Romanian service-learning course engages students

Highlighting activities of 2010

Distinguished Alumni  2-3
Faculty and Staff News  4-5
Faculty Updates  5
Ambassador Update  9
Undergraduate News, Awards  10
Graduate News, Awards  10-11
Team and Club Updates  12-13
Upcoming Events  16
And More!
Greetings from Purdue University Animal Sciences

On behalf of the Department of Animal Sciences, we are pleased to provide you with the annual Animal Sciences newsletter that highlights a number of our activities, honors and achievements in 2010. Dr. Alan Mathew became our new Department Head on March 1. Alan comes to us from the University of Tennessee after a total of 18 years with a very successful career in research, teaching, extension and administration (Department Head for nearly 8 years). Dr. Mathew is a native Hoosier having grown up in White County (near Wolcott). We are very excited to have Alan as our new leader and are very confident that under his leadership, the Department of Animal Sciences will reach greater heights and accomplishments in the future. A BIG BOILER AND HOOSIER WELCOME, ALAN!!!

I am very proud of the accomplishments of our great faculty and staff. They are a great team who excel in learning, discovery and engagement. Our Animal Sciences students continue to provide leadership and service activities on campus, the community and nationally, and many of our students received awards for their academic and leadership achievements. Please read about their achievements and recognitions in the following pages.

We are proud of the many accomplishments and recognitions of our Animal Sciences Alumni also. You are our greatest Ambassadors to share with others in your circle of influence about the Department of Animal Sciences at Purdue University. I want to personally, “thank you” for your encouragement and sincere interest in the department. I appreciate the sincere and excellent support of College of Agriculture administration, stakeholders and alumni, faculty, staff and students this past year. It has been a high honor and privilege to serve as your interim head.

Greetings to all of our alumni, friends, and supporters!! I am delighted to have this exciting opportunity to serve as the new Head of Purdue Animal Sciences. It has been an interesting and fortuitous road that has returned me to my roots here, but that is a story better saved for a future article. Rather, I would like to focus here on the great opportunities I see ahead for our programs and dedicated and talented faculty and staff.

Of the eleven departments in the College of Agriculture we have by far the largest student enrollment (nearly 700 undergraduate and graduate students), thus we have the opportunity and great privilege of impacting the greatest number of bright, young minds, including those of future leaders of the animal industries and beyond. And when I think of the many new (and not so new) issues facing our stakeholders, including high grain prices, CAFO policy development, animal welfare issues, food safety concerns and others, I see growing opportunities for our Animal Sciences research and extension faculty to create new knowledge and technologies to address those issues and deliver that information to a clientele that is hungry for science-based knowledge.

And while our future successes will require much effort and dedication from our current faculty and staff, we must remember that the foundation for our achievements has its origins in the many former faculty, staff, and administrators who served us so well over many previous decades, and the past support of individuals such as each of you. I especially want to thank Dr. Alan Sutton for his outstanding leadership over the past two years as Interim Head. His dedication and efforts in that role have greatly eased the transition for me; and most importantly, have continued to build upon the high quality educational, extension, and research programs for which Purdue Animal Sciences has long been known. I look forward to working with all of you as we continue that excellent tradition!!

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2010 Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award

The Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award honors mid-career Purdue Agriculture graduates who have made significant contributions to their profession or society in general and have a record of outstanding accomplishments. One Animal Sciences alumnus was recognized by the College of Agriculture and the Department of Animal Sciences on March 5, 2010.

Patricia L. “Patsy” Houghton of McCook, Nebraska, is founder, owner, general manager and president of the McCook-based Heartland Cattle Co. Heartland is a professional heifer development and research center, where beef producers retain ownership of their replacement heifers as the animals are synchronized and artificially bred according to customer specifications. Since its founding in 1990, Heartland has artificially inseminated nearly 71,000 heifers placed into 31 states, weaned more than 115,000 calves, fed 75,000 cattle and completed about 40 research projects. Houghton is a former Extension beef specialist for Kansas State University. She earned a doctoral degree in ruminant nutrition from Purdue in 1986.

Acknowledgment

The Newsletter Student Editor is Ariel Case. The Newsletter Committee members include Chairs, Donna Lofgren and Phil Reid, Layi Adeola, Barry Delks, Pat Jonas, Diane Patterson, and Lea Pereira.

We hope this Newsletter will increase your enthusiasm and ignite your pride in the exciting research, extension, and educational programs taking place in Purdue Animal Sciences. It is designed to provide information to our many alumni, students, staff, and special friends. We would be delighted if you would send us your updates - see page 15.

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Cover photo:

A herdsman drives cattle down a rural Romanian road. A group of twenty-four Purdue undergraduates participated in a four-week service-learning course partnered with Heifer International-Romania on a sustainable development project in rural Romania.
David Hardin, manager of Hardin Farms near Danville, Indiana. He received a bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue in 1996 and a master’s degree in business administration from DePaul University in 2002. Hardin is responsible for a 600-sow farrow-to-finish unit that produces 12,000 pigs annually. In 2006, he was president of the Indiana Pork Advocacy Coalition. He has been a member of the board of directors for the Indiana Pork Producers Association since 2005. David worked at the Chicago Board of Trade for two years in the grain futures division of RJ O’Brien. From 1996 to 2000, Hardin worked in the customer records division for JBS United (formerly United Feeds, Inc.).

Jeffrey J. Veenhuizen, of St. Louis, Missouri, who earned his bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue and a master’s and doctorate in nutritional physiology from Iowa State University. He is the director of strategy and operations for Monsanto Global Regulatory and also regulatory chief of staff. He conducted diabetes research at the University of Georgia before joining Monsanto. Throughout his career, Veenhuizen has worked directly with dairy scientists and industry leaders to champion science-based evaluation of new products. From his work with Posilac, Veenhuizen has contributed greatly to the pioneering of large-scale production of biotechnology based products for animals.

Geoffrey C. Waldbieser, of Cleveland, Mississippi, who received his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in animal science at Purdue. His research led to the first transgenic mice to be produced at Purdue. After a postdoctoral research fellowship in the Department of Biochemistry, he spent two years with the Gene Evaluation and Mapping Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service (ARS), in Beltsville, Md. Since 1993, he has been a research molecular biologist in the ARS Catfish Genetics Research Unit in Stoneville, Mississippi, and also an adjunct professor at Mississippi State University. He is one of the pioneers in the development and use of genomics to support the U.S. catfish industry and has developed methods to pedigree catfish and define catfish genetic lines.

Heather (Eskridge) Hill, of Greenfield, Indiana, who received her bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue University in 1999 and a master’s degree in business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2004. She is the territory manager of Pfizer Animal Health, where she manages the majority of swine producer and veterinarian accounts in Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. She also designs and implements business development events and is co-owner and operator of Hill Farms LLC and the family owned farm fresh Pork Shoppe.

