

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
DEPARTMENT OF

ANIMAL SCIENCE

A man with a beard and a woman standing back-to-back in a laboratory setting. The man is wearing a blue polo shirt and has his arms crossed. The woman is wearing a black top and also has her arms crossed. They are both smiling slightly. The background shows a laboratory with computer monitors, desks, and other people working.

Homework More Effective When Assigned Later Rather Than Sooner

Also in this issue:

Automatic milking systems: the good, the bad, and the unknown

Animal Science team takes a comprehensive approach to
understanding how heat stress affects ruminant livestock



ALUMNI & FRIENDS
NEWSLETTER

Fall 2017

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

For alumni and friends of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Department of Animal Science

Clint Krehbiel
Chief Editor

Peta-Gaye Clachar
Designer, Editor, Writer, Photographer

Co-editors:
Sherri Pitchie, Kimberly Clark,
Jennifer Dush, and Alli Raymond

Contributing Writers:
Jessica Petersen, Caitlin Cadaret,
Dustin Yates, Mary Crawford,
Mickayla Myers, Paul Kononoff,
Kimberly Clark, Jennifer Dush,
Peter Salter, Gina Incontro, Brad Bennett,
Jessica Lancaster, Kathy Anderson,
David Schuler, Ambrosia Keefe, and Gilbert Seck

Contributed Photographs by:
Kimberly Clark, Jennifer Dush,
Alli Raymond, Meredith Cable,
University Communications, Nebraska Department of
Agriculture, Nebraska Corn Board,
UNL Parents Association, American Society of Animal
Science, Kansas State University, O’Gorman Photography,
Show Champions Livestock Photography, Logan Peters,
Jessica Petersen, Jefferson Keller, University of Minnesota,
Gwyneth Roberts, and Gilbert Seck

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for space, clarity, grammar, and style.

Editorial Correspondence Email:
pclachar2@unl.edu
or write: Peta-Gaye Clachar
University of Nebraska–Lincoln
C204D Animal Science Complex
P.O. Box 830908
Lincoln, NE 68583-0908
Phone: 402-472-6077

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Department of Animal Science
P.O. Box 830908
Lincoln, NE 68583-0908

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STAY CONNECTED

Letter from the Chair

Dear Animal Science Alumni and Friends,



We are excited to present you with our first edition of the Department of Animal Science Alumni and Friends News. We are committed to keeping you informed about activities, successes, opportunities and upcoming events at the University of Nebraska, Department of Animal Science. We plan to send you the Alumni and Friends News each Fall and Spring. Our department has a strong and proud history of excellence in Teaching, Research, and Extension, and we are striving to become even better in the future. We look forward to engaging you and sharing our vision as we continue to build on our culture of achieving excellence and advancing our animal industries.

The faculty in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska continue to teach, conduct fundamental and translational research, and deliver research-based knowledge that is having an impact on our state, region, nation and world. In this issue of the Alumni and Friends News, you will read three feature articles about how research and technology are advancing all three areas of our tripartite mission. You will also learn that 14 faculty (35% of our total) tenured in the Department of Animal Science (including UNL Chancellor Dr. Ronnie Green) have won local, state, or national awards in 2017. In addition, several of our graduate students have been recognized for their outstanding achievements in research and oral presentation skills. We are truly blessed with tremendous students, faculty, staff, and administration in the Department of Animal Science and at the University of Nebraska!

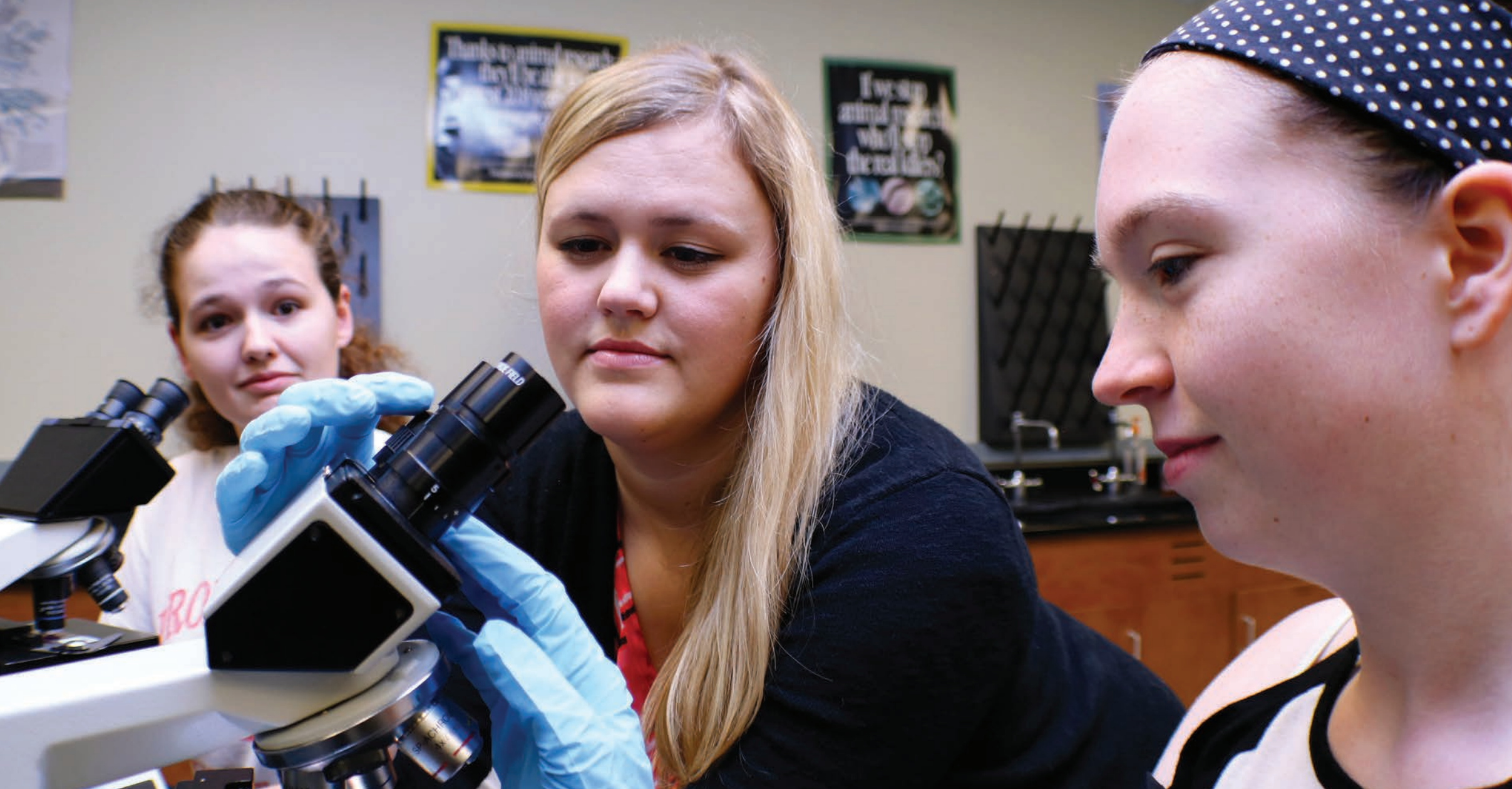
We are pleased to welcome Brande Dicks and Karen Conway to our staff. Brande works as a Financial Associate, and will help faculty with post-award management of grant funds. Karen provides office support for our faculty in Ruminant and Nonruminant Nutrition. You can read more about these individuals in this issue. We are excited to have them both on our team! In our spring issue, we will introduce Dr. Travis Mulliniks, who joined us in September as a Beef Nutritionist – Range Production Systems Specialist at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte. Travis comes to us from the University of Tennessee and is a very talented addition to our faculty.

In this edition, you will meet our student ambassadors and learn about student experiences during summer internships. We also share results from our judging teams. Please mark your calendars for April 13 & 14, 2018. We will host our first annual Animal Science Alumni Celebration Weekend here in Lincoln. Registration materials will be available in the Spring edition.

Special thanks to Peta-Gaye Clachar for producing our first edition of the Animal Science Alumni and Friends News. The Alumni and Friends News will be distributed via email and will be available on our website. Please let us know if you prefer to receive a hardcopy. We hope you enjoy our first edition of the Animal Science Alumni and Friends News!

Sincerely,

Clinton R. Krehbiel, Ph.D., PAS
Marvel L. Baker Head and
Professor of Animal Science



Ph.D. student Caitlin Cadaret (center) looks at mammalian tissues under the microscope with undergraduate students Autumn Keifer (right), sophomore, and Abbie Applebee, senior, in one of the Animal Science Labs.

Peta-Gaye Clachar

Animal Science graduate student shows homework is more effective when assigned 'later' rather than 'sooner'

Homework is an effective method for getting students of all ages to revisit, review, and reaffirm the information they learn in the classroom.

In fact, educational experts have shown that retrieval practices such as homework and other "for credit" assignments greatly improve students' retention of information in a phenomenon known as the Testing Effect.

Caitlin Cadaret, Animal Science Ph.D. student from Palo Cedro, Calif., and her advisor Dr. Dustin Yates

recently completed a two-year study demonstrating that proper timing of homework assignments is also an important part of maximizing these benefits. Cadaret used her role as lab coordinator for Yates' Anatomy & Physiology of Domestic Animals and Animal Physiologic Systems undergraduate courses to show that students generally exhibit a better long-term mastery of physiological topics when homework relevant to the topic was made available later in the week rather than immediately after class.

Across both courses, students scored better on final

exam questions for five out of the nine evaluated topics and scored similarly on the remaining four topics when randomly assigned to receive their online homework for that topic five days after class rather than one day afterward. Although this might seem surprising at first glance, the benefit of the longer interval between introduction of a topic and assigning homework is likely explained by the rate at which students (and humans in general) forget information.

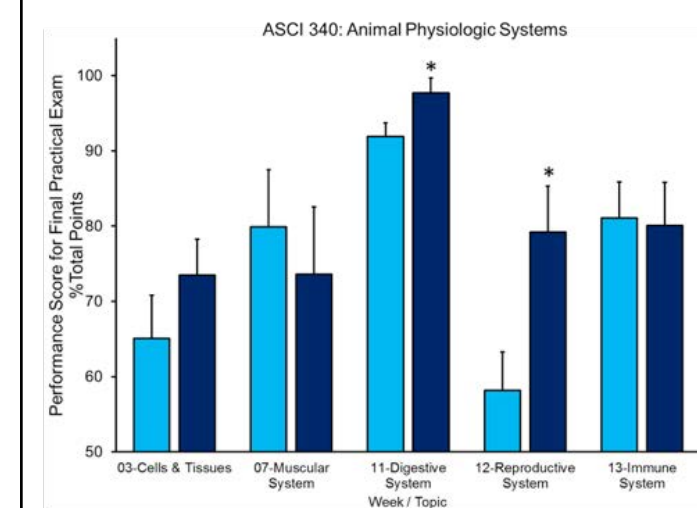
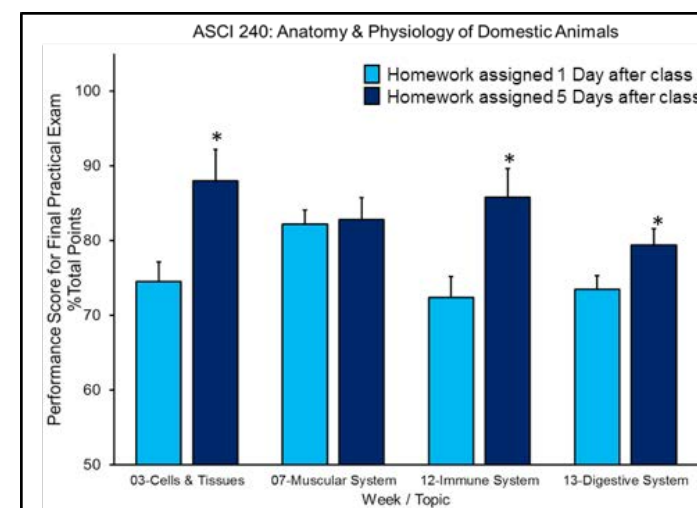
Students asked to retrieve information only 24 hours after hearing it in class can rely more readily on short-term memory to reiterate facts, regardless of whether or not they understand and retain the concepts in long-term memory. This by definition diminishes the Testing Effect. After five days, students

FEATURE STORIES

have had the opportunity to forget information from short-term memory, which in essence requires them to re-learn the material. This pattern of learning has been shown to create more neural pathways, thus allowing stronger conceptual connections and deeper comprehension, which enhances long-term retention of knowledge. Interestingly, assigning homework at different times did not appear to have a major impact on shorter-term information retention, as indicated by similar scores on quizzes administered in class the following week.

