

Smith is new Penn State ag dean

UNIVERSITY PARK — Samuel H. Smith, Ph.D., professor and head of Penn State's Department of Plant Pathology, has been named dean of the College of Agriculture, effective July 1.

Smith, who succeeds the retiring Dean James M. Beattie, also will be director of Penn State's Agricultural Experiment Station and director of the Cooperative Extension Service.

"I am extremely pleased that Dr. Smith has agreed to accept this crucial and challenging position," John W. Oswald, president of the University, told the Board of Trustees, which approved the appointment.

"The new dean has proven himself an important scholar, as well as a bright and able administrator. His demonstrated concern for quality in research, education and the various service functions of his college will allow him to continue Penn State's long tradition of advancing the cause of agriculture in the state and nation."

Commenting on his appointment, Smith said: "I see this as a great opportunity to work with an extremely fine college and with an excellent faculty and staff. I intend for the college to continue its agricultural leadership in the nation through its programs in teaching, research and extension."

A native of Salinas California, Smith, 41, earned a bachelor's degree in plant pathology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1961. He received a doctorate in plant pathology from Berkeley in 1964 and studied as a North Atlantic Organization post-doctoral fellow at Glasshouse Crops Research Institute in Sussex, England, in 1964-65.



Samuel H. Smith

After four years on the Berkeley faculty, Smith joined Penn State in 1969 as associate professor of plant pathology in the Fruit Research Laboratory at Arendtsville, Adams Co. He came to University Park in 1971 and was promoted to full professor in 1974.

Since 1976, he has been head of the Department of Plant Pathology, and since 1978, he also has served as a U.S. Department of Agriculture plant pathologist.

Smith's research has centered on various aspects of plant virology, including location of sites and nucleic acid synthesis in virus-infected plant cells, physiology of resistance to plant viruses and virus-induced susceptibility to fungus infection.

He has published more than 100 research articles in scholarly and professional journals and has been an invited guest lecturer for numerous institutions and associations, including Cornell

University, the University of California, Ohio State University, the American Phytopathological Society and North Carolina State University.

On the international level, he has taught at the Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Cientificas in Caracas, Venezuela, and has lectured in England, Scotland, the Netherlands, France, West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Mexico.

Smith also has been involved in cooperative service activities both

nationally and statewide. These have included work with the American Mushroom Institute, the Pennsylvania Fruit Tree Improvement Program, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Pennsylvania Flower Growers, the State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania and the American Type Culture Collection Plant Virus Committee.

He has worked as a consultant for various private firms.

Among Smith's professional memberships are the American Phytopathological Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the Association of Applied Biologists and the British Federation of Plant Pathologists.

Smith and his wife Patricia live at Rt. 1, Boalsburg. A son, Samuel Jr., is a Penn State senior; a daughter, Linda, will enter the University this summer.

Extension news editor retires

UNIVERSITY PARK — Elwood Mintz, Extension news editor and assistant professor of Agricultural Extension at Penn State, will retire June 30 with 19 years of service.

During the past year, he served as revision editor of the "Disaster Handbook for Extension Agents," a U.S. Department of Agriculture project.

From 1962 until 1980, Mintz was primarily responsible for editing news packets for use by Extension agents and specialists to disseminate information on agricultural and related subjects through the press.

He was responsible for media relations for the annual joint meetings of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Association and Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association.

Mintz also carried out public relations efforts for the International Statisticians Census Seminar sponsored by the College of Agriculture Short Courses Office with federal and state agencies cooperating.

He assisted in newswriting-in-service training programs for county and state Extension staff members.

A native of North Carolina, he earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and served three years in the Southwest Pacific during World War II.

Prior to being named to the Extension staff, the retiring editor served as a publications editor and feature writer with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, and was publications editor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute for two years.

Mintz also taught in North Carolina's public school system and was an instructor for the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

In 1973 he attended summer school for Extension workers at Colorado State University, completing a course on Problems of Our Urban-Rural Fringe Areas.

He is a member of the Agricultural Communicators in

Education, Epsilon Sigma Phi society, Pennsylvania Agricultural Safety Council, and Extension Professors Association.

He is married to the former Alene McLamb, of Roseboro, North Carolina, a staff member in the College of Agriculture Correspondence Course Office. Their daughter, Karen, a student at Old Dominion University, is married to David M. Hampton, a naval officer.



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