Dr. Naiqian Zhang was invited to give a keynote speech at the Joint International Conferences on Intelligent Agriculture (ICIA) in Beijing September 26-October 2. This week Dr. Zhang will be visiting Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China. He has been invited to (and will attend) the celebration of the 110th anniversary of China Agricultural University and to give a keynote speech at the China Development Forum 2015, and the 2nd International Conference on Smart Agriculture Innovative Development, which will be held on October 16-19 in Beijing.

Biological & Agricultural Engineering (BAE) professors Joe Harner, Mei He, Ronaldo Maghirang, Stacy Hutchinson, and Lisa Wilken visited the Hubei Province in central China October 3-11. The BAE faculty was hosted by Dr. Chen Hong of the Oil Crops Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. The exchange was focused on bioprocessing and environmental sustainability and included visits to the Three Gorges Dam and China Three Gorges University in Yichang; Chinese yam and Feiqiang tea farms in Lichuan; selenium and soybean processing factories, Yamai bakery, and giant Chinese salamander hatchery in Xuanen; the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Enshi State; and the Central China Agricultural University and Oil Crops Research Institute in Wuhan. The BAE team presented “Research and Graduate Education Opportunities in BAE at Kansas State University” to students, faculty, community and business leaders, and scientists and explored opportunities for educational and research collaborations in bioprocessing and environmental sustainability. Highlights of the visit include traversing the world’s highest suspension bridge (Sidu River Bridge), world’s largest hydroelectric dam, world’s selenium capital, and Hubei Provincial Museum; hugging the 1,500 year old manglietia fordiana tree; learning about green, white, golden, black, and milk teas; and enjoying central Chinese culture.
FLU CLINIC AT LAFENE HEALTH CENTER:
Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated at Lafene Health Center. Walk-in clinics are available on Thursdays (October 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12, 19; December 3, 10) from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. The flu vaccine is available to all students for $17, faculty/staff for $22. You will need to bring your K-State ID and medical insurance information with you. There is a 20-minute wait after receiving your vaccination. If you are unable to go during the walk-in clinic on Thursdays, you can call 532-6544 to schedule an appointment or ask any questions you may have.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT:
It’s that time again for employees to review health insurance needs and to make changes in insurance elections. Health insurance open enrollment for employees is active October 1 through October 31. The health plan booklet can be viewed at: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/sehp/Active-2016-Book.htm.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:
“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover”

--Mark Twain

LOOKING AHEAD:
October 1-31 – Employee Health Insurance Open Enrollment
October 26 – Enrollment for Spring 2016 Term begins
October 30 – Last day to drop a regular session course
November 20 – Last day for graduate students to confirm (online) December commencement attendance.
November 20 – Last day for graduate students to submit documents for December graduation
November 23-25 – Student holiday
November 26-27 – University holiday
December 9 – BAE/ATM Advisory Council Meeting, Seaton 133
December 9 - COA Holiday Party, Houston Street Ballroom
December 11 – Fall 2015 term ends
December 11 – Graduate School commencement
December 12 – Undergraduate commencement
December 14 – Finals week
December 19 – Residence halls close
December 22 – Deadline (5:00 p.m.; 4:00 p.m. if through KSOL) to submit Fall 2015 term final grades
December 23 – Term final grades available in KSIS
December 24-25 – University Holiday
December 28 – January 2016 intersession begins
January 1 – University holiday
Please submit your news and travel information to Barb Moore bjmoore2@ksu.edu