

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE



Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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

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A message from the DEPARTMENT HEAD



Dear Animal Science Alumni and Friends,

We are pleased to provide you with the Fall 2018 edition of the Animal Science Nsider. The fall semester is well underway and we are looking forward to another successful year. We started the semester with 318 Animal Science and 149 Pre-Veterinary undergraduate students. We had an outstanding class of freshman matriculate and look forward to helping them reach their greatest potential as they progress through our degree programs. Our faculty also continue to recruit outstanding graduate students. We currently have 79 graduate students conducting cutting-edge and translational research across our disciplines and communities. Our faculty and staff continue to excel in their careers and professional disciplines, and several have been recognized for their contributions. We also have established several awards to recognize the outstanding successes of our alumni. Those inaugural award recipients were recognized during our 2018 Animal Science Alumni Weekend and again in this edition. We invite you to engage with us as we continue to build on our culture of achieving excellence and advancing our animal and allied industries.

Our featured stories include highlights from our Alumni Weekend, including our award recipients. At the Alumni & Friends Reunion, we were honored and humbled by a gift from the family of R.B. and Doris Warren to establish the R.B. and Doris Warren Judging Team Support Fund. As this endowment continues to grow, it will provide support for students participating in our livestock, horse, and meats judging programs. Long-time colleague and friend Clyde Naber retired following a career that spanned more than 50 years. Clyde has been an integral part of the success of our teaching and research mission, and his talent, work ethic, and contagious laugh will be greatly missed by this department.

We were also saddened to say goodbye to Brad Bennett, who served as an Extension Educator and the Livestock Judging Team Coach for five years. Brad and his family moved to Tennessee where Brad is serving as a Field Representative for ABS Global Inc. We are grateful for the achievements Brad accomplished for our students and stakeholders during his time here, and wish Brad, Maddie, and Easton well in their new endeavor. Although saying goodbye is difficult, we were pleased to welcome Levi McPhillips and Stephanie Osterthun to the Department of Animal Science. Levi manages the feedlot at the Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center and Stephanie serves as an advisor for the Pre-Vet Program. You can read more about Levi and Stephanie in this issue. We are excited to have them both on our team!

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us November 17, 2018 for the Animal Science Football Tailgate and April 12 and 13, 2019 for our Animal Science Alumni Weekend. We look forward to hosting our second Animal Science Alumni Weekend here in Lincoln. Stay tuned for registration materials included in the Spring 2019 edition. We hope to see you at the tailgate!

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Animal Science Nsider!

Sincerely,

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





ALUMNI & FRIENDS REUNION

APRIL 13, 2018, NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS























undergraduate and graduate alumni, and the contributions individuals have made to the department through their commitment to the industry <u>Alumni and Friends Reunion April 13, Nebraska Innovation Campus. The inaugural awards recognized the outstanding accomplishments of </u> The Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln presented three awards of distinction at its Animal Science



UNDERGRADUATE DISTINCTION AWARD

Jerry Connealy, B.S. 1981, of Whitman, Neb., was honored with the Undergraduate of Distinction Award. Over the past 30-plus years, Connealy has developed the leading Angus seedstock herd in Nebraska. Through his visionary leadership and tremendously focused hard work, Connealy Angus has grown from 250 cows to 2500 registered cows, selling over 750 bulls per year. Connealy bulls frequently populate the pages of bull stud catalogs across the country. Nominator Merlyn Nielsen says, Connealy is the epitome of humbleness, not seeking the limelight.

FEATURE STORIES

Photos by: Greg Nathan, University Communication



GRADUATE DISTINCTION AWARD

Michael Lewis, Ph.D. 1988, of Blair, Neb., was honored with the Graduate of Distinction Award. While working as a student under Dr. Terry Klopfenstein, Lewis developed the NEBRIS data collection system for the university feedlot that is still in use 30 years later. Today, Lewis is vice president and feed segment leader for value-added feed and meal products for Cargill's wet milling facilities. His support of the department has been in the form of feed donations, facility tours and undergraduate training resources. Nominators Drs. Galen Erickson and Terry Klopfenstein said the university's beef and dairy programs are indebted to Cargill and especially Lewis for the generous financial support.



Alan (Al) Svajgr, B.S. 1964, M.S. 1968, of Cozad, Neb., was honored with the Distinguished Service Award recognizing his outstanding contributions to the department. Svajgr's record of service to the department and the university is quite impressive and shows his commitment to the institution and its land-grant mission. He has been called upon to give guest lectures, provide tours, sit on advisory committees and more. He has served as president of Agriculture Builders of Nebraska, sat on the chancellor's advisory board, and for the last several years, has provided tremendous financial support for graduate student travel to scientific meetings. Svajgr has been selected as a Block & Bridle Club Honoree and has been inducted into the Nebraska Cattlemen's Hall of Fame. Nominators say he is always looking for ways to support the university's mission and has been very effective in those endeavors.

FEATURE STORIES DR. TERRY KLOPFENSTEIN

Dr. Terry Klopfenstein, emeritus professor and former Kermit Wagner distinguished professor in Animal Science, was awarded the Plains Nutrition Council Legends of Feedlot Nutrition Award, April 5, 2018, at the Plains Nutrition Council Spring Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

The Plains Nutrition Council Legends of Feedlot Nutrition Awards began three years ago and is presented annually to recognize feedlot nutritionists from research/Extension, private consulting, and allied industry for his or her contribution to the feedlot industry throughout his or her career. Individuals are nominated and then vetted by a panel of nutritionists that are members of the Plains Nutrition Council. Klopfenstein was one of three recipients of this award because of his extensive contribution.

Klopfenstein is one of the 50 most influential beef industry leaders in the nation. He has served as president of the Midwest Section of the American Society of Animal Science, and president of the Federation of Animal Science Societies. Klopfenstein received the Morrison Award, the highest honor awarded from the American Society of Animal Science, in 2009, and received the American Feed Industry Association Ruminant Nutrition Award in 1981. Klopfenstein, in 1988, contributed more to the industry by developing a feedlot management internship program at UNL. Today, he continues to mentor students in research.

Klopfenstein was also recognized at the department's Alumni & Friends Reunion, April 13, 2018.

Photo and article by: Peta-Gaye Clachar



Children of R.B. and Doris Warren along with R.B.'s brother, Roger Warren, established a new endowed fund to support the judging teams in the Department of Animal Science. This fund was established April 13, 2018, at the Alumni and Friends Reunion, Nebraska Innovation Campus. Pictured from left to right is Gale, Mark, Roger, Lisa, Rhonda, and Reid Warren. Rhonda is the wife of Reid Warren.

R.B. Warren family establishes fund in Warren name

The children of R.B. and Doris Warren have established a new endowed fund to support the judging teams in the Department of Animal Science. At the 2018 Alumni & Friends Reunion, we were honored to host the family of the late R.B. Warren. We are very grateful to the Warren children Lisa, Gale, Mark, Reid, and Robert and R.B.'s brother Roger for establishing this endowment in honor of R.B. and Doris. The R.B. and Doris Warren endowment will provide financial support to cover the operating costs associated with our intercollegiate judging teams.

Richard "R.B." Warren was a member of the Department of Animal Science from 1956 to 1990. A Kansas native, R.B. graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from Kansas State University and married Doris in 1948. He completed a Master of Science degree in Animal Breeding from Oklahoma State University in 1950 and served on the animal science faculty at Michigan State University for six years before coming to Nebraska. R.B. enthusiastically developed young leaders for the animal industry through motivation, quality learning, skill development and personal mentoring. R.B. is known for establishing one the earliest and finest youth horse extension programs in the United States. His legacy has also resulted in the development of the R.B. and Doris Warren Scholarship and the Nebraska 4-H Horse Fund. His leadership and dedication were rightfully memorialized in naming the UNL Animal Science arena the "R.B. Warren Arena." Again, we are grateful to his family for establishing this endowment! If you would like to donate to the R.B. and Doris Warren Judging Team Support Fund, please send a check to the NU Foundation and write the name of the fund in the memo line.

Written by: Clint Krehbiel

FEATURE STORIES Photo courtesy of Greg Ibach. **FALL 2018**

Block and Bridle Club honors Greg Ibach

Greg Ibach, a fifth-generation farmer and rancher from Sumner, Neb., was honored by the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's Block and Bridle Club, April 14, at its annual banquet at the Nebraska Innovation Campus.

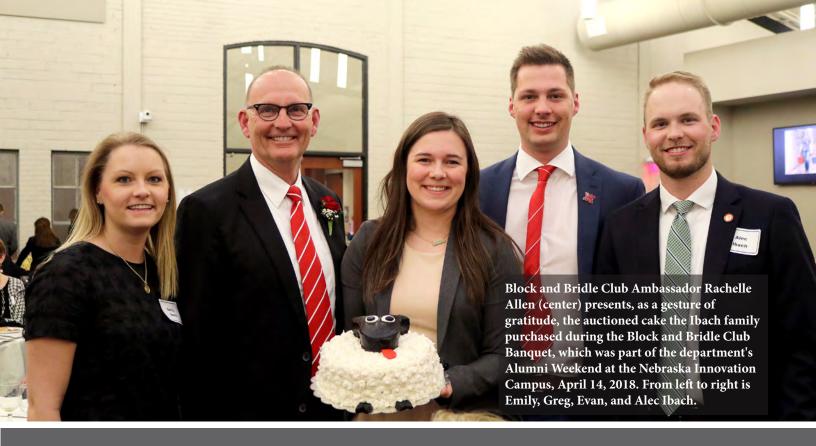
The Block and Bridle Club's annual award recognizes an honoree who has contributed to Nebraska agriculture through leadership, service, youth projects, community activities and involvement with the university.

Ibach currently serves as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's under secretary for marketing and regulatory programs, where he sets national standards for the marketing of U.S. agricultural products, along with the health and care of animals and plants. He began his professional career working for Farm Credit Services of America.

In 1989, Ibach and his wife, Teresa, returned to the family farm. They served on the Nebraska Farm Bureau Young Farmer Rancher Committee, and Ibach was elected for two terms on the Nebraska Beef Council. He was on the executive committee of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association when he was appointed to be assistant director of agriculture by then-Gov. Mike Johanns, and later was appointed director by Gov. Dave Heineman and Gov. Pete Ricketts. Ibach is Nebraska's longest-serving director of agriculture, with more than 12 years in the role.

Most of Ibach's career has aligned with the Block and Bridle Club's core objectives, which are to promote a higher scholastic standard and a more complete understanding of animal science among student members; to promote animal agriculture through development of a program of activities that will supplement students' study of the animal sciences; to enhance professionalism of students who will one day be leaders in the animal agriculture industry; and to bring about a closer relationship among all students pursuing some phase of animal agriculture as a profession.

In his spare time, Ibach plays an active role in his family's central Nebraska farm and in youth activities. As the state's director of agriculture, Ibach provided



vision and support for the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council and Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute and has been involved in FFA chapters and 4-H clubs at local and state levels.

Ibach graduated from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in agriculture. He served as an officer for the Block and Bridle Club and FarmHouse fraternity. Ibach serves as co-chairman of fund-raising efforts for the new FarmHouse Chapter House, as well as serving as a mentor for FarmHouse student members.

Written by: Andi Hallberg

Source: IANR News- https://ianrnews.unl.edu/block-and-bridle-club-honor-ibach







Block & Bridle Club Banquet









FEATURE STORIES

AnSci alumni, Iowa State partner on Extension programming



Hugo Ramirez-Ramirez (second left), Iowa State University dairy extension specialist, provides hands-on colostrum management and calf nutrition training in both English and Spanish to dairy farm employees.

