



## September 2009 SPECIAL ISSUE: Leopold Center Director Candidates

**FOUR FINALISTS** have been named in the search for a new person to lead the Leopold Center after Director Jerry DeWitti retires next January. They are Heather Karsten, associate professor of crop and soil sciences at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.; Frank Louws, professor of plant pathology at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC; Ricardo Salvador, director for the Food, Health and Wellbeing program of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Mich.; and David Wedin, professor of plant and ecosystem ecology at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

**PUBLIC SEMINARS** Each candidate will visit Iowa State for a two-day interview process that includes a public presentation and meetings with various stakeholders. Candidates will present their vision for the future of the Leopold Center and comment on how their experiences contribute to this vision. The public seminars for each candidate are as follows:

**Monday, September 28**, 2 p.m., Memorial Union Gallery – Frank Louws;

**Thursday, October 1**, 2 p.m., Memorial Union Campanile Room – Heather Karsten;

**Monday, October 5**, 2 p.m., Memorial Union Gallery – Ricardo Salvador, and

**Monday, October 19**, 2 p.m. Memorial Union Gallery – David Wedin.

**ON THE WEB** The seminars can be viewed live on-line at: <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/leopold/>

It is recommended that viewers run a test ahead of time to make sure computers and network connections are properly configured. To conduct the test, go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/testconnect>

After each presentation, an archived version will be available on the Leopold Center Web site:

<http://www.leopold.iastate.edu>

**HEATHER KARSTEN** is associate professor in crop and soil sciences at Pennsylvania State University. Her research focuses on agronomy, ecology and management of pasture plants, grazing systems, cropping systems, agroecosystems and experiential learning. She joined Penn State in 1998, where she has a 70 percent teaching appointment and developed five new agroecology courses. She has a B.S. in environmental biology from Yale University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in agronomy from Cornell University.

**FRANK LOUWS** is professor of plant pathology at North Carolina State University, where he develops extension and research programs emphasizing integrated pest management and sustainable agricultural principles and practices for growers of small fruits and vegetables. He attended Dordt College in Sioux Center before earning his B.S. degree in horticulture at the University of Guelph. He has an M.S. in plant pathology from University of Guelph and a Ph.D. in plant pathology from Michigan State University.

**RICARDO SALVADOR** has been director of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Food, Health and Wellbeing program since January 2006. He oversees the Foundation's \$10 million Food and Society Initiative and a national network of W.K. Kellogg endowed chairs of sustainable agriculture. From 1996 to 2007, he was associate professor of agronomy at Iowa State, where he also served as first chair of the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture. He has a B.S. in agriculture from New Mexico State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in crop production and physiology from Iowa State University.

**DAVID WEDIN** is professor of plant and ecosystems ecology in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His research focuses on grassland and savanna ecology, carbon and nitrogen cycling in terrestrial ecosystems, biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, landscape ecology and fire ecology. They also include nitrogen-use-efficiency and resource allocation in plants and stable isotope studies of plant-soil feedbacks. Wedin has a B.A. in biology from St. Olaf College and a Ph.D. in ecology from the University of Minnesota.

**THE SEARCH COMMITTEE** is chaired by Maynard Hogberg, chair of ISU's animal science department and a member of the Leopold Center's advisory board, which recommends candidates to ISU President Geoffroy.