

Animal Science Weekly

September 7, 2009

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White joins department as equine lecturer

Dr. Laura White has joined the Department of Animal Science as a lecturer in the equine science section. White teaches ANSC 311 Equine Behavior and Training and coordinates all lab sections. She is also teaching ANSC 312 Equestrian Technology. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, White will advise and coach the stock horse team.

White graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in animal science in 2004. She earned a master's degree in animal science with an emphasis in equine nutrition from the University of Georgia in 2006. In 2009, White completed her doctorate degree in animal and veterinary sciences from Clemson University, with an emphasis in pedagogy, higher order thinking in undergraduate agriculture student.

Prior to joining A&M, White worked as an instructor at Clemson University while working on her doctorate and taught equine courses and general animal science courses. She also coached the ranch horse team and reining horse judging team.

Savell appointed as CAST representative

The American Meat Science Association Executive Committee has appointed Dr. Jeff Savell, a regents professor in meat science, to a three-year term as the association's representative on the board of the Council of Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST). CAST is best known for its issue papers and other scientific publications that address current issues common to a broad base of agricultural disciplines.

Dr. Savell will begin his work with CAST this fall as the board meets to determine priorities for future publications and works on its goals of expanding the reach of these valuable resources. He brings years of experience as a meat scientist and a long history of experience as an AMSA member and leader. In 2002, he served as AMSA president and has worked on numerous programs and committees during his tenure with the organization.



Animal Care and Use training held for graduate students

Nearly 75 graduate research and teaching assistants in the Department of Animal Science attended an Animal Care and Use training session August 31 to review practices and protocols the department strives to implement when handling and caring for animals. Drs. Gary Acuff, Ron Gill, David Forrest, Ted Friend and Jason Sawyer participated in the discussion of the department's expectations for the care and use of animals in teaching, research and extension activities. Specific topics included proper animal use in laboratories and demonstrations, use in research, animal care and use policies and procedures, and how to respond to concerns in these areas. Several scientists in the department conduct research and extension programs on animal well being and behavior, especially related to animal care and management strategies designed to enhance health and productivity through improved animal care. Through these programs the department has become a leader in advocating professionalism in handling animals.

Harris, Savell, Haneklaus participate in ICoMST meetings

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK – Dr. Kerri Harris, associate professor, Dr. Jeff Savell, regents professor, and Ashley Haneklaus, meat science graduate student, participated in the 55th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology (ICoMST) meetings in Copenhagen, Denmark August 16-21, 2009.

Haneklaus presented a poster on post-cooking stabilization research and Dr. Harris was invited to give an oral presentation on lethality research both related to the food safety challenges of cooking and cooling large hams and roast beef. Peter Andreasen, a student at the University of Copenhagen and a former visiting student in the department, presented work, conducted with Dr. Wes Osburn, on the nutritionally enhanced frankfurters.

In addition to the congress, Harris, Haneklaus and Savell toured Danish Crown, the largest pork processing company in Denmark, and participated in a one-day conference sponsored by ProSafeBeef, an EU project on quality and safety of beef.



ASHLEY HANEKLAUS



DR. KERRI HARRIS

2009 Aggieland Lamb and Goat Camps

COLLEGE STATION -- The 2009 Aggieland Lamb and Goat Camps were held in July at Pearce Pavilion, marking the 10th anniversary of the goat camp. The Lamb Camp brought 400 participants to College Station on July 17-19, 2009, and the Goat Camp was held July 24-26, 2009, attracting 450 camp goers from across the state of Texas, Louisiana and Nebraska. These three-day camps focus on the basics of feeding, selection, health and showmanship, and allow the children an opportunity to bring and work their own animals.

The camp is organized and operated each year

by Dr. Shawn Ramsey, student workers and graduate students as well as 25 volunteers from Texas who served as instructors. Surefed Feeds sponsored the awards which consisted of blankets for the top three showmanship winners and bags for the winner of the Top Hand award in each age group. Honor Show Chow and Sullivan Show Supply sponsored the camp meals.