A couple years ago, two former University of Nebraska-Lincoln Animal Science graduate student colleagues, Kim Clark (M.Ag. 2009) and Hugo Ramirez-Ramirez (M.S. 2011 and Ph.D. 2013), began discussing the needs of dairy producers in Nebraska and Iowa. Clark, a dairy extension educator at UNL and Ramirez-Ramirez a dairy extension specialist at Iowa State University both attended graduate school together under the direction of Dr. Paul Kononoff, a UNL dairy extension specialist. Jennifer Bentley, a dairy field specialist at Iowa State University also joined Clark and Ramirez-Ramirez on the team.

The needs assessment by the team, completed through one-on-one conversations and a survey with dairy farmers, determined that most dairy farm employees know what they need to do for their job, but they don't know the "why" behind their job. These conversations led the dairy team to begin Extension programming focused on newborn calf care and management.

A pilot project, which tested the need and effectiveness of on-farm newborn calf care and management training for employees, was developed. The pilot project indicated two areas are lacking on dairy farms, hands-on training for employees and training in employees' native language, which is Spanish for most dairy farms.

This pilot project led the Iowa State University and

UNL dairy teams to jointly apply for a USDA grant, which was awarded and began in the spring 2017 and will conclude in the fall of 2018. The grant will provide short videos in the areas of calf nutrition, colostrum management, hygiene, handling, and automatic calf feeders in both English and Spanish for dairy producers to use for on-boarding and employee trainings. The first phase of the grant project was hands-on trainings at a number of dairy farms in Iowa and Nebraska where video was captured at each of the trainings to be used in a final training video.

Currently, the videos are in production, and it is estimated they will be available for dairy producers this fall. Dairy producers can request these videos on either DVD or flash drives at no cost. Each media source will include videos in each of the topic areas in both English and Spanish to allow dairy producers, managers, and employees the flexibility to select the videos they want to use for on-boarding and meetings and in either English or Spanish. Videos can be requested by visiting https://go.unl.edu/oeo2 and completing a short survey.

With the success of this program, the team is planning to provide video resources for other areas of the dairy farm such as milking parlor techniques, vaccination and injection site procedures, sick and down cow care, silage safety and more.

Photo and article by: Kim Clark

ANIMAL SCIENCE NSIDER 11



Nebraska Youth Pork Conference – "Makin' Bacon ... and a WHOLE Lot More!"

In late May, 21 youth from Nebraska and three more from Texas participated in our 3rd Nebraska Youth Pork Conference – "Makin' Bacon … and a WHOLE Lot More!" This event, now regularly scheduled to occur Wednesday through Friday after Memorial Day, is sponsored by the Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Nebraska Extension, and the UNL Department of Animal Science.

The ultimate goal of the program, according to Dr. Bryan Reiling who developed and coordinated the program in consultation with Kyla Habrock, education director of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association, is to educate youth about the pork industry and pork product utilization through a variety of engaging activities that simultaneously function to enhance basic life skills including leadership, teamwork, and communication.

Participants learned to estimate differences in carcass merit and associated value of live market hogs. They evaluated carcasses; then fabricated those carcasses into retail cuts, working alongside UNL meat science faculty including Drs. Dennis Burson and Steven Jones. They learned that all cuts of pork are not created equal; that origination of those cuts from various parts of the animal affect palatability and value.

In the lab, youth learned how genetics and animal handling affect pork quality, which is critically important for export markets as they subjectively and objectively measured differences in pork quality. They measured pH, collected colorimeter scores, conducted a drip loss experiment, and conducted sensory analyses.

At the Food Innovation Center located on Nebraska Innovation Campus, youth learned about the versatility of pork as an entrée. Brandon Harpster, who is a certified executive chef and program chair of the Southeast Community College Culinary and Hospitality program provided culinary instruction as youth prepared a multitude of pork entrée items using varied cooking methods that included braising, pan broiling, roasting, and "Sous Vide", an increasingly popular cooking method used in the restaurant trade.

Oh yes, and they made bacon ... and sausage and hotdogs as Dr. Gary Sullivan coordinated a hands-on, tasty processed meats experience. Our youth learned the importance and function of various non-meat ingredients, how we could build upon and change flavor profiles, and how we could add significant value through processing. Through this conference, youth had an opportunity to network with faculty, including our state swine extension specialist, Dr. Benny Mote, and industry professionals including Mr. Al Juhnke, executive director of Nebraska Pork Producers Association, and Ms. Dinah Peebles, manager of certification programs with the National Pork Board.

Numerous activities were designed to reinforce basic life skills, but the Escape Room was definitely the highlight. Small groups of conference participants were locked together in a room; using tools and clues provided, they had one hour to break the code that would allow them to escape, and they were successful! All participants agreed that the Escape Room was an effective "capstone" activity to showcase the importance of leadership, communication, and teamwork!

Upon conclusion of the conference, all participating youth indicated they would recommend the conference to others, and 84 percent indicated an enhanced interest in both pork industry careers and in attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Post-conference, youth indicated enhanced awareness of pork career opportunities (100%), industry issues (100%), usage of science in pork production (100%) and product utilization (95%). Youth also better understood the importance of leadership and communication skills (100%). Overall, this conference functioned to bring youth together through a fun and interactive environment, to learn about the pork industry and the wholesome and nutritious product that they produce for consumers.

Written by: Bryan Reiling



Top: Dr. Steven Jones, meat science professor, gives a thumbs up to launch the start of Nebraska Youth Pork Conference, May 30 to June 1, 2018, at the Animal Science Complex.

Center, left: Participants season pork bellies to be made into bacon.

Center, right: Dr. Bryan Reiling (3rd right), livestock production & management professor, explains where the different cuts originate from in the carcass.

Bottom left: Tommi Jones (center), lab manager, assists participants with a pork quality evaluation exercise.

Bottom right: Graduate student Faith Rasmussen (right) talks to the participants about preparing and cooking pork sausages as she dices up some samples for tasting.



FEATURE STORIES

Dr. Jennifer McClure Discusses Beef Genetics



Dr. Jennifer McClure

Dr. Jennifer McClure presented a seminar entitled, "Working for the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation: What I have Learned from the Irish Experience and What You Can Do with Over One Million Genotypes," on January 24. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL),

Department of Animal Science, and the Center for Grassland Studies co-sponsored the event as part of the Integrated Beef Systems priority.

"In addition to her formal presentation, Dr. McClure met with faculty and staff throughout the day to share ideas on improving animal health through greater understanding of heritability's of food animal disease. In addition, Dr. McClure interacted with two student classes, ASCI Senior Seminar and Beef Cow/Calf Management to talk with students about the importance of sharing their story and advocating for animal agriculture and beef cattle systems in Ireland."

Dr. Clint Krehbiel, Head, Department of Animal Science commented, "Dr. McClure is clearly passionate about food animal health, well-being, and production. She came from a nontraditional background, was interested in science, engaged in the culture, and has become a greater advocate than many of us who grew up in the livestock industry. Her interests and expertise have allowed her to have a major impact on beef cattle production in Ireland. Dr. McClure's background and experiences also make her a tremendous role model for our students."

Produced by: Center for Grassland Studies

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Dr. McClure has a bachelor's of science in animal science from the University of Missouri, and her doctorate from the University of Missouri. In 2013, McClure took a position with the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF) developing their Health and Disease programs. In collaboration with her husband, Dr. Matthew McClure, an ICBF geneticist, they developed a national strategy to collect genetic defect phenotypes and DNA in cattle. Dr. McClure is back in the United States as a business consultant for Weatherby Scientific, where she hopes to bring the low cost genotyping utilized by the Irish market to North America.

The spring issue of the Center for Grassland Studies newsletter is as diverse as our grasslands. I can think of no other organization that spans the breadth of the grassland continuum from beef systems and grazing management to golf; from undergraduate and graduate students to professionals and practitioners. Our mission and programming embodies the land-grant philosophy of serving people through teaching, research and extension. Grass, whether it be native or introduced, natural or planted, cool-season or warm-season, perennial or annual, is the common thread in the fabric of the Center for Grassland Studies. Ensuring the future of our grasslands for our future generations to use and enjoy will require the efforts of all of us working together. We are proud of the accomplishments of all who support and manage our grasslands.

CLYDE NABER RETIRES

On June 8, 2018, family and friends came together to celebrate the retirement of Clyde Naber. Clyde was Livestock and Buildings Operations Manager for the Department of Animal Science for 31 years, and retired September 5. Clyde's role was essential to the teaching and research missions of the department. His dedication and loyalty were hallmarks of his years of service. Clyde was always willing to stay late or work on weekends to make sure animals and facilities were meeting the needs of a faculty member hosting an event. Clyde worked closely with the university's animal care program and our faculty and staff to keep the department in compliance. His efforts with repairs and maintenance helped keep the Animal Science facilities in superb condition. Clyde worked with Animal Science and Veterinary Science personnel as well as contractors during the renovation of the Animal Science facilities for the Vet Science 2+2 program. He always took pride in his work, and as a team player made everyone around him look better.

Clyde's career in Animal Science started when he worked as a student worker during his undergraduate degree. After serving our country, Clyde returned to the department as a research technician and eventually moved to a Husbandry Manager in August 1991. In July 2015 Clyde was appointed to Research Manager II. He continues to volunteer in the department today.

Clyde's service to the department are characterized by his dedication, loyalty, cooperation, ingenuity and excellence. He played a significant role in helping the department achieve a nationally recognized teaching and research program. We wish Clyde and his wife Helen the very best as they embark on the next adventures of life.

Written by: Clint Krehbiel







Staff, faculty, students, and family and friends turn out to say farewell to Clyde Naber, June 8, 2018, at a retirement reception at the Prairie Suites,

East Campus Union, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

















LEVI McPhillips

"The favorite part of my job is that I get to lead a team of people and while we're doing groundbreaking research that really matters."

--Levi McPhillips

Throughout his college years McPhillips gained a wealth of experience that he uses today in his profession as a research feedlot manager at the Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center, in Mead, Neb. McPhillips began working in the Department of Animal Science in March and reports to Dr. Galen Erickson, beef feedlot extension specialist.

McPhillips oversees the daily operation of the feedlot center of 2,500 head of cattle. He leads a team of 10, manages the overall health of the animals, feeding, feed inventory, equipment maintenance, and also manages all research studies.

McPhillips grew up in Columbus, Neb. where he learned as early as a teenager to raise cattle on his family's farm in Lindsey, Neb. This inspired him to pursue his undergraduate degree in Animal Science with an emphasis in animal biology at University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

During his college years gained much useful experience, the catalyst that turned his career into feedlot management. His feedlot job experience began as early as 2012, when McPhillips worked as a temporary feedlot worker for Eisenmenger Farms, Inc., in Humphrey, Neb. It was there that he learned to identify and treat sick cattle and helped with manure management and removal at the 10,000-head cattle feedyard operation.

In the summer of 2013, McPhillips worked at Tuls Dairy Butler County, LLC in Rising City, Neb. He worked in herd health identifying and treating sick cows and garnered the management techniques for overseeing large-scale dairy production.

It was in 2014 that McPhillips, working as a student employee in ruminant metabolism at UNL Department of Animal Science, worked in the areas of research cattle metabolism and helped with feeding and husbandry. That summer, McPhillips worked at the USDA Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Neb. on several experiments with feedlot cattle. He launched projects related to beta-agonists, animal welfare, and respiration calorimetry.

By June 2015, McPhillips had become assistant feedmill manager at Mead Cattle Co., LLC, in Mead, Neb. He oversaw 23,000 head of cattle and was responsible for the feeding, commodity inventory, mill and feed truck maintenance, while supervising feed truck drivers and mill employees.

