

Top UD Senior Is From College Of Agriculture And Natural Resources

NEWARK, Del. — Jillian Licata, a senior animal science major in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, received the University of Delaware's prestigious Emma Pusey Warner Award for top female student at Honors Day ceremonies May 5.

Licata, daughter of Judy and John Licata of Holtsville, N.Y., is the first student from the college to receive the Warner Award, which is presented annually to the most outstanding woman in the university's graduating class.

Recipients must demonstrate exceptional qualities of leadership, citizenship and character exemplified by Mrs. Warner, who was instrumental in the establishment of Delaware Women's College. Nominations are made by faculty based on the nominee's academic excellence and active involvement in com-

munity and campus life.

According to Karen R. Aniunas, assistant dean for student services in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Licata's academic achievements are impressive.

"Her grade point averages, 4.0 in her major and 3.90 overall, are in a class by themselves," Aniunas said. Her exceptional abilities earned her an appointment as a teaching assistant in the biology department. She has the academic prowess of a graduate student.

"It's a great honor for this college to have Jill receive the Warner Award," Aniunas said.

"Four of the five finalists this year were from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, which is a considerable testament to the quality of our students."

Licata's accomplishments include conducting undergraduate

research, which has led to her candidacy for a degree with distinction. She services as an ag ambassador, one of a select group of students who assist the college with recruitment. In addition, she is chancellor of Alpha Zeta (AZ), the honor society of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and is a member of the Animal Science Club.

For two years, Licata has been an ambulance attendant with the UD Emergency Care Unit, responding to 911 calls on campus and providing patient care during transport. She is also a volunteer at a local veterinary clinic.

She plans to pursue a career in research following graduate studies.

As a Warner Award recipient, Licata will receive a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond and will have her name engraved on plaques in the Perkins Student Center and in Alumni Hall. She will also have the honor of leading the university's alumni delegates in procession into Delaware Stadium at the start of the 2000 Commencement ceremonies May 27.

Women Seek Agricultural Studies In Growing Numbers

NEWARK, Del. — Enrollment of women in the University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is on the rise.

According to Dr. John Nye, dean of the college, the increase follows a national trend that shows a shift in the percentages of women pursuing careers offered in the fields of agriculture and natural resources.

"When I first arrived at this college in 1991, the majority of students were male," said Nye. "Numbers have shifted ever since. For fall semester 1999, women accounted for 62 percent of our total enrollment."

"In our animal science major, which includes preveterinary medicine, 230 of the 280 students are women," he said. "These numbers correspond to a

national trend in veterinary school enrollment."

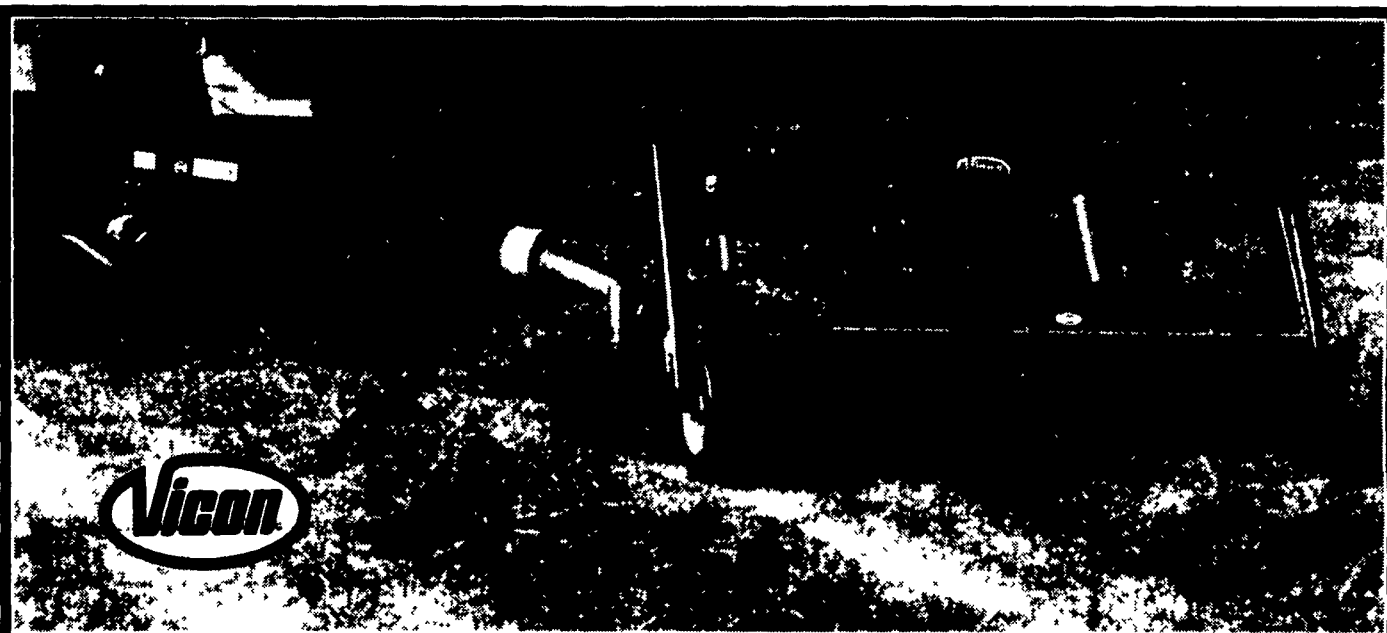
Women are signing up in greater numbers in all the college's majors across the board, Nye said. He expects total fall 2000 enrollment will be between 65 to 75 percent women.

Nye reasons that as women become aware that most majors in agricultural sciences and natural resources do not center on actual production agriculture, career options they had not considered emerge.

Nye recalls an encounter with a high school senior this spring at UD's annual Decision Day event. She told him she was considering a major in political science.

"I mentioned that the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources offers an interdisciplinary major that might interest her — natural resource management," he said. Both the student and her parents wanted to know if other women were enrolled in the college. Their guess was perhaps ten percent. They were surprised to learn that women make up well over half of our student body."

Studies in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources can lay the groundwork for careers in such diverse areas as composite materials development, environment consulting, securities marketing, wildlife management, food packaging, and biotechnology research in both industry and at universities.



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