Timothy H. Blosser, of Spokane, Washington, who earned his bachelor’s degree from Purdue in 1941. After serving in the U.S. Army for 3½ years and earning his master’s and doctoral degrees in dairy husbandry and biochemistry with a minor in medical physiology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Blosser taught and conducted research in dairy cattle nutrition at Washington State University for 13 years. Blosser went on to become the chairman of the Department of Dairy Science for three years and chairman of the Department of Animal Sciences for 10 years. For the last 14 years of his professional career, Blosser served with the Agricultural Research Service of the USDA, first as a national program leader for dairy cattle research, then as a research animal scientist in the Ruminant Nutrition Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland.

Howard M. Unger, of Carlisle, Indiana, who graduated from Purdue in 1960 with a bachelor’s degree in animal science. After serving in the U.S. army, he and his wife began farming in Sullivan County. In 1997, he was inducted into the Indiana Livestock Breeders Hall of Fame and in 2000 received the Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association Certificate of Distinction. The Indiana Beef Cattle Association recognized him as its outstanding cattleman in 2001 and with the Robert Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004. Unger is active in organizations that include Sullivan County Cattleman Association (president 1987-88), Indiana Beef Cattle Association (president 1995), Sullivan County Farm Bureau (director for 10 years) and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association. Unger has also served as Director and Past President of the Indiana State Fair. He has provided valuable insight and solutions to industry issues.
Faculty and staff awards

Dr. Scott Radcliffe is the President-Elect for the Midwest ASAS. Dr. Shawn Donkin is a board member for Midwest ADSA.

The Gamma Sigma Delta recognizes academic achievement and accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni in the College of Agriculture, College of Consumer and Family Sciences and the School of Veterinary Medicine. At their reception on April 6, Dr. Mike Schutz received the Faculty Award of Merit for his research, teaching and extension contributions to agriculture. Dr. Paul Ebner was elected President and Treasurer of Gamma Sigma Delta for next year, and Dr. Dale Forsyth is the Historian.

Dr. Mark Russell was the recipient of the 2010 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Eastern Regional Outstanding Teacher Award. Dr. Russell has a great passion for teaching which greatly benefits our students, has developed programs and classes to enhance leadership and life learning skills for our youth (through 4-H) and undergraduate students, and has made a significant impact on development of learning programs internationally.

Dr. Todd Applegate was awarded the B.R.A.I.N. (Biomin Research And Innovation Network) Award at the World Nutrition Forum in Austria. He received the award for “a broader understanding of the immunologic and physiologic impacts of probiotic phytoegnic supplementation in poultry.” Dr. Applegate is also the 2010 Chair of the S-1032 regional research project that was selected as the Southern region nominee for the National Excellence in Multistate Research Award. The purpose of the award is to recognize scientists who are engaged in exemplary multistate activities and in doing so enhance the visibility of the national multistate research program. The Southern Assoc. of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors stated that “this project is an outstanding example of the level of accomplishment that can occur through the synergism of multiple scientists working across state lines to address a researchable problem that is too large for any individual scientist or institution to address alone”.

Dr. Ryan Cabot was awarded the Teaching for Tomorrow Award. Dr. Cabot is one of 10 “junior” faculty who will be in the Teaching for Tomorrow program this next academic year working with highly experienced faculty on important topics and experiences related to teaching and student learning. Dr. Cabot also receiving the New Investigator Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction in August at their national meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Additionally, he received a Diversity Resource Office “Diversity at Work” Certificate.

Dr. Shihuan Kuang is a recipient of this year’s (2009-2010) Millionaire’s Club Award. He had been awarded the NIH grant ($1,906,250) entitled, “Notch Regulation of Stem Cell Fate in Muscle”.

Three faculty received awards at the ADSA-ASAS-PSA-AMPA-CSAS Joint Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado in July. Dr. Layi Adeola received the Evonik Degussa Award for Achievement in Poultry Science given by the Poultry Science Association; Dr. Shawn Donkin received the Pfizer Animal Health Physiology Award given by the American Dairy Science Association; and Dr. Patricia (Scotti) Hester received the Poultry Welfare Research Award given by the Poultry Science Association. The research from Dr. Adeola’s lab has contributed to the development of cost-effective diet formulation strategies for broiler chickens and pigs that improve the retention of energy, nitrogen, and phosphorus, the three most expensive components in the diets. Dr. Donkin is noted for his research on cellular and molecular processes controlling liver function in response to nutritional, hormonal, environmental, and developmental cues and their relationships to dairy cattle productivity and health. Dr. Hester led a team of esteemed poultry scientists from a wide array of universities and industry to update welfare guidelines for the care and use of poultry in university research and education. Her research centers on skeletal abnormalities, including osteoporosis.

Dr. Kola Ajuwon and Dr. Joe Garner received 2010 Showalter Awards from the Office of the Vice President for Research. Since 1975, Purdue has received research funding through grants made possible from the Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Research Trust Fund. The areas of research eligible for funding are: air and water pollution research; research in the field of biochemistry; research for the control and prevention of disease; research for development of new technologies in food production; and research in medical and biophysical instrumentation, including the adaptation of the modern computer in the measurement of biological processes, in the collection, recording, analysis, and interpretation of data.

The Purdue Confined Animal Feeding Operations Team was selected to receive the 2010 College of Agriculture TEAM Award as an outstanding interdisciplinary effort focused on an important issue facing production agriculture. The group conducted novel research and developed fact-based information to help stakeholders make more informed decisions about siting of CAFOs in their local communities. The team has produced many Extension publications encompassing environmental, health, and social and economic concerns. The group developed and continues to maintain a website for disseminating these publications as well as other key information and evolving updates on CAFO issues. The Team included Drs. Paul Ebner, Alan Grant, and Tamilee Nennich.

The Managing Moldy Corn Team received the Team Award from the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialist Association (PUCESA). In response to an above-normal incidence of corn ear molds in 2009, Purdue responded by forming a multidisciplinary team to assess current knowledge about moldy corn and its potential consequences and to develop management recommendations for producers and allied industries. As a result, those affected by moldy corn were better prepared to deal with challenges associated with the issue. Team members included Mike Schutz, Todd Applegate, Allen Bridges, Matt Claeys, Ron Lemenager, Tamilee Nennich, Mike Neary, Brian Richert, and Mark Russell.

Dr. Scott Mills was a coach of the four-member Team USA which was awarded three gold medals and one silver medal at the International Biology Olympiad held in Changwon, Korea. Team USA was part of the 233 students from 58 countries who participated in the competition. U.S. team members Chelsea Voss, California; Charles Du, Illinois; and Eric Liaw, Hawaii received gold medals. Debra Van Egeren, Michigan took home a silver medal.