Later that year, McPhillips graduated from UNL and moved to Oklahoma to pursue a master's degree in Animal Science at Oklahoma State University, in Stillwater, Okla. While a student, McPhillips was manager and research coordinator at Willard Sparks Beef Research Center at the university. Some of his responsibilities included managing 1,000 head of cattle, identifying and treating sick calves, feeding, feed billing, medicine and feed inventory, feed calls, and managing 10 undergraduate students.

McPhillips held this position until he graduated in 2017 with an Animal Science master's with an emphasis in Ruminant Nutrition. In March 2018, McPhillips took over the position as research feedlot manager at ENREC.

McPhillips is certified in Nebraska Beef Quality Assurance, Confined Animal Feeding Operations, and has a Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Land Application Training Certification. McPhillips also speaks Spanish, a skills he uses when working at various livestock operations.

Please welcome Levi McPhillips to the Department of Animal Science.

Photos and article by: Peta-Gaye Clachar

2018 4-H HORSE STAMPEDE



A participant speaks about a horse topic during the public speaking segment, March 10, 2018, at the annual 4-H Horse Stampede at the Animal Science Complex.



STEPHANIE Osterthun

"Your major helps you get your first job, but from thereon out, the next and next and next job that you get is based on your experience."

--Stephanie Osterthun

Having more than 20 years of experience working in higher education settings, Stephanie Osterthun comes to the Department of Animal Science and School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences as pre-vet academic advisor. Osterthun has served in the capacity of recruiting, advising, admissions, and the Federal TRiO Program.

Osterthun works in alignment with Dr. Lisa Karr, undergraduate teaching coordinator, and Dr. Dennis Brink, coordinator of undergraduate teaching and advisement professor, as a network of advisors to undergraduate students who are interested in veterinary medicine.

In addition to Osterthun's responsibility to advise and retain students in the pre-vet program, she meets with students to review their academic background, credits, areas of interests in working with particular species of animals, recommends classes to incoming students, identifies leadership development opportunities, and explores with them the appropriate undergraduate majors. Osterthun also co-teaches a 100-level class, Success in Veterinary Science, which pre-vet students take to help them develop successful skills during their college years.

Osterthun graduated with a Bachelor's of General Studies in Criminal Justice from Wichita State University and a Master's in Student Counseling and Personnel Services from Kansas State

University.

Now in her 25th year, the advising journey began, in 1993, at Cowley College, Arkansas City, Kan. At Cowley College she served as admissions representative with responsibility for both advising and recruiting. Osterthun grew to love advising and so she left Cowley College to pursue a two-year graduate degree at Kansas State University, in 1995. This helped catapult her into an advising career.

While she studied her advising role continued. Osterthun was given a graduate assistantship to advise graduate students on academic policies and cultural and social programming. Upon receiving her master's, Osterthun went back to Cowley College as director of admissions from 1998 to 2000. She became director of on-site advising at Butler Community College, in Andover, Kan., in 2000, and was director of upward bound at Northwest Missouri State University, in Maryville, Mo, in 2006. At Northwest Missouri State University, she directed the Federal TRiO Program that encouraged high school students with learning or physical disabilities, who were low-income or first-generation to pursue college degrees.

In 2008, Osterthun was introduced to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as assistant director for Graduate Distance Education Programs where she worked with faculty and academic departments to develop online courses and programs. Her love for advising took her to another part of UNL, in 2011, as on-campus MBA program coordinator. She advised MBA students, participated in recruiting events, coordinated MBA fellowships and internships, and served as sponsor for the MBA Student Association. Osterthun spent one year as advisor in the psychology department in 2014, then accepted a position as academic advisor at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Neb., in 2015, before returning to UNL as pre-vet advisor in May.

Outside of work, Osterthun, who grew up on a small farm, in Arkansas City, Kan., enjoys spending time with her family. She is stepmother to three children, Mike, Matt, and Erin and has two grandchildren, Ryker, 4, and Ryden, 1. When Osterthun is not visiting her grandchildren in Missouri, she and her husband, Stu, garden. Outside of these things,

Osterthun likes to attend concerts and football games. One day, she hopes to travel to the Vatican.

Please welcome Stephanie Osterthun to the UNL Animal Science family!

Photo and article by: Peta-Gaye Clachar

"Danger is very real, but fear is just a train of thought." --Will Smith

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Meat scientist Dr. Chris Calkins shows he is fearless when holding this python, recently, at the 64th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology in Melbourne, Australia.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Chris Calkins.



in the small "Cotton & Cattle" town of Weinert, Texas. He graduated with a BS in animal science from Texas A&M University in 2004. He managed the graveyard shift at a large feed mill for a year before returning to Angelo State University to earn an MS in reproductive physiology under Dr. Mike Salisbury in 2006. His thesis examined the mitigating effects of seaweed extract on heat stressinduced subfertility in male goats. Following graduation, Yates joined Dr. Tim Ross at New Mexico State University and graduated with a PhD in reproductive physiology in 2009 producing eight manuscripts related to stress-induced male and female subfertility. He then continued a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Arizona where he gained many research skills and techniques under the direction of Dr. Sean Limesand. His research with Dr. Limesand produced several key new pieces of information regarding metabolic fetal programming as well as several novel laboratory and surgical techniques for studying fetal physiology. Since 2014, Dr. Yates is currently an Animal Stress Physiologist in the Animal Science Department at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His research program focuses on the mechanism for adaptive muscle growth and metabolic programming related to maternal stress, placental insufficiency, and intrauterine growth restriction. He also studies the effects of stress on growing animals and how it affects their efficiency, quality, and value. To date, he has advised graduate students and successfully published multiple research manuscripts, proceedings papers, abstracts, and a book chapter. He resides with his lovely wife and two wonderful children in Eagle, NE.

Dr. Dustin T. Yates was born and raised

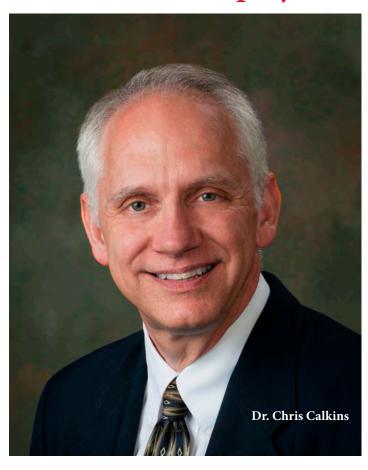
Produced by: American Society of Animal Science

Source: https://go.unl.edu/hocw

FACULTY NEWS

São Paulo Research Foundation selects Chris Calkins for collaborative project funding

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Published: Feb. 13, 2018—*IANR News*, as Nebraska faculty selected by São Paulo Research Foundation for collaborative project funding

Two University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty members, Steven Thomas and Chris Calkins, have been selected for funding by the <u>São Paulo Research Foundation</u> (<u>FAPESP</u>) in Brazil through the <u>SPRINT initiative - São Paulo Researchers in International Collaboration</u>. The program aims to promote the engagement of U.S. researchers with higher education institutions in the State of São Paulo, Brazil. Participants will further develop ongoing research projects and work cooperatively to establish joint research projects for the medium and long term.

Steven Thomas, associate professor in the School of Natural Resources, will explore the influence of land use practices and canopy cover restoration on nutrient spiraling in tropical and temperate stream ecosystems, alongside collaborator Davi Gasparini Fernandes Cunha of the University of São Paulo. Fertilizer use differs considerably between the states of Nebraska and São Paulo. In Nebraska, fertilizer use has been established for decades and nutrient enrichment in streams draining these agricultural landscapes is well documented. In São Paulo, fertilizer use is increasing as agronomic systems modernize but it remains uncertain whether nutrient impacts in these streams parallel those observed in their temperate counterparts. The study will compare and contrast nutrient retention in Brazilian and Nebraskan streams using state-of-the-art experimental and numerical approaches. The collaboration between Dr. Thomas and Dr. Cunha embodies the fundamental spirit of the SPRINT competition by partnering researchers across career stage, discipline, and geography but who share a common passion to understand our streams and our world.

Chris Calkins, professor in the Department of Animal Science, will address the beef aging process and technological advances to implement systems and evaluate meat quality, collaborating with Sérgio Bertelli Pflanzer Júnior of the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP). Of interest to the two beef-producing powerhouses (Nebraska and Brazil) is the growing popularity of dry-aged beef, both domestically and internationally. Due to tenderness and enhanced flavor, dry-aged beef is sold at a premium compared with traditional, wet-aged beef, throughout the world. Traditional wet aging involves storage of beef primal cuts in vacuum bags, which extends shelf life and reduces moisture loss. Dry aging is a process whereby beef carcasses, primals, and/or subprimals are stored unpackaged under controlled temperatures, humidity and/or air flow for a certain period of time to allow the natural enzymatic and biochemical processes that result in improved tenderness and the development of the unique and distinct flavor. Despite the added value, the dry aging process is inconsistent and not well defined, thus the purpose of the collaborative project: defining ideal conditions for dry aging.

FACULTY NEWS

The call for proposals invited research in many fields of knowledge, emphasizing agricultural sciences. Nebraska joins the following institutions in being selected for funded proposals: University of Münster (Germany); Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS, Beligum); University of Victoria (Canada); Leiden University (the Netherlands); Durham University (United Kingdom); Purdue University, Texas A&M University and the University of California San Diego.

The university's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) has prioritized faculty collaborations with institutions in São Paulo state over the last several years, including the signing of an agreement with FAPESP in 2016 to advance these collaborations to the next level and the hosting of the Brazil-USA Research Symposium "FAPESP Week" in September 2017. This relationship, which has been supported by IANR's Office of Global Engagement and the Agricultural Research Division, has given researchers from both countries the opportunity to engage in ongoing projects and apply for joint funding.

Source: https://go.unl.edu/ix5p

Jennifer Wood, 2017 Biology of Reproduction top reviewing editor awardee

A/M/M/M/M/M/F



Dr. Jennifer Wood (center), reproductive physiology professor, received the 2017 Biology of Reproduction Top Reviewing Editor Award, July 12, 2018, at the BoR Editorial Reception, in New Orleans, La. Wood received this award based on the quantity and quality of reviews provided for manuscripts submitted to BoR in the past year. Beside Wood are editors of *BoR* Wei Yan (left) and Hugh Clarke.



From left to right is Kermit Wagner Distinguished Professor in Animal Science, Dr. Dennis Brink (left); Companion Animal Specialist, Dr. Lisa Karr; and Associate Professor, Ruminant Nutrition, Dr. Jim MacDonald. Separately pictured is Brad Bennett, former Extension educator. Photo courtesy of University Communication.

Brink, Bennett, Karr, MacDonald receive Parents' Recognition Awards

Published: Feb. 8, 2018,—Nebraska Today, as 228 faculty, staff receive Parents' Recognition Awards

Brad Bennett, former extension educator, Dr. Lisa Karr, companion animal specialist, Dr. Dennis Brink, professor, and Dr. Jim MacDonald, associate professor, were recognized at the Parents' Recognition Awards Feb. 2, 2018. More than 228 UNL employees were honored for their support of Nebraska students.

The Parents' Recognition Awards, presented during a Feb. 2 ceremony in the Nebraska Union, are earned through nominations made from parents of Nebraska students. Presented annually, the honors provide positive feedback to faculty and staff about their work with students. They also encourage good student and faculty relationships and provide recognition in an area often overlooked in the formal rewards system.

Read more: https://go.unl.edu/9975

FACULTY NEWS

Nebraska Corn Board recognizes Chris Calkins



Meat scientist Dr. Chris Calkins (right) receives the Nebraska Corn Board Livestock Industry Appreciation Award for continued support of Nebraska's agriculture, March 19, 2018, at Wilderness Ridge in Lincoln. Presenting the award is District One Director of Nebraska Corn Board, Dave Bruntz.

