VESTA Awarded $2.9 Million from NSF

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt announced $2.927 million in National Science Foundation funding for Missouri State University’s Viticulture and Enology Science & Technology Alliance (VESTA). The grant to Missouri State will be used to provide education to community colleges in 12 states through online training courses about the grape and wine industry. Click [http://www.blunt.house.gov/Read.aspx?ID=897](http://www.blunt.house.gov/Read.aspx?ID=897) for more details.

Wine Sensory Workshop - Oct. 27—28, 2007, Peosta, IA

VESTA’s Wine Sensory Workshop, presented by Ray Johnson, [http://www.rayjohnsononwine.com](http://www.rayjohnsononwine.com), author of “Good Life Guide to Enjoying Wine” and hosted by Northeast Iowa Community College and Park Farm Winery will feature practical and systematic sensory analysis. This methodology will then be applied to samples of wine to assist participants in recognizing flaws in commercial and amateur wines. This workshop is appropriate for and open to the wine industry as well as avid consumers who would like to gain a better understanding of the flaws in wine and how to recognize them. Click [http://www.vesta-usa.org/VIN_266_Workshop.htm](http://www.vesta-usa.org/VIN_266_Workshop.htm) for more information.

VESTA Viticulture Program Validated by California Industry

VESTA along with CAEP (Communicating for Agriculture Educational Programs) had the exciting opportunity to participate in a viticulture meeting held in Santa Rosa, California on July 24 which served to review the educational and performance standards of the VESTA viticulture program. The industry representatives provided positive input and comments about the program’s thoroughness, flexibility and unique ability to meet the needs of individuals who are geographically place bound. Click [http://www.vesta-usa.org/vesta_catalog.htm](http://www.vesta-usa.org/vesta_catalog.htm) for a complete listing of VESTA course offerings.

Meet the VESTA Management Team

The VESTA Regional Center of Excellence is supervised by a team of highly qualified individuals. Dr. Dale Law, Missouri State University, serves as the Principal Investigator and Executive Director of the Regional Center of Excellence. Co-Principal Investigators are: Dr. Stan Howell, Emeritus Professor, Michigan State University Dr. Barry Gump, Professor, Florida International University Dr. Karl Wilker, Enology Professor, Missouri State University—Mt. Grove Mr. Mike Gau, Academic Dean, Northeast Iowa Community College William Baker, VP Instruction and Student Services, Redlands Community College, OK Steve Holman, Biology Professor, Rend Lake College, IL Michelle Norgren—Center Director

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