The study was part of Cadaret's 2017 master's thesis and is currently under revision for the *American Journal of Physiology, Advances in Physiology Education*.

Dustin Yates, Assistant Professor Animal Stress Physiologist



Student performance on final exam questions when topic-relevant homework was assigned one or five days after its introduction in class. *Means differ ($P < 0.05$) within topic.

Caitlin Cadaret

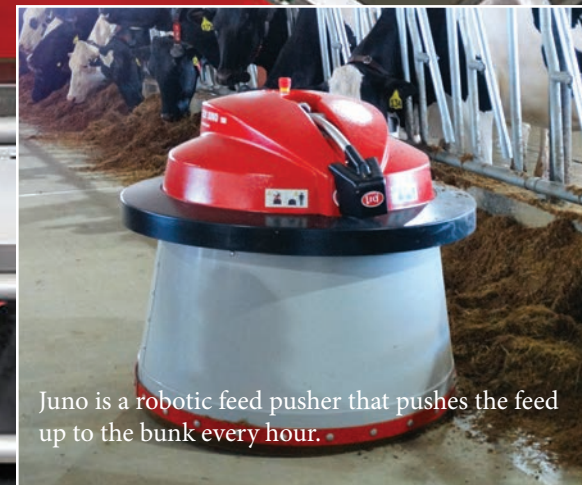
FEATURE STORIES

to feed individual cows closer to their nutrient requirements within their stage of lactation. This could decrease overfeeding nutrients to cows, therefore, increasing feed efficiency, milk production, and economic returns.

Feeding in the AMS... The frequency, timing and amount of feed supplementation is also controlled by the AMS. The primary reason for feeding concentrate in the AMS is to entice cattle to enter the AMS. In simple terms, the cow's biological need to eat is stronger than her biological need to be milked. This feature has stimulated the industry to re-examine overall nutrition strategies. In general, the nutritional goal of any dairy farm is to develop a low cost diet that meets the nutritional requirements of the cow while optimizing milk production and cow health. In a conventional system that does not utilize an AMS, this goal is typically achieved by offering a consistent total mixed ration that is mixed and delivered at the same time every day. With an AMS system, this system is modified by offering a fraction of the concentrate during milking in the AMS, and the resulting portion of the concentrate along with the forage and vitamins and minerals are fed in a partial mixed ration at the feedbunk.

The need to "fetch" cows... Cows not frequently visiting in the AMS must be brought to the units and are commonly referred to as "fetch cows" and represent a big challenge. This is a complex issue which spans animal and environmental factors such as social structure in the herd, farm layout, type of traffic, and health (especially lameness). Uneven milking intervals result when time between milkings is not equal. For example, milking at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. results in an even milking interval of 12 hours. Uneven milking intervals can lead to mastitis, decreased daily milk yield, and lameness. Uneven milking intervals can also lead to decreased economic returns due to the physical labor that is required to go out into the barn and push cows to the milking unit. Solutions for uneven milking frequency include 1) implementing a guided or forced traffic system that will utilize a pre-selection gate to guide the cow to milking and 2) to entice the cow in the AMS with the concentrate that is offered during milking.

Managing cow traffic... Farms using an AMS are constructed into one of two types of guided traffic systems: the milk first system and the feed first system.



Juno is a robotic feed pusher that pushes the feed up to the bunk every hour.



One of the milking robots at Demerath Farms near Plainview, Nebraska.

Kimberly Clark

Automatic milking systems: the good, the bad, and the unknown

Robotic or automatic milking systems have steadily increased in popularity in the dairy industry since the installation of the first commercial unit in 1992 in the Netherlands.

In 2015, the number of automatic milking systems units installed was over 25,000 worldwide. Here in Nebraska, there are two commercial dairy farms that have installed multiple AMS units, Demerath Farms, in Plainview, Neb., and Beaver's Dairy, in Carleton, Neb. Demerath Farms installed four AMS units in

February 2017 and are set up to milk 240 cows per day. Beaver's Dairy began milking with five AMS units in May 2017 and is set up to milk 300 cows. Additionally, there are several other dairies that are looking into milking robots for their farm. Typically, 60 cows are milked on one robot. One robot will cost the producer anywhere from \$150,000- \$200,000.

Robots have been seen as the "new and improved" way to milk cows because they may provide opportunities to decrease labor needs and allow

producers to spend more time on animal care. In a survey of 10 United States dairies and 15 Canadian dairies who had installed an AMS, 70% of the farms reported a decrease in hired labor costs. Some other opportunities that may come with installing an AMS include the system providing information to the producer on individual cow milk production, milking frequency, rumination and movement activity, concentrate intake, health alerts, and much more.

This information could in turn, help the producer make more informed herd management decisions. Because cows can be fed a concentrate supplement when visiting the AMS, there is also the opportunity

FEATURE STORIES

Automatic milking systems continued...

In the milk first system, the cow leaves the lying area and passes through a pre-selection gate where she is determined to be eligible for milking or not. Eligibility is defined by the producer but is typically set to have cows milked every six hours. If the cow is eligible for milking, she will be guided into a commitment pen that contains the AMS where she will stay until she passes through the AMS for milking. If she is not eligible she will pass through the pre-selection gate into the feed bunk area. In comparison, in the feed first system cows start at the feed bunk, passing through the pre-selection gate and ending in the lying area.

AMS... what we don't know... There is limited research available on the best methods to entice cattle to the AMS with the concentrate fed at milking; however, producer experience has shown cows are enticed with concentrate at the AMS. Some research has been conducted on changing starch content, grain type, and flavoring. Manipulating starch level to entice cattle does not seem to influence milking frequency. However, a concentrate with low starch content (25%) has been shown to increase milk yield in the AMS. In terms of grain type of the pellet, a barley-oat pellet has been reported to decrease the number of cows needed to be fetched to the AMS and increase the number of visits to the AMS when compared to other grains. Interestingly enough, New Zealand researchers have found that for a grazing dairy, the absence of concentrate in the AMS had no negative effects on milking frequency. Finally, flavoring of the concentrate in the AMS has been shown to significantly increase the visits to the pre-selection gate and increase milking frequency.

Dairies have been using robots for more than 25 years. As the research and technology improve, the number of AMS units will continue to increase.

For more information about robots and technology used in the dairy industry, contact Kim Clark, Dairy Extension Educator. KimClark@unl.edu or by phone 402-472-6065.

Mickayla Myers, Ruminant Nutrition Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Paul Kononoff, Dairy Extension Specialist and Kimberly Clark, Dairy Extension Educator

Too hot for ewe? Animal Science team takes a comprehensive approach to understanding how heat stress affects ruminant livestock



Assistant Professor Dustin Yates, works with a lamb to collect bioelectrical impedance data. This non-invasive method allows for the determination of body composition (lean vs. fat) on the live animal. Measures from this method complement ultrasound data to provide information on body composition changes during the experiment.

Livestock producers in Nebraska face a multitude of decisions regarding the management of their herds.

Mitigating stress is of the utmost importance to ensuring the efficient production of healthy animals. Animal Science Assistant Professors Dustin Yates (Stress Physiology), Jessica Petersen (Functional Genomics), and Ty Schmidt (Meat Science), are working together to build a comprehensive understanding of how heat stress may impact the animals' physiological, genomic, and performance characteristics.

This five-year study, supported by USDA Hatch Multistate Funding, utilizes specialized environment-controlled rooms in the Animal Science Complex to determine intricate measures of an animal's response to heat stress. In addition, the team is examining how beta adrenergic agonists, common growth supplements known by the trade names of Zilmax® and Optaflexx®, may interact with heat stress to impact

animal well-being.

This study is timely considering the growing need to better manage livestock during irregular, extreme heat events attributable to climate change, as well as given concerns associated with feeding beta adrenergic agonists.

The team, consisting of graduate and undergraduate student researchers and support staff, performed a large-scale animal study with market lambs as models for ruminant livestock. While similar studies of heat stress and beta agonist supplements have been performed in the past, this project is unique in the intensive manner in which the lambs were studied.

Thousands of data points were recorded during the study with lambs including physiological measures (respiration rate, body temperature, blood chemistry) and a full evaluation of performance data (dry matter intake, average daily gain, carcass composition, yield, and grade).

In addition, samples of more than 15 different tissues were collected to analyze changes in gene expression due to each treatment, rumen contents collected to characterize the microbiome population, and critical tissues evaluated by a veterinary pathologist to identify any potential abnormalities.

Results thus far have shown that glucose metabolism in the muscle is significantly reduced by heat stress and increased by the feeding of one type of beta adrenergic agonist, but not the other. Ongoing analyses will reveal the specific genomic changes that occur in these conditions and relate those changes to animal performance.

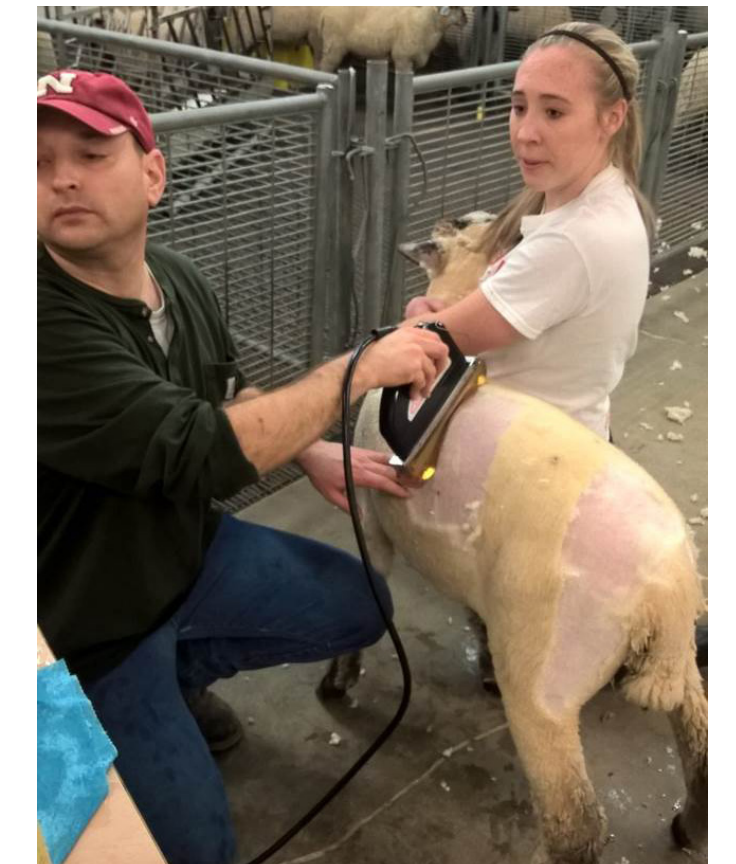
In the next stage of the project, a study will be performed in beef cattle, where the variable of breed type will also be included. As a result, the researchers will create an inclusive picture of how ruminant livestock respond to heat stress and beta adrenergic agonist supplementation, paving the way for the development of new tools and practices to improve management during environmental stress.

