

COLUMBUS, Ohio — While turfgrass student intern international training gains momentum, its program coordinator talks of “internationalizing” faculty members as well.

“We are very open about sharing ideas, research and trials,” said Michael O’Keeffe from his office at Ohio State University’s (OSU) College of Agriculture. “This works best if faculty members are believers, people who feel it is a great opportunity for their students.”

Faculty ‘internationalization’ next for turfgrass internship program

Meanwhile, progress is being made, he said.

- John DiMascio, now at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, taught in England in 1998-99 while a graduate student at OSU.

- Pam Sherratt, a recent graduate of Myerscough College in England, is at

OSU this year on a fellowship, doing master’s degree research in sports turf under Dr. John Street.

- Dr. Karl Dannenberger of OSU recently visited England with O’Keeffe and is supporting the idea of more faculty involvement abroad.

- O’Keeffe’s office is attempting to

arrange for a Myerscough College faculty member to visit and teach at OSU.

“In any university you have faculty who might be teaching turf management and have never been overseas to work with their counterparts in other countries,” said O’Keeffe. “A college in England might want to put on a seminar on a topic and draw on an American professor to address that issue.

“That idea is becoming attractive to faculty.”

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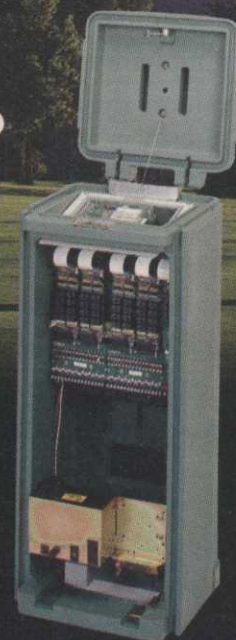
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IRRIGATION

OTF elects Tischer president

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) has elected Randy Tischer of Green Velvet Sod Farms in Bellbrook president of a new slate of officers and trustees.

Joining Tischer for terms running through Jan. 31, 2001, are President-elect Len Dunaway of Xenia Power Equipment in Medina, Vice President Mark Heinlein of The Motz Group and Treasurer John Mowat of Century Equipment Co.

Tischer was elected president after serving eight years on the OTF board of directors. He is an active member of the green industry as a sod producer and past president of Turf Producers International.

Dunaway will serve as OTF's president in 2001. Superintendent at Walnut Grove Country Club in Dayton for 18 years before joining Xenia Power Equipment in 1999, he served 12 years on the Miami Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association board of directors.

Heinlein, is senior vice president at The Motz Group, a high-performance athletic field construction and consulting firm in Cincinnati.

Mowat is the Central-Ohio commercial sales representative for Century Equipment Co.

Trustees for three-year terms, running through Jan. 31, 2003, include one trustee re-elected to his second term, and two new trustees to the board of directors. Re-elected to a second term was Mark Rawlins, superintendent at Longaberger Golf Club in Nashport. Rawlins has been a superintendent for 15 years and in golf course management for 28 years. He served 10 years on the Central Ohio Golf Course Superintendents Association board of directors.

New to the OTF board of directors are Mark Jordan, superintendent at Westfield Companies Country Club in Westfield, and Ted Durchik, branch manager of Leisure Lawn, Inc., in Cleveland.

Jordan has been superintendent at Westfield since 1989, and is the current president of the Northern Ohio Golf Course Superintendents Association.