **Kathy Lynch** became owner. **Kathy** is one of the few female official agency managers who operate a private agency.

# Kids at Work

*Glenda Lasseigne, New Orleans*

On April 24, 2003, the New Orleans Field Office hosted "Take our Sons and Daughters to Work Day." **Joanne Matherne** and I volunteered to coordinate the event for 11 participants.

In the morning, we introduced the participants to all the staff members and gave them a tour of the office. I gave a presentation about the agency and its background. **Joanne** demonstrated the certificate process. She

showed them how to download an inspection log from cu-sum and then type the certificate, and explained the

importance of the certificate and how it is taken to the bank for payment. We took them on top of the levee at Bunge Grain Elevator to show them a



ship being loaded. We displayed all the different samples of grain and showed them the products made from

each one, such as cake mix, pasta, and crackers. They enjoyed sticking their hands in the different samples. After lunch, we divided the children

into two groups. One group looked at a sample and picked soybeans out of a corn sample with **QAS Jim Brown**; the other group cut down a sample with **ACT Consuella Butler**. They also observed **Ben Cotton** performing a falling number test and watched

**Myron Hall** shell and mill a rice sample.

After lunch, each child was allowed to sit with a designated staff member and observe the different processes. We took the kids outside to play a little softball for a few minutes. The children against the adults. We ended the day by presenting the children with certificates and a small token of appreciation.

The participants were: **Alonzo Proyer, Raelynn Cambre, Ross Fremin, Sadie Roper, T. J. Matherne, Kiana Butler, Tia Giles, Juan Giles, Keir Batiste, Kataisha Lawrence and Lamar Foster.**

## GIPSA Idea Hotline Update

*Norma Phelps, Washington, DC*



Here are ideas received on the GIPSA Idea Hotline in April. If you have questions about any ideas or the Hotline, please call me at 202-720-1017.

*Suggestor*

*Suggestion*

Nancy F. Morris, Atlanta, GA

P&SP Should Post Registered Markets on the Web

Keep those ideas coming in! Send your ideas to the GIPSA Idea Hotline via e-mail: [gipsa-ideas@gipsadc.usda.gov](mailto:gipsa-ideas@gipsadc.usda.gov); FAX to 202-720-1015; or telephone 800-455-3447 or 202-720-1013. **We encourage you to send ideas via fax or e-mail to reduce the possibility of transcription errors; however, ideas will be accepted regardless of the method you choose to use.**

## For Your Health

*Mavis Rogers, Washington, DC*

**Nutty but Nice.** According to recent research, eating nuts five or more times a week can lower your risk of developing diabetes by nearly 30 percent. Eating peanuts (a legume, not a nut) or peanut butter can lower risk by 20 percent. For years, we worried about high-fat, high-calorie nuts and peanuts. But this research shows that their fact may be the good fats (mono-and polyunsaturated) that help diabetes.

**Magnesium Nutritional Most Valuable Player.** When it comes to minerals, you know it is important to get enough calcium and iron. But, what about magnesium? The truth is you really cannot live without it. Magnesium is vital to muscle, nerve and bone growth, and heartbeat regulation. For men, the recommended daily allowance is 400-420 mg. For women, the recommended daily allowance is 310- 320 mg. Government surveys indicate that most people don't get as much as they need.

The best food sources of magnesium are leafy greens such as spinach, as well as nuts, beans, milk, bananas, apricots, and some whole grains. Choose whole-wheat bread. It has twice as much magnesium as white bread.

Since magnesium occurs in foods in small amounts, a varied diet is the key. If you are being treated for diabetes, or for cancer with Cisplatin, or with antibiotics gentamicin, amphotericin or cyclosporin, your doctor may prescribe magnesium supplements, as these treatments may increase loss of magnesium in the urine.

If you take a multivitamin, take it with food or shortly after eating. Any fat in the meal will help your body absorb the fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E and K.