Article and photos courtesy of Jessica Petersen

FEATURE STORIES



In addition to regular recording of rectal temperature, the sheep were imaged using an infrared camera to measure body temperature. The temperature of the lamb and its environment are indicated by color and correspond to the scale given on the right side of the image (°F).



Collaborator, JR Tait, and Animal Breeding and Genetics graduate student Rachel Kubik use ultrasound to evaluate the loin eye area, loin eye depth, back fat, and body wall thickness of a study lamb. Ultrasound data were used to track changes in body composition during the experiment.

BRANDE



Peta-Gaye Clachar

Financial Specialist, AVE Business Center

Brande Dicks, Financial Associate, AVE Business Center

We are pleased to introduce Brande Dicks, our newest employee to the AVE Business Center. Brande began working as a Financial Associate on Aug. 29, 2017. She reports to Financial Specialist Carrie Duffy.

Brande assists faculty with grant funding, post awards, and expense reviews. Before joining Animal Science, she worked as a Grant Specialist in the Nebraska Center for Virology.

Brande is passionate about her job because of her love for numbers. She feels proud to play an integral part that

NEW HIRES

helps faculty manage their finances for their research. Outside of playing with numbers, she hopes to encapsulate her knowledge of all areas of Animal Science while working here.

Brande was born in Lincoln, Neb. She graduated from Waverly High in Waverly, Neb. She earned a degree in Business Administration with a focus in Accounting at Southeast Community College in Lincoln.

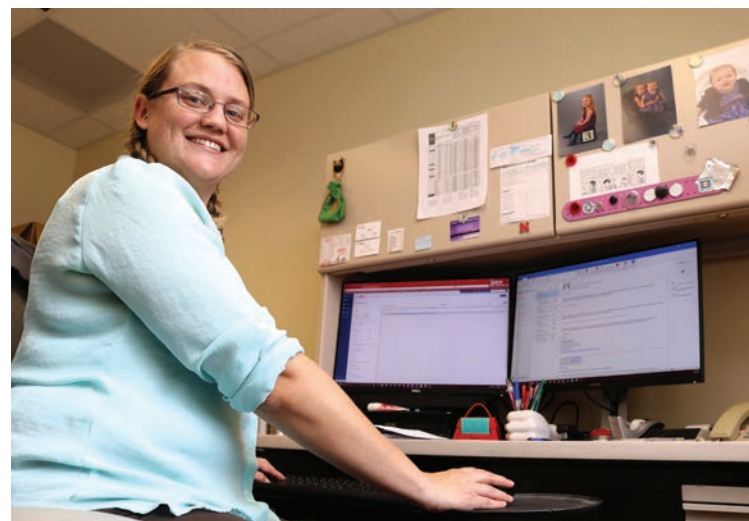
Brande is proud to be a Nebraskan. She lives in the small town of Adams with her husband Jesse, an equipment manager at Hausmann Construction, and her two daughters Hayley, 2, and Morgan, 4.

In grades 5 and 6, Brande was on the Heartbeat jump roping team. In high school, she took part in track and field as a sprinter and played volleyball. Some of Brande's hobbies include browsing Pinterest for ideas to create craft items and decorations to mark her favorite time of year—Halloween.

If you want to know more about Brande, feel free to stop in and say hi to welcome her to the Animal Science family. She has some fun and unique things she can share with you.

Welcome, Brande Dicks!

Peta-Gaye Clachar, Communication Specialist



NEW HIRES

Karen Conway, Office Associate, Nutrition Group

Karen Conway traveled from Sarasota, Fla. to Lincoln, Neb., to join our team as Office Associate for the Ruminant Nutrition and Non-Ruminant Nutrition Groups.

Karen began working in the department Aug. 14, 2017. She provides office support for 10-15 faculty members and their graduate students. Some of her duties include assisting faculty and graduate students with classroom needs, such as reformatting tests, making travel plans for faculty research teams, and creating expense reports.

Born in Chicago, Ill., Karen moved to Florida when she was 7-years-old. She attended Sarasota High, where she participated in opera singing and acting. She continued her education to pursue nursing, then followed her love for the arts to State College of Florida where she received an Associate Degree in Music. Her music takes her in front of the piano at church, where she loves to sing hymns.

Karen relocated to Lincoln with her husband Patrick, a recovery specialist at the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and her two sons, Bradley and Carson. She has two daughters, Alicia who lives in Pennsylvania, and Tamera who lives in Florida. Karen also has three grandsons, Jeremy, 11, Phoenix, 5, and Archer, 2.

Her talents and hobbies go beyond the piano and singing as Karen loves to indulge in clothing and textiles and sew kids Halloween costumes. She also loves to travel. She lived in South Dakota, Nevada, and lived in Germany for four years when her husband was in the United States Air Force.

Karen enjoys outdoor adventures like camping in the mountains, hiking trails, and canoeing. Recently, she canoed down the North Platte River. She is a risk taker whose motto, "keep

KAREN



Peta-Gaye Clachar

Office Associate, Nutrition Group

going through open doors", inspires her daily as her philosophy is to keep moving forward. Karen plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in Health Care Administration.

Please help us welcome Karen Conway!

Peta-Gaye Clachar, Communication Specialist



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Registration Form

Husker Beef Nutrition Conference

Friday, November 3, 2017
August N. Christenson Research &
Education Building,
UNL Eastern Nebraska Research &
Extension Center,
near Mead, NE

Please register by phone, fax, e-mail or mail by
Monday, October 30
Registration fees are \$30 per person if prereg-
istered and may be paid on-site. \$50 if not pre-
registered and due on-site.

(Name)

(Address)

(City, State, Zip)

(E-mail)

Please return completed registration to:
Galen Erickson
P.O. Box 830908
Lincoln, NE 68583-0908
Fax: 402 472-6362; gerickson4@unl.edu

Animal Science Open House

October 23, 6 – 8 p.m.
Animal Science Complex

Transition Cow: Health, Nutrition, & Well-Being, Oh My!

November 2, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Gage County Extension Office

Husker Beef Nutrition Conference

November 3, 8:15 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Eastern Nebraska Research & Extension Center

Companion Animal & Wildlife Career Day

November 8, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Animal Science Complex

Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium

November 17-19
Animal Science Complex

QuickBooks 101 & 201 Workshop

Dec 6 & 7, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community
College, Norfolk, NE

Companion Animal Challenge & 4-H Horse Stampede

March 10, 2018
Animal Science Complex

Animal Science Alumni Weekend

April 13-14, 2018
Nebraska Innovation Campus and Animal Science
Complex

See more upcoming events at www.animalscience.unl.edu

SAVE THE DATE



2018 COMPANION ANIMAL CHALLENGE

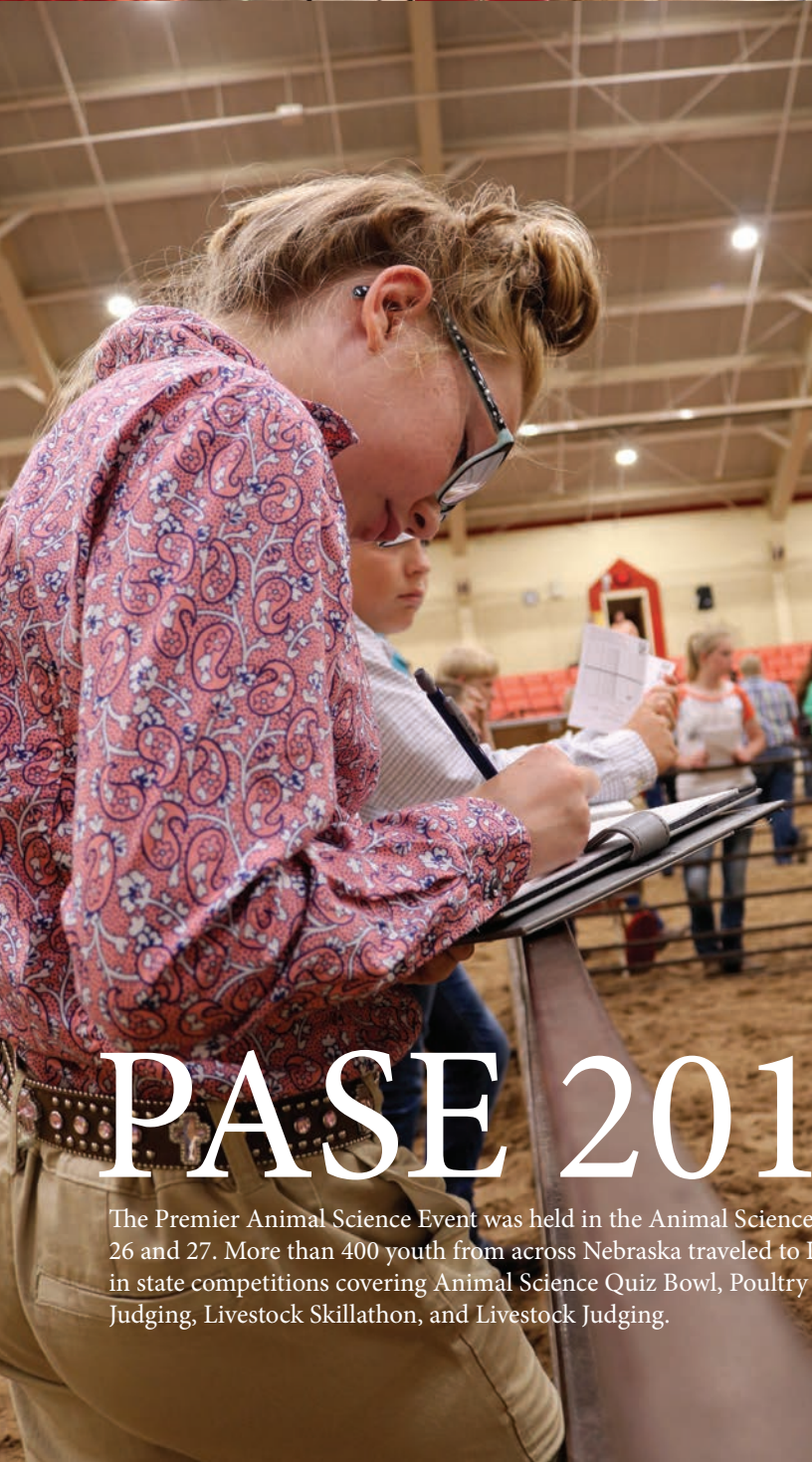
UNL Animal Science Complex
March 10, 2018
(For youth ages 10-18)

Contests: Dog Quiz Bowl, Dog Skillathon, Demonstration, Photography, Art

Contest rules and entry forms are available at: <http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal/challenge>

For more information contact Lisa Karr at Lisa.karr@unl.edu

Entries due: February 16, 2018



PASE 2017

The Premier Animal Science Event was held in the Animal Science Complex on June 26 and 27. More than 400 youth from across Nebraska traveled to Lincoln to compete in state competitions covering Animal Science Quiz Bowl, Poultry Judging, Meats Judging, Livestock Skillathon, and Livestock Judging.

Peta-Gaye Clachar

ANIMAL SCIENCE EVENTS



GRADUATE STUDENT AND FACULTY WELCOME BACK PICNIC

Peta-Gaye Clachar

Nutrition Group poses for a picture with advisors at the Graduate Student and Faculty Welcome Back Picnic at Bethany Park, August 31, 2017. Front row (L-R): Dr. Terry and Nancy Klopfenstein, Lauren Ovinge, Caitlin Ohnoutka, Dr. Jim MacDonald, Zac Carlson, Alli Knoell, Shelby Garland, Beth Lenz, Hannah Wilson, and McKenna Brinton. Back row (L-R): Dr. Galen Erickson, Mitch Norman, Tom Winders, Braden Troyer, Hannah Riley, Robert Jones, Tyler Spore, Ben Hansen, and Matt Wilson.



