

NEW TEAM FOR USDA'S DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

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REED ANNOUNCES NEW TEAM FOR USDA'S DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, April 14, 1997--Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration Pearlle Reed today announced the following selections for his team to manage the administrative functions of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"These selections represent the high caliber of professionals who are dedicated to good management at the Department of Agriculture," Reed said. "I am convinced that with their leadership we can improve USDA's civil rights record, strengthen other areas of management, and help to change the culture in the department."

Christine Pytel is serving as the acting deputy assistant secretary for administration. In her previous position she was the associate deputy chief for administration in USDA's Forest Service. A native of Texas, Pytel received a B.A. degree in elementary education from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas; an M.A. degree in legal studies and discrimination law from Antioch Law School; and an M.P.A. degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Katherine C. Gugulis is serving as associate assistant secretary for administration with responsibility for the civil rights report implementation. She comes from USDA's Natural Resources and Conservation Service where she held the position of director of operations management and oversight. A native of Maryland, Gugulis holds a B.A. degree in journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Tijuana G. Young has been named as special assistant to the assistant secretary for administration. Prior to her work with USDA's Civil Rights Action Team, Young had been the confidential assistant for special projects to the chief of staff for the Secretary of Agriculture. A native of Gary, Ind., Young holds a B.S. degree in business administration from the University of Memphis and is completing an M.S.A. degree in human resources administration from Central Michigan University.

Lloyd E. Wright has been named as director of the Office of Civil Rights. Formerly, he was the director of the Conservation and Ecosystem Assistance Division of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. A native of Virginia, Wright holds a B.A. degree in agronomy from Virginia State University and an M.S. degree in human resource management from the State University of New York in Binghamton.

Named to the two deputy director positions in the Office of Civil Rights are Jeremy S. Wu and Susan Buckingham Reilly. Prior to this appointment, Wu was a supervisory mathematical statistician for USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. A native of Virginia, Wu holds B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in mathematical statistics from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Reilly was formerly the director of the Washington field office for

the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. A native of Utica, N.Y., Reilly holds a B.A. degree in philosophy from George Washington University and a J.D. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Roger L. Bensey has been named as director of the Office of Human Resources Management. He was formerly the State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in West Virginia. A native of West Virginia, Bensey received a B.S. degree in business from Concord College in Athens, W.Va., and an M.B.A. degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Robert W. Whiting has been named as the deputy director for Human Resources Management. Prior to serving on USDA's Civil Rights Action Team, Whiting was chief of the Information Management Division under the Office of the Chief Information Officer. A native of Washington, D.C., he holds a B.A. degree in management from the University of the District of Columbia and an M.B.A. degree in finance and investments from George Washington University.

Denise Decker has been named as the head of the quality management sub-team for the Civil Rights Implementation Team. Previously she was a quality management specialist for the East Region of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. A native of New York, Decker holds a B.A. degree in language education from the State University of New York at Geneseo and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in language education from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She works with the assistance of a Seeing Eye dog named Quadrant.

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