Dr. Kern Hendrix, retired Purdue Extension beef specialist, received the Robert C. Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award from the Indiana Beef Cattle Association. The award recognizes career contributions to the Indiana beef cattle industry. It is considered to be the highest award that can be presented to an individual by the IBCA.

Dr. Jack Albright, Professor Emeritus of Animal Sciences, was named a Dairy Shrine Pioneer 2010 at the Dairy Shrine Banquet in Madison, Wisconsin at World Dairy Expo in September. Dr. Albright has studied cattle behavior (ethology) and developed practical, on-farm management practices from his research results. His common sense approach to developing contemporary animal care and welfare practices has earned him great respect from many in the dairy industry.
International participation and projects

Dr. Todd Applegate presented a paper on “Cost of maintaining the gastro-intestinal barrier - can it be done economically?” at the Asociacion de Especialistas en Ciencias Avicolas del Centro de Mexico in Queretaro, Mexico. He presented two papers at the European Poultry Conference in Tours, France, one on “Mode of action of essential oils and field application” and the second “Gut health: physiological responses, nutrient availability, and endogenous losses.”

Dr. Scotti Hester is involved in a collaborative effort with scientists from Great Britain and Germany on evaluating hen welfare in different housing systems. She gave two talks in Vancouver, British Columbia on hen welfare guidelines and maintaining the sustainability of the egg industry.

Dr. John Patterson gave an invited talk on “Applications of Beneficial Microbes in Poultry Production” at the Second TNO Beneficial Microbes Conference in Noordwijkheer, the Netherlands.

Drs. Todd Applegate and Heng-wei Cheng organize a program for Chinese undergraduate students to do summer research. Barry Delks helped plan the animal industry tour for the students.

Dr. Dale Forsyth’s online course, Principles of Animal Nutrition, has attracted an international audience, with students from 15 foreign countries.

Dr. Layi Adeola gave talks at Sichuan Agricultural University in Yaan, Sichuan and spent time with TQLS group presenting seminars in Mianyang and Cheng Du, Sichuan, China. He gave a keynote lecture at the annual conference of the Nigerian Society for Animal Production, which was held on the campus of the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

A Purdue University delegation, led by President Córdova, visited China in May 2010. Purdue Day at China Agricultural University was May 23. The celebration of the decade-long partnership between Purdue University and China Agricultural University began with the Presidential Symposium on Global Food Security before 400 people in CAU’s main auditorium. Speakers included the presidents of CAU and Purdue, representatives of the ministries of education and agriculture, academic deans, and two World Food Prize laureates. Dr. Scott Radcliffe was in attendance as our representative.

Drs. Paul Ebner and Mark Russell, in partnership with Banat University of Veterinary Medicine and Agricultural Sciences (Timisoara, Romania), Hunedoara County Livestock Production Association (Hunedoara, Romania), Heifer International Romania (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) and Reach 2 Romania (Indianapolis, Indiana; Păcăla, Romania), led a group of 24 Purdue University College of Agriculture and Banat University undergraduates on a four-week service-learning course in Romania. In the first part of the course, students worked with six individual families in a community of 13 villages (Vata de Jos, Romania) in homestays to learn Romanian livestock production practices and jointly implement programs improving animal health and environmental stewardship. The second part of the course took place at a long-term care hospital serving adults with various disabilities. The hospital has a large and diverse farm (produce, grain, livestock) that provides both therapy and food for its 200 patients. The students worked in teams alongside farm managers, patients and administrators to improve their livestock facility through the design and construction of a manure handling system, a fenced pasture and calf and poultry housing. Student reflections taken periodically throughout the course indicated that participants enhanced their education and training through practical application and engagement while at the same time, improved the economic stability and sustainability of the various livestock programs.

See related photos on cover and page 7.

Faculty News and Updates

Administrative/Professional, Clerical and Service Staff Honored:
30 years - Scot Martin (Farm Operations)
25 years - Denny Bayless (Feed Mill), Donna Lofgren (Professional Associate in Animal Breeding), Marlene Miller (Secretary), Diane Patterson (Administrative Assistant)
20 years - Barry Delks (Career Services and Alumni Relations), Fred Haan (Poultry Unit Manager), Denise Stall (Business Office)
15 years - Patricia Jonas (Secretary), Gary Wernert (Dairy Unit Assistant Manager)
10 years - Mike Brost (Dairy Unit), Mike Grott (Dairy Unit Manager)

Promotions:
Todd Applegate, Mickey Latour, and Michael Schutz to Professor of Animal Sciences.
Joseph Garner to Associate Professor of Animal Sciences.

Dr. Mickey Latour was appointed the Associate Dean of Distance Education for the University, starting in September 2010. Dr. Latour will lead university programs in distance learning. He will be working with Dean Mark Pagano, Purdue Continuing Education and Conferences.

Several staff retired in December 2010 or early 2011:
Dan Elston (Beef Unit), Nena Fawbush (Secretary), Bob Fry (Farm Operations), Karen Henricks (ASREC Business Assistant), Barbara Próbusco (Secretary), and Steve Smith (Farm Operations)

Departures:
Dr. Allen Bridges left to join the faculty at the University of Minnesota’s North Central Research and Outreach Center.

Deaths:
Dr. Truman G. Martin, 82, passed away on January 6, 2011. Dr. Martin was on the faculty of the Department of Animal Sciences for 40 years, retiring in 1995. He published over 200 manuscripts in the areas of animal genetics, growth, nutrition, management, and physiology, in beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, horses, chickens, and mice. He taught at least 13 different courses during his tenure at Purdue at both undergraduate and graduate levels. He was actively involved in international agriculture, and with his wife endowed the Truman and Marjorie Martin Study Abroad scholarship.

Alumni Deaths:
Dr. Stanley Curtis, retired Professor of Environmental Management in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois, passed away April 25, 2010. He was a Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus. Dr. Curtis was a national leader in applying the principles of environmental physiology to farm animal production systems and using those fundamental principles as a means of improving management systems to facilitate animal well-being. Besides his pre-eminence as a scientist, Dr. Curtis greatly influenced the modern swine production industry through the development of one of the first Animal Science courses on Environmental Management of Farm Animals and as a teacher of hundreds of students and mentor of graduate students who have become the leaders in this field. Dr. Curtis was also a leader in the American Society of Animal Science, and served that organization in every capacity, including President of ASAS.

Marshall Mohler, 87, of Lebanon, passed away March 30, 2010. He earned a BS in animal sciences from Purdue University and a MS in animal sciences from the University of Illinois. He was a World War II veteran of the Army infantry, and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Mr. Mohler was the superintendent of Pinney Purdue Agricultural Center in Wanatah (Porter County) for 37 years, after which he retired to the Lebanon area to be closer to his family.
Cabot researches embryo development using pig embryo as experimental model

By Lauren Bueter

Dr. Ryan Cabot has been a part of the Purdue Animal Sciences faculty since July of 2004, specializing in reproductive physiology and molecular biology. Dr. Cabot obtained a B.S. degree in Biochemistry in 1996 and his Ph.D. in Reproductive Biology in 2002 from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Upon graduation, he received post-doctoral training for two years at the Adolf-Butenandt-Institute at Ludwig Maximillians University in Munich, Germany prior to joining the Purdue faculty.