Salinas selected in Washington, D.C. intern program

COLLEGE STATION – David Salinas, a junior animal science major from McAllen, TX, is one of 15 students from the College of Agriculture and Life Science to have been selected to intern in Washington, D.C. this fall as part of the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy (ANRP) Internship Program.

These students will be placed with Texas congressional representatives, the House Committee on Agriculture and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA).



“This internship program gives Texas A&M’s agricultural students the opportunity to gain real world experience in a challenging and rewarding environment,” said Breanne Svehla, director of the ANRP Internship Program. “It is one of the few programs in the nation specifically geared toward

transforming today’s agricultural students into tomorrow’s leaders.”

Salinas will be interning for Congressman Ruben Hinojosa and is looking forward to working with the Congressman from his home district.

While at Texas A&M, Salinas has been an active member of the COALS Student Council, the Animal Science Aggie REPS, and the Freshman Leadership Experience. After graduation, he plans to attend graduate school in the Department of Animal Science and focus on beef cattle.

In addition to Salinas, several students from the Department of Animal Science have participated in the program since its beginning in 1990. In the spring of 2009, Jessica Glover interned for the NASDA and Johnathan Porter worked for Congressman Jeb Hensarling, both now graduates of the department.

For a complete story listing all 15 interns, please visit <http://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/news/9-2009-ANRP.php>.

Welcome NEW Students



The Animal Science Department hosted incoming students as well as those returning to a welcome party at Pearce Pavilion on Friday, August 28. New students met the faculty and visited with current students before classes began on Monday.



Recipes Needed



The Saddle & Sirloin Club needs your favorite recipe for the first edition S&S Cookbook, scheduled to be released before Christmas. Anyone associated with the Department of Animal Science is encouraged to submit a recipe - current faculty, staff,

students and alumni. This cookbook will serve as a great fundraiser for the club and it brings together all the wonderful folks associated with the department and the club. To enter a recipe: (1) go to <http://www.typensave.com/> (2) Enter the contributor's name as it should appear in cookbook (3) Log

in = tamu (4) password = yummy (5) click on "Add Recipe"

For more information please contact Emily Huskinson at Emilyhusk@tamu.edu. Recipes due by October 10. Thanks for supporting the club!



Annual Sheep & Goat Field Day held

SAN ANGELO – The 36th annual Sheep and Goat Field Day was held in San Angelo on September 3, 2009. Animal Science faculty Drs. Travis Whitney, Frank Craddock and Dan Waldron presented information on the beneficial effects of plant chemicals, ram evaluation using visual appraisal and records, and genetic conservation of livestock. Others from Texas AgriLife and industry representatives were on hand to discuss identification of poisonous plants and animal symptoms and to present updates from the industry.

Pictured to the right: Dr. Frank Craddock, professor and Extension sheep and goat specialist, demonstrates how to evaluate Rambouillet rams during of the field day.



Swine Extension educators meet in Houston

HOUSTON – National Pork Board's Swine Extension Educators Conference was held July 28-30, 2009 in Houston.

Dr. Jodi Sterle, associate professor and Extension swine specialist, currently serves as chair of this group and hosted the meeting and tour. The group toured Cargill's grain export facilities at the Port of Houston, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and Reliant Stadium, the Institute of Biosciences and Technology, and experienced a behind the scenes tour of agricultural research at NASA. In addition to receiving industry and scientific updates, the group met with the Producer Services Committee for input into National Pork Board's Plan of Work.

Animal Science Graduate Student Association to meet

The Animal Science Graduate Student Association will hold a Meet and Greet Wednesday, September 9, 2009 starting at 5:15 p.m. in the Kleberg atrium. Learn more about the club and how to get involved. Pizza and drinks will be served. For more information, contact Jeremy Redmond at jsr207@tamu.edu.

In memory of Lana Fisher

Lana Fisher '05 passed from this life on September 3, 2009, after a courageous two-year battle with melanoma. Lana and Chad Fisher '03 (ANSC) married in 2003. The Fisher family has an outstanding legacy with the Department of Animal Science. Chad's parents, John '79 (ANSC) and Sheena '79, have generously supported activities across the department, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Texas A&M University during the past 30 years. John and Wade '07 (ANSC) both provided exemplary leadership as president of the Saddle & Sirloin Club. The Fisher's have enthusiastically assisted the Department of Animal Science in countless endeavors including auctioneering for S&S, providing music and sound for a National Block & Bridle Convention and speaking to student groups. We extend our sincere condolences to Chad and the family.