**What do Antioxidants Really Do?** Maybe you have read about antioxidants, or perhaps you have seen food labels touting "Cancer-fighting antioxidants." But what are they exactly? Antioxidants are a type of chemical found in fruits and vegetables. They include vitamin C, vitamin E, the mineral selenium, carotenoids (food pigments) and other substances. Antioxidants chemically neutralize "free radicals," which are unstable molecules that try to stabilize themselves by grabbing electrons from your cells, damaging cells in the process. Higher levels of free radicals have been linked with disease and signs of premature aging.

Much research has shown that eating fruits and vegetables is linked with lower risk of lung, oral, esophageal and colon cancer. And produce is loaded with antioxidants. So, researchers have theorized that antioxidants play an important role in cancer prevention, but this has yet to be clinically proven.

Clinical studies of antioxidant supplements have had disappointing results, and in some cases have showed that high doses cause harm. It is likely that the cumulative effect of many plant substances working together aids prevention, which may explain why isolated antioxidants in pill form haven't proven effective. The bottom line: until more is known, food is still your best source for antioxidants.

*Courtesy: April 2003 TopHealth Newsletter*

## Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

*Mai Ho, Washington, DC*

More than 2,000 Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) are employed in the Department, representing 2.4% of its total employment. Even though this number seems large, it is still below the 4.5% in the Federal labor force and the 4% in the civilian labor force. The Department established the Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Council (AAPIAC) in November 2000 to improve AAPI representation in USDA. The Council provides for two-way communications between AAPI employees and USDA management, and advises the Secretary to ensure that the talents and skills of AAPI employees are fully used to the best interest of the Department.

Secretary Veneman designated two co-chairs for the Council for a period of 2 years: **Dr. Joseph Jen**, Undersecretary for Research, Education & Economics, and **Dr. Paul Chan**, Director, Information Services Division, Economic Research Service. The Council consists of a representative and an alternate from each of the seven USDA mission areas and two additional at-large members representing other Department offices and employee organizations. Monthly Council meetings are open to all employees who want to contribute to the Council efforts.

*Continued, see AAPI,  
on page 9*

# Issuances

*Fred Kelley, Washington, D.C.*

## New Issuances

- ❑ GIPSA Directive 4790.9, "Policy and Procedures upon Encountering Hazardous Conditions," dated January 31, 2003 (Distribution: GIPSA).
- ❑ MRP Directive 4500.1, "Pay Flexibilities," dated November 8, 2002 (Distribution: GIPSA, AMS, APHIS).
- ❑ GIPSA Directive 9180.18, "Special Quality Factor Information for Wheat and Malting Barley Shipments to the European Union," dated April 21, 2003 (Distribution: A, C, E).
- ❑ Program Notice 03-01, Dated May 1, 2003 Titled "Sample Collection Responsibilities for Verifying the Accuracy of Moisture Meter Calibrations Crop Year 2003." (Distribution: A).

## Cancellations

- ❑ FGIS Directive 4531.1 (old number 335.2), "Pay Reform," dated September 4, 1992.
- ❑ FGIS Program Notice 02-12, "Estimating Mycotoxin Test Results," dated December 9, 2002.
- ❑ FGIS Program Notice 02-05, "Revised Sample Collection Responsibilities for Verifying the Accuracy of Moisture Meter Calibrations Crop Year 2002," dated May 22, 2002.

Please call me at 202-720-0259, fax to 202-690-2755 or e-mail to [Fred.H.Kelley@usda.gov](mailto:Fred.H.Kelley@usda.gov) if you have any concerns or suggestions.

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## GIPSA Regulatory Management Info

*Tess Butler, Washington, DC*

### Federal Register Publications

- ❑ Opportunity To Comment on the Applicant for the Mississippi Area - Published March 24, 2003
- ❑ Designation for the Oregon Area - Published March 25, 2003
- ❑ Exceptions to Geographic Areas for Official Agencies Under the USGSA - Final Rule - Published April 18, 2003

**AAPI**, from page 8.

On February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of this year, the Council held a retreat with current and prospective new members to identify and plan for the Council's FY 2003 activities. AAPI representatives from the mission areas and from many parts of the country participated. I represented GIPSA. The retreat was very successful. **Dr. Chan** chaired the meetings and worked with the members diligently every day to accomplish the set goals. For example, members decided to establish yearly awards to recognize outstanding AAPI and non-AAPI employees for their contributions to USDA's missions.