Upon recalling how he came to be in the field of Animal Sciences, Dr. Cabot laughs. He was not a farm kid, was not involved in FFA, did not know the details of the industry. He did, however, have a passion for science and biology, and found along the way that agriculture is science, and that Purdue Animal Sciences was a great fit for him.

Dr. Cabot’s research focuses on understanding the molecular networks that control mammalian embryo development, using the pig embryo as their primary experimental model system. It is well-established that roughly 30% of all mammalian embryos fail to develop beyond the first few weeks after fertilization. Cabot’s lab creates in vitro fertilized pig embryos on a daily basis, using oocytes collected from a local slaughterhouse and semen collected from Purdue boars. They then measure many different aspects to determine which embryos have the best and worst chance for survival, and why. By identifying the signaling networks within the embryos that play critical roles during development, results from Dr. Cabot’s research will lead to ways that enable scientists to understand the reasons for the currently high rate of embryonic loss. This information will help all livestock producers, even beyond the pork industry, to maximize the reproductive efficiency in their herds.

In addition to investigating the molecular networks that control early embryo development, Dr. Cabot is also involved in collaborative research projects across Purdue. These projects are aimed at developing animal model systems to improve our understanding of how stresses encountered during fetal life can affect the health of animals once they reach adulthood. Many of these systems are being developed not only to improve livestock production, but to advance human health research as well.

Although too modest to ever admit it, Dr. Ryan Cabot has proven to be a great contribution to the Purdue Animal Sciences faculty and we all look forward to his next great accomplishment.

Ajuwon awaits new animal science research facility

By Ariel Case

After growing up in Nigeria and receiving his Bachelors of Agriculture in Animal Sciences there, Dr. Kolapo Ajuwon came to the United States to further his education. Ajuwon identified Purdue University among the leading colleges to do this.

“I wanted a world-class institution where I could compete with others around the world in research,” he said.

Ajuwon was also connected to Purdue through one of his Nigerian professors, Goke Ilori, who was a Purdue Alumnus. Ajuwon’s education consists of a B.S. from Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria and a M.S., Ph.D., and Post-doctoral training from Purdue University.

In 2008, Ajuwon joined the Purdue faculty as assistant professor of Animal Sciences with an interest in understanding the causes and effects of inflammatory changes in adipose tissue, using swine as a model to better understand the events that lead to diabetes in humans.

While his research has been well underway, having a new, state-of-the-art animal science research facility would have a large impact on the development of his own research and others within the animal sciences department.

The animal sciences department has recently proposed building a new animal science facility to bring research and teaching together under one roof.

“The new arrangement with a shared lab will facilitate a better use of space,” he said. “Everything will be under one roof and it will make things easier for us and what we are here to do.”

Ajuwon also believes the new building will be a better teaching facility that will encourage interactions.

“It will benefit the stakeholders as well and project us and our work better,” he said. “We will be able to have better interactions with them.”

Applegate researches ways to reduce impact of poultry industry

By Megan Michalos

Dr. Todd Applegate joined the Animal Sciences team in 2000 as an Assistant Professor and Extension Poultry Specialist. He moved his way up to Associate Extension Poultry Specialist in 2005, and just recently in 2010 he was named the Extension Poultry Specialist. Before beginning his journey at Purdue, Dr. Applegate received his B.S. in Animal Science and M.S. in Animal Science-Poultry Nutrition at Iowa State University. He moved on to earn his Ph.D. at Ohio State University and if that weren’t enough, he continued his post-doctoral training at the University of Maryland.

While Dr. Applegate is dedicated to his field, it’s easy to say he didn’t always have a passion for poultry. Although he grew up on a hog and cattle farm in Iowa, he wasn’t sure what part of the industry he wanted to pursue. Poultry didn’t seriously cross his mind until he was an upperclassman at Iowa State University and took an internship with a turkey company. For the rest of his college career and beyond, poultry has been his focus.

Being the Extension Poultry Specialist, Dr. Applegate has many responsibilities. A great deal of his job is educating and interacting with the public. He spends quite a bit of time speaking at different functions and visiting different farms and operations. Dr. Applegate also does research and is currently working on two projects. One of which is minimizing nitrogen and phosphorus emissions from poultry operations and the second is comparative

Continued on page 7.
Certificate of Distinction from Purdue Ag Alumni Association

The Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association honored ten agricultural leaders with its Certificate of Distinction during the Ag Alumni Fish Fry on February 6, 2010. The award recognizes those who make significant contributions that enhance the agricultural profession. Five of the honorees are Animal Sciences alumni.

Frank M. Clark of Williamsport, Indiana. Clark operates a family farm that includes a cow-calf operation and feedlot, and cropping corn, soybeans and wheat. He has served as president of the Indiana Beef Cattle Association, dues director of the National Cattlemens Beef Association and member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cattlemens’s Beef Board - the national check-off board. He also has served on the advisory board of Purdue’s Animal Disease and Diagnostic Laboratory and Scholarship Committee of the university’s animal sciences department. In 2001 Clark and his wife, Wini, endowed a beef scholarship to recognize a student for academic, leadership and beef industry excellence. He earned a bachelor’s degree in animal husbandry from Purdue in 1954.

H. Wayne Dillman of Martinsville, Indiana. Dillman serves as a lobbyist with Indiana Farm Bureau. He formerly was the legislative director of the Indiana Farmers Union and a board member of the Indiana FFA Foundation and Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association. Dillman is a volunteer for the Pioneer Farm and Home Show, a project of the Purdue Ag Alumni Association at the Indiana State Fair. During the fair, he is one of Pioneer Village’s senior historical interpreters and serves as announcer for the daily antique farm machinery exhibitions. He also is an accomplished storyteller, humorist, author and historian and is a member of the National Association of Storytellers. He has published a book, “Growing Up Country,” about rural life around Banta, Ind. Dillman was named a Sagamore of the Wabash by former Gov. Joe Kernan. He received a bachelor’s degree in animal husbandry from Purdue in 1951.