Photo by: Kurtis Harms

The Nebraska Corn Board presented five individuals with awards of ag achievement at their annual awards dinner held March 19, 2018, in Lincoln. The annual awards recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the overall agricultural industry, as well as the livestock, ethanol, ag media and agribusiness sectors.

This year's Livestock Industry Appreciation Award was presented to Chris Calkins. Throughout his career, Calkins has focused on beef quality. Through his research, Calkins has helped develop several new cuts of beef, such as the flat iron steak. Additionally, he has taken part in other value-added initiatives, such as consumer marketing research, which established the value of beef flavor and tenderness.

"Through Dr. Calkins' research, the value of beef products has gone up, which means increased demand for our corn," said David Bruntz, District One Director of the Nebraska Corn Board. "Dr. Calkins has been recognized around the world for his expertise in meat quality and it's only fitting we are able to recognize him with this award and thank him for his work."

Calkins was among four others who also received awards.

FACULTY NEWS

Keith Olsen was awarded with the Board's highest honor, the Ag Achievement Award, due to his many years of dedicated service to the industry. Sen. Deb Fischer was awarded with the Ethanol Industry Appreciation Award. Sen. Fischer has been a constant champion for increasing ethanol production and demand. Susan Littlefield, Farm Director with the Rural Radio Network, was the recipient of the Media Appreciation Award. Susan has been a trusted voice of ag news for over 25 years. The Nebraska Agribusiness Appreciation Award was given to Ray Ward, founder of Ward Laboratories, Inc. This Kearney-based agribusiness was founded in 1983 and specializes in testing soils, plants, feed, forages, water, manures, fertilizers and other special projects. Ray is a certified professional agronomist and certified soil scientist.

Source: Nebraska Corn Board press release—Nebraska Corn Board recognized five ag leaders at annual awards dinner

Five Animal Science faculty receive promotion



Five Animal Science faculty were honored during a celebration April 24 at the Rococo Theatre in Lincoln, Neb. Promoted to full professor are Paul Kononoff and Matthew Spangler and promoted to associate professor and granted tenure are Ty Schmidt, Gary Sullivan and Amy Schmidt. From left to right is Matthew Spangler; Amy Schmidt; Ty Schmidt; Clint Krehbiel, head, Department of Animal Science; Gary Sullivan; and Paul Kononoff. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln awarded promotion and/or tenure to 89 faculty in 2018. Read more at https://go.unl.edu/qx94.



Doyle Wolverton's AKSARBEN scholarship "pushed me to stay in school." For 30 years, a grateful Wolverton donated time and expertise to the AKSARBEN Stock Show.

Photos by: Eric Francis

AKSARBEN Career Scholarships power recipients into the future; change landscape of education, workforce development along the way

Published: Jan 28, 2018

Written by: Dan McCann—Omaha World-Herald

When Doyle Wolverton attended Iowa State University, his AKSARBEN scholarship — \$200 per year — essentially amounted to a full ride.

"Tuition, at the time, was \$77 per quarter," he recalled.

That was back in the late 1950s. Six decades later, the 79-year-old remains deeply grateful to the <u>AKSARBEN</u> Foundation for the financial boost and the impact it had on his life.

"That scholarship pushed me to stay in school at Iowa State," he said. "I was the first one in my whole family — that's aunts, uncles, cousins — to graduate from college. I was always proud of that."

The AKSARBEN Foundation's legacy of impact has only expanded over the decades. Today, it awards \$1.5 million annually to deserving students in Nebraska and western Iowa, allowing them to continue their educations beyond high school and develop career skills.

"AKSARBEN Foundation has a long tradition of awarding scholarships, and we're extremely proud of that.

28 FALL 2018



Roman Long's 2015 AKSARBEN Scholarship paid for class and books. "After I was accepted for the scholarship, everything just changed.

Moving forward, we aim to utilize our network of business members to connect scholarship recipients to the workforce," said Sandra Reding, Foundation president.

Annually, the AKSARBEN Foundation awards 200 four-year State Scholarships to students in need. In 2015, it partnered with Avenue Scholars to launch the AKSARBEN Career Scholarship — the Foundation's largest and most significant scholarship endeavor to date. Its goal is to help students from low-income families make that seamless transition from career training into full-time employment.

"The AKSARBEN Scholarship really helped a lot," said Roman Long, a 2015 Career Scholarship recipient. "It paid for my classes and my books."

Long, 22, graduated from Metropolitan Community College (MCC) last year with a degree in architectural design. He is working at CKF as a computer-aided design technician. "Ever since I was little, I liked designing and building things," he said. "It's fun, and I love to do it."

Long said pursuing his passion would have been possible without the scholarship, but it would have been a struggle. The Foundation's support empowered him to succeed. "After I was accepted for the scholarship, everything just changed. I felt like I had more motivation," he said.

Over the last 2½ years, Avenue Scholars has served more than 640 students like Roman, who received Career Scholarships through the nonprofit's partnership with AKSARBEN Foundation and MCC.

FACULTY NEWS

"We are very excited to continue working with business leaders all across the Heartland in helping these young people begin successful careers in their chosen fields," said Reding. "By fostering these relationships and connections, we are helping bridge the gap — fulfilling the needs of new graduates while addressing the requirements of Heartland businesses. It's a win-win for all involved and a great way for AKSARBEN Foundation member businesses to become more directly involved in our mission in a very tangible way."

As it powers into the future, the 123-year-old AKSARBEN Foundation foresees even more impact. In conjunction with numerous business partners, it intends to change the landscape of education and workforce development across the state.

"AKSARBEN has made a huge difference in so many ways in our state and its communities," said Ken Bird, Ed.D., president and CEO of Avenue Scholars and immediate past king of AKSARBEN. "To have it step out and say our priority is education and training of our young people — that is important, and every educator and parent in the state should be listening."

Wolverton parlayed his scholarship-fueled education into an almost 40-year career in agricultural extension work. He retired in 1997. Ever grateful to the AKSARBEN Foundation, he gave thanks by donating vast amounts of time and expertise. Wolverton volunteered as manager of the AKSARBEN Stock Show for about 30 years and contributed as a long-serving member of its Executive Committee.

"I have a lot of respect for AKSARBEN. It's been a big part of my life," he said. "The things they're doing are outstanding not only for the Omaha community but for all of Nebraska and western Iowa."

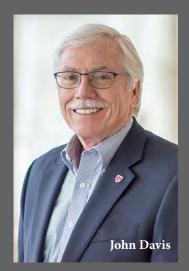


Meat scientists Dr. Chris Calkins at UNL and Dr. Dwain Johnson at University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences along with the help of the National Cattleman's Beef Association through a muscle profiling research grant uncovered a new cut of meat, the flat iron steak, in 2002. Sixteen years later the cut is still a favorite and continues to gain worldwide recognition for its high quality. This label was pictured in Hong Kong. Photo courtesy of Dr. Chris Calkins.

FACULTY NEWS

Andrea Cupp, Jennifer Wood collaborate with UNMC







Published: Feb. 21, 2018—*UNMC Newsroom*, as UNMC researcher leads national organization

UNMC's John S. Davis, Ph.D., is president of the <u>Society for the Study of Reproduction</u> (SSR), the national organization for scientists, trainees and other professionals doing basic and applied research in reproductive sciences.

Dr. Davis will cap his one-year term as president by organizing the 51st Annual Meeting July 10-13 in New Orleans, which is expected to draw upwards of 1,200 people from 30 countries.

"It's an honor to serve the SSR as president," Dr. Davis said. "The national leadership role allows us to promote the best new science in order for our members to capitalize on the latest developments and identify innovative approaches to advance their research programs and provide new approaches to improve human and animal fertility. This also helps us to recruit graduate students and postdocs as well as to make key connections with investigators from around the globe."

A member of the organization for 30-plus years, Dr. Davis said, "serving as president brings recognition to UNMC directly, but also to UNL (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), where we have great collaborators like Andrea Cupp and Jennifer Wood in the animal science department."

UNL's Andrea Cupp, Ph.D., is the society's vice-president elect. Both Drs. Davis and Cupp collaborate on several projects, funded by the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Veterans Administration and the University of Nebraska Foundation. Their collaborative research examines the female reproductive system to understand how hormones affect metabolic activity and steroid production in the ovaries, as well as how pituitary hormones change during puberty and their effects on fertility. Dr. Davis also has projects that focus on female aging and osteoporosis also funded by National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Davis serves as professor of the UNMC
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and
director of research and development for the Olson
Center for Women's Health. He also is a senior
research career scientist at the Omaha VA hospital. Dr.
Cupp is the Omtvedt Professor of Animal Science in
the UNL Department of Animal Science. Drs. Davis
and Cupp met over 20 years ago and, prior to both
being in Nebraska, interacted at SSR meetings.

Founded in 1967, SSR is an association of scientists and physicians interested in research in reproduction. Some are engaged in basic or applied research, while others perform clinical practice, but all are dedicated to advancing knowledge of reproductive processes in animals and in humans.

https://www.unmc.edu/news.cfm?match=21676





Emma Winters, Animal Science top senior and Chancellor's Scholar

Emma Winters receives the Department of Animal Science 2018 I.L. Hathaway Scholastic Achievement Recognition, May 4, as top senior student for 2017-2018 academic school year and for maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average throughout her studies at University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Emma is also among 33 UNL students recognized as Chancellor's Scholars during the undergraduate commencement ceremony May 5 at Pinnacle Bank Arena. Chancellor's Scholars are students who graduated in December or May and have maintained a 4.0 GPA on all collegiate work at Nebraska and elsewhere.

I grew up in Omaha, Neb. and lived there until I moved to Lincoln for college.

Being a UNL student has been a great experience. I always felt fairly busy between attending class, working, and studying. Students for Education in Exotic and Companion Animals club is one that I have always been involved with. It has probably been one of the highlights of my time at UNL. I enjoyed meeting a lot of amazing people through the club and coordinating SEECA's dog training class. I love the sense of community at UNL, especially on the East Campus and within the Department of Animal Science. Everyone is always supportive and welcoming.

When it comes to how I maintained my GPA, it was basically hard work and studying. I set aside time everyday to study and finish classwork. I always went to class and made any effort to learn and not just listen.

This fall I plan to move to Florida to serve as a literacy tutor in AmeriCorps.

-- Emma Winters



University of Nebraska-Lincoln Husker Equestrian Team won the overall team championship at the Black Hawk College Semi-Finals. From left to right is coach Lori Jaixen, with team riders Anna Heusinger, Bailey Peterson, Serena Akeson, Sierra Nelson, Matt Graves, Cassidy Curtis, Brooke Imm, Audrey Heusinger, Selena Finn, Maddy Misfieldt, and J'Nan Wittler.

Husker equestrian team wins overall team championship

Published: March 20, 2018—EQ Media

The Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association held its Western Semi-Finals, sponsored by the National Reining Horse Association (NRHA), March 17-18. Hosting the events were Black Hawk College in Galva, Illinois, West Virginia University in Reedsville, West Virginia, and Alfred University, held at the Hamburg Showplex in Hamburg, New York. Alumni Semi-Finals were held at Black Hawk College and West Virginia University.

Each IHSA region sent their two top Individual riders and the regional championship team. At each Western Semi-Finals Individual competition, the first through fourth-place finishers progressed to compete at the 2018 IHSA National Championship Show at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, May 3-6. In Team competition, the top three teams at each Semi-Final qualified to compete at Nationals. In addition, all regional high-point riders earned the right to compete at Nationals.

At Semi-Finals hosted at Black Hawk College the team from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln clinched the overall team win just edging out Black Hawk College by one point. In 2017, the "Husker" team finished fourth at Nationals. Middle Tennessee State University took the third spot and to round out the National Championship-



Anna Heusinger won 1st place in the Team Advanced Horsemanship.

Audrey Heusinger won Team Intermediate Horsemanship.

