March saw Old Man Winter and Mother Nature battling over the Maryland weather. Old Man Winter appeared to be winning, taking the match into overtime. Despite the old man’s valiant efforts, Mother Nature will win every time and spring weather will arrive. Our gardens, lawns and trees come alive bringing a fresh energy that propels us through the rest of the semester as we look forward to getting outside for labs. And what better time to feed your selfie addiction.

W h a a t? Yes, our society has another obsessive compulsive disorder to add to the growing list of psychological issues.

If you are one of those students who just can resist pulling out your phone during class, or even if you can, we have an opportunity for you. For the month of April, we are holding a photo contest. We want to see all the different, engaging, hands-on learning taking place at the IAA. Whether at the turf farm, garden, terp farm, greenhouse, ag mechanics lab, or in Jull Hall show us what you’re doing. And if you are not a selfie addict, you can—with their permission—take photos of your classmates. The winner will receive a $100 scholarship. Read the rest of Institute Items for more details.

While we’re on the subject of photos, remember it’s time to picture your classes for next fall. If you have not done so, make a registration appointment with your advisor. Some classes fill quickly and you want to make sure you have the classes you need to graduate.

Happy spring everyone and enjoy all the events and opportunities this month.

Important Dates:

April 1
IAA SWAG photo contest begins!

April 8
Food Chains Movie Screening
7:00-9:00 p.m. School of Public Health Room 1312

April 10-11
High Tunnel Construction Workshop at Terp Farm
(registration required)

April 13
Last day to drop a class with a “W”

April 16
AGNR Alumni Awards
5:30 p.m in the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center

April 25
Maryland Day on campus from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 1
IAA SWAG photo contest winner announced!
In an effort to expand dialogue about our food system both on campus and in the community, a number of campus organizations and departments, including the College of AGNR and Institute of Applied Agriculture, are collaborating to screen the recent documentary, Food Chains.

**What:** FREE Food Chains Movie Screening  
**When:** Wednesday, April 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.  
**Where:** School of Public Health Room 1312  
**Who:** Open to everyone on campus and in the community  
**Includes:** Movie screening, pizza and cookies, and post-film discussion circle

Future Harvest and Terp Farm, University of Maryland’s sustainable campus farm, are teaming up to bring you a new twist on the old-fashioned barn raising: an intensive workshop in which participants help construct a high tunnel from start to finish. Over the course of two days, you will work with Guy Kilpatrick, Terp Farm’s Lead Agricultural Technician, to build a 48’ x 22’ high tunnel.

**When:** April 10-11  
**Where:** Terp Farm, 2005 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro, MD  
**RSVP:** futureharvestcasa.org  
3 slots available

Sustainable Agriculture Tuesdays is a lecture series that is open to the public every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Jull Hall 1123.

- **April 7:** Aquaculture and Aquaponics  
- **April 21:** The “How” and “Why” of Organic: Certification, Labels and Standards  
- **April 28:** Certified Humane Labeling

Do you like to eat?  
Then the Food Club is for you! Take part in monthly restaurant outings and potlucks at Jull Hall.  
Contact Meredith Epstein to get on the email list. mbepste@umd.edu

The garden club is a great way to meet people and gain gardening experience. Work days for the spring semester are Mondays from 3-5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m.  
Contact Meredith Epstein for more information!

The Shields Memorial Golf Tournament will take place at Glenn Dale Golf Club on Friday, May 8th.

We need students to volunteer a few hours of their time. All of the proceeds go to the IAA’s golf & turf program. To date, over 103 scholarships have been awarded through this fund, and it supports student travel to competitions.

See Kevin Mathias if you are available to help.  
2113 Jull Hall, 301-405-4692

Now is the time to apply for scholarships! There are numerous scholarship deadlines approaching!

For a current list check the IAA website: iaa.umd.edu
It’s time to arrange your internships for Summer 2015. Watch your email and read the GYST to find out about internship opportunities. Every IAA student is required to complete an internship. The internship requires a MINIMUM of 320 hours of employment at an approved work site. Supervising instructors for each major approve the work sites of their students. Please identify possible internships and contact your advisor for approval.

Internships are completed in two parts. INAG299A Internship I is the course for which you do on-site work to meet your minimum hour requirements. Over the course of this internship, your supervising instructor will visit you at your work site, interview your supervisor and collect other data. INAG299A is available only as a Summer II course, although you may complete your hours at any time during the summer.

INAG299B Internship II is the documentation portion of the internship, and should be taken during the Fall semester immediately following completion of INAG299A. You will write a detailed report highlighting your experiences.

Supervising instructors for each major approve the work sites of their students. Please identify possible internships and contact your advisor for approval.

IAA students are asked to help during the Open House. If you are available at 9:30 a.m. or between 10:15 and 10:45 p.m. on Monday the 4th and would like to greet our visitors and answer questions about student life at the IAA, please see Christina Lorenz in Jull 2123.

If you have any friends, family or co-workers who are interested in attending the IAA and would like to visit, please stop by Christina’s office (Jull 2123A) to pick up an invitation, directions and schedule of events.

Reservations are required and can be made online.

**Tips For Success**

- Keep up with your classes, go to class on time, turn your assignments in on time and try not to miss any classes.
- Keep yourself organized with a calendar and make note of due dates and assignments.
- Be respectful of your instructors. Sending text messages in class is NOT acceptable.
- Clean up after yourself in the computer lab and conference room.

### Maryland Day
April 25, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

All majors wanted! Staff the IAA’s events that day. We will have an event learning about beneficial insects, a bug race and Ken will be giving away a free plants. Let’s promote the IAA!

See Carole in 2123 Jull Hall or call 301-405-4685

### AGNR Alumni Awards

The AGNR Alumni Awards program celebrates more than 40 years of excellence by honoring alumni and others who have brought extraordinary recognition to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Join us for a night of celebration and to honor those who make the College of AGNR shine.

All August and December 2014 graduates and May 2015 candidates for graduation will be invited as guests of the AGNR Alumni Chapter and Dean Wei.

The event starts at 5:30 p.m on April 16th in the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center.

Cost is $45
One Hundred Dollars For a Selfie!?

Yes, you read that correctly. One lucky IAA student will win a $100 scholarship for submitting photos of their #IAASWAG!

For the month of April, we are holding a photo contest. We want to see all the different, engaging, hands-on learning taking place at the IAA. Whether at the turf farm, garden, terp farm, greenhouse, ag mechanics lab, or in Jull Hall show us what you’re doing. And if you are not a selfie addict, you can—with their permission—take photos of your classmates.

Post the photos on social media with the hashtag #IAASWAG AND email them to clorenz@umd.edu by April 30th for entry. There is no limit to the number of photos you can submit, so go crazy!

Food Club Fun

The newest club at the IAA has hit the ground running (or eating)!

The club meets twice a month, once for a themed potluck and once at a restaurant.

If you’re interested in participating, Contact Meredith Epstein to get on the email list. mbepste@umd.edu

Farmers Market at Maryland

The UMD Farmer’s Market is open for Spring! It takes place every Wednesday, 11am-3pm in front of Cole Fieldhouse

Visiting Terp Farm

The IAA’s Crop Production class got to take a trip out to the Terp Farm this semester. Terp Farm is a sustainable farming operation located just 15 miles from the College Park campus. The College of AGNR has committed two acres at the Central Maryland Research and Education Center’s Upper Marlboro facility for Terp Farm. Want to get involved? Watch for emails and take advantage of the educational opportunities they offer.