Ross Jabaay of Ames, Iowa. Jabaay is senior director of food safety and quality for Burke Corp. of Nevada, Iowa, a manufacturer and marketer of pizza toppings and other fully cooked meat products now owned by Hormel Foods. Jabaay has enjoyed a distinguished career in the food industry with such companies as Hormel Foods, Farmland Foods Inc., Sugardale Foods, Henry House Inc./Tyson Foods Inc. and FreshMark Inc., where he created a corporate food safety board and initiated new product lines that added $5 million in annual sales. His extensive service to the meat products industry includes leadership positions with the American Meat Science Association, Meat Industry Research Conference and International Association of Food Protection, among others. Jabaay is a native of Jasper County and earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in animal science from Purdue in 1968 and 1973, respectively.

Jerry Nickel of Connersville, Indiana. Nickel is president and founder of Midwest Ag Finance (MAF), a financial services firm based in Rushville that services a loan portfolio of $170 million and insures 190,000 crop acres in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. MAF employs 37 people and originates about 25 percent of the loans guaranteed by the Indiana Farm Service Agency (FSA) - nearly twice as much as FSA’s second most active lender. Nickel was president and secretary/treasurer of the Indiana Ag Bankers Society, served on the Ag Committee of the Indiana Bankers Association and was a member of former Sen. Dan Quayle’s ag advisory committee and the Indiana Agriculture Strategic Planning Committee. He earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue in 1975.

Wayne L. Singleton of West Lafayette, Indiana. Singleton is Professor Emeritus of Animal Sciences at Purdue. He retired in 2003 after spending his entire 33-year career as a Purdue Extension swine specialist in breeding herd management. Singleton is considered a pioneer in swine breeding because of his contributions to the successful adoption of artificial insemination (AI) in the swine industry. AI revolutionized swine production, increasing artificial matings 80 percent since 1990, resulting in a significant improvement in market hogs. Singleton authored 45 research publications, more than 50 Extension publications, six videocassettes and numerous other swine breeding herd management publications. He has served with many agriculture organizations and received numerous awards. Singleton earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue in 1966.

Although he wasn’t raised with a poultry background, Dr. Applegate found his passion for the poultry industry through an internship with a turkey company. He is now working to reduce the impact of the poultry industry on the environment.

Wayne L. Singleton of West Lafayette, Indiana. Singleton is Professor Emeritus of Animal Sciences at Purdue. He retired in 2003 after spending his entire 33-year career as a Purdue Extension swine specialist in breeding herd management. Singleton is considered a pioneer in swine breeding because of his contributions to the successful adoption of artificial insemination (AI) in the swine industry. AI revolutionized swine production, increasing artificial matings 80 percent since 1990, resulting in a significant improvement in market hogs. Singleton authored 45 research publications, more than 50 Extension publications, six videocassettes and numerous other swine breeding herd management publications. He has served with many agriculture organizations and received numerous awards. Singleton earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science from Purdue in 1966.

Student participants in the Heifer Internation Romania service-learning course experienced practical application and engagement with livestock to encourage improvement in economic stability and sustainability of livestock programs.

Development of the Small Intestine in Different Poultry Species. Dr. Applegate’s research works towards reducing the impact of the poultry industry on our environment.

While he is well known at Purdue he has also been recognized and awarded throughout the country. He has too many publications to name and has received many awards and honors. In 2009, Dr. Applegate earned both the American Feed Industry Association-Poultry Nutrition Award and the Maple Leaf Farm Duckling Research Award.

When he is not at Purdue or chasing chickens, you will most likely find Dr. Applegate spending time with his wife and two daughters. While he does not own any poultry due to city restrictions, he does have two cats and a dog, all of which are female which makes him a little outnumbered. Dr. Applegate is passionate about what he does and we expect to see more great things from him in the future.
Denny Shoup
Swine Breeder
Michigantown, Indiana

Denny Shoup started his career in animal agriculture through 4-H in 1953. He was on the Clinton County Livestock Judging Team and was high individual in a national contest in Virginia in 1960. After high school, Denny chose a full scholarship at Tulane University where he played college basketball. While in college, Denny and Tom formed Shoup Brothers Hampshires and produced the Grand and Reserve Champions at the Indiana State Fair. After college, he accepted a management position at the Chrysler Corporation in Kokomo, Indiana.

After less than a year at Chrysler, Denny left to pursue his passion of raising Hampshire hogs. Denny developed a good clientele through 4-H customers and marketing breeding stock with an emphasis on carcass quality. In the 1970’s, Shoup Brothers held four production sales a year and would market 500 boars per year. The Shoup operation was one of the first to measure sow productivity and continued to focus on meat quality. They marketed Hampshire hogs across the country and in several foreign countries, while producing grand champion boar at the Indiana State Fair three years in a row (1974, 1975, and 1976).

After the herd was lost to Pseudorabies and the changing industry environment, Denny founded the innovative Premier Swine Breeding Systems in 1983. This network of purebred breeders set forth to produce seedstock to meet the demand of the commercial pork producers. The new company developed performance testing, health monitoring, and marketing programs to compete with the corporate seedstock companies. They managed and marketed nearly 100,000 gilts per year from purebred parent stock. Premier producers were in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Ohio.

Bill Couch
Cattle Breeder
Owensville, Indiana

Bill Couch grew up showing cattle in 4-H and assisted in the family Polled Hereford operation. After high school, Bill fitted the first Simmental calf to enter this country and had the Champion Simmental Bull at the National Western. Very few cattlemen have developed the number of nationally prominent herds of different breeds of cattle than the premier cattle breeder, Bill Couch. These operations include Diamond C Ranch and Pharris Farms in Texas, Express Ranches in Oklahoma, and his own C Bar Cattle Company to name a few.

While at each operation, Bill was an innovator in the areas of reproduction, genetics, and marketing. His quest for improvement prompted research in estrous synchronization and embryo transfer. He led development of Lim-Flex cattle while at Express Ranches and initiated the junior scholarship program that many livestock operations have copied and operate today.

Bill has always been willing to share his cattle knowledge with other breeders and has mentored many young producers with his commonsense approach and his tailored “Couch’s Rules”. He has judged nearly every major cattle show in the United States and the Canadian Western Agribition. He strongly believes that youth are the backbone for the future of the beef industry and has worked closely with young people at the local, state, and national levels. He has served as an official and stock provider for many collegiate and high school judging contests.

He has been a leader in several breed organizations and continually promotes the cattle industry in his home state and across the country.

John Cloe
Horse Industry Leader
Greencastle, Indiana

John Cloe grew up on a farm in Hamilton County, Indiana and exhibited cattle and hogs as a 4-H’er. He obtained a love for horses and competed in rodeos in his early twenties while becoming a master farrier. He has served as the official farrier for the Pan Am Games and the prestigious Point Hunter and Jumper Show.

Most importantly, John is an authentic ambassador for the livestock and horse industries in Indiana and a true leader. John has always been involved and is the entrepreneur and driver of innovation for better infrastructure in unifying the diverse horse industry. As an innovator and nationally respected equine professional, John has assisted not only Indiana, but other state horse industries to organize and conduct successful horse shows and fairs. John and Judy have managed many of the largest horse shows in the country and have developed privately owned livestock show and sale facilities in central Indiana.