Photos courtesy of the Husker Equestrian Team.

bound teams.

"It was a fantastic experience and a fantastic group of horses," said University of Nebraska–Lincoln Coach Lori Jaixen. "Everyone was really evenly matched."

Contributing to the Team success was Anna Heusinger, a senior on the team for the second year, who won Team Advanced Horsemanship. She was regional and reserve national champion in Novice in 2017. Her sister Audrey Heusinger, a first-year student on the Husker Equestrian Team, won Team Intermediate Horsemanship. Coach Jaixen teaches both hunter seat and Western and has been with the Huskers for about ten years.

"The whole team is hard-working and dedicated," Jaixen said. "We've won the region every year since 2005. This is a group of riders that's always advancing. I take great pride in the culture we've created."

Read the full story at https://go.unl.edu/puyz.



The 2018 competition marked the fifth consecutive appearance at the CNFR for members of the Husker rodeo team.

Photo courtesy of University Communication.

Husker rodeo team competes in national finals

Published: June 20, 2018—UNL Today

The University of Nebraska Rodeo Association recently returned from their fifth consecutive appearance in the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR). The competition was held June 8-16 in Casper, Wyo. Competing in the CNFR for the men's team were Doug Finney of Anselmo, John Opela of Stapleton and Jake Fulton of Valentine. Rachel Hansen of Lincoln represented the women's team.

The CNFR comprised of three long rounds of competition where everyone competes followed by a championship round where the top 12 from the previous three rounds compete a fourth time. Rachel Hansen placed 8th in the second round of the barrel racing. Jake Fulton tied for 1st place in the third round of the steer wrestling. John Opela and Doug Finney qualified for the short round in the team roping, winning second in the short round, and finishing 6th in the aggregate of all four rounds.

At the conclusion of competition, the men's team finished 20th in the nation and the women's team finished 35th. Nebraska is one of 129 member schools in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, the sanctioning body of college rodeo.

Written by: Bump Kraeger, Coach University of Nebraska Rodeo Association



Congratulations to Devin Jakub (left), Neil Henderson, Sarah Schuelke, and Gilbert Seck (right), on their recent success as the 1st Place Overall Team in the 2018 UNL Academic Quadrathlon! By winning the local competition, these students earned a spot to represent UNL at the regional competition on March 11 and 12 in conjunction with the American Society of Animal Science Midwest Sectional meetings and placed 6th overall at the regional competition. Great job team!

UNL academic quadrathlon team competes at regional competition

The 2018 University of Nebraska-Lincoln Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon local competition was conducted February 25 and 26. Ten teams of four students competed in the four events organized by Department of Animal Science faculty, staff, and graduate students. The team of Gilbert Seck (North Platte, Neb.), Sarah Schuelke (Waverly, Neb.), Devin Jakub (Brainard, Neb.), and Neil Henderson (Cozad, Neb.) was declared Overall Champions for the 2018 UNL Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon competition. The team earned 1st place finishes in the oral presentation and quiz bowl competitions.

The overall champion team represented UNL at the Midwest Regional Academic Quadrathlon competition March 11 and 12 in conjunction with the American Society of Animal Science Midwest Sectional meetings in Lincoln / Omaha, Neb. At the regional competition, UNL recorded a 3rd place finish in the laboratory practicum portion of the competition on their way to a 6th place finish overall out of 16 institutions that competed in the regional competition.

The Academic Quadrathlon is a competition held at the local, regional and national levels. Teams of four are made up of university undergraduate students and compete in four events: laboratory practicum, written exam, oral presentation, and quiz bowl. Winning teams move up to the next level of competition. The national winning team is determined at the ASAS national meeting in July of each year. The purpose of the competition is to stimulate academic excellence among undergraduate students and for the students to attend ASAS/American Dairy Science Association scientific meetings to meet faculty and students and to attend scientific research presentations.

Photo and article by: Tom Burkey

STUDENT NEWS Milton E. Mohr Biotechnology Fellowship and Scholarship awards were presented to 33 Nebraska students from the 2018-19 academic year. Two Animal Science students, Alexa Kalpla and Shelby Springman, were recognized. The award recognizes outstanding Huskers in the sciences of biotechnology and engineering based on academic performance and potential for accomplishments in their area of study. Pictured is Shelby Springman.

Photos by: Peta-Gaye Clachar

SCHOLARSHIPS

Department Scholarships & Awards for 2018-19

Scholarship Name

ABS Global

Elton and Carrie Aberle

Charles and Beryle Adams

Charles and Beryle Adams

Baltzell

Block & Bridle Club

Maurice E. Boeckenhauer

Robert Boeckenhauer Memorial

Andy Bruntz Beef Industry Scholar

Lincoln Coca-Cola Bottling Company

Del Kopf

William W. Derrick Family

Doane

Feedlot Management

Feedlot Management

Feedlot Management

Feedlot Management

Feedlot Management

Feedlot Management

Richard & Joyce Frahm

Richard & Joyce Frahm

G.H. Francke Livestock Judging

Don and Ray Gard

Don and Ray Gard

William J. Goldner

Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Nutrition

Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Nutrition Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Cow-calf

Great Plains Livestock Consulting: Cow-calf

Robert H. Hatch

Harry J. LaToush

Tim & Florence Leon

Tim & Florence Leon

William J. & Hazel J. Loeffel

Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation

Recipient

Sheldon Beierman

Ralston Ripp

Sophia Collett

Alex Heier

Jessilyn Sayers

Lexi Ostrand

Ashleigh Woolridge

Sophie Dinan

Joseph Sonderman

Chloe Giese

Eleanor Aufdenkamp

Emmet Caldwell

Lexi Ostrand

Austin Campbell

Kailey Conway

Brooke Hoyt

Maeghan Pieper

Darren Segner

Colton Wiemer

Mariah Heiss

Kelsey Phillips

recisely i minps

Hunter Schroeder

Lucy Polk

Hannah Settje

Colton Bergt

Sophie Dinan

Devon Lockman

Lucy Polk

Lucy Polk

Monty Roberts

Shleby Trofholz

Nicole Woita

Cassidy Curtis

Megan Homolka

Micah Most

Renae Sieck

Cassandra Kiihne

Ronald Kramer

Jocilynn Behlen

Malina Lindstrom

Logan Dibbern

Hannah Esch

Austin Freeman

Micah Most

Jennifer Howsden

Scholarship Name

Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation

Nebraska Cattlemen NBIS

Nutrition Service Associates

Oxbow Animal Health Companion Animal

Oxbow Animal Health Companion Animal

Wayne L. Phillips

Art and Ruth Raun

Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial

Chris and Sarah Raun Memorial

William and Barbara Rishel B&B Honoree

Walter A. and Alice V. Rockwell

Frank and Shirley Sibert

Philip Starck

Philip Starck

Philip Starck

Max and Ora Mae Stark

G.I. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial

D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial

D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial

D.V. & Ernestine Stephens Memorial

Dwight F. and Minnie L. Stephens

Arthur W. and Viloa Thompson

Richard C. & LaRayne Wahlstrom

Richard C. & LaRayne Wahlstrom

R.B. & Doris Warren

R.B. & Doris Warren

Winkler Memorial Livestock Judging

Recipient

Brady Papineau

Emmet Caldwell

Jake Crumly

Sarah Dannehl

Logan Dibbern

Marissa Kegley Katherine Nolles

Renae Sieck

Austin Underwood

Hannah Esch

Felicia Pandorf

Ashleigh Woolridge

Blake Guenther

Emily Burnside

Sarah Dannehl

Blake Guenther

Cooper O'Connor

McKenna Rezny

Kelton Adair

Lauren Downs

Kailey Conway

Jillian Black

Jessica Fejfar

Felicia Pandorf

J'Nan Wittler

Mariah Heiss

Shaye Koester

Isabella Jacobson

Kelsey Loseke

Kelsey Phillips

Lauren Ahlers

Tucker Randall

Kara Valasek

Elizabeth Elliott

Daniel Ahern

Hannah Esch

Lexi Ostrand

Kaylee Wheeler

Marissa Kegley

Joeli Walrath Kaitlyn Krason

Sabryn Phillips

Katherine Nolles

Emilye Vales

Wayde Rodehorst





Danny Ahern and Kaylee Wheeler are the newly appointed Animal Science ambassadors for the 2018 – 2019 school year. They will join veteran ambassadors Lexi Ostrand and Hannah Esch. Photos courtesy of Daniel Ahern and Kaylee Wheeler.

Department appoints new student ambassadors

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Department of Animal Science has appointed two new student ambassadors for the 2018 – 2019 academic year.

After in-depth interviews with department faculty and senior ambassadors, two students were selected out of a pool of 12 applicants:

- Daniel Ahern of Longmont, Colo., a sophomore Animal Science major
- Kaylee Wheeler of Wood Lake, Neb., a sophomore Animal Science major

The two new ambassadors will serve alongside current second-year ambassadors:

- Hannah Esch of Unadilla, Neb., a junior Animal Science major
- Lexi Ostrand of Pender, Neb., a senior Animal Science major

The ambassadors will interact with prospective animal science students by visiting high schools and attending various university admissions events. In addition to attending and supporting events, each ambassador will also take on the responsibility of planning one recruitment activity per year. One example is the animal science experience.

STUDENT NEWS

The animal science experience is an event where high school and transfer students visit East Campus for a day and see it through the eyes of a current college student. These students get an overview of the animal science department, participate in an actual animal science class, eat lunch in the East Campus dining hall and participate in fun activities such as a tour of Memorial Stadium.

"It's a good opportunity for them to get to East Campus and actually see what life is like here in the department and as a college student," said Alli Raymond, animal science admissions coordinator. "Through planning and participating in these activities, the student ambassadors benefit not only the university, but themselves as well."

The animal science student ambassador program, started in 1999, selects two animal science majors as ambassadors to promote the animal science program each year. Students receive a \$2,000 scholarship (\$500 each semester) and serve for two years supporting the animal science department's recruitment efforts.

For more information on the animal science student ambassador program, visit http://animalscience.unl.edu/. Follow the department on Facebook at "UNL Animal Science," on Twitter at @UNL_AniSci and Instagram "UNL Animal Science" to stay up to date on upcoming events and deadlines.

Written by: Alli Raymond



STUDENT NEWS

Department scholarships and awards 2018-2019 continued from page 38

American Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Award

Seniors:

Allison M. Carothers
Sophie J. Dinan
Elizabeth M. Elliott
Rebekah D. Lamberson
Devon T. Lockman

Micah S. Most Rebecca A. Reicks Kara J. Robbins

Renae L. Sieck Kara A. Valasek

Emma Winters **

Juniors:

Colten L. Bergt
Logan W. Dibbern
Hannah L. Esch
Austin B. Freeman
Justin R. Hodgson
Alexa M. Kapla **
Dawn M. Klabenes
Brittany L. Albers-O'Brien
Madeline M. Misfeldt
Emily P. Schildberg
J'Nan Wittler

Sophomores:

Daniel F. Ahern Blake B. Guenther Megan E. Herridge Marissa S. Kegley ** Felicia M. Pandorf McKenna L. Rezny Joeli J. Walrath Ashleigh A. Woolridge

CONGRATULATIONS ANSCI!



The Department of Animal Sciences was awarded the 2018 Engagement of Emeriti Faculty Award. The award is to acknowledge the importance of our emeriti and the value of keeping them engaged in our campus community. This is a college-wide departmental award to recognize the unit that is effective and innovative in engaging its emeriti faculty. The award is presented in the spring based on nominations sent to College of Agriculture Science and Natural Resources. This is the third time the department has received this award. First in 2009 and again in 2015.

