

Animal Science Weekly

January 10, 2011



Inside this issue:

New design unveiled for Howard Hesby Student Atrium



COLLEGE STATION – A new design for the Howard Hesby Student Atrium renovation project has been unveiled and is in its final stages of planning.

The atrium will reflect the three academic departments located in the Kleberg Center and provide a student-oriented place where faculty and students can interact, and where students can feel comfortable and at home. The proposed design introduces updated furnishings and lighting, and the space will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology including video monitors, WiFi for lap top computers and hand held devices. The existing pyramid glass ceiling structure will continue to provide natural lighting to the trees and plants in the existing planters.

Construction is planned to begin in May or June 2011 and be completed this fall in time to kick off the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences centennial celebration.

To learn more about the atrium project, go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/hesby-atrium>.



See additional renderings on page 2.

- New design unveiled for Howard Hesby Student Atrium
- Texas Pork Producers give back through Snowball Express
- Animal Science program wins Best of the Barns Award
- Dr. Leon “Bill” Pope passes away
- Recent publications
- Upcoming events

Kleberg classrooms updated

The four small classrooms in Kleberg received a fresh coat of paint over the holiday break. New photos also are planned for the classrooms that will depict the history of the three academic departments housed in the building – Animal Science, Poultry Science, and Nutrition and Food Science. This effort is being led by Dr. Jodi Sterle, associate professor in the Department of Animal Science.



Find us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/tamuanimalscience>

proposed design



Texas pork producers give back through Snowball Express

DALLAS – Pork producers and their families from Texas, Illinois, and the National Pork Board procured, cooked and served military families from across the country as part of the Snowball Express at the famous Southfork Ranch on December 12.

Snowball Express is a volunteer effort organized to provide hope and memories to the children of military heroes who have died while on active duty since September 11, 2001. This event is the largest annual gathering of surviving military spouses and their children. One day of the event this year was held at Southfork Ranch near Dallas. The children enjoyed horseback riding, wagon rides, a farm animal petting zoo, mechanical bull riding as well as numerous other games and activities for fun. More than 1,400 families participated in the five day experience.

In addition to the efforts with Snowball Express, Texas Pork Producers Association and the National Pork Board coordinated a donation of 3,500 pounds of pork loins to the North Dallas Food Bank. This will provide meals for more than 17,000 individuals during the next few weeks. The donation was made by Smithfield Foods on behalf of the U.S. pork producers “We Care” initiative. David Kempen and Past TPPA President Stanley Young presented the donation on December 11. Ken Townsend with the



Left, Pork producers Carl Kent, Chuck Real, Jimmy Hayes, Kyle Stephens and Dennis Smith prepare pork loin for serving.

Food Bank stated that demand on their supply of quality protein was at a critical level and the donation of fresh pork would help significantly.

Dr. Jodi Sterle, Extension swine specialist, and her family were there to help. “What an awesome way for pork producers to step up and help out where needed. We gained as much as we gave from this,” Sterle said.

Animal Science program wins Best of the Barns Award

Texas A&M University has won the 2010 “Best of the Barns” Award for the Best University Animal Science Program. This awards program was created in 2010 by Ranch House Designs, Inc. and is voted on by livestock friends and fans. More than 3,000 people voted for their favorites in an online poll. The Department of Animal Science thanks all of its loyal friends and fans for voting for us. We appreciate your support! To view a complete list of the winners go to www.bestofthebarns.com.



Dr. Leon “Bill” Pope passes away

We note with sadness the passing of Dr. Leon “Bill” Pope on December 27. After a distinguished military career, Dr. Pope joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University as a Beef Cattle Professor and served as Department Head. In 1968, he accepted the position of Associate Dean of Agriculture at Texas A&M University. He then served as Dean of Agriculture at New Mexico State University from 1976 to 1986. After retiring from NMSU, he and his wife, Polly, returned to College Station where he began the TALL (Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership) Program. Dr. Pope was a strong supporter of the Animal Science Department. He enjoyed long-term friendships with faculty members such as the late Dr. Ronnie Edwards that originated during their relationship as student and graduate advisor at Oklahoma State. Dr. Pope became very active with the department’s retirees group and often served as coordinator of retiree functions and communication.

Dr. Pope is survived by his wife, Polly; sons and daughter-in-law, Ron and Nita Pope of Olsburg, Kan.; Tom Pope of Marlow, Okla.; daughter and son-in-law Susan and Tim Brown of Westmoreland, KS; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Services for Dr. Pope were held on December 30 in College Station, with interment following in Marlow, Okla. We extend our sympathies to the Pope Family.

