CALS 2006 Research Awards

By Colin Kaltenbach

2006 Research Faculty of the Year Award
LYNN JOENS, PROFESSOR
Department of Veterinary Science & Microbiology

This award honors outstanding achievements and contributions in research. Lynn Joens is a recognized researcher of enteric infections of swine, and his most recent research on *Camplobacter jejuni* and *Salmonella* bacteria has contributed to their recognition as the causes of very significant food-borne diseases. He has developed an avirulent *Camplobacter* strain that could likely serve as a human vaccine, which would be an extraordinary contribution to human health. His research on *Salmonella* focuses on *S. Newport*, a pathogen that is currently ranked third for causing salmonellosis in humans, with a 70 percent increase in cases from 1998 to 2003.

Joens worked with colleagues at 11 other universities to develop and establish a national Food Safety Research and Response Network, a multidisciplinary project funded by the USDA National Research Initiative. Joens plays a key role in this network with his research on bacteria. He has been highly successful in obtaining funding from the USDA, bringing in over $4 million in the past five years, including 12 different competitive USDA grants. He also currently serves as a major advisor to three Ph.D. students and two master's students, and advises several other graduate and undergraduate students.

2006 Outstanding Team Award
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LAB (ERL) MAINTENANCE TEAM
Gaylen Bennett, Jeff Bliznick, and Bill Laughlin

This award recognizes and honors unusual dedication and outstanding contributions by a team of CALS employees. Gaylen Bennett, Jeff Bliznick, and Bill Laughlin serve as the staff-support team responsible for all physical plant maintenance and operation requirements at ERL. They render a tremendous service to ERL and to the Soil, Water and Environmental Sciences department in maintaining an outstanding research and off-campus educational facility.

In addition to their normal duties at ERL, they have gone above and beyond their regular level of duty to accommodate the remodeling and construction requirements for the new UA Water Village. The Water Village is a state-of-the-art potable water quality research and demonstration facility at ERL that it is gaining a national reputation. It has already served as the intermediate test bed facility in a proposal to the EPA and Homeland Security, resulting in a five-year $10 million award for the Center for Advancement of Microbial Risk Assessment. This would have not been possible without the efforts of the team in constructing the Water Village: it's a unique facility constructed by a unique team.

2006 Outstanding Staff in Research Award
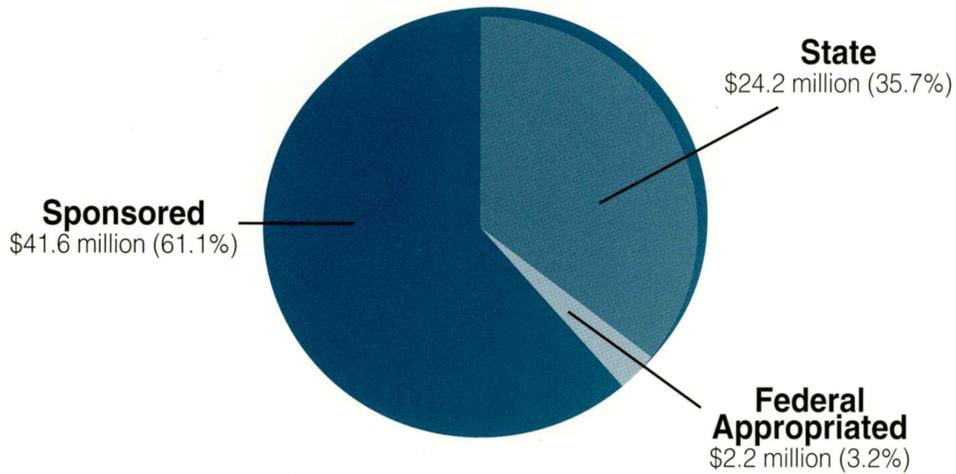### NANCY BANNISTER, ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AREC)

This award recognizes staff whose service has contributed significantly to the support of CALS research. Since joining the department of Agricultural and Resource Economics 10 years ago, Nancy Bannister has become the center pillar upon which AREC has been able to develop and deliver first-class research reports and publications.

She is exceptional in her combined skills of excellent technical editing and creative graphic design. Her work is accurate, complete and on time. She is generous with her expertise in web site development, and takes courses in graphic design each semester to become more proficient. In addition to her technical competence, she is a great co-worker. Bannister is cheerful, industrious, always ready to provide helpful assistance to faculty, students, and other staff, and fun to interact with. Her focus is on getting the job done professionally and in a timely manner, rather than receiving recognition. She is an exemplary employee for the University of Arizona, CALS, and the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station

Total Research Funding
Fiscal Year 2005 - 2006
($68 million)

State
$24.2 million (35.7%)

Sponsored
$41.6 million (61.1%)

Federal Appropriated
$2.2 million (3.2%)

Sponsored Sources
Fiscal Year 2005 - 2006
($41.55 million)

Industry
$2.84 million (6.8%)

Counties/Cities
$0.58 million (1.4%)

State
$1.65 million (4.0%)

Federal Government
$32.84 million (79.0%)

Foundations/ Educational Institutions
$1.67 million (4.1%)

Miscellaneous
$1.97 million (4.7%)