Dr. Dustin Yates introduces and welcomes graduate students.



Warm and juicy beef brisket was on the menu courtesy of the Department of Animal Science Loeffel Meat Lab.



Dr. Dennis Burson shares a joke with his student Ashley McCoy.



L-R: Physiology students Katie Bidne, Kerri Bochantin, Andrea McCain, Kelsey Timme and Meat Science student Faith Rasmussen.



Clint Krehbiel

UNDERGRADUATE NEW STUDENT WELCOME AND ORIENTATION



Herbie with Rodeo Team members Shalyn Miller (left) and Jennifer Smith.

Herbie Husker with Department Head Clint Krehbiel at the Undergraduate New Student Welcome and Orientation, August 22, 2017. Photos courtesy of Jennifer Dush

The Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Exposition was held on July 16-20th in Grand Island, NE. The horse show had 1,268 entries from over 60 counties in Nebraska. The state horse show is a great way for youth to demonstrate the skills that they have developed through the 4-H horse program. Many UNL Animal Science faculty, students and alumnae spend countless hours organizing and running the state horse show.



A 4-Her shows in a Western Horsemanship class at the 2017 State 4-H Horse Exposition, July 18, 2017, at Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE.

2017 STATE 4-H HORSE EXPOSITION

Peta-Gaye Clachar

STUDENT NEWS

MEET THE AMBASSADORS



Animal Science Ambassadors visit with prospective students and their families, give tours of the facility, coordinate events, and answer questions about Animal Science major. From left to right is Hannah Esch, Amanda Lambrecht, David Schuler, and Lexi Ostrand.

Hannah Esch

- Hometown: Unadilla, NE
- UNL Graduation Year: 2020
- Degree Option: Business & Communications
- Career Goals: Own my own ranch and sell the meat products to customers directly

- What is your favorite thing about being an Animal Science major? "I love the openness of being an Animal Science major. Even though I do not exactly know what I want to do following graduation, I know that there are limitless opportunities within this major."

Amanda Lambrecht

- Hometown: Blair, NE
- UNL Graduation Year: 2018
- Degree Option: Veterinary Science
- Career Goals: I hope to have a career in animal health or reproduction.
- What is your favorite thing about being an Animal Science major? "I love the hands on opportunities with livestock and learning about the industry."

David Schuler

- Hometown: Bridgeport, NE
- UNL Graduation Year: 2018
- Degree Option: Production & Management
- Career Goals: My career plans are to incorporate myself into our family seedstock business and grow our market footprint, while being involved in Nebraska Cattlemen and the university, through research and extension.
- What is your favorite thing about being an Animal Science major? "My favorite part of being an Animal Science major is the hands on learning the professors invest in. I have multiple classes, with labs and without, that give valuable examples of hands on learning that are beneficial to my career plans and technical skills."

Lexi Ostrand

- Hometown: Pender, NE
- UNL Graduation Year: 2019
- Degree Option: Veterinary Science
- Career Goals: Become a large animal veterinarian.
- What is your favorite thing about being an Animal Science major? "I love how hands on and applicable all of the classes and labs are."



November 17-19, 2017
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

STUDENT NEWS

Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council

For 46 years, the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska's youth. NAYC consists of 21 college-age men and women who have dedicated their time and energy to educating youth about agriculture. The Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute is a week-long experience for high school juniors and seniors from all across Nebraska to learn about career opportunities within agriculture. The Council is selected annually to serve a one-year term. Membership is limited to three years. The Department of Animal Science has three students who are representing it's council. They are Hunter Schroeder, Hannah Settje, and Ryan Schroeder.

Hunter Schroeder



My name is Hunter Schroeder. I spent my high school years living just south of West Point, Neb. We own and operate a show pig operation and farrow out about 20 sows. I have a twin brother who helps me with daily chores. I also take part in helping my uncle on his feedlot on the original Schroeder farm. We raise corn, soybeans, and alfalfa, in addition to the feedlot. I was heavily involved in 4-H and FFA and that has helped grow my passion for the agriculture industry. Currently, I am a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I am majoring in Animal Science. The NAYC has played a major role in helping me educate others about agriculture and I am proud to serve as the vice president of the NAYI Improvement Committee.

Hannah Settje



I'm Hannah Settje, a freshman at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln currently studying Animal Science with a business option. I'm also pursuing minors in the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program, Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars, and Spanish as a second language. I was born and raised by Raymond, Neb., on an acreage farm with rotational crop production and a small commercial replacement heifer operation. I was very involved in 4-H and FFA through high school, and am excited to continue advocating for the industry by serving on the NAYC as a member of the Sponsorship and Alumni Relations Committee. My other college activities include being a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority, FFA Alumni Association, and having a few start-up businesses.

Ryan Schroeder



Photos courtesy of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture

STUDENT NEWS

NAYC continued

My name is Ryan Schroeder. I am a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in Animal Science and minoring in the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program as well as the Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars. I grew up in Wisner, Neb., with connections to a custom feedlot operation and diversified crop production between mostly family and a few members outside of my family. My passion for agriculture started at a young age when I got involved in showing cattle, sheep, and swine in 4-H. The passion that grew from this helped me get involved in many different parts of agriculture and accept leadership roles in organizations such as 4-H and FFA. It has also helped to shape me into the person I am today and has always kept me striving to be full of energy and enthusiasm. I hope that I can one day go back into the feedlot operation side of the business. It is my privilege to serve as a member of the 2016-2017 NAYC and serve as the vice president of sponsorship and alumni relations.

COMPANION ANIMAL & WILDLIFE CAREER DAY

Animal Science Complex
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
East Campus

November 8, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

FREE!

Register at <https://goo.gl/NFS14M>
(Space limited to 50 participants)

N EXTENSION **N** SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES

For more information, contact Alli Raymond at araymond2@unl.edu

INTERNSHIP



Photo courtesy of the Nebraska Corn Board

David walked by the U.S. Capitol Building everyday on the way to his internship with the U.S. Grains Council in Washington, D.C.

David Schuler

I am David Schuler, a senior Animal Science major-production management option with a minor in the beef industry scholars. I come from a family ranch in the western Panhandle near Bridgeport, Neb. I have enjoyed unique opportunities that the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has yielded me through my entire college experience. Through the gracious support of the Nebraska Corn Board, I had the opportunity for an internship at the U.S. Grains Council, in Washington D.C. The company's mission is to develop foreign markets of United States commodities, such as corn and ethanol, to expand trade and improve lives across the globe.

I worked in the Global Programs department, setting up trade missions and consultant visits to and from the United States to areas such as Japan, East Africa, Southeast Asia, Mexico, etc. For example, I set up programming and logistics for a Japanese media team to come to our great state of Nebraska to promote

our ethanol production and renewable fuels in their home country. For this team, I set up tours of ethanol plants, farms and ranches, as well as a feedlot or two, showcasing Nebraska ethanol production as one of the most efficient means of producing renewable energies for export.

I received an experience away from the rolling plains of Nebraska (which will always be my home) and I could not have enjoyed it more. The political atmosphere, as well as the experience of a professional job, will help me immensely moving forward in my career development and connections across the United States. I thank the Nebraska Corn Board and U.S. Grains Council for providing such a genuine experience.

David Schuler, Global Programs Intern,
U.S. Grains Council

Ambrosia Keefe

Disney has captured the hearts and minds of young people for generations. I was not immune to the influence of Disney. When I was young, the Lion King came into my life and overpowered my thoughts and imaginations. I was fortunate enough to fulfill my own Disney wish at five years old and travel from my home of Chicago, Ill., to Durban, South Africa, with my mother. I was captivated that Pumba ran with his tail straight in the air, just like my favorite movie. Disney started my love for not only animals, but Africa. When I came back from that trip, I knew I wanted nothing more than to go back to my Disney wish. I spent 15 years waiting for the opportunity to go back to Africa.

I chose to be an Animal Science—veterinary medicine option major at UNL because of its outstanding reputation. I never envisioned that this choice would lead me back to my Disney wish of Africa. I was presented with an opportunity to study abroad in Namibia, the summer before my junior year, the country just northwest of South Africa. I did not hesitate for a second when I applied. I was beyond excited to be chosen for the month-long study abroad. But I knew that one month would never be enough, so I talked with Professor Powell, the head instructor for the trip, and he suggested the Cheetah Conservation Fund as an additional internship opportunity in the country. I applied that night and two weeks later, I informed my boss that I would be in Africa for two months this past summer.

I was floored by the opportunities I was earning from UNL and their study abroad programs. This opportunity helped fulfill my 15-year dream of going back to Africa. In addition to being back in



Ambrosia works to remove burrs from a cheetah's tail while she was getting some dental work done.

Africa, I also got to work with animals. At the Cheetah Conservation Fund, I was awarded the opportunity to work as an assistant cheetah keeper. I worked with the public, regaling them with stories of how the cheetah got the black stripes down its face. Legend has it that a mother cheetah went out for a drink and a hunter stole her cubs for a pet. This made her extremely sad and she cried until she stained her face, and her new litter of cubs held the trait as a reminder of the sorrow their mother had felt. However, I noticed that the stripes down a cheetah's face are not the only identifying marks on them. They all have spots, yes, but their spots are unique. I would identify 34 cheetahs based on these small differences, like Mischief who has a small spot on the center of his nose, and my beautiful girl Solo who has the biggest brown eyes you've ever seen.

As challenging as it was to identify

my cheetahs as they ran past me at lightning speed, I was faced with the struggle of having my passport stolen along with my camera and backpack. Professor Powell was my saving grace in this situation. The study abroad group came together and helped me turn this immensely depressing situation into a minor footnote in my life changing experience. Professor Powell was wonderful enough to bring my new passport to the Cheetah Conservation Fund, altering his own plans. I was amazed by the hospitality and support of UNL from an ocean away. That is what UNL is about, making the best of situations and being there to support each other in the Husker family.

This experience changed my life. I laid under blankets of stars, warmed myself with laughter around a campfire with an international friend group. I raced cheetahs, I was awestruck by the pure splendor of an early morning sunrise. Namibia changed my soul. Getting into that taxi going to the airport to come "home" was the hardest thing for me to do. As I fall asleep in my bed in Lincoln, Neb., my heart is laying under that blanket of stars and listening to baboons and jackals call to each other in the night. Earnest Hemingway described what I know to be perfectly true when he said: "I never knew a morning in Africa where I woke up and I was not happy".

Ambrosia Keefe



Photos courtesy of the Cheetah Conservation Fund
Merlin is a sweet, feisty cheetah who resides at the center.

STUDENT NEWS

Husker Equestrian Team

The UNL Equestrian Team is part of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. The team is made up of both Western and Hunt Seat teams. The teams compete as part of IHSA Zone 8, Region 5, primarily against schools in Kansas, Colorado, and Wyoming. The unique aspect of IHSA comes into play in that students ride horses that are provided by the hosting school without schooling and/or warm up on unfamiliar tack to compete for points for their team and individually. Each team is comprised of riders from a walk/trot (beginner) division up to open (experienced) riders.

The Husker Equestrian team has had another incredible season. Coach Lori Jaixen and the Western Team locked in their 13th consecutive Western Regional Championship, qualifying them for semifinals. They went on to receive Reserve Champion as a team at the semifinals at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, N.C., on March 25th and 26th, 2017, qualifying the team for a spot at IHSA Nationals.

Western Semifinal Results:

Team Classes:

Open Reining - Selena Finn - 3rd
Open Horsemanship - Selena Finn - 1st
Advanced - J'Nan Wittler - 2nd
Novice - Anna Heusinger - 3rd
Intermediate - Sierra Nelson - 1st
Beginner - Maddy Misfeldt - 3rd

Individual Classes: Top 4 riders in each division continue to nationals.