Recent publications

- Kim, Y. H., J. T. Keeton, S. B. Smith, L. R. Berghman, and J. W. Savell. 2009. Role of lactate dehydrogenase in metmyoglobin reduction and color stability of different bovine muscles. *Meat Sci.* 83: 376-382.
- Yin, F.G., Y.L. Liu, Y.L. Yin, X.F. Kong, R.L. Huang, T.J. Li, G.Y. Wu, and Y.Q. Hou. 2009. Dietary supplementation with Astragalus polysaccharide enhances ileal digestibilities and serum concentrations of amino acids in early weaned piglets. *Amino Acids* 37: 263-270.
- Tan, B.E., X.G. Li, X.F. Kong, R.L. Huang, Z. Ruan, K. Yao, Z.Y. Deng, M.Y. Xie, I. Shinzato, Y.L. Yin, and G. Wu. 2009. Dietary L-arginine supplementation enhances the immune status in early-weaned piglets. *Amino Acids* 37: 323-331.
- McNeal, C.J., D.P. Wilson, D. Christou, R.L. Bush, L.G. Shepherd, J. Santiago, and G.Y. Wu. 2009. The use of surrogate vascular markers in youth at risk for premature cardiovascular disease. *J. Pediatr. Endocrinol. Metab.* 22: 195-211.

Recent publications continued

- Manso Filho, H.C., K.H. McKeever, M.E. Gordon, H.E. Manso, W.S. Lagakos, G. Wu, and M. Watford. 2009. Developmental changes in the concentrations of glutamine and other amino acids in plasma and skeletal muscle of the Standardbred foal. *J. Anim. Sci.* 87: 2528-2535.
- Li, P., D.A. Knabe, S.W. Kim, C.J. Lynch, S.M. Hutson, and G. Wu. 2009. Lactating porcine mammary tissue catabolizes branched-chain amino acids for glutamine and aspartate synthesis. *J. Nutr.* 139: 1502-1509.
- Sindler, A.L., M.D. Delp, R. Reyes, G. Wu, and J.M. Muller-Delp. 2009. Effects of aging and exercise training on eNOS uncoupling in skeletal muscle resistance arterioles. *J. Physiol.* 587:3885-3897.
- Haneklaus, A., M. Marquez-Gonzalez, L. Lucia, A. Castillo, M. Hardin, W. Osburn, K. Harris, and J. Savell. 2009. Complying with stabilization microbiological performance standards using alternative cooling procedures for large, intact meat products. Proc. 55th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology, Copenhagen, Denmark, PE5.04.
- Harris, K., A. Haneklaus, M. Marquez-Gonzalez, L. Lucia, A. Castillo, M. Hardin, W. Osburn, and J. Savell. 2009. Ensuring compliance with lethality microbiological performance standards for meat products using alternative cooking procedures for large, intact meat products. Proc. 55th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology, Copenhagen, Denmark, PE5.06.
- Andreasen, P., A. Lowder, M. Pinnerup, and W. Osburn. 2009. Characteristics of nutritionally enhanced frankfurters. Proc. 55th International Congress of Meat Science and Technology, Copenhagen, Denmark, PE9.23.

Upcoming events

Department of Animal Science Special Seminar (September 9, 2009 - 3:00 p.m. - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Christopher Kerth, Auburn University, will present "*Making Meat Science Palatable to Everyone: A Teaching and Research Philosophy.*" Dr. Kerth is a candidate for a meat science faculty position in the Department of Animal Science.

2009 Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest (November 7, 2009) - For more information, please contact Mr. Jake Franke <jfranke@tamu.edu> at 979-846-7616.

2009 Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop (November 7, 2009) - For more information, please contact Dr. Dennis Sigler <dsigler@tamu.edu> at 979-845-1652.



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