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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of British Columbia and Cariboo College have joined forces to bring selected agricultural courses to the Southern Interior, beginning with a weekend overview on March 14 and 15.

Following the introductory session, three university credit courses and one shorter non-credit offering are scheduled between April 11 and September 5.

Dean Warren D. Kitts of the U.B.C. Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Cariboo Principal C.W. Brewster have signed an agreement covering the two institutions' roles in the innovative program, in the presence of several members of the local advisory committee interested in furthering agricultural education in the region.

Cariboo College is providing the needed facilities and support services, while the university, represented by Assistant Professor Michael Pitt, regional director of the Faculty's interior programs and a specialist in range ecology, will coordinate the actual instruction.

The course lineup is as follows:

March 14-15 -- Agricultural Science 100, an introductory course required of students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture. U.B.C. faculty members will present overviews of several aspects of relevant agricultural specialties from soils and production systems to market economics. (Registration \$5.)

Friday evenings and Saturdays April 11-May 24 -- Animal Science 430, Special Topics in Animal Health. A 1½-unit course dealing with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of farm animals, with individual sessions devoted to beef, horses, dairy cattle, swine and small animals. (Registration \$10 per session or \$57 for the seven weekends including final examination.)

Saturdays from May 17 through June 28 -- Plant Science 304 (Forestry 328), Introduction to Range Management. Topics covered in this 1½-unit course include plant physiology, animal nutrition, grazing systems and multiple use of rangeland. (Registration \$10 per session or \$63 for the eight-session course.)

(more)

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Thursday, May 29 -- A one-day non-credit session on Managing the Region's Soils, designed for ranchers, farmers, agrologists and others interested in the relationship between soil and agricultural productivity. (Registration \$25.)

August 25-September 5 -- Plant Science 320, Field Studies in Rangeland Resources. An intensive 1½-unit field course conducted mainly in the nearby rangelands, covering various aspects from weed control and wildlife to soils and prescribed burning. Plant Science 304 or consent of the instructor is a prerequisite. (Registration \$10 per session, or \$63 for the nine-session course).

The series of courses represent the fruit of many months of needs and feasibility studies, according to Dr. Pitt. Most of the preparatory work was done by Dr. George R. Winter, director of the Agricultural Sciences faculty's interior programs, and by Maureen Garland, associate director. They worked in close cooperation with Dr. M.R. Granger, chairman of the Cariboo College's Department of Physical and Life Sciences.

"As Dean Kitts has emphasized," Dr. Pitt says, "Agriculturists want to learn all they can about how to deal with the complex problems of food production in the present and near future. They can't all come to the Point Grey campus, so we're bringing the courses to them at times and places that suit them best. We're also concerned with science-oriented Cariboo students who would like to pursue a degree in Agriculture."

Dr. Pitt has an office at the College, where he can be reached for further information about registration and course content (374-0123).

C.W.F. Bishop
College Affairs Manager