Recent publications

- Haneklaus, A. N., K. B. Harris, M. Márquez-González, L. M. Lucia, A. Castillo, M. D. Hardin, W. N. Osburn, and J. W. Savell. 2011. Alternative cooling procedures for large, intact meat products to achieve stabilization microbiological performance standards. *J. Food Protect.* 74: 101-105.
- Whitney, T. R., and C. J. Lupton. 2010. Evaluating percentage of roughage in lamb finishing diets containing 40% dried distillers grains: Growth, serum urea nitrogen, non-esterified fatty acids, and insulin growth factor-1 concentrations and wool, carcass, and fatty acid characteristics. *J. Anim. Sci.* 88:3030-3040.
- Whitney, T. R., and B. E. Olson. 2010. Can sheep and cattle rumen microorganisms be conditioned to invasive weeds? *Sheep and Goat Res. J.* 25:26-31.
- George, C. H., C. B. Scott, T. R. Whitney, C. J. Owens, B. J. May, and R. Brantely. 2010. Supplements containing escape protein improve redberry juniper intake by goats. *Rangel. Ecol. Manage.* 63:655-661.
- Whitney, T. R., and K. W. Braden. 2010. Substituting cottonseed meal with dried distillers grains in lamb feedlot rations: carcass and meat characteristics. *Sheep and Goat Res. J.* 25:49-56.
- Whitney, T. R., A. E. Lee, D. R. Klein, C. B. Scott, and T. M. Craig. 2010. A modified in vitro larvae migration inhibition assay using rumen fluid to evaluate *Haemonchus contortus* viability. *Vet. Parasitol.* In Press <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21109354>
- Lee, A., J. P. Muir, B. D. Lambert, J. L. Reilley, and T. R. Whitney. 2010. Herbage nitrogen, fiber and in vitro disappearance using steer and goat rumen liquid during establishment of three Great Plains grasses. *Crop Sci.* In Press

Recent publications continued

- McNeal, C., G. Wu, S. Vasquez, D.P. Wilson, M.C. Satterfield, J.R. McKnight, and H. Malbari. 2010. The role of arginine for treating obese youth. In: *Global Perspectives on Childhood Obesity* (D. Bagchi, ed.), Elsevier, New York, NY. pp. 433-442.
- Wu, G. 2010. Biochemical and physiological limitations to efficiency of amino acid utilization for animal growth. In: *Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition* (G.M. Croveto, ed.), Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. pp. 363-372.
- Satterfield, M.C., J.R. McKnight, X.L. Li, and G. Wu. 2011. Nutrition, epigenetics, and vascular function. In: *Nutrition, Epigenetic Mechanisms, and Human Disease* (N. Maulik, ed.), CRC Press, New York. pp. 125-139.
- McKnight, J.R., M.C. Satterfield, X.L. Li, H.J. Gao, J.J. Wang, D.F. Li, and G. Wu. 2011. Obesity in pregnancy: problems and potential solutions. *Front. Biosci.* E3:442-452.
- Xi, P.B., Z.Y. Jiang, C.T. Zheng, Y.C. Lin, and G. Wu. 2011. Regulation of protein metabolism by glutamine: implications for nutrition and health. *Front. Biosci.* 16:578-597.
- Yao, K., Y.L. Yin, Z.M. Feng, Z.R. Tang, J. Fang, and G. Wu. 2011. Tryptophan metabolism in animals: important roles in nutrition and health. *Front. Biosci.* S3:286-297.
- Lei, X.Q., C.P. Feng, C. Liu, G. Wu, C.J. Meininger, F.L. Wang, D.F. Li, and J.J. Wang. 2011. Regulation of protein expression by L-arginine in endothelial cells. *Front. Biosci.* S3:655-661.
- Kong, X.F., G. Wu and Y.L. Yin. 2011. Roles of phytochemicals in amino acid nutrition. *Front. Biosci.* S3:372-384.
- Hou, Y.Q., L. Wang, B.Y. Ding, Y.L. Liu, H.L. Zhu, J. Liu, Y.T. Li, P. Kang, Y.L. Yin, and G. Wu. 2011. Alpha-ketoglutarate and intestinal function. *Front. Biosci.* 16:1186-1196.
- Satterfield, M.C. and G. Wu. 2011. Growth and development of brown adipose tissue: significance and nutritional regulation. *Front. Biosci.* 16:1589-1608.
- Dai, Z.L. W.Y. Zhu, and G. Wu. 2011. Amino acid metabolism in intestinal bacteria: links between gut ecology and host health. *Front. Biosci.* 16:1768-1786.
- Lekatz, L.A., G. Wu, J.S. Caton, J.B. Taylor, L.P. Reynolds, D.A. Redmer, and K.A. Vonnahme. 2011. Maternal selenium supplementation and timing of nutrient restriction in pregnant sheep: Impacts on nutrient availability to the fetus. *J. Anim. Sci.* 89:59-76.

Upcoming events

Equine Reproductive Management Short Course (Jan. 11-13, 2011 - College Station) - For more information visit <<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/equine-repro-short-course.htm>> or contact Dr. Vogelsang at 979-845-7731 or by e-mail at <m-vogelsang@tamu.edu>.

Southwest Beef Symposium (Jan. 18-19, 2011 - Amarillo Civic Center) - For more information visit <<http://swbs.nmsu.edu/>> or contact Bruce Carpenter at 432-336-8585 or by e-mail at <bcarpent@ag.tamu.edu>.



Department of Animal Science - Dr. H. Russell Cross, Professor & Interim Head
2471 TAMU - College Station, TX 77843-2471 - Tel. 979.862.4994 - <http://animalscience.tamu.edu>

Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Courtney Coufal <cacoufal@tamu.edu>