Photo by: Peta-Gaye Clachar



Congratulations to Lacey and Brent Johnson, livestock and building operations manager, on the birth of their beautiful daughter, Danica. Danica Faith Johnson, 8 pounds, 13 ounces, and 21 inches long. Big sisters Brandy and Jenna (right) seem very happy with the new addition to their family.

Photo courtesy of Brent Johnson.

^{**} indicates top student in that particular class







GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION



At this year's Western Section-American Society of Animal Science meeting in Bend, Ore., the students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln competed against 12 other institutions located in the western United States along with Canada in presenting their respective areas of research. The Graduate Student Oral Competition requires graduate students to produce a proceedings paper and then present a 12-minute seminar from the submitted paper in their area of research. Students are judged based on the quality of the paper and the ability to convey information to the audience in the allotted time, along with answering audience questions. Twelve participants were entered for this year's oral competition, and of the 12, UNL's graduate students placed on top bringing home both 1st and 3rd place awards.

Caitlin Cadaret placed 1st overall in the WSASAS Graduate Student Oral Competition with her research titled "Sustained maternal inflammation during the early third trimester yields fetal adaptations that impair subsequent skeletal muscle growth and glucose metabolism in sheep".

Robert Posont followed closely behind Cadaret placing 3rd overall with his research titled "Changes in myoblast responsiveness to TNFa and IL-6 and increased expression of autophagy associated pathway components contribute to intrinsic myoblast dysfunction in intrauterine growth-restricted fetal sheep".

Due to their outstanding performance during the oral competition, UNL was awarded the Institution Award for Distinguished Merit. In addition to the oral competition students had the opportunity to enter into a Three Minute Thesis competition to present their research with an addition of one visual aid. Of the 11 submissions, UNL was once again awarded in the top three with Taylor Barnes earning 2nd place and Joslyn Beard earning 3rd place awards. The 3MT competition involves graduate students filming themselves while giving an informative threeminute presentation for a non-scientific audience.

GRADUATE STUDENT 3MT VIDEO COMPETITION

STUDENT NEWS Joslyn Beard Photos by: Peta-Gaye Clachar ANIMAL SCIENCE NSI DER 45

Written by: Josyln Beard

STUDENT NEWS



Scholarship donors Barbara and William Rishel present Kailey Conway (left) with the William and Barbara Rishel Block and Bridle Club Honoree Scholarship.



Doug Brand, 2017 club honoree, presents Lexi Ostrand with the Block and Bridle Club Scholarship. Ostrand also received the Outstanding Junior Activities Award.



President of Block and Bridle Club Gilbert Seck presents Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen with the Mike Cull Block and Bridle Judging and Activities Award.

Block and Bridle Club Scholarship Recognition

Block and Bridle Club Banquet April 14, 2018 Nebraska Innovation Campus



Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen (right) presents Miranda Wordekemper with the Parr Young Outstanding Senior Merit Award.



Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen (right) presents Megan Eickhoff with the Outstanding Initiate Block and Bridle Club Award.

STUDENT NEWS



President of Block and Bridle Club Gilbert Seck presents Erin Blucher with the Mike Cull Block and Bridle Judging and **Activities Award.**



Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen (right) presents Madeline O'Brien with the Swine Industry Award.



Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen (right) presents Madison Jones with the Outstanding Sophomore Activities Award.



Block and Bridle Club Ambassador Rachelle Allen presents Block and Bridle Club President Gilbert Seck with the **Outstanding Senior Award.**

Photos by: Peta-Gaye Clachar





Front row- from l-r: Alison Bartenslager, Emma Winters, Kara Robbins, and Mariah Woodward Back row- l-r: Krista Carter, Lauren Teets, Brigitte Rathey, Cassandra Carpenter, Miranda Wordekemper, Heidi Miller, and Dr. Clint Krehbiel, head, Department of Animal Science

Photo by: Peta-Gaye Clachar



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STUDENT NEWS

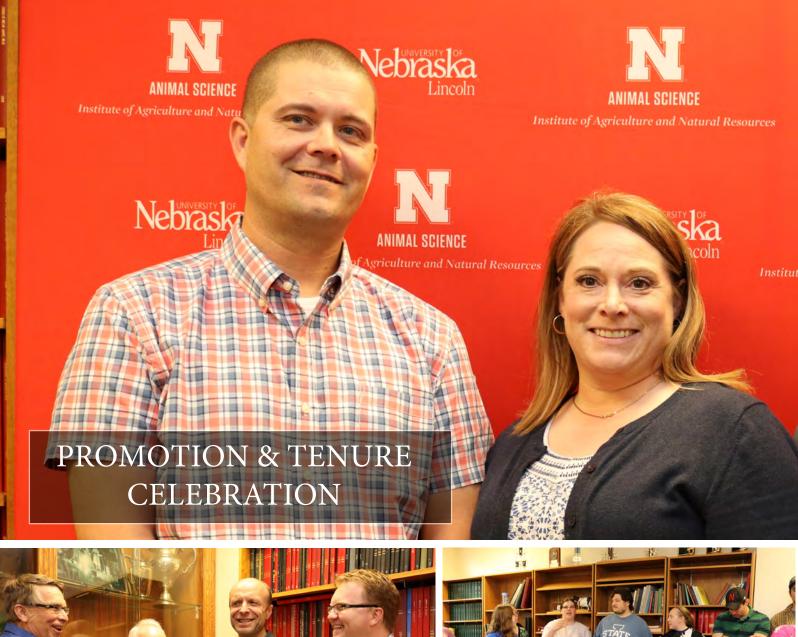




From l-r: Henry Hilscher, Taylor Barnes, Jamie Parham, Rachel Kubik, Mariah Hart, and Madeline Zimmermann.









































Doug Zalesky named ENREC director

By: Ron Yoder

Published: January 31, 2018—IANR News

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln has named Doug Zalesky director of its Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center (ENREC), located near Mead, Neb. Zalesky will begin April 1.

Since 2011 Zalesky has served as director of the Laramie Research and Extension Center (LREC) at the University of Wyoming. He oversees LREC's beef unit, swine unit, sheep unit, research greenhouse facility, McGuire ranch, and lab animal facilities. Prior to this role, he was manager and research scientist at Colorado State University, San Juan Basin Research Center, in Hesperus, Colorado. Zalesky has also served as an extension beef specialist for South Dakota State University and Louisiana State University.

Zalesky is a Husker alum, earning a bachelor's degree in animal science and production, and a master's degree in physiology of reproduction endocrinology from Nebraska. He also served as a post-doctoral research fellow at Nebraska after earning his Ph.D. in physiology of reproduction and endocrinology from Texas A&M University.

The Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center leverages strengths of existing resources across eastern Nebraska including the university's Lincoln campus to deliver integrated research and extension programming. The headquarters of the new ENREC is located at the former Agricultural Research and Development Center (ARDC).

Photo courtesy of IANR.

Source: https://go.unl.edu/3eos

The Signal Service Award and AMSA Fellow

BUCKY GWARTNEY

American Meat Science Association announces that Dr. Bucky Gwartney has been named an AMSA Fellow and is a recipient of the 2018 AMSA Signal Service Award. The AMSA Signal Service Award was established in 1956 and is given to members in recognition of devoted service and lasting contributions to the meat industry and to the association. The Signal Service Award is sponsored by Cargill, Elanco Animal Health and Johnsonville, LLC. Dr. Bucky Gwartney will be honored at a special awards banquet at the AMSA 71st Reciprocal Meat Conference on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Bucky Gwartney is a native of Pryor, Oklahoma. He received his B.S. from Oklahoma State University where he graduated with distinction and received the Outstanding Senior Leadership Award. He then continued his education at University of Nebraska - Lincoln where he received his M.S and Ph.D. with emphasis in carcass composition and muscle quality.

Following his Ph.D., Dr. Gwartney completed Post-Doctoral Research at the University of Missouri before continuing on to work for PIC as a meat scientist. While at PIC, he developed the first statistical and quality control processes for pork carcass evaluation using the Fat-O-Meat'er. Dr. Gwartney also spent a short time at Webb Technical Group becoming a certified HACCP "Train the Trainer" instructor. At the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, he served as Executive Director of Research and Knowledge Management. Dr. Gwartney was part of a team that worked on beef safety interventions and product quality research. He also led the team that developed and performed the Muscle Profiling study and won the International Meat Secretariat Prize for Meat Science and Technology.

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Subsequently, Dr. Gwartney worked with the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service in Washington D.C. as the International Marketing Specialist for the Standardization Division. He served as the Vice-Chair for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and its Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards. He also served as the Deputy Director and Science Advisor for the U.S. Trade Representative in Agricultural Affairs. Dr. Gwartney has recently joined the Global Research Team at Diamond V as Director of Protein Food Safety Research.

Dr. Gwartney is a long-time member of AMSA and has served on the Board of Directors and is a past-president. He credits the AMSA meat judging program as one of the biggest influences on his career.

Article and photo courtesy of AMSA. Source: https://go.unl.edu/tf9v

The Signal Service Award and AMSA Fellow

SCOTT EILERT

American Meat Science Association announces that Dr. Scott Eilert has been named an AMSA Fellow and is a recipient of the 2018 AMSA Signal Service Award. The AMSA Signal Service Award was established in 1956 and is given to members in recognition of devoted service and lasting contributions to the meat industry and to the association. The Signal Service Award is sponsored by Cargill, Elanco Animal Health, and Johnsonville, LLC. Dr. Eilert will be honored at a special awards banquet at the AMSA 71st Reciprocal Meat Conference on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Eilert, was raised on a grain and cow/calf farm near Beloit, Kansas. He was one of eleven children and has been involved with agriculture from a very young age. Dr. Eilert earned his B.S. degree at Kansas State University and participated on the 1988 Meat Judging Team. He then obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. in Meat Science from University of Nebraska – Lincoln. During his time in Nebraska, Dr. Eilert focused on the functional usage of collagen in meat products and the improvement of protein functionality by use of high ionic strength preblends.

Dr. Eilert began his career at Cargill in 1995 as the Pork Research Manager and shortly after became the Director of Pork and Case Ready Research and Development. In 2003, he was named Vice President of Cargill Meat Technology Development and oversaw research and development activities for Cargill's North American Animal Protein businesses. In this role, he was part of a team that oversaw the design, building and implementation of Cargill's Innovation Center in Wichita, Kansas. Shortly after he moved into a food safety leadership role to oversee food safety, quality, and regulatory management of the Cargill Turkey and Cooked



Meat business. He has recently accepted a new role as Quality Leader for Cargill's Protein Group.

During his career, Dr. Eilert has been part of several teams that have achieved significant technical contributions to the meat and poultry industries. He was part of a multi-company effort to gain the regulatory approval for the use of carbon monoxide in case ready packaging. He was also part of teams that dramatically improved the quality of fresh and enhanced pork. More recently, he has been a part of a team that helped shift how the poultry industry and regulatory groups protect public health.

Dr. Eilert joined AMSA in 1989, since then he has served on the Board of Directors and as President in 2013. Currently, he is a member of the AMSA Foundation Board of Trustees. Dr. Eilert's belief is that one of the primary purposes of AMSA is to develop the skills and talents of our future industry, academic, and regulatory leaders. He has also served other industry organizations as the Chair of the Technical and Regulatory Committee for the National Turkey Federation and the Chair of the North American Meat Institute (NAMI) Scientific Affairs Committee.

Article and photo courtesy of AMSA. Source: https://go.unl.edu/52or

AMSA Extension-Industry Service Award

DANA HANSON

American Meat Science Association announces that Dr. Dana Hanson is the recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Extension-Industry Service Award. The award was established in 1965 to recognize outstanding achievement in meat science extension and service to the industry and is sponsored by the Foundation for Meat & Poultry Research & Education. Dr. Hanson will be honored at an awards banquet during the AMSA 71st Reciprocal Meat Conference on Tuesday, June 26, 2018, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Agriculture has been a part of Dr. Hanson's life from the day he was born. Dr. Hanson is the fifth generation to grow up on his family's farm in southeastern Wisconsin. Production agriculture, teaching, and extension are careers that can be traced back many generations in the Hanson family. This ideal of promoting and communicating agriculture is truly found in his DNA. Dana's father was a vocational agriculture teacher and taught him the value of being part of something as important as agriculture; walks in the pasture to check cows regularly turned into classroom lessons.