I look forward to continuing to represent GIPSA on the Council and to serving as co-manager, with **Ellie Speelman**, Washington, DC, and **Chuan Kao**, Technical Center, of GIPSA's Asian-Pacific Islander special emphasis program.

**Are EEO/CR issues  
or concerns  
affecting your  
employment with  
GIPSA? Do you  
have questions?  
Need help? Then  
let your voice be  
heard.**

Call the EEO  
Advisory Committee  
at...

**1-800-639-5167**

Civil Rights Hotline

# 2003 Executive Leadership Program Nominations

The Executive Leadership Program (ELP) is part of the Leadership Development Academy of the USDA Graduate School. The ELP is open to full-time public service employees at the GS-11 through GS-13 and equivalent levels with minimal supervisory experience. The ELP helps participants acquire or enhance competencies needed to prepare for a career in federal leadership or management.

The Executive Leadership Program is a year-long leadership development opportunity that can help you achieve your career aspirations. Through executive interviews, training sessions, and developmental and shadowing assignments, you develop your leadership skills and improve on the strengths you already have. To complete the Executive Leadership Program, you will be absent from your position of record for a minimum of 5 months spread over a 12-month period. Additional work time is needed to complete some activities and to meet other requirements that must be accomplished back on the job. You must finish all program components within the 12-month time period.

**Nominating Procedures:** GIPSA participants will be selected through a competitive process. To apply, submit:

1. A Federal resume that gives your home address, and is *signed and dated*. Include an objective summary, experience, accomplishments, education, and awards in the resume.
2. A written statement explaining your achievement goals for participating in the ELP: exactly how does this fit your career plan?
3. A written statement from your first-line supervisor assessing your leadership potential and your motivation to complete all requirements and fully participate in all components of the ELP.

Submit the complete application package to **Mary McCoy**, USDA GIPSA Training Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 3649, Washington, DC 20250-3649 by **June 13, 2003**. For additional information, check the Graduate School's Leadership Development Academy website at: <http://www.grad.usda.gov/lda> or call **Rosemary Mayne** at (202) 720-6242.

**GIPSA News** is the employee newsletter of the USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration. Send your news, ideas, suggestions, comments, questions, or thoughts for the next issue to:

**Dana Stewart**, GIPSA  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-3601  
Phone (202) 720-5091  
FAX (202) 205-9237  
[dana.b.stewart@usda.gov](mailto:dana.b.stewart@usda.gov)

**by May 25, 2003!**

# National Women's History Month

*James Woodard, New Orleans*

In celebration of Women's History Month, the New Orleans field office welcomed **Majorie Roussell**, Navy comptroller supervisor of shipbuilding, New Orleans and Pascagoula.

**Ms. Roussell** worked her way up through the ranks. She is aware of the challenges women face in society today. She stressed the importance of continuous learning, reaching for goals in life, and trying to do different things to make your life refresh.

Every employee should assume personal responsibility for upgrading his or her job performance. Your productivity, response time, quality, cost control, and customer service should all show steady gains. **Ms. Roussell** said that your skills should be in a state of constant renewal. Take advantages of free courses that are offered, and if it is something you wanted to do in life and never had the opportunity, go for it.

**Ms. Roussell** said that she was a single mother who devoted a lot of time to her children when they were growing up. Now that they are grown, she is using her time to pursue her college education.

After her speech, **Ms. Roussell** and the field office staff continued networking to learn more about her job and ours.

Twenty-seven employees attended **Ms. Roussell's** presentation. FOM **John Shrosphire** presented her a plaque and the employees thanked her for an inspirational presentation. **Ms Roussell** was very grateful and noted that she was honored to be our presenter for National Women's History Month.

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
USDA, GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS  
AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION  
STOP 3601  
1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20250-3601

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