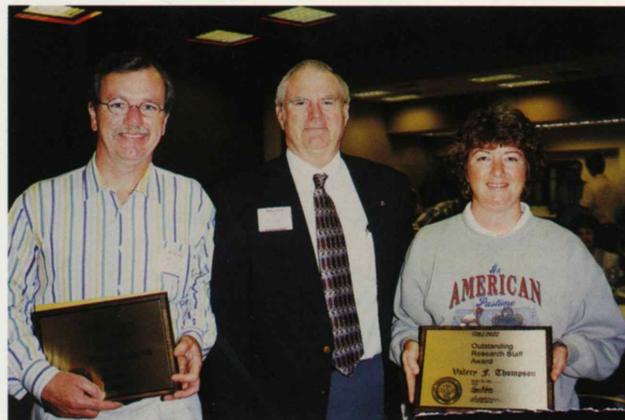


College of Agriculture Research News

Researcher of the Year Award—David Galbraith Professor, Department of Plant Sciences

David Galbraith is an internationally recognized cellular and molecular biologist, but has had the greatest impact on research programs throughout the world through his leadership in the development and application of new technologies, including 1) sorting living cells, 2) engineering plants to express a market protein at specific locations within the cell, and 3) using a robot to array thousands of DNA samples on a small glass slide for use in studying gene expression.

His research not only addresses important biological questions, but also provides the new techniques, instrumentation, molecular markers, and methods that are being used by other scientists for genetic engineering of crop plants. Currently he has ten competitively funded research grants and has spearheaded the acquisition of major scientific equipment over the last ten years. Galbraith has been a mentor to more than 80 undergraduates, 11 graduate students and 15 postdoctoral associates. He has brought scholarly distinction and recognition to the college and has also stimulated and enhanced the research of many others through his efforts to obtain and improve cutting-edge technologies.



D. Galbraith, C. Kaltenbach, and V. Thompson

Outstanding Research Staff Award—Valery Thompson Research Specialist, Senior, Department of Nutritional Sciences

Valery Thompson's responsibilities go far beyond those of the normal laboratory specialist. She has spent the last ten years working in Darrel Goll's laboratory in the Department of Nutritional Sciences. One professor wrote, "Valery Thompson is the most competent, knowledgeable, and helpful laboratory staff person that I know. She is also a valuable information resource for many laboratories on campus." She is the senior or co-author on more than 20 scientific papers and has presented her research at several national and international meetings. She is very active in the Southern Arizona Section of the American Chemical Society, and has been responsible for the Young Scholars program during their stay in Goll's lab.

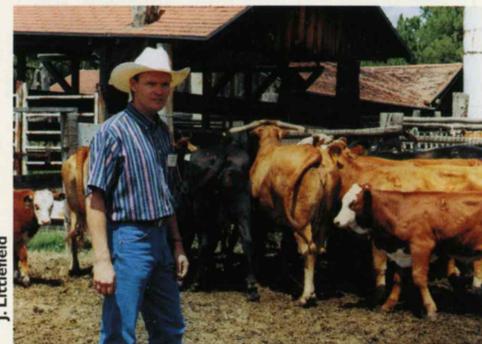
Thompson has also successfully written grants to support courses for middle school science teachers on how to integrate science demonstrations and hands-on experiments into their classrooms. She served as the first web master for the Department of Nutritional Sciences, is the network manager for her building, and recently began developing a new international web site for individuals working with calpains, a type of enzyme.

The V Bar V's Resident Director

David Schafer became resident director of the College of Agriculture's V Bar V Ranch in July 1999. He had spent the previous eight years directing a similar, smaller facility in southwestern Colorado. "One of the things that drew me to this position was the commitment to the facility from both the campus and the local community," Schafer says.

The V Bar V Ranch Experiment Station/Environmental Education Center is a 77,000 acre working ranch located in northern Arizona. The facility provides opportunities for students in a variety of departments within the College of Agriculture to gather valuable research data in a field setting. Schafer is looking forward to expanding these educational opportunities.

"I see the ranch having the potential for research possibilities for not only College of Agriculture students, but also for students in parks and recreation, public relations and journalism, public policy and even photography," he says. "Because there are so many people so far removed from agriculture, and so many people moving into these areas who haven't lived in rural areas, we are also open to offering field trips for 4-H and FFA groups, teachers and other interested community groups. They should call me to discuss the possibilities." Schafer can be reached at the Yavapai County Cooperative Extension Cottonwood office, (520) 646-9113, or email to dschafer@ag.arizona.edu.



D. Schafer