Open Horsemanship - Selena Finn - 2nd
Novice - J'Nan Wittler - 2nd
Beginner - Shelbi Sisson - 2nd

The Western Team competed at Zone 8 Region 5 Western Regionals on March 5th, 2017, riders who placed in the top two advance to semifinals at St. Andrews University in North Carolina on March 24-26.

Open Reining - Selena Finn
Open Horsemanship - Selena Finn and Bailey Peterson
Advanced Horsemanship - Cassidy Curtis

Novice Horsemanship - J'Nan Wittler
Beginner Horsemanship - Shaylee Truax and Shelbi Sisson

The Husker Hunt Riders had an amazing day of showing on April 8th, 2017 at the Stanford Red Barn at Zones for a chance to ride at nationals. In Novice Fences: Claire Aden placed 2nd qualifying her for Nationals. Jessica Glas represented the team extremely well by placing close behind in 3rd in a very tough class. The Hunt Team competed at Zone 8 Region 5 Regionals at Colorado College on March 12th, 2017. Those that placed in the top two advanced to Zone 8 Finals at Stanford University.

Novice Fences: Jessica Glas - 1st and Claire Aden - 2nd
Walk Trot Canter: Shannon Michel - 4th
Walk Trot: Anna Olson - 3rd

Lena Luck, Youth Extension Equine Specialist



Husker Equestrian Team

Claire Aden, Lori Jaixen, and Jessica Glas at Stanford University, IHSA Zone 8 Championship

Horse Judging Team

The UNL Horse Judging Team competes in one contest each spring – The Spring 2017 contest was held in Oklahoma City, Okla., this year on April 9. Members of the team are students in the Principles of Horse Judging and Evaluation class who have an interest in competing on the Senior Horse Judging team which competes each fall. The team consisted of Caitlin Davis, a junior, from Waverly, Neb.; Neil Henderson, a junior, from Cozad, Neb.; and Joeli Walrath, a sophomore, from Ashton, Neb. The team put in extra practices outside of class to prepare for this contest. They judged eight classes – four

performance and four halter classes and gave four sets of reasons. Additionally, the team participated in workouts with several other college teams at Halverson Quarter Horses and at the OQHA Spring Show. This contest provided them great experience and motivation to prepare for the 2017 Senior UNL Horse Judging team. The team was coached by Dr. Kathy Anderson and Rebecca Gunderson, UNL graduate student.

Kathy Anderson, Extension Horse Specialist

Livestock Judging Team

The 2017 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team is built from a mold of future leaders, pioneers, and industry movers that agriculture will rely on going forward. Twelve students from across the U.S. are the dedicated, driven ones who spend their weekends in a judging van making industry contacts that will last a lifetime. Alison Bartenslager, Krista Carter, Michaela Clowser, Calvin DeVries, Nicolas Herrera, Brenna Houseworth, Dalton Obermier, Jesse Paxton, Tyler Pickinpaugh, Jackie Schroeder, Emily Whipple, and Ethan Wilke, make up this year's group.

Preparation for the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Col. started during the fall semester in Livestock Selection and Evaluation, ASCI 300B, and spilled over into workouts over the Christmas holiday. After the 1st of January, the team was making final preparations, which certainly paid



Front Row (L-R): Tyler Pickinpaugh, Krista Carter, Jesse Paxton, Brenna Houseworth, Dalton Obermier. Back Row (L-R): Jefferson Keller, Asst. Coach, Kara Riggle, Nicolas Herrera, Jackie Schroeder, Ethan Wilke, Alison Bartenslager, Lewisburg, Emily Whipple, Michaela Clowser, Calvin DeVries, Brad Bennett, Coach. Photo courtesy of Show Champions Livestock Photography.

off in the form of a 6th High Team finish in Cattle and 10th High Team in Reasons. The day was highlighted by Jesse Paxton being named the High Individual in Sheep & Goats. Unique to Denver, the alternates not participating in the Thursday contest get the opportunity to judge in the Carload contest on Friday. This puts a different spin on things and challenges the participants to evaluate pens of bulls and heifers from the Yards, as well as a group of feedlot cattle. Nebraska finished 13th in a very tough, challenging competition.

The work continued after returning to Lincoln to begin classes and the team traveled to the next

contest in Fort Worth, Texas, at the Southwestern Livestock Expo. This iconic competition throws a new wrinkle in by adding horse judging to the contest. Nebraska fared well throughout, finishing 3rd in Sheep, 4th in Horses, 4th in Hogs, 6th in Cattle, 6th in Reasons, and 5th Overall. The team was paced by Tyler Pickinpaugh who finished the day 10th in Sheep.

After some time to focus on things academically, the team made a trip to Des Moines, Iowa for the Iowa Beef Expo. This is a contest that features cattle exclusively, and is always high in quality. Once again, Jesse Paxton had a great day with a 5th Overall finish in Reasons, and 7th High Individual Overall. The

STUDENT NEWS



Front Row (L-R): Jackie Schroeder, Alison Bartenslager, Brenna Houseworth, Kara Riggle, Krista Carter. Back Row (L-R): Jesse Paxton, Tyler Pickinpaugh, Ethan Wilke, Dalton Obermier, Calvin DeVries. Photo courtesy of Jefferson Keller.

Livestock Judging continued

team also completed a top-10 day, placing 8th overall.

Next, the team stayed close to home and judged at the Nebraska Cattleman's Classic in Kearney. Obviously, this contest is extremely important to a lot of the team members who have exhibited cattle here over the years, as well as participated in the judging contest during their 4-H and FFA careers. The team had by far the best day they had put together collectively throughout the spring. Nebraska put four individuals in the top 10 overall with Jesse Paxton pacing the group by being named 2nd High Individual. Right behind Jesse was Michaela Clowser in 3rd, Alison Bartenslager in 6th,

and Tyler Pickinpaugh in 8th. Ethan Wilke was 6th in Placings, Tyler Pickinpaugh was the High Individual in Reasons, with Jesse and Michaela finishing 8th and 9th respectively. Overall, the team was 1st in Placings, 2nd in Reasons, and 2nd Overall.

The final spring contest took the team to Houston, Texas, for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The 2017 group closed out the spring in great fashion finishing 5th Overall Team, 6th Team in Cattle and Reasons, 5th in Sheep/Goats, and 4th in Placings. Tyler Pickinpaugh posted a 5th place finish in Sheep/Goats and 10th in Placings. Jesse Paxton then turned in a 10th High Reasons day.

As we begin the final leg of the 2017 judging year all those involved with the UNL Livestock Judging family would like to sincerely thank those who make what we do possible. Without this kind of support, students would not have this opportunity and we would not have the chance to mold them into the future leaders and pioneers that this industry needs in the next generation. The support of the Kimmel Foundation, Nebraska Cattleman's Foundation, and Department of Animal Science, as well as the numerous donors, alumni, and producers is greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Brad Bennett,
UNL Livestock Judging Coach



Awardees show off their plaques at the Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest awards banquet at the University of Kentucky. From left to right is Brent Tenopir, Ryan Schroeder, Renae Sieck, Sophia Lentfer, Hunter Schroeder, and Keaton Lusche. Jessica Lancaster

Meat Judging Team

Throughout the spring, the 2017 Junior Meat Judging Team, coached by Jessica Lancaster, competed in four contests, visited six states and traveled over 4,000 miles to contests alone. In addition, they spent countless hours studying, practicing, and networking with industry members across the country.

This spring, we traveled to the National Western Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest, in Greeley, Col., the Iowa State University Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest, in Ames, Iowa, the Missouri Processed Meats Contest, in Columbia, Mo., and the Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest, in Columbus, Ohio, and Lexington, Ky.

At the National Western, Renae Sieck received 3rd in Lamb Judging. At Iowa State, the team came away 7th overall, 5th in Pork Judging, 3rd in Total Placings, 5th in both Beef and Lamb Judging. Individually, Brent Tenopir placed 7th in Beef Judging. Hunter Schroeder was 5th in Total Placings.

At the Missouri Processed Meats Contest, the team was tied for 3rd in the Team Activity and 5th overall. Renae Sieck was 2nd in Specifications. Keaton Lusche was 3rd in Specifications. At the Southeastern in Columbus, Ohio, and Lexington, Ky., the team was 1st in Pork Judging, 2nd in Beef Grading, 3rd in Placings, 5th in Overall Beef, 5th in Reasons, 6th Overall Team, 6th in Lamb Judging and 7th in Beef Judging. Ryan Schroeder was 6th in Overall Beef, 7th in Beef Grading and 8th High Individual Overall. Sophia Lentfer was 2nd in Pork Judging and wrote the high set of reasons for the contest in Hams. Hunter Schroeder was 9th in Placings. Renae Sieck was 9th in Reasons. Keaton Lusche was 4th in Placings and 8th in Pork Judging. Brent Tenopir was 6th in Pork Judging and 6th in Placings.

Beyond the awards and accomplishments, it is the relationships these students developed, the opportunities to see different aspects of the meat industry, and the networking opportunities that will continue to benefit them as they become featured leaders of the agriculture industry.

Jessica Lancaster,
UNL Meat Judging Coach

GRANT AWARDS

2017 External Grants

Faculty	Sponsor/Agency	Project Title
Galen Erickson	NE Corn Board	Proving value of distillers grains in finishing diets for Nebraska cattle
Paul Kononoff	US Poultry & Egg Association	Update on the knowledge related to the feeding value of hydrolyzed poultry feathers and poultry by-products for lactating dairy cattle
Dustin Yates	DHHS-Nat Inst Gen Medical Sci	COBRE: Nebraska center for the prevention of obesity diseases through dietary molecules
Jim MacDonald	FFAR (Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (Year 1)	Enhancing animal protein through crops and cattle
Galen Erickson	Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC	Impact of enogen corn silage or enogen feed corn on growing beef cattle performance
Galen Erickson	Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC	Impact of enogen feed corn fed as dry-rolled or high-moisture corn or a blend on finishing beef cattle performance
Galen Erickson	Intervet, Inc. (d/b/a Merck Animal Health)	Effects of day of revalor-200 administration on performance and carcass characteristics of finishing steers
Mary Lenz	NCR-SARE	Evaluating nitrate toxicity potential in grazed cover crops
Tom Burkey	John Ewing Company - Formula 707	The in vitro effects of rhamnolipids on the inflammatory response & epithelial integrity using model porcine jejunal epithelial cells
Andrea Cupp	USDA-NIFA-AFRI	2017 triennial reproduction symposium co-organized by ASAS and SSR
Paul Kononoff	Lallemand Animal Nutrition	Effect of saccharomyces cerevisiae strain CNCM I-1077 on fiber rumen degradability of corn and grass silages, alfalfa haylage, grass hay and concentrate fiber ingredients
Samodha Fernando	Nebraska Environmental Trust (Year 3)	Improving air quality by reducing methane emissions from cattle
Galen Erickson	Quantified Ag	Impact of shade on performance, body temperature and behavior using Biometric Sensing Ear Tags
Galen Erickson	NE Dept. of Economic Development	Impact of shade on performance, body temperature and behavior using Biometric Sensing Ear Tags
Alli Raymond	NE Corn Board	14th Annual Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium, "Setting the corner posts for tomorrow's beef industry"
Galen Erickson	Evonik Industries	Evaluation of the safety of an algal biomass as an ingredient in cattle feed
Samodha Fernando	USMARC (NE Beef Council)	Determining if conventional beef cattle production practices contribute to the development of antimicrobial resistance in the animal and the environment
Samodha Fernando	NE Beef Council	Identifying alternatives to antibiotics