John is a generous and thoughtful leader that is constantly present and encouraging the industry to be better educated and to contribute more to the Indiana agricultural and general economy. He was a founding member of the Indiana Farriers’ Association, President of the Indiana Horse Council, co-chairman of the Hoosier Horse Fair and Expo, a member of the Indiana Farm Bureau Equine Committee, and on the BOAH Equine Advisory Committee. He is a founding and lifetime member of the Quarter Horse Racing Association and has helped to make Indiana one of the premier Quarter Horse Racing programs in the United States.
Animal Sciences Ambassador Update
By Kelli Kirtley

The Animal Sciences Ambassadors have been keeping busy since August! Their annual weekend retreat at Historic Prophetstown was a great start to the 2010-2011 academic year and gave the members time to bond and plan upcoming events.

Fall 2010 was host to many annual traditions, as well as some new events. In September, we welcomed back our fellow students and faculty with the Welcome Back Picnic where we provided the opportunity to eat some good food, play a game of cornhole, and visit with friends. Welcoming the cooler weather, members of the Ambassador team offered free chili to all who passed through the halls of Lilly. As the semester drew to a close, the ambassadors assisted the department in welcoming our Animal Sciences distinguished alumni at an awards reception in November.

The spring semester opened with an evening retreat, with each committee presenting plans for the coming months including: a Book-Harmon Forum featuring Mark Stapleton of Phibro Animal Health Corporation, Young Alumni Reunion, and Boiler Barnyard. The Ambassadors will be teaming up with the Graduate Student Association at Spring Fest this year to serve food to our guests. In March, we welcomed our new Department Head, Dr. Alan G. Mathew, and look forward to working collaboratively with him in the future.

The ambassadors are happy to serve the department and continue to strive to give it a positive reputation. Our activities are aimed at recruiting and retaining students, assisting the department faculty, and recognizing our alumni. We will soon be welcoming several motivated, enthusiastic, servant-leaders joining the 2011-2012 Ambassador team. We hope to see you all at our upcoming events!

Two Book-Harmon leadership seminars held in 2010

Two Book-Harmon Leadership Forums were held in 2010.
Jeff Simmons, President of Elanco Animal Health, spoke at the first forum, held February 17. At a seminar for graduate students and faculty, he spoke on “Leadership and New Technology to Feed the World.” At an open seminar, he spoke on “Preparing to Lead in the Animal Industry.” The sessions were facilitated by Purdue alumnus Ted McKinney, Elanco Senior Director of Corporate Affairs.

Jeff Simmons was named president of Elanco Animal Health, the animal health division of Eli Lilly and Company, in April 2008. He is a member of the company’s senior management council.

Simmons received a bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics and marketing from Cornell University in 1989.

Simmons joined the sales team with Lilly in 1989. He has held numerous positions over the last 19 years within Elanco, including executive director of global strategy, operations and research and development; area director, Western Europe, based in the United Kingdom; and country director for Brazil, located in Sao Paulo. He has managed Elanco’s international marketing for cattle and poultry and has also held other marketing and sales management positions in Elanco’s domestic and international areas.

Simmons has taken special initiative in studying the areas of capitalizing on agricultural trends and of change leadership and the disciplines of execution in the agricultural sector. He is a member of the Animal Health Institute’s executive committee and serves on the board of directors. He is also a member of Harvard’s PAPSAC committee (Private and Public, Scientific, Academic, and Consumer Food Policy Council) and the FFA Sponsors Board.

Jill Greene, Senior Market Development Manager, Applied Biosystems - Life Technologies, spoke at the second forum held on October 26. At an open forum, she spoke on “Choices Define Us More Than Ability.” At a session for graduate students and faculty, she spoke on “From Livestock Marketing to Social Marketing - Leadership Experiences Really Are Lifelong Learning.”

Jill Greene joined Life Technologies in June 2008 as Market Development Manager for the newly formed Animal Health Group. Life Technologies customers do their work across the biological spectrum, working to advance personalized medicine, regenerative science, molecular diagnostics, agricultural and environmental research, and 21st century forensics. The company has sales of more than $3.3 billion, employs approximately 9,000 people and has a presence in 160 countries.

Greene received a B.S. degree in Animal Science in 1978 from Purdue University. She started her career as a sales representative for Elanco Animal Health. Throughout her marketing career she has worked at several leading advertising/marketing firms helping animal health companies market their products. These companies include: Intervet, Elanco, Virbac, Bayer, Cyanamid and Syntex. Greene was a part of the team that worked on the launch of Paylean and also Baytril, the first fluoroquinolone approved for use in food animals. As a Senior Vice President at The Meyocks Group Advertising Firm, Greene led the agency’s team overseeing marketing activities for Firestone Farm Tires, Farm Credit Services of America and Hy-Vee Inc., one of the top super-market chains in the U.S.

Greene received a Purdue Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award in 1998 and served as the 2001 President for the National Agri-Marketing Association.

Animal Sciences Ambassadors: Back Row; left to right: Amber Colman, Allie Rieth, Katie Bennett, Brooke Wehr, Jaclyn Jessen; Front Row: Kyle Shipman, Sammy Breitwieser, Megan Stanley, Abby Sweet, Amber Courter; Not Pictured: Caitlyn Davis, Shelby Doughty, Jordan Eggersman, Angela Gaesser, Craig Martin, Celeste Morris, Andrew King, Kelli Kirtley, Clint Shireman, and Aaron Slater.

Jeff Simmons, Elanco Animal Health

Jill Greene, Applied Biosystems

Highlighting Activities of 2010
Undergraduate Student Update

By Mark Diekmann,
Undergraduate Programs Coordinator

For the 2010 fall semester, 160 freshmen initiated their program in the Department of Animal Sciences. Twenty transfer students also joined the Department this fall, raising the total enrollment to 676. The increase in enrollment is due mainly to the influx of pre-veterinary medicine students from the College of Agriculture as we enter a transition period of moving pre-vet students to a degree-seeking program during their freshman year. The demographics of our incoming freshmen continued to change. For the 2010 fall semester, 30% of our students indicated they came from a rural, farm background; 15% from a rural, non-farm background; 35% from a suburban background; and 20% from an urban background. Nearly 85% of the Animal Sciences undergraduate students are from Indiana.

During 2010, 104 students earned a B.S. degree in animal science. Four students received an A.S. degree in 2010 with 4 students obtaining a minor in Animal Sciences. Seventy-four Animal Sciences students will also graduate with a minor in biology, liberal arts or agricultural economics.

