



Photo by
Velma Spencer

Each year IRREC administrators, faculty, and staff host the "Graduation Celebration" to recognize students who have graduated within the last calendar year. They join the graduates and their families, and students who have been honored with scholarships, to recognize and honor academic achievements.

The 2013 Graduation Celebration was held on Friday, Dec. 6. Nineteen graduates and 11 scholarship recipients were recognized. About 80 were in attendance. Those present included: 2013 graduates, scholarship recipients, current students, UF officials, IRREC faculty and staff, and one IRREC alumni member. Of the graduates and scholars who were in attendance, each had an

opportunity to join their families as they were honored for their distinguished academic achievements.

Because many graduates have accepted employment in other parts of the country or completed their degrees online, some were not able to attend. All of the graduates and those who were honored with scholarships throughout the last academic year were recognized for their talents and accomplishments.

Within this special edition of the IRREC News, picture galleries are featured from the recent celebratory event.

Inside this issue

Premier Social Issue.....	page 1
Graduation Celebration Event.....	pages 2- 8

2013 GRADUATION CELEBRATION EVENT



Dr. Sandra Wilson served the event as Mistress of Ceremonies. An expert in environmental horticulture, Dr. Wilson supervised many of the graduates' degree programs



Angie Niño Beltran, M.S., delivered the Graduate student speech, highlighting the center's opportunities to obtain both a master's degree and a PhD. She was recognized for having earned a Master of Science degree in Entomology and is now pursuing a doctorate in the same topic



Speaking on behalf of the IRREC undergraduate body was Kimberly "Kimmy" Jones. Kimmy completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Management and had already begun work for a Master of Science degree in Environmental Sciences

IRREC FACULTY



Visiting from UF Gainesville was CALS Associate Dean Al Wysocki and his wife



Opening the event was IRREC Director Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



Dr. Calvin Arnold, Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, and Dr. Zhenli He's wife, were in attendance

IRREC NEWS

2013 ATTENDING GRADUATES WERE RECOGNIZED

IRREC News

4

Winter 2013



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Angie Niño Beltran, M.S., along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Dr. Sulley Ben-Mahmoud, along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Kimberly "Kimmy" Jones, B.S., along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Dr. Santanu Bakshi, along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates David Neibch, M.S, along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella, congratulates Dr. Evelein Van Ekert, along with UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Shawn DeSantis B.S, along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Rene Cerezo, M.S., along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella

2013 ATTENDING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Kimberly "Kimmy" Jones, B.S., along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates Simon Sokolof-Kemp for his scholarship award, along with IRREC Director, Dr. Peter J. Stoffella



UF Gainesville Associate Dean Al Wysocki congratulates doctoral candidate Kristina Pisani, for her scholarship award



IRREC NEWS

2013 ATTENDING GRADUATES AND THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

IRREC News

6

Winter 2013



Recent graduate Dr. Evelein Van Ekert, and her family



Recent graduate David Neibch, M.S., and his "Gator" spirit family. David is employed with FP&L

Recent graduate Rene Cerezo, M.S., along with his family
The Cerezo family visited from Miami



IRREC NEWS

IRREC News

7

Winter 2013



Graduate Shawn DeSantis's father, (left) Graduate Dr. Sulley Ben-Mahmoud (center), and Shawn's wife, on the far right



Leah Van Ekert



IRREC Senior Lecturer Jane Bachelor and Dr. Sandra Wilson, Professor of Environmental Horticulture



Kylee Wilson attended the event

IRREC NEWS

IRREC News

8

Winter 2013



Chloë Hawkings, M.S.



Kristin and Ari Sokolof-Kemp, Scholarship recipient, Simon Sokolof-Kemp's family



Graduate Sean DeSantis and his wife



Dr. and Mrs. He, and graduate Dr. Santanu Backshi



Graduate Kimberly "Kimmy" Jones' family



Angie Niño Beltran, M.S., and guest

The Indian River Research and Education Center News is published quarterly. To submit material or story ideas, please forward information to newsletter editor, Robin Koestoyo, (772) 468-3922, Ext. 103, koestoyo@ufl.edu