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GRANT AWARDS

2017 External Grants continued...

Faculty	Sponsor/Agency	Project Title
Chris Calkins	NE Beef Council	Advancing the Science of dry-aged beef
Bryan Reiling	NE Beef Council	14th Annual Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium: "Setting the corner posts for tomorrow's beef industry"
Gota Morota	NuGUT	Development of statistical software for detecting fetal aneuploidy in livestock species
Gota Morota	NE Dept. of Economic Development	Development of statistical software for detecting fetal aneuploidy in livestock species
Galen Erickson	Costco Wholesale Corporation	Serial slaughter of organic fed Holstein bulls and steers to determine cutability and economic performance of cattle pen-fed organic diets
Galen Erickson	NE Dept. of Economic Development	Serial slaughter of organic fed Holstein bulls and steers to determine cut ability and economic performance of cattle pen-fed organic diets
Galen Erickson	Costco Wholesale Corporation	Evaluation of organic sources of rumen undegradable protein needed for growing and finishing Holstein steers
Sheila Purdum	NE Dept. of Agriculture	Heart-rate variability patterns as indicators of stress and welfare in female leghorn chickens: A comparative housing system study
Paul Kononoff	Nebraska Corn Board	Deploying a system of recommendations for dietary chemical and physical characteristics required to maintain rumen health
Jessica Petersen	UC Davis-Grayson-Jockey Club	Unraveling complex traits by defining genome function

2017 Internal Grants

Faculty	Sponsor/Agency	Project Title
Jennifer Wood	Food for Health Collaboration Initiative	Maternal obesity-dependent mechanisms that increase offspring predisposition for metabolic dysfunction
Jennifer Wood	2017 ARD Hatch Multistate Research Enhanced	Effects of gut microbiome on oocyte quality and reproductive performance in beef cows
Jim MacDonald	ARD Strategic (Miscellaneous) Funding 2017	Replacement of key equipment in ruminant nutrition
Gota Morota	IANR Sprint 2017	Integration of genomic resources in beef cattle breeding program-a collaborative effort between UNL and ESALQ

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Department Scholarships & Awards for 2017-2018

Scholarship Name	Amount	Recipient	Hometown
ABS Global	\$500.00	Jesse Paxton	Stapleton
Elton and Carrie Aberle	\$1,000.00	Blake Guenther	West Point
Charles and Beryle Adams	\$1,200.00	Karnee Hatch	Maxwell
Animal Science Alumni	\$1,250.00	Matthew Dobesh	Wahoo
Animal Science Alumni	\$1,000.00	J'Nan Wittler	Fairbury
Animal Science Alumni	\$1,000.00	Brooke Paczosa	Columbus
Baltzell	\$1,000.00	Krista Carter	Alliance
Block & Bridle Club	\$500.00	Savannah Schafer	Nehawka
Maurice E. Boeckenhauer	\$500.00	Jessilyn Sayers	Clarkson
Maurice E. Boeckenhauer	\$500.00	Jillian Black	Carmichael
Maurice E. Boeckenhauer	\$150.00	Marytza Abebe	Lincoln
Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial	\$500.00	Jessica Fejfar	Elk Point, SD
Andy Bruntz Beef Industry Scholar	\$1,000.00	Joseph Sonderman	Columbus
Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Company	\$1,000.00	Emma Winters	Omaha
Del Kopf	\$500.00	Tyler Pickinpaugh	Torrington, WY
William W. Derrick Family	\$500.00	Krista Carter	Alliance
William W. Derrick Family	\$500.00	Jackie Schroeder	West Point
William W. Derrick Family	\$500.00	Ethan Wilke	Albion
Doane	\$1,000.00	Lexi Ostrand	Pender
Feedlot Management	\$1,000.00	Jonathan Fischer	West Point
Feedlot Management	\$1,000.00	Adam Oldemeyer	Firth
Feedlot Management	\$1,000.00	Kailey Conway	Campbell
Feedlot Management	\$1,000.00	Callie Eastin	Gretna, VA
Feedlot Management	\$600.00	Megan Homolka	Swanton
G.H. Francke Livestock Judging	\$500.00	Michaela Clowser	Milford
Don and Ray Gard	\$1,300.00	Kara Robbins	Aurora, SD
William J. Goldner	\$1,000.00	Lucy Polk	Lincoln
William J. Goldner	\$2,000.00	Felicia Pandorf	Shelby
William J. Goldner	\$2,000.00	Kara Valasek	Palmer
William J. Goldner	\$400.00	Kayla Gadeken	Seward
Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Nutrition	\$1,000.00	Kara Valasek	Palmer
Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Nutrition	\$1,000.00	Callie Albers	Wisner
Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Cow-calf	\$500.00	Jesse Paxton	Stapleton
Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Cow-calf	\$1,000.00	Brigitte Rathey	Granby, CT
Robert H. Hatch	\$500.00	Sophie Dinan	Omaha
Joe Hudson	\$500.00	Christina Sindelar	Wisner
Joe Hudson	\$500.00	Grace Kim	Lincoln
Harry J. LaToush	\$1,200.00	Wesley Anderjaska	Palisade
Tim & Florence Leon	\$1,000.00	Isabel Grazian	Barrington, IL
Tim & Florence Leon	\$500.00	Mary Lewandowski	Omaha
William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel	\$1,500.00	Renaie Sieck	Martell
William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel	\$1,400.00	Kara Robbins	Aurora, SD
William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel	\$675.00	Cassidy Curtis	Royal

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Department Scholarships & Awards for 2017-2018

Scholarship Name	Amount	Recipient	Hometown
Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation	\$500.00	Jacob Crumly	Page
Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation	\$500.00	Tressa Reiner	Burwell
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$1,000.00	Wesley Anderjaska	Palisade
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$500.00	Jacy Spencer	Brewster
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$1,000.00	Shelby Cammack	De Witt
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$1,000.00	Renaie Sieck	Martell
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$1,000.00	Cassidy Curtis	Royal
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$1,000.00	Austin Underwood	Exeter
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$500.00	Marissa Kegley	Kearney
Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS	\$500.00	Hannah Settje	Raymond
Nutrition Service Associates	\$1,000.00	Emily Critser	Bellwood
Oxbow Animal Health Companion Animal	\$1,000.00	Emma Winters	Omaha
Oxbow Animal Health Companion Animal	\$1,000.00	Sophie Dinan	Omaha
Parr Family	\$1,000.00	Calvin DeVries	Fairfield
Art and Ruth Raun	\$1,000.00	Megan Eickhoff	Falls City
Art and Ruth Raun	\$1,000.00	Asha Scheideler	Scotia
Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial	\$1,500.00	Nicole Woita	Valparaiso
Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial	\$500.00	Sheldon Beierman	Albion
William & Barbara Rishel B&B Honoree	\$1,000.00	Jessilyn Sayers	Clarkson
Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell	\$1,300.00	Bailey Ziegler	St. Paul
Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell	\$1,000.00	Alli Carothers	Beatrice
Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell	\$1,000.00	Marytza Abebe	Lincoln
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$1,000.00	Sarah Buehler	Sterling
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$1,000.00	Jacob Lammers	Lexington
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$1,750.00	Elizabeth Elliott	Grand Island
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$1,000.00	Hannah Settje	Raymond
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$500.00	Nicolas Herrera	Cologne, MN
Frank and Shirley Sibert	\$500.00	Hunter Schroeder	West Point
Philip Starck	\$500.00	Tressa Reiner	Burwell
Philip Starck	\$500.00	Faith Rohrbouck	Hemingford
Philip Starck	\$1,000.00	Sara Bellamy	Elwood
Philip Starck	\$1,000.00	Emma Winters	Omaha
Philip Starck	\$1,000.00	Miranda Wordekemper	Indianola
Philip Starck	\$500.00	Austin Freeman	Pierce
Max and Ora Mae Stark	\$1,000.00	Tate Lueth	Curtis
D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial	\$1,000.00	Hannah Esch	Unadilla
D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial	\$1,000.00	Amanda Lambrecht	Kennard
D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial	\$1,000.00	Lexi Ostrand	Pender
D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial	\$1,000.00	David Shuler	Bridgeport
Dwight F. and Minnie L. Stephens	\$1,000.00	Marissa Kegley	Kearney
Arthur W. and Viola Thompson	\$2,000.00	Hannah Esch	Unadilla
Richard C. & LaRayne Wahlstrom	\$500.00	Travis Likens	Swanton
Richard C. & LaRayne Wahlstrom	\$500.00	Chrisinda Scheideler	Scotia

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Department Scholarships & Awards for 2017-2018

Scholarship Name	Amount	Recipient	Hometown
Thomas H. Wake, III	\$1,250.00	J'Nan Wittler	Fairbury
R.B. & Doris Warren	\$500.00	Alison Bartenslager	Lewisburg, WV
R.B. & Doris Warren	\$500.00	Nicolas Herrera	Cologne, MN
R.B. & Doris Warren	\$500.00	Dalton Obermier	York
R.B. & Doris Warren	\$500.00	Jesse Paxton	Stapleton
Winkler Memorial Livestock Judging	\$500.00	Brenna Houseworth	Belle Rive, IL

American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Achievement Award

Seniors:

McKenzie R. Beals
Joseph A. Bennier
Ashley Buescher
Elizabeth P. Carreiro
John R. Essink
Gavin L. Harsh
Nicolas J. Herrera
Elisabeth B. Loseke
Alissa L. Martindale **
Jesse L. Paxton
Kara D. Riggle
Rachel J. Sorensen
Bailey R. Ziegler

Juniors:

Elizabeth M. Elliott
Devon T. Lockman
Madeline M. Misfeldt
Rebecca A. Reicks
Kara J. Robbins
Rena L. Sieck
Kara A. Valasek
Emma Winters **
J'Nan E. Wittler
Kyla A. Wojtalewicz

Sophomores:

Colten L. Bergt
Hannah L. Esch
Justin R. Hodgson
Alexa M. Kapla **
Dawn M. Klabenes
Jessilyn M. Sayers
Hannah L. Settje
Chloe C. Suarez
Camryn Wiens

** indicates top student in that particular class

Nebraska Equine

WEBINAR

Series

Connect with us on Zoom every 2nd Monday of every month.

Topics: nutrition, diseases, biosecurity, parasites, equipment, rulebook, judging, veterinary care, conformation.



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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UNL**

**6:00-8:00 p.m.
October 23, 2017**
ANIMAL SCIENCE COMPLEX
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

- DEMONSTRATIONS • SCAVENGER HUNTS • Q & A
- MEET THE FACULTY • BUILDING TOURS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Alli Raymond at araymond2@unl.edu or 402-472-0204.
Visit: www.animalscience.unl.edu

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DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Faculty and Staff Awards

Dr. Thomas Burkey received the Gamma Sigma Delta Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Burkey's passion for teaching and research is evident in his classes and encouragement for students. He exemplifies an immense knowledge of the subject material while always presenting material with a clear explanation. Gamma Sigma Delta is a national honor society that promotes high scholarship among students and professionals.

Dr. Thomas Burkey
Photo courtesy of
University Communications



Dr. Ronald Lewis, Dr. James MacDonald, Ms. Alli Raymond, Dr. Bryan Reiling, and Dr. Brett White received the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parents Association Parents' Recognition Award for their contribution to students. Parents nominate a faculty or staff employee who has made a significant difference in their student's life. The award encourages the goal of good student and faculty relationships and provides recognition in an area often overlooked in the formal rewards system.



Photo courtesy of UNL Parents Association

Linette Asay, UNL Parents Association President (left in photos), and Scott Napolitano, Chair, UNL Teaching Council (right in photos), makes presentations to Dr. Ronald Lewis (left photo), Dr. Bryan Reiling (Center) and Ms. Alli Raymond (right photo).

Dr. Galen Erickson and Dr. Deb Hamernik were inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Agriculture Achievement. New members are nominated by a fellow member of the hall for their significant contributions to the state's agriculture industry. The NHAA, formed in 1916, is dedicated to preserving and improving Nebraska agriculture.

Dr. Galen Erickson received the Livestock Industry Appreciation Award from the Nebraska Corn Board for his years of research and extension work related to cattle nutrition and distillers grains. The award recognizes outstanding, unselfish, and sacrificial efforts which further the corn/livestock industry.