The most popular program is the science major (507 students) with the majority (75%) concentrating in pre-veterinary medicine. Thirty-three students are enrolled in the production major and 55 students are enrolled in the agribusiness major. Enrollment has remained steady in the biotechnology concentration (6 students). There are 75 enrolled in the behavior/well-being concentration, and several incoming freshmen for fall 2011 indicated that they will be enrolling in this concentration.

The Department of Animal Sciences leads the College of Agriculture in the number of students that study abroad (27%). Participation in undergraduate research projects increased by 21 students over 2009. The Department offers more than 60 courses with an annual enrollment of over 2,915 students in Animal Sciences courses.

2010 Undergraduate Scholarship Awards

Outstanding Class Awards
Kayleen Herb - Freshman
Andrew King - Sophomore
Amber Courter - Junior
Lynn Pezzanite - Senior

Baltzell Agri-Products Scholarships
Dara Biehl, Jordan Eggersman, and Michelle Pollert

Book-Harmon Leadership Scholarship
Brooke Wehr

Bratton-Webster Memorial Scholarship
Jessica Peters and Kelly Tippman

John Henry Hinkle Memorial Scholarships
Megan Brunn, Amelia Carow, Neira Eisenmann, Alyssa Haithcox, Jaclyn Jessen, Ryan Klobusnik, Sarah Klotz, Kathleen Lennon, Kimberly Lutz, Morgan McClement, Ashley Norris, Lauren Potempa, Jaskarn Rangi, Christopher Robinette, Paige Rudasics, Chelsea Scheidler, and Jamie Wolf

Keith Lotz Memorial Scholarships
Aaron Slater
Megan Stanley

LOUJA Undergraduate Scholarship
Kayla Hoeing

Eric B. Luckman Award
Emily Mahon

Truman and Marjorie Martin Study Abroad
Kara Federonick

Henry Mayo Scholarships
Katelyn Jackson
Kristen Tschida

Paul E. Newman Scholar Awards
Ian Barnard
Taylor Thompson

Richard A. Pickett Memorial Awards
Brittany Blackmore
Erica Heldeman
Clinton Shireman

W.A. Rafferty Livestock Leadership & Citizenship Awards
Amber Colman
Kyle Shipman

Charles L. & Jean Rueff Awards
Craig Martin
Mary Rodenhuis
Nathan Shireman

Smith-Nuerge Scholarship
Amber Sizelove

Thrasher Family Awards
Courtney Daum
Daniel Gascho
Elizabeth Hansen
Matthew Misch

The Gamma Sigma Delta recognizes academic achievement and accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni in the College of Agriculture, College of Consumer and Family Sciences and the School of Veterinary Medicine. At their reception on April 6, Andrew King received the Sophomore Scholarship Award for the College of Agriculture. Four Animal Sciences undergraduate students became Gamma Sigma Delta: Xi Chen, Angela Gaesser, Jennifer Lukeen and Melissa Weber.

Graduate Student Association Update and Awards

2010-2011 Animal Science Graduate Student Association officers:

President: Heather Tucker
Vice President: Tana Dennis
Secretary/Treasurer: Keegan Gay

Academic/Professional Development Pod
Graduate Programs: Brianna Gaskill
Seminar: Anthea Saez
Workshop for Youth: Keegan Gay
PGSG Rep: Jean-Loup Rault

Outreach Pod
Fundraising: Stephanie Wisdom
Computer: Laurie Mack
Departmental Newsletter: Lea Pereira
Philanthropy: Kallie Foust

Social Pod
Social: Catalina Troche, Tana Dennis, and Stephanie Wisdom
Student Outreach: Collette Thogerson

Students:

Undergraduate Programs Coordinator:

Karyn M. Gietl

For more information, visit www.ag.purdue.edu/ansc
Graduate Student Association Highlights

By Lea Pereira

During 2010 the Graduate Student Association (GSA) took part in several activities and philanthropy events. Coffee and Donuts continued to be a great morning snack every other week during the Spring and Fall semesters. It allowed graduate students to mingle and catch up with those in other offices and buildings, as well as with the faculty, in a laid back social atmosphere that everyone seemed to look forward to.

Spring was a busy couple of months for GSA while we hosted the food tent for Spring Fest in April followed by Workshop for Youth in May. Graduate students helped organize and run the relay events at the Barn Yard Olympics during Workshop for Youth, which helped 4-H youth learn about farm animals and animal agriculture. In addition to these exciting events, GSA held an animal food drive to help those fun furry pets that are in transition to a new home, as well as volunteering for a day at the Almost Home Humane Society.

At the beginning of the Fall semester, GSA recognized two well deserving members, Heather Tucker with the GSA Participation Award and Brianna Gaskill with the GSA Leadership Award. New officers were also elected, followed by a slight restructuring of offices into pods or committees; this was done to help ensure that all events and responsibilities were shared and fulfilled to GSA’s best ability. This change also accompanied that of shifting GSA’s focus from a social-based club to one with more of an academic base to hopefully encourage involvement from other graduate students within our department. This change seems to have increased involvement especially at Departmental Seminars that included a graduate student only social with light refreshments after the talk. Two of these were held, one with Dr. Kelly Swanson in November and another with Dr. Hans Stein in December.

The Fall semester also brought changes to the Animal Science Department apparel thanks to the hard work from Heather Tucker, Stephanie Wisdom and several faculty members. More information and ordering can be found at http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/grad/GSA/items.htm. GSA welcomed in the Holiday season by shopping for some clothes and toys for 3 small children as part of “Christmas for Everyone,” our philanthropic event for the semester. The end of the semester was bittersweet for GSA and many graduate students, as Nena Fawbush - our Graduate Secretary who kept us all on track and treated all of us like her children - retired. However, before she left we had a great pizza lunch with a presentation from Nena on how to survive without her and how to help Marlene Miller who will be taking over the Graduate Secretary duties deal with all of us that Nena spoiled. It was a great year for GSA with several events already on the calendar for 2011.

2010 LOUJA Award winners: Alison Angione (Major Professor: Shihuan Kuang), Yaqin Liu (Major Professor: Shihuan Kuang), Melissa Cruz Ward (Major Professor: Kola Ajuwon) and Emily Arentson (Major Professor: Shawn Donkin).

Book- Harmon Leadership Scholarship: Heather White (Major Professor: Shawn Donkin)

G. W. Friars International Graduate Student Fellowship: Zhengyu Jiang (Major Professor: Todd Applegate)

W. R. Featherston Off-Campus Training Fellowship: Chumun Wang (Major Professor: Zoltan Machaty)

W. R. Featherston Early Graduate Career Award: Claire Aldridge (Major Professor: Scott Radcliffe)

W. R. Featherston Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award: Monica Elmore (Major Professor: Joe Garner)

W. R. Featherston Outstanding M.S. Award: Jack Chaille (Major Professor: Zoltan Machaty)

W. R. Featherston Outstanding Ph.D. Award: Heather White (Major Professor: Shawn Donkin)

Monica Elmore from Dr. Garner’s lab was awarded the International Ingredient Corporation Pinnacle Graduate Student Award.

