



OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT -
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Dear Colleagues:

Thanks for taking the time to participate in the "Technology Tools Conference." I am very pleased with the excellent turnout for this important event with 150 members of both Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station participating. Collectively, you are ANR! My congratulations go to the organizers of the program, and especially to Beth Mitcham, who tirelessly pulled this all together. It has been particularly gratifying to co-sponsor this conference with the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences here at UC Davis.

We are in the midst of some of the most dramatic periods of change in how we communicate with each other. New tools are available to make us more efficient and timely in getting information to each other and our clientele. This conference will provide you with an introduction to some of the tools available, and stimulate your adoption in your work. We can literally put information in our clientele's hands on demand. People are no longer completely dependent on publication schedules, visits to libraries, local field days, or newsletters. Although these are still important, it is now possible to get information literally on demand. Many of our ANR and campus Centers are finding that they reach more people via the internet than through all other methods combined. Since you are all part of the University of California, there are still tremendous responsibilities to ensure that our information still meets the highest standards of scientific review. It is important that the UC brand stands for reliable information and solutions.

The tools you will be discussing at this conference also allow us to do a better job of having a community of ANR members within UC dedicated to serving the agricultural, natural resources, and human resource audiences throughout the state. We have strengths in being located in four colleges (on three campuses), in 52 county CE offices, and on nine Research and Extension Centers. However, the challenge of maintaining links between all of these parts of our organization are a challenge. I encourage you to use these tools to bring us more closely together.

Thanks for your dedication to serving Californians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. B. Standiford".

Richard B. Standiford, Ph.D.
Acting Vice President