Dr. Chris Calkins and Dr. Jeyam Subbiah, Professor of Biological Systems Engineering, received the Innovation Business of the Year award from the Nebraska Business Development Center for their faculty startup company Goldfinch Solutions. The company is pioneering multispectral imaging technology to identify tender beef at the packing stage of production.

In photo above is Dr. Galen Erickson (left) and Tim Scheer, NCB Past President. Photo courtesy of Nebraska Corn Board

Dr. Chris Calkins
Photo courtesy of
University Communications



DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Dr. Kathy Anderson received the Fellow Award from the Equine Science Society. The Fellow Award recognizes distinguished service to the horse industry and to ESS over a long period of time. Dr. Anderson's creative and innovative approach to equine instruction is attracting students to UNL and to the eXtension site. Her commitment to excellence is a hallmark of her extension programming. Using the horse to teach life skills has been the theme of her extension efforts directed towards more than 7,000 4-H youth with equine projects on a yearly basis. Recent programming efforts have used the horse project to introduce youth opportunities in science and technology, career explorations and leadership training.



Dr. Kathy Anderson (left) and Lori Warren, President of Equine Science Society. Photo courtesy of University of Minnesota

Dr. Matthew Spangler received the Continuing Service Award from the Beef Improvement Federation. Recipients of the award have made major contributions to the BIF organization. This includes serving on the board of directors, speaking at BIF conventions, working on BIF guidelines and other behind-the-scenes activities. As BIF is a volunteer organization, it is this contribution of time and passion for the beef cattle industry that moves BIF forward. Dr. Spangler's nationally recognized extension program has resulted in 19 extension publications and industry reports, as well as 220 invited presentations at state, regional, national or international meetings. He has also authored or co-authored 20 peer-reviewed journal articles, 35 meeting proceedings, 46 abstracts and five book chapters.



Dr. Matthew Spangler and Marty Ropp, 2016-2017 President of Beef Improvement Federation. Photo courtesy of Kansas State University Research and Extension

Dr. Jack Whittier received the Distinguished Service Award from the Western Section of the American Society of Animal Science. The award recognizes those members of the Midwest American Society of Animal Science who have made the most outstanding contributions to animal agriculture in the western region. Since 2014, Dr. Whittier has been Director of the University of Nebraska Panhandle District Panhandle Research and Extension Center and Professor of Animal Science. He has fulfilled significant leadership roles in WSASAS. Most recently, Dr. Whittier served on the ASAS Board of Directors as Western Section Director for two 3-year terms (2010 to 2016). His applied research has focused on range beef cow nutrition and reproductive management.



Dr. Jack Whittier showing off his plaque when he received the Distinguished Service Award. Photo courtesy of ASAS

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Dr. Andrea Cupp received the Animal Physiology and Endocrinology Award from the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Cupp is a highly respected scientist and teacher with a notable program in reproductive biology. She has excelled in all three pillars of the land-grant mission and has earned international recognition for her accomplishments. The Animal Physiology and Endocrinology Award recognizes research excellence in physiology and endocrinology.



Todd Armstrong, Elanco Animal Health and Dr. Andrea Cupp

Dr. Lisa Karr received the Corbin Companion Animal Biology Award from the American Society of Animal Science. The award is presented to animal scientists who have made great scientific contributions by teaching, research or service to companion animal nutrition or biology for a minimum of five years. Dr. Karr is active in the companion animal Extension community at the national level, primarily through her involvement as Chair of eXtension.org's Companion Animal Community of Practice Leadership Committee. She has given 25 presentations or proceedings at local and national conferences and meetings over the span of her career. Dr. Karr's work is sure to have a lasting impact on the companion animal landscape through her education of the field's future scientists and national dissemination of Extension best practices.



Dr. Lisa Karr (left) and Russell Kelly, Mars Petcare

Dr. Rick Funston received the Animal Management Award from the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Funston has established a state, national and international reputation in the area of beef systems/heifer management systems. He has an international reputation for his groundbreaking research in reproductive management and fetal programming. Dr. Funston's ability to seamlessly combine his Extension and research programs has become a model for state specialists nationally. The Animal Management Award recognizes research excellence in Biological or Production Management and recognizes those individuals who have made significant contributions to production management.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Rick Funston

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Dr. Archie Clutter received the Rockefeller Prentice Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics from the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Clutter's research has encompassed transdisciplinary studies of genomic, physiological and behavioral components underlying complex quantitative traits. These studies have included species ranging from laboratory mice to swine, and both beef and dairy cattle. The Rockefeller Prentice Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics recognizes research excellence in breeding and genetics.



Dr. Archie Clutter

Dr. Ronnie Green received the Morrison Award from the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Green serves as the 20th Chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and previously served on the Animal Science faculties of Texas Tech University and Colorado State University. Additionally, he served as National Program Leader for Animal Production Research for USDA-ARS and Executive Secretary of the White House's working group on animal genomics where he facilitated the international bovine, porcine, and ovine genome sequencing projects. He also served as Senior Global Director for Pfizer Animal Health's animal genetics business. He is author of over 130 refereed journal papers and abstracts, 9 book chapters and 56 symposia papers, and has spoken in 43 US states and 21 countries around the world. The award recognizes meritorious scientific contributions or discoveries in research in the field of Animal Science.



UNL Chancellor Dr. Ronnie Green and Dr. Deb Hamernik, President of ASAS

Four photos above courtesy of ASAS

Departmental Award



Peta-Gaye Clachar

The Department was recognized for Distinguished Service to the Nebraska FFA Association. The plaque was presented at the FFA Convention Awards Ceremony, April 6. From left are faculty and staff who were involved with the Nebraska FFA State Convention: Lena Luck, Assistant Professor; Clint Krehbiel, Department Head; Lisa Karr, Associate Professor; Benny Mote, Assistant Professor; Dennis Burson, Professor; Kathy Anderson, Professor; Brent Johnson, Ag Research Technician III; Bryan Reiling, Associate Professor; Sherri Pitchie, Office Associate; Dennis Brink, Professor; Brad Bennett, Assistant Extension Educator. Not pictured: Kimberly Clark, Assistant Extension Educator; Erin Marotz, Research Manager; Clyde Naber, Research Manager II; Sheila Purdum, Professor.

The Department was also recognized as an Outstanding Contributor to University of Nebraska-Lincoln Employee Wellness by the University Wellness Initiative.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Graduate Students Awards

Amy Desaulniers received the Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Graduate Student Award. The award recognizes outstanding graduate students who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishment in their teaching, research, or extension endeavors, and great promise for future academic contributions in their field of expertise. Amy is a Physiology Ph.D. student advised by Dr. Brett White.

Christopher Anderson was named an Animal Science Young Scholar by the American Society of Animal Science Midwestern Section. The purpose of the program is to recognize the research accomplishments of recent Ph.D. graduates or current Ph.D. students in the advanced stages of their program. Chris is a Food Science Ph.D. student advised by Dr. Samodha Fernando.

Elena Merrick was a winner at the Graduate Student and Postdoc Poster Session at the 2017 Nebraska Center for the Prevention of Obesity Diseases Symposium. Her poster was titled, "Metabolic Regulation by Stress Mediators in Adult Myoblasts and Fetal Skeletal Muscle". Elena is a Physiology M.S. student advised by Dr. Dustin Yates.

Erin Stevens was awarded first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition at the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center Waste-to-Worth National Conference. Her poster was titled, "Manure Treatment and Natural Inactivation of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus in Soil". Erin is a M.S. student advised by Dr. Amy Schmidt.

Faith Rasmussen placed first in the M.S. Division of the Research Poster Competition at the American Meat Science Association Reciprocal Meat Conference. Her poster was titled, "Quality and Shelf Life of Ground Beef from Cattle Fed Distillers Grains Manufactured to Contain Different Amounts of Oil". Faith is a Meats M.S. student advised by Dr. Gary Sullivan.

Taylor Barnes placed second in the Graduate Student Paper Competition at the American Society of Animal Science Western Section meeting. She presented her research project entitled "Identifying Hyperthermia in

Heat-Stressed Lambs and its Effects on β Agonist-Stimulated Glucose Oxidation in Muscle". Taylor is a Physiology M.S. student advised by Dr. Dustin Yates and Dr. Jessica Petersen.

Lauren Kett received the Lallemand Masters Scholarship, which was awarded to a fulltime graduate student. She was selected from more than 150 applicants in the United States, Mexico or Canada. Lauren is a Meats M.S. student advised by Dr. Ty Schmidt.



Pictured at the International Congress of Meat Science and Technology (ICoMST) in Cork, Ireland, are Joe Spzalek, ABP, Felipe Ribeiro, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Best Scientific Impact Oral Presentation, Michael Creed TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine & Declan Troy, Congress Chairman, Teagasc.

Felipe Azevedo Ribeiro receives the award for Best Scientific Impact Oral Presentation.

The world's meats scientists gather every year for the International Congress of Meat Science and Technology, which this year was held in Cork, Ireland in August. Papers were peer reviewed before authors were accepted to present a poster. This year, 7% of the poster presenters were invited to also make an oral presentation to the 500-plus participants. Felipe Azevedo Ribeiro, a Ph.D. graduate student from Brazil studying under Dr. Chris Calkins, was selected to make an oral presentation. At the conclusion of the congress, Felipe was selected to receive the award (and cash prize) for Best Scientific Impact Oral Presentation. This is the first time that a student from the University of Nebraska has received the award.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS



Trainee Flash Talk Competition participants were selected as the top 15% of the abstracts submitted to the American Society of Animal Science-Society Study Reproduction 2017 Triennial Reproduction Symposium. The department was well represented with four trainees in the Flash Talk Competition. Sarah Nafziger won 1st place with her talk entitled "Endocrine Profiles During Attainment of Puberty May Predict Reproductive Longevity in Heifers". Sarah Nafziger (left) with other winners.



Mariah Hart, MS student with Dr. Andrea Cupp (far left), Mohamed Abedal-Majed Ph.D. student with Dr. Cupp (third from left in front), Amy Desaulniers, Ph.D. student with Dr. Brett White (sixth from the left in back), and Sarah Nafziger, MS student with Dr. Cupp (far right) all competed in the competition and were excellent representatives from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Photos courtesy of ASAS.



Left to right is Gilbert Seck, Lexi Ostrand, Callie Rathjen, Doug and Gail Brand, Jennifer Posthuma, and Kara Riggle at the Seward County Fair Grounds. Gilbert Seck

Block and Bridle Club honors Brand

Lincoln, Neb., February 22, 2017 – **Douglas Brand of Seward was recognized as the newest University of Nebraska–Lincoln Block and Bridle honoree.**

The Block and Bridle Club focuses on building leaders in the livestock and meat industries. The award recognizes those who have contributed to Nebraska agriculture through leadership, service, youth projects, community activities and involvement with the university.

Brand is the vice president of the agriculture lending division of Jones National Bank and Trust Co. in Seward. Beyond his professional role, he has established a long record of promoting animal agriculture in Nebraska through his leadership. Brand has been a 4-H leader for 18 years and a member of the Seward County 4-H Foundation Board since its inception over a decade ago.

He actively assists 4-H and FFA students find calves to develop for their fair projects.

In addition, Brand has been a member of the Seward County Agricultural Society for 39 years, and currently serves as secretary of the board. He coordinates all programming for the Seward County Fair. Brand has also served on the Nebraska State Fair Board for 24 years. In 2009, he and his wife Gail, were the lead chair-couple for the Cattlemen's Ball near Milford.

Among the awards and recognitions Brand has received over the years are the Nebraska Fair Person of the Year Award and the National Heritage Award for service to fairs and expositions, which he received in 2013. In 2012, he was inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement and in 2013, was inducted into the UNL Builders Association.