After high school, Dr. Hanson attended South Dakota State University where he was a member of the National Champion Wool Judging Team and participated in livestock judging and meat animal evaluation. In 1996 he obtained is M.S. from SDSU and in 2009 his Ph.D. from University of Nebraska.

After a short stint in Washington D.C. working as a congressional legislative assistant, Dr. Hanson joined the faculty in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at North Carolina State University where he was tasked with building a Meat Science Extension program, assisting with designing a new meats lab, and teaching and conducting research. His strong

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working friendship with Smithfield Packing lead to the development of Pork 101 and Smithfield Pork University, two very successful employee training programs which have continued to grow. In 2014, Dr. Hanson was voted in as an Associate Member of the NCSU Animal Science Faculty. Dr. Hanson is an active member of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) and AMSA, and recently served as the Chairman of the AMSA 67th Reciprocal Meat Conference.

Article and photo courtesy of AMSA. Source: https://go.unl.edu/mp0y

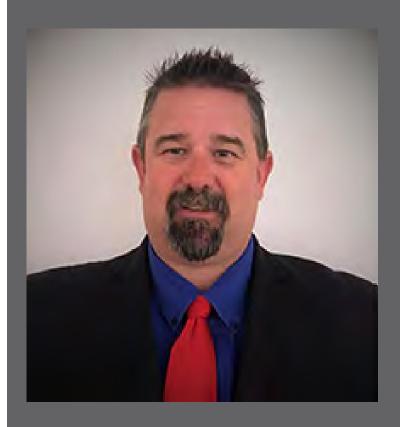
AMSA Distinguished Teaching Award

JOHN HENSON

American Meat Science Association is excited to announce that Dr. John Henson is the recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Teaching Award. The award was established to recognize excellence in the teaching of undergraduate and graduate meat science courses and the impact on the lives of those students in a highly positive manner. The award is sponsored by Hawkins, Inc. Dr. Henson will be honored at a special awards banquet at the AMSA 71st Reciprocal Meat Conference on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. John Henson was born and raised in Avenal, a small town in central California. He was very active in the FFA in high school, showing cattle and judging livestock. This lead him to West Hills Community College where he received his associate degree in animal science and judged on both the livestock and meats judging teams. Dr. Henson then earned his B.S. at California State University, Fresno while working at the university sheep unit and meats lab. He continued his education at University of Nebraska – Lincoln (M.S.) and South Dakota State University (Ph.D.).

Dr. Henson began his professional career at Busseto Foods in Fresno, California where he served as the plant manager. In 2000, he became a member of the faculty in the Department of Animal Science at California State University, Fresno. After 18 years of teaching and advising, he has built an impressive meat science program worthy of national recognition. At Fresno State, the motto is 'learn by doing' and this is exactly how Dr. Henson approaches his program. In 2016 Dr. Henson, in conjunction with Dr. Dana Hanson at North Carolina State University, created and implemented the Salumi 101 course. With the support of AMSA and other collaborating universities, the course is now an annual event.



In 2012, Dr. Henson was awarded the Nicolas Salgo Outstanding Teacher Award and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award of Merit. Students consistently rank Dr. Henson as one of the best teachers at Fresno State. In his mind, he is successful only if his students excel and are successful. In the past, many of his students have competed at the highest level in various competitions across the country. If meat science students recognize their opportunity at Fresno State, they are provided with a tremendous educational experience.

Article and photo courtesy of AMSA. Source: https://go.unl.edu/9iu2

Wisconsin Meat Industry Hall of Fame

During his distinguished career, Elton D. Aberle ("Abe") served as a professor and as Animal Sciences department head at esteemed academic institutions in the Midwest. His career culminated in his appointment as Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) and Director of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Without question, Abe's lifelong commitment to research and the teaching of meat science and his leadership and vision during his tenure at UW-Madison have raised the level of respect for agricultural education, research and extension in our state and in our country.

Abe was born in Sabetha, Kansas and was raised on a small multi-species livestock farm. He was the first in his family to attend college, earning a B.S. degree in Animal Husbandry from Kansas State University. He completed his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Food Science/Meat Science at Michigan State University. Abe met his bride, Carrie, at Michigan State and she has been a source of support and encouragement for over 50 years. They are blessed with two daughters, Krista and Barbara.

In his first academic position at Purdue University, Abe served as a teacher and research scientist in the Department of Animal Sciences. Abe's research focused on meat quality in pork and the porcine stress syndrome, the growth of muscle and adipose tissue in food animals, postmortem muscle metabolism and several topics in fresh meat processing. He was a favorite of his students with lively, creative and interactive instruction. He taught undergraduate courses in Live Animal and Carcass Evaluation, Food Chemistry, Animal Growth and Development and a Muscle Protein seminar for graduate students. Abe also mentored many graduate students. His former students are accomplished members of the meat industry and throughout academia. While at Purdue, Abe coauthored the textbook "Principles of Meat Science", which is regarded as the authoritative text for introductory meat science and is now in its 5th edition.



Dr. Aberle joined the Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska- Lincoln as professor and head in 1983. During his tenure, he oversaw the completion of a new Animal Sciences building, recognized as one of the finest animal science teaching and research facilities in the U.S. Abe provided leadership for the hiring of many new faculty members, the redirection of the research priorities and improvements to animal research farms, maintaining Nebraska's reputation for excellence.

In 1998, University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor David Ward found a highly qualified administrator, teacher and leader in Dr. Elton Aberle and Abe became Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Before accepting the role, Abe insisted on meeting staff and members of key agricultural organizations throughout the state. His good listening skills and his sincerity endeared him to those he served. As Dean, Abe was the guiding force for leadership, collaboration, and teamwork among 1,200 faculty and staff. During his tenure, significant advances were made in hiring women and minorities. Of the 300 faculty positions, 100 were new hires during his tenure. Abe's efforts were integral to the success of a campus-wide cluster hiring initiative. He also initiated an aggressive facility development plan for the College, led capital campaigns and encouraged efforts that doubled the monies secured through competitive federal grants. Abe was a consistent supporter of the effort to invest in the meat industry through the construction of the new meat science facility scheduled to open in 2019.

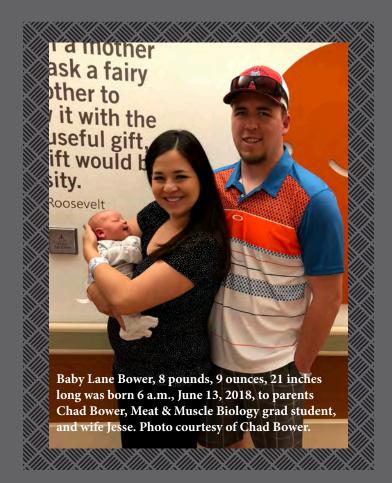
After retiring as UW's CALS Dean in 2005, Abe continued to be forward thinking and engaged in the development of Wisconsin's meat industry. Abe finds time to give classroom lectures, participate in undergraduate mentorship and, most recently, served as Chair of the Wisconsin Meat Industry Hall of Fame Committee.

Throughout his career, Abe prioritized service to the meat and animal industries and to academia. He served on the American Meat Science Association (AMSA) Board of Directors, as Chairman of the Reciprocal Meat Conference and as AMSA President. He served as section editor for the Journal of Animal Science and as President of the American Society

of Animal Science. Abe participated in founding the Federation of Animal Science Societies and in leadership of its successor organization, the Federation of American Societies for Food Animal Science. Abe's commitment is recognized with many awards for excellence in teaching, counseling, research and leadership. In 2008, the AMSA honored Abe with the prestigious R.C. Pollock Award for extraordinary and lasting contributions to the meat industry.

Abe's ability to build respectful, trusted, and collaborative relationships among the CALS staff, Wisconsin state government officials, and Wisconsin's state agricultural groups was influential in gaining support for investments in academic programs in CALS. Through these relationships, Abe laid the foundation for significant collaborative new investments in meat science staff and facility infrastructure from public and private supporters. Our future in the Wisconsin meat industry is bright because of Elton D. Aberle.

Article of photo courtesy of University of Wisconsin. Source: https://go.unl.edu/mfrz





TECH READY: Lukas Fricke (right), with Matt Bergmeyer at SmallData Tech, will be launching ChorChek. The technology is designed to be customizable for different levels of use.

Bringing blockchain to livestock production

Nebraska ag entrepreneur launches ChorChek to simplify record keeping and provide more transparency.

By: Tyler Harris

Published: April 6, 2018— Nebraska Farmer

By now, most people have heard of blockchain technology in some form or another — most likely relating to Bitcoin. However, this technology isn't limited to cryptocurrency. Agriculture has already seen the technology put to work in the commodities trading and precision ag data management spheres.

Working with an ag tech startup in a small office building in Waverly, one Nebraska pork producer has developed a tool that uses blockchain to help livestock producers keep records in a simplified, secure way.

The idea for the technology, ChorChek, came to Lukas Fricke after hearing fellow pork producers talk about the challenges related to record keeping. Fricke, who graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2015 before returning to the family farm near

Ulysses, also dealt with those challenges, and saw an opportunity to simplify the process and improve transparency in livestock production.

"As U.S. pork producers, we're viewed as shining beacons. We have a safe food supply, and we back that up. However, there's more pressure to be transparent," Fricke says. "We used to raise pigs in open lots and still kept records on paper back then. Now we have automated feeders [and] a controlled environment. But how are we keeping records? I think it's time for an upgrade."

"Everything comes down to paperwork. It seems we spend at least 10% of our time doing paperwork, if not more," Fricke says. "That's where this project started off — keeping track of who's in the barn and antibiotic use and information. Now it's grown to how we're going to market that information."

It was Fricke's participation in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Engler Entrepreneurship Program that helped bring his plan to fruition.

Neil Johnson, CEO of Phoenix Web Group, was an Engler Mentor, and over the last three years Fricke has worked with Phoenix to design the software platform. Last fall, SmallData Tech was created to manufacture sensors and maintain the data transmission network for various services and organizations. This spring, Fricke is launching ChorChek for commercial use.

Simple and secure

Through blockchain, subscribers can keep digital records in a simplified, secure way, Fricke says.

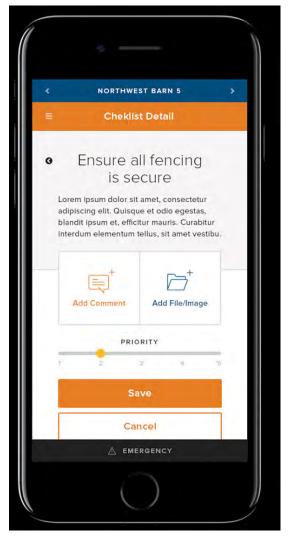
But what exactly is blockchain? Blockchain is named for a chain of blocks. New transactions in the blockchain, or new blocks, are created using information from previous blocks. Once added to the blockchain, data can't be changed or deleted without other users knowing.

"There are major transactions that occur in the system, specifically when pigs move up the scale from nursery to wean-to-finish barn to the processor," Johnson says. "Each of those transactions are recorded, and those time and date stamps are recorded and put on the blockchain."

"The advantage is when data changes hands, it doesn't turn into a bad game of telephone," adds Matt Bergmeyer, chief operating officer at SmallData Tech. "This technology puts the person at the end of the chain directly in the ear as the first person, so there is no delineation on what's being said."

