

Animal Science Weekly

February 18, 2008

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Randel Designated as Recipient of Distinguished Service Award

DALLAS, TEXAS (February 2-5, 2008) - Dr. Ronald D. Randel, Regents Professor and Senior Texas AgriLife Research Fellow in the Physiology of Reproduction Section of the Department of Animal Science based at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center in Overton, was designated as the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award by the American Society of Animal Science's Southern Section. The Southern Section recognizes and honors one of its members for outstanding service to the livestock industry each year. Randel received this award at the annual meeting of the American Society of Animal Science Southern Section, which was held in conjunction with the 105th Annual Meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists.

Sterle Receives Young Animal Scientist Award

DALLAS, TEXAS (February 2-5, 2008) - Dr. Jodi Sterle, Associate Professor and Extension Swine Specialist in the Physiology of Reproduction Section of the Department of Animal Science, received the Young Animal Scientist - Education Award at the American Society of Animal Science Southern Section annual meeting. Nominees for the award must have made an outstanding contribution in education in the field of Animal Science; these accomplishments may be in the public, industry, and/or private sectors. Sterle develops educational programming related to swine production to serve a diverse clientele including the youth show pig industry, independent commercial producers, and the large vertically-integrated operations. She teaches honors and laboratory sections of the Introductory Animal Science course, and has developed a new course entitled "The Art and Heritage of Livestock".

McCollum Wins Extension Award

DALLAS, TEXAS (February 2-5, 2008) - Dr. Ted McCollum, Professor and Extension Beef Cattle Specialist in the Department of Animal Science stationed in Amarillo, won the Extension Award at the American Society of Animal Science Southern Section annual meeting. Nominees for the award must have made an outstanding and noteworthy contribution in the field of Animal Science. McCollum has served beef cattle producers in the Texas Panhandle for 12 years, and has developed timely programs that have responded to the needs of producers not only in his region, but throughout the state as well. He was instrumental in developing the Texas Beef Quality Producer program, the High Plains Nutrition Conference, and coordinated the Ranch to Rail program.

Department Represented at National Cattlemen's Beef Association Convention

RENO, NEVADA (February 4-9, 2008) - Faculty and graduate students from the Department of Animal Science attended the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Convention in Reno, Nevada. Drs. Ron Gill and Dan Hale presented the results of the 2006-2007 National Market Cow and Bull Audit to attendees of the NCBA Cattlemen's

College. Dr. Ron Gill also conducted live cattle demonstrations on low-stress livestock handling during the convention trade show. These demonstrations illustrated cattle handling to reduce stress and chute-side management presentations focusing on proper methods to carry out routine processing of cattle to enhance immune system response to vaccinations. Departmental faculty in attendance included Drs. Gary Acuff, Gordon Carstens, Jason Cleere, Ron Gill, Dan Hale, Dave Lunt, Jason Sawyer, Luis Tedeschi, and Tryon Wickersham.



Pictured left: Faculty and graduate students from the Department of Animal Science attended the NCBA Convention.

Dixie National Marks Livestock Judging Team's Third Consecutive Win

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI (February 9, 2008) - The all cattle contest at the Dixie National marked the Texas A&M University Livestock Judging Team's third consecutive win. Oklahoma State and the University of Arkansas finished second and third in the overall team competition. Texas A&M won high team honors in the American, British, Continental, and Reasons categories. Individually, Brice Mund, Gwen Powers, Randa Yezak, and Lucas Neumayr were second, fifth, eighth, and tenth respectively. The team is coached by Dr. Chris Skaggs, and graduate students Blake Bloomberg and Zach Rambo. Team members include: Dustin Burke, Christian Fridye, Brice Mund, Lucas Neumayr, Ryan Page, Gwen Powers, Faris Simon, Cody Sloan, Ben Warfield, and Randa Yezak. Their next competition will be at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition.



◀ The all cattle contest at the Dixie National marked the Texas A&M University Livestock Judging Team's third consecutive win.

Wool Judging Team Dominates at San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (February 9, 2008) - The Texas A&M University Wool Judging Team dominated at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Intercollegiate Wool Judging Contest by winning the top three high team overall honors. Texas Tech University finished fourth, fifth, and sixth while Angelo State was seventh and eighth in the overall team competition. Individually, Texas A&M had seven of the top ten individuals overall. Rebecca Hamilton, Katy Faulk, Kaleigh Burnett, Bryan Weaver, Kenton Kirkpatrick, Greta Monson, and Paul Wunderlich finished first, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and ninth overall. The team is coached by Dr. Shawn Ramsey, graduate students Carl Muntean and Will Dickinson, and undergraduate student Aaron Jennings. Team members include: Kaleigh Burnet, Katy Faulk, Katelyn Grimshaw, Rebecca Hamilton, Zach Hubert, Kenton Kirkpatrick, Kandi Knippa, Joslyn Kotzur, Baylie Miller, Greta Monson, Bryan Weaver, and Paul Wunderlich. The team will try to complete winning a national championship title at the Houston Livestock Show in March.

Equine Symposium & Sale to be Held in May

The Equine Section in the Department of Animal Science in cooperation with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service will be presenting the Texas A&M Equine Symposium and Sale on May 3, 2008. The symposium will feature several horse training demonstrations by some of the performance horse industry's leading trainers, and featured speakers from the Equine Science Section. In addition, a special feature will be a horse sale, which will include 35 horses from the Animal Science horse herd and consignments from Texas Tech and Tarleton State Universities. The sale is being planned and managed by students enrolled in a horse sales management class taught by Dr. Dennis Sigler.

Whitney Receives Grant for Nutritional Research

Dr. Travis Whitney, Assistant Professor stationed in San Angelo, received a grant from the Texas Corn Producer's Board, which will be used to evaluate distiller's dried grains in lamb growing rations.

Cleere Presents Beef Cattle Short Course Survey Results

DALLAS, TEXAS (February 5, 2008) - Dr. Jason Cleere presented the 2006 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course Evaluation at the American Society of Animal Science Southern Section annual meeting.

Former Student Inducted Into Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor

Former student Lieutenant General James T. Scott, Class of '64, was recently inducted into the Corps of Cadets Hall of Honor. Throughout his 32-year military career in the United States Army, he held several key senior commands in Europe, Africa, Korea, and the United States, and participated in operations in Somalia, Haiti, and the Balkans as well as in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics missions worldwide. He currently serves as chairman of the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, is a partner at Watson & Associates, and teaches at Howard Payne University.

Upcoming Events

Interdisciplinary Faculty of Reproductive Biology Forum - (February 22 - 12:00 p.m. - Room 210 VMS) - Dr. Tim Cudd, Texas A&M University Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, will present. For more information, please contact Dr. Fuller Bazer at 979-845-5929.

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (March 5 - 11:30 a.m. - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Mike Tomaszewski, Texas A&M University Department of Animal Science, will present. Please RSVP to Kristi Smith <k_hemann@tamu.edu> no later than Friday, February 29. For more information regarding the seminar series, please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at 979-845-5065.



Department of Animal Science - Dr. Gary Acuff, Professor & 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 Grace Glenn <g-glenn@tamu.edu> (979.845.1543)