Brand graduated from UNL in 1973 with a degree in animal science. As a student, he served as annual editor, treasurer and president of the Block and Bridle Club. He was also a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Brand was honored at the Block and Bridle Club Honoree Banquet, April 30 at the International Quilt Study Center and Museum, in Lincoln, Neb.

The Block and Bridle Club is part of the Department of Animal Science within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at UNL.

Gilbert Seck



Double Barrel Game Farm & Hatchery owner Dustin Chrisman, pictured in front of an egg incubator, talks about the farm's process for raising pheasants.

Pheasant farmer: 'I'm not one to do what everyone else is doing'

Published July 26, 2017 in Lincoln Journal Star.

McCOOL JUNCTION -- The old man became like a grandfather to Dustin Chrisman.

He was just a second-grader when he started climbing off the school bus and entering a farmyard full of ducks and geese and peacocks and chickens. Les Brozovsky, a family friend, put the boy to work -- collecting and washing eggs, cleaning incubators -- but he also taught him the rhythm of hatching chicks and raising birds.

Before Brozovsky died just a few years later, he gave the boy a turn-of-the-century Sears-Roebuck incubator. It was about the size of a small dresser, capable of holding about 300 eggs.

Chrisman still owns it. Monday, it was buried under tools in the building that houses the egg-washer and office of Double Barrel Game Farm, across the driveway from the building with five climate-controlled incubators, each one capable of holding more than 21,500 eggs.

And it's down the road from the two dozen acres of farmland that Chrisman has planted with weeds, divided into flight pens and draped in high netting.

"My neighbors said, 'What the hell is he doing covering up that farm ground?'" he said. "But I'm not one to do what everyone else is doing."

Instead, this is what Chrisman and his family and employees are doing: Double Barrel will hatch 350,000 birds this year -- 90 percent of them pheasants, but also some chukars and bobwhite quail -- to supply hunting preserves around the Plains and Midwest.

And next year, the 33-year-old hopes to hatch 450,000. With his hand-me-down incubator from Brozovsky, Chrisman continued to raise ducks and geese until junior high. He got his friends involved, too: They'd bring him their eggs and he'd put them in his incubator, waiting for them to hatch.

But he wasn't earning enough selling a duck or two at a time. The 14-year-old needed bigger sales, mass quantities. His father suggested pheasants.

So he built pens at his father's farm and ordered 500 chicks. He raised them, sold them and repeated. He



Thousands of pheasant chicks hatch every Monday at Double Barrel Game Farm near McCool Junction, and they needed to be sorted by sex. Here, Nick Conrad (from left), Chance Chrisman, Sabryn Phillips, Andrew Clark, Broc Maloy, and Evan Neville get the birds into the proper bins.



A pheasant rooster at Double Barrel Game Farm & Hatchery.



Pheasant chicks wait to be sorted as hens or roosters at Double Barrel Game Farm & Hatchery.

Photos courtesy of Gwyneth Roberts, Lincoln Journal Star

realized he'd likely be doing this for his living. "I think I saw an opportunity there," he said. "I was looking for something out of the ordinary, something to do that was a little different."

He continued while earning his animal science degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, taking care of 20,000 birds and 100 cows in York County on weekends, driving back to Lincoln for class on Monday.

Seven years ago, he bought land across the road from where Les Brozovsky taught him how to raise birds.

He started his own pheasant farm there, and he started a family. But on Monday -- hatch day -- it was hard to separate the two.

His two daughters, 6 and 4, dragged stools to the tall stainless table to help his employees sort 10,000 chicks by sex -- roosters in these tubs, hens in those -- to prepare them for shipping, while his 2-year-old son wheeled around the room on his scooter.

"I believe in having your kids work and helping when you need help," he said. "I come from a family of workers; that's how Dad raised us."

Chrisman also helps young people interested in pheasant farming, giving them chicks and advice. Brozovsky taught him how to raise ducks and geese, but he'd been on his own with game birds.

"I had a lot of learning and a lot of mistakes through the years. I was losing birds. There wasn't any one giving advice."

Now he has it down to a science.

Laying season begins in early February, when he moves 5,000 hens into breeding pens, adding one rooster for every 12 hens. Eggs appear two weeks later, and Chrisman and his staff collect them twice a day for months, sometimes picking up 4,000 a day.

They run the eggs through a washer and, the next morning, inspect each one for cracks and other

imperfections. They repeat this all week, putting the keepers in a 60-degree cooler.

Each Friday, they move the eggs to the incubators, where they rotate in 99.2-degree heat for 20 days. For the final three days of their 23-day egg cycle, they're moved to hatchers, which are set a degree cooler but with higher humidity.

Chrisman designed the schedule, and the temperature and humidity changes, so eggs hatch every Monday like clockwork; some days, as many as 25,000 to 30,000 chicks are cracking out of their eggs and piling against each other in plastic trays.

Chrisman needs as many as a dozen employees to help sort and package the chicks. On those days, his wife Paige cooks lunch for the crew, he said.

Of the 350,000 birds he'll hatch this year, he'll sell 250,000 as chicks -- trucking them away the same day they hatch. The pheasants they sorted Monday morning were hauled to Kansas that afternoon.

He'll raise the rest to adulthood in flight pens, some 750 feet long. Pheasants can be aggressive, so when the birds are a month old, Chrisman's crew puts blinders on them, preventing them from seeing straight ahead and pecking at each other.

They'll mature in the shade of the kochia weeds while eating a diet designed by a nutritionist; the farm goes through 1.3 million tons of feed a year, he said.

Then they'll be sent to game preserves and dog trainers and landowners trying to boost their bird populations. Some people buy a few birds at a time, others order thousands. Prices vary by quantity, but an adult ringneck rooster will start at about \$12.

The birds are bought before they're born.

"All of them are sold before I put them in the incubator," he said. "Because it's a lot of work for a maybe."

ALUMNI NEWS

Animal scientist joins NCTA faculty



Meredith Cable

CURTIS, Neb. – **Beef cattle and animal nutrition are among specialties for a new faculty member at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.**

Meredith (Bremer) Cable of rural Bertrand joins NCTA on Monday as an assistant professor of Animal Science, and starts work with students as classes begin Aug. 21, said Doug Smith, chair of the NCTA Animal Science and Agricultural Education division.

“We welcome Meredith Cable to our academic faculty where she will assist NCTA faculty this fall semester while transitioning into a full teaching load in January,” Smith said.

Cable will concentrate on range

management and other duties while training with Jo Bek who ends her 39th year teaching career at NCTA in December.

Cable’s responsibilities will include teaching, sponsoring student clubs such as Collegiate Cattlemen, and assisting Smith with initiatives such as meats science, the NCTA beef cattle teaching herd and campus feedlot.

“I enjoy research and livestock nutrition, and the opportunity to be in a teaching setting with the college’s farm laboratory here in Curtis and the grazing initiatives in off-site partnerships and resources,” Cable said.

She received her bachelor’s degree in Animal Science and master’s in ruminant nutrition from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is a native of St. Edward, Nebraska, where she was raised in a diversified operation of crop, cow-calf and feedlot enterprises.

From 2015-2016, Cable served as the Beef Systems Extension Educator in the Nebraska Extension four-county area of Sheridan, Dawes, Box Butte and Sioux Counties. For the past year, she has been the business manager for JKS Farms north of Kearney.

She also is a volunteer advisor with the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition, a non-profit statewide organization of education and technical assistance for operators of grazing lands.

Cable and her husband, Cory, live south of Bertrand, where in her limited free time she enjoys horseback riding and playing the guitar.

Information about NCTA programs is available at ncta.unl.edu or from Dr. Smith at 1-800-328-7847. Online link to this article: <http://go.unl.edu/4qfy>

Written by Mary Crawford, NCTA News
Published August 11, 2017.

Photo courtesy of Meredith Cable

Logan Peters



Current home: Boise, Idaho

Hometown: Pender, Neb.

Occupation: Cattle procurement representative

Date of Graduation: May 2016

What was your major? Animal Science with minors in agricultural economics and engler agribusiness entrepreneurship

What is your favorite memory from your time on East Campus? Though I cherish a diverse amount of favorite memories, my favorite are the ones spent as part of the agricultural fraternity, Alpha Gamma Rho and all the friends I made through there.

What is your life like today? Life has changed quite a bit in the last year. After graduation I worked as an auctioneer and sales rep while also running my own farming and cattle operation. I’m still working on growing my cow calf herd in northeast Nebraska but have since moved to Boise, Idaho, to work for a vertically integrated, value-added beef cattle company called Agri Beef. I travel the entire Pacific

ALUMNI NEWS

Northwest and work as a feeder cattle procurement representative. I always look forward to my trips back to Nebraska and the time spent on the family farm.

What words of advice would you give to a current CASNR student? Take up as many opportunities as you can while you’re still young! There is something to offer for everyone. You never know what a random trip could bring or what joining a new program on campus could provide. Get to know people and take advantage of opportunities!

Gina Incontro, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
See <http://ianrnews.unl.edu/alumni-spotlight-logan-peters>.

Photo courtesy of Logan Peters

EXTENSION

Contests:
Horse Bowl
Demonstration
Photography
Art
Speech
(Speech can be done at local extension office through Zoom)

Contest rules and entry forms are available at <http://4h.unl.edu/horse/stampede>.

For more information, contact Lena Luck at lena.luck@unl.edu.

Entries due Feb. 9 to your county office.

2018 4-H HORSE STAMPEDE

MARCH 10, 2018 8 AM UNL ANIMAL SCIENCE BUILDING
For Youth ages 10-18

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EXTENSION Feedyard Horse Safety & Care

Online Certificate Course
For Pen Riders and Processors Safe Handling and Care

Topics

- Selecting the right horse
- Basic care, grooming and first aid
- Tacking up and equipment
- Foot care and shoeing
- Feeding and conditioning scoring
- Working cattle
- General horse keeping in the feedlot
- Types of halters, bits, tie downs and adjustments
- Proper and safe handling methods to catch, halter, tie and bridle horses

\$25

(course available in Spanish)

For registration: visit: <https://marketplace.unl.edu/extension/programs>
For more information, contact Nebraska Extension Horse Specialist Kathy Anderson at 402-472-6414 or kanderson1@unl.edu.

Nebraska Lincoln

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ANIMAL SCIENCE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

SAVE THE DATE

2018

Alumni Reunion Weekend

April 13-14

Alumni Round-Up
Block & Bridle Banquet
At the Nebraska Innovation Campus
Old Timer's Livestock and Meats Judging Contests
Bull Sale
at the R.B. Warren Arena


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STAY CONNECTED

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 Like our Facebook page at UNL Animal Science.

 Keep up-to-date on department awards, events, and research by following @UNL_AniSci on Twitter.

Animal Science alumni website:

<http://animalscience.unl.edu/alumni>

Update contact information:

Alumni members, you can update your contact information by contacting the Nebraska Alumni Association at:

<http://go.unl.edu/aw2t>

Connect to job opportunities with Husker Hire Link

Husker Hire Link is UNL's free online service that connects UNL students and alumni with employers. The site allows students and alumni to post and send resumes; search jobs, internships, and employers; request on-campus interviews; and stay updated on career opportunities.

For more information, visit Husker Hire Link at:

<http://www.unl.edu/careers/hhl>

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Animal Science publishes the Animal Science newsletter semi-annually.

Where are you now?

Attention alumni! We want to know where you are and what you are doing!

Please take a moment to answer the following questions and return your responses by mail to:

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Department of Animal Science
3940 Fair Street
P.O. Box 830908
Lincoln, NE 68583-0908

Or, email your responses to:

pclachar2@unl.edu

Name: _____

Degree: _____

Year Earned: _____

UNL Advisor: _____

Email: _____

Current and past career positions: _____

Please let us know of any significant events in your life and/or career since leaving the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Also, please feel free to send any photos and/or recollections of your time at UNL to Peta-Gaye Clachar at pclachar2@unl.edu.