To run ChorChek, a barn node (a specified location time-based stamp device) must be connected to a device called a barn hub. The barn hub, similar to a Wi-Fi router, is a centralized control unit that collects all of the data from the barn.

For example, when the employee gets within a certain radius of the barn, the barn hub automatically knows the employee is there. The idea is to place the barn node on the opposite end of the barn from the entrance, so when employees push the button, it not only proves they were inside the barn, but also walked

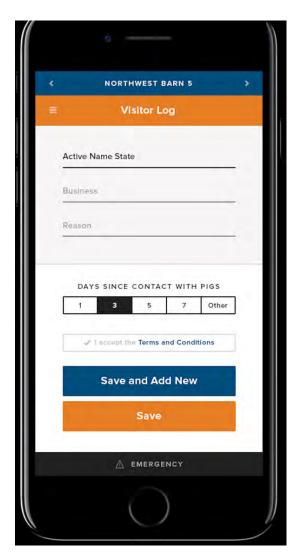


CHORE CHECKLIST: Producers can use the ChorChek app (pictured) for basic daily functions like checking in, signing the visitor's log, keeping records and making sure chores are completed.

past all of the animals to push the time stamp.

Subscribers will have an encryption key embedded into the system they use for their smartphone. This embedded encryption key ensures only certain users can access the data in the blockchain, and makes it easier to recognize employees where they are in proximity to the barn hub.

The program uses a publicly held, open-sourced radio frequency to transmit information without the need of a cellular or Wi-Fi connection. The network connects different barn hub devices to a central server in Waverly. From there, users can connect to the encrypted cloud server to access their information. The system has five layers of encryption, and requires



VISITOR'S LOG: The universal visitor's log helps keep track of where visitors came from and where they are going to track the spread of disease.

two-way authentication by both the producer and the person they're sharing the information with.

Users can log on to the ChorChek website to set up parameters for chores and barns, and the ChorChek app for basic daily functions like checking in, signing the visitor's log and keeping records.

In addition to keeping track of chores, this gives farm managers a tool to keep and share records digitally. For example, the universal visitor's log lets the user keep track of where visitors come from and where they are going to track the spread of diseases like foot-and-mouth disease, and whether visitors were recently in contact with other animals in an area where an outbreak may have taken place. It

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also provides a way to keep track of any antibiotic treatments those animals received.

"If I'm selling pigs, the buyer wants to know about health issues, where the pigs came from, antibiotic treatments they've received. I could write it all down, text it to him, but wouldn't it be easier to have a producer number and log in and check?" Fricke asks. "Now we have a road map of pigs across the U.S."

Looking ahead

While tech-savvy early-adopters will most likely be the first to jump on board this technology, Bergmeyer notes ChorChek can be customized to suit different uses based on the information and function the producer wants. Growers can use ChorChek for the basics of using the barn node and Hub, or they can use it for more detailed data sharing and record keeping.

"One of the objectives for Lukas was to tailor the project so that the 25-, 45- and 65-year-old farmer can all use it, because they all have different skill sets," Bergmeyer says. "Ultimately, there's a solution here for each of them."

In the future, Fricke hopes the barn hub will be able to connect to an assortment of sensors to monitor different components of a livestock barn.

The biggest benefit, however, will come as pressures mount for retailers, processors, and farmers and ranchers to provide more transparency on how food is raised. And, Fricke notes, it helps U.S. meat producers back up the quality of their product to export markets.

"Long term, I think it's the goal of people to understand where their food is coming from. I'd like for people to be able to interact with their product like never before," Fricke says. "That's hopefully the future of the product to enhance that farm-to-table experience. And increase animal health; create a better, more secure supply chain from farm to packinghouse; and identify potential problems in the industry."

To learn more, visit ChorChek.com, or contact Fricke at lukasf@chorchek.com.

Images courtesy of Nebraska Farmer.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Published by: Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources—*IANR News*

Currently Live: Minnetonka, Minn.

Occupation: District operations specialist for Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC.

What is your favorite memory from your time on East Campus?

My favorite memory was being anything in the Engler Entrepreneurship Program. I met some really amazing people and was able to be a part of an awesome experience that helped me to see my career path in a completely different light.

What is your life like today?

Currently, I am a district operations specialist. I work directly with sales reps in central and eastern Nebraska. I have the ability to travel and see different parts of the country and work with amazing people in the agriculture industry.

What words of advice would you give to a current CASNR student?

Take advantage of every opportunity that is presented to you and network with your peers and professors as much as possible. You never know who you will run into down the road.

JACY PANNELL



Hometown: Hulett, Wyo. Major: Animal Science Graduation Date: May 2014

Photo courtesy of Jacy Pannell.

Source: https://ianrnews.unl.edu/alumni-spotlight-jacy-pannell

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Published by: Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources—IANR News

What does graduating from Nebraska mean to you?

Graduating from Nebraska means that I have reached a pivotal moment in my life. I have completed half of my schooling and received a solid education that I can continue forward with.

Involvements while on campus:

- -University of Nebraska Rodeo Association (president and sponsorship chair)
- -University of Nebraska Rodeo Team (women's team captain and points team member)
- -Undergraduate research with John Dustin Loy at the Veterinary Diagnostic Center
- -Burr Hall Council (first floor president)
- -University of Nebraska Honors Program (completed thesis and requirements)

Plans after graduation:

I will be going to veterinary school at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.



Hometown: Aurora, S.D. **Major: Animal Science Graduation Date: May 2018**

Photo courtesy of Kara Robbins.

Source: https://ianrnews.unl.edu/alumni-spotlight-kara-robbins

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Published by: Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources—*IANR News*

Currently Live: Atlantic, Iowa

Occupation: Sales agronomist/ seed manager for Wickman Chemical

What is your favorite memory from your time on East Campus? My favorite memories of my time at East Campus would be all of the late evenings spent studying at the Gamma Delta iota house, or all of the wheat, rye, and barley research that I got to participate in at "The Plot."

What is your life like today?

In August, I married my wife Lauren whom I met at UNL. We had chemistry together from the beginning (no seriously, Chem 109) and things escalated from there (to chem 110, and then organic chem). She is in Lincoln finishing up her master's degree to become a registered dietician, so we spend a lot of time staring at windshields as we make frequent trips to Atlantic, Lincoln, and back to the family farm in Farwell to help out when we can, and to check in on the fledgling cattle herd that we are growing. When not on the road or working, I like to spend my time following Husker athletics and messing around at the local YMCA before I retire to the couch or find some friends to hang out with for the evening.

CLARK RATHMAN



Hometown: Farwell, Neb. Major: Agricultural Business Minor: Agronomy; Animal Science Graduation Date: May 2016

Photo courtesy of Clark Rathman.

What words of advice would you give to a current CASNR student?

Be active in three clubs, make personal connections with both students and teachers, and stay in touch with them on at least a yearly basis. What you do outside of class will be more valuable to you than what you do in class.

Source:

https://go.unl.edu/i7d0

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Published by: Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources—IANR News

What does graduating from Nebraska mean to you?

Nebraska has become my home away from home and CASNR has become my second family. I am proud to be graduating from Nebraska.

What are your plans after graduation?

I have accepted a full-time position with Cargill working as an operations management associate at their beef processing facility in Fresno, Calif.

After graduation, I am most looking forward to more life changing adventures.

The best thing about being a Husker is the people at UNL who make it so hard to leave.

Involvements:

- -Christian Student Fellowship
- -Connect
- -Block and Bridle



Hometown: Granby, Conn. Major: Animal Science **Graduation Date: May 2018**

Photo courtesy of Brigitte Rathey.

Source: https://ianrnews.unl.edu/alumni-spotlight-brigitte-rathey

Jen Bundy receives the Learning Community Coordinator Award

JEN BUNDY

By: Megan Lutz, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Communications Service, Iowa State University

"I've always loved learning," said Jen Bundy, assistant professor in the animal science department.

She is passionate about all aspects of learning, whether it's teaching, advising or working with the learning community. That may be the reason she was earned the 2018 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Learning Community Coordinator Award.

"I've never won a College of Agriculture and Life Sciences award before," Bundy said. "I'm here for the students."

Originally from St. Louis, Bundy started at Iowa State in the fall of 2014 teaching genetics and coordinating the learning community.

Bundy comes in contact with almost all of the 1,100 students in the department. This semester she's training 44 peer mentors who will work with the incoming freshman.

Cori Siberski, graduate student in the animal science department, works closely with Bundy within the learning community.

"She is a great role model to have and a wonderful mentor," Siberski said. "I can without a doubt say that the animal science learning community would not be nearly as successful without Bundy."

Bundy values the interaction with students and the impact her work has on their lives.

"The coolest thing in the world is when you're with



a student and teaching something and they just get it," Bundy said.

Bundy describes learning as a never-ending process.

"It's not just acquiring knowledge, but acquiring experiences as well," Bundy said. "And it's more than just memorizing and regurgitating information."

Bundy received her Ph.D. in 2008 and her master's degree in 2005 in breeding and genetics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Columbia in animal science in 2002.

Source: https://go.unl.edu/og28

IN MEMORIAM

SHIRLEY SIBERT



Shirley Sibert, 91, died July 6, 2018. Shirley was wife of Frank Sibert, Animal Science alum and 2004 Block and Bridle Club honoree. Through the Sibert's generous contribution to the Frank and Shirley Sibert Scholarship fund each year, we are able to award scholarships to several of our students. Please keep the family in your prayers.

LARAYNE WAHLSTROM



LaRayne Wahlstrom, 94, died July 17, 2018. LaRayne and her husband, Richard, established a scholarship in Animal Science that is awarded to an incoming freshman annually. Funeral services was, July 21 at First United Methodist Church, Brookings, S.D. Please keep the Wahlstrom family in your thoughts and prayers.

HARRY HART



Harry Hart, 91, died Aug. 27, 2018. Harry, was dedicated to Animal Science and 4-H, and was the 1987 Block and Bridle Club honoree. Please keep Harry's wife and family in your thoughts and prayers.



SAVE THE DATE



Alumni & Friends Reunion Block & Bridle Club Banquet at Nebraska Innovation Campus

Annual Bull Sale

Old Timer's Judging Contest at the R.B. Warren Arena

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Nebraska Lincoln October 23: Animal Science Experiential Learning Symposium, 5 - 9 p.m., Animal Science Complex

November 2 - 4: Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium, Animal Science Complex

November 15 - 16: Animal Science External Advisory Committee Meeting, Animal Science Complex

November 17: IANR Football Tailgate hosted by IANR and Department of Animal Science, Nebraska East Union

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:



Get ready to read an historic feature about the restoration of the Warner bull, Golden Design 14, in the Spring 2019 issue of the Animal Science Nsider. It is a story about a Hereford bull sculpture done by Arlo Bray, and owned by Charlie Warner.

For more information about any event, visit www.animalscience.unl.edu.

STAY CONNECTED

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



Follow us on Instagram @unl_anisci.

Animal Science alumni website:

https://animalscience.unl.edu/alumni

Update contact information:

Alumni can update their contact information by contacting the Nebraska Alumni Association at https://go.unl.edu/aw2t.

Connect to job opportunities with Handshake

Handshake 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, view upcoming local and on-campus career events, learn which employers are attending upcoming career fairs, research contact information for local and national employers, and search for and apply to open positions. For more information, visit Handshake at: https://careers.unl.edu/handshake.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Animal Science publishes the Animal Science Nsider semi-annually. To request a printed issue of Animal Science Nsider please visit https://animalscience.unl.edu/alumni-friends-news and select Request an Issue at the bottom of the page.

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

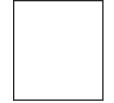
Or, email your responses to: pclachar2@unl.edu

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.



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



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