Zhengyu Jiang from Dr. Applegate’s lab was the Youth Program Winner for XIIIth European Poultry Conference and was also awarded a World Poultry Association Travel Grant.

At the Midwest ADSA/ASAS meeting in March, Nicole Schmelz placed first in the Graduate Student M.S. Poster Competition. Joshua Jendza and Rosangela Poletto were presented the Animal Science Young Scholars Award and they each gave featured research papers on their research.

Tana Dennis and Nicole Schmelz captured the top two spots in the graduate student research competition in April at the TriState Dairy Nutrition Conference in Fort Wayne. The conference is attended by over 500 veterinarians, feed consultants, and dairy industry professionals. Tana’s research presentation was ‘Evaluation of dairy heifer performance and pasture composition when co-grazing heifers and goats’. Nicole’s presentation was ‘Effects of re-ensiling corn silage or haycrop silage with wet distillers grains with solubles on aerobic stability of feed mixtures’.

Alison Angione, Katie-Sue Fisher, Trisha Isenberg, and Catalina Troche became members of Gamma Sigma Delta in April. Gamma Sigma Delta recognizes academic achievement and accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni in the College of Agriculture, College of Consumer and Family Sciences and the School of Veterinary Medicine.
Two Dairy Judging Team seniors compete at the World Dairy Expo

The Purdue Dairy Judging Team had a successful year even though they were a little short on numbers. With only two seniors competing this year, we were not able to be considered a team, but they were recognized as individuals at both contests they participated in. The members of the 2010 team were Carissa McCay (Argos, Indiana) and Bill Dillman (Macy, Indiana).

We travelled to the Maryland State Fair outside of Baltimore, Maryland over Labor Day weekend to get a strong, focused workout and judged 23 classes with 12 set of oral reasons. They were able to shake off the rust and get clearly focused on judging with real improvement each day.

Our first contest was the PA All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on Sept. 20, 2010. They placed 10 classes and give 5 sets of oral reasons with 5 breeds represented. Carissa had a good day with 2nd place individual in the Jersey breed scoring 145 out of 150 (48 on reasons) and the 1st place individual had a 146. She also placed 9th in oral reasons and 5th overall individual with a very solid effort all day.

The National Contest was held a week later, Sept. 27, 2010, at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. Twenty teams from coast to coast competed in 12 placing classes and 6 sets of oral reasons with 7 breeds represented. The contest turned out to be one of the top 3 all time in oral reasons and the 1st place individual had a 146. Carissa was recognized in a tie for 3rd individual in the Guernsey breed with 98 out of 100. Carissa was also placed 9th in swine and the team was 8th. In cattle, Lynsee Shaffer was 18th and the team was 10th. The team was 6th in reasons. Justin Stierwalt was 15th overall and the team finished 7th.

The “out of the classroom” experiences are valuable and irreplaceable to the educational process and developmental process of the student. Many teams from across the country participated in the Boilermaker Classic hosted by Purdue University. This event is not for awards, but serves as a mock contest for the students. The next day the team traveled to the Stockman Contest held in Dekalb County. The College division does not have team awards in this event, however, the event was an excellent training contest for the team. Purdue had three people in the top ten in almost every division.

Kansas City was an educational event for the team. In the sheep division, Clinton Coverdale was 13th and the team was 4th. Justin Stierwalt was 6th in the swine division and the team was 6th. In cattle, Lynsee Shaffer was 18th and the team was 10th. The team was 6th in reasons. Justin Stierwalt was 15th overall and the team finished 7th.

In Louisville, the team struggled to have five individuals with good days. Justin Stierwalt was 9th in swine and the team was 8th. In reasons the team finished 7th, and finished 12th overall.

The 2011 team has been working and is planning on competing at the All-East Contest in April. Team members include: Ashtin Balzer, Auburn; Maria Crandell, Paris Illinois; Jenna Day, Howe, Texas; Brent Dunham, Frankfort; Christine Flaspohler, Batesville; D.J. Huff, North Vernon; Jared Jacobs, Van Buren; Sarah Jordan, Richmond; Alicia Keller, Corfu, New York; Michelle Rexing, Chandler; Tegan Simmons, Tipton; Courtney Smith, Michiganantown; Danielle Starr, Manawa, Wisconsin; Ali Warner, Greenwood; and Courtney Wesner, Chalmers.

Many thanks to everyone for the support and time provided with work-outs and classes for the team to prepare for the educational events while building the valuable skills for their careers. The “out of the classroom” experiences are valuable and irreplaceable to the educational process and developmental process of the student.
Pork Interest Group introduces industry, career opportunities

Our Pork Interest Group is comprised of students, faculty and pork industry representatives. Its objective is to discuss issues that impact the pork industry and career opportunities. The objective is to expose students to career opportunities and issues for the students to become future leaders within the pork industry.

Last fall, at the first meeting, Dr. Chris Hurt discussed the current status of the pork industry. His talk focused on the impacts of the use of corn and soybeans for bioenergy production, production costs, consumer demand and future prices needed for profitable production.

A second meeting was held to discuss the impact of the new GIPSA rules on the pork industry and other livestock industries in the state. Four speakers including Mark Legan, a national NPPC officer, discussed the impact of the GIPSA rule changes and how the changes were implemented. In depth discussions were held after the meeting between Purdue faculty, industry leaders and Purdue students.

Dairy Challenge Team wins gold at Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge

Students from Purdue University won a Gold placing in the Ninth Annual North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge (NAIDC) held April 9-10, 2010, in Visalia, California. Hosted by California Polytechnic State University and California State University, Fresno, 28 teams from the United States and two teams from Canada competed.

The team from Purdue University consisted of: Emily Robinson, Jill Rodenhuis, James Sibray and Wilhelmus Rooijakkers. Drs. Tamilee Nennich and Mike Schutz coached the team.

NAIDC is an innovative two-day competition for students representing dairy science programs at North American universities. It enables students to apply theory and learning to a real-world dairy, while working as part of a four-person team.

Day One of NAIDC began with each team receiving information about a working dairy, including production and farm management data. After an in-person inspection of one of four designated dairies, participants interviewed the herd managers. Then, each team developed a farm analysis and presentation, including recommendations for nutrition, reproduction, milking procedures, animal health, housing and financial management.

Day Two was presentation day. Team members presented recommendations to a panel of judges and then fielded questions from the judges. Presentations were evaluated, based on the analysis and recommendations. The evening concluded with a reception and awards banquet.

The North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge was established as a management contest to incorporate all phases of a specific dairy business. It strives to incorporate a higher-learning atmosphere with practical application to help prepare students for careers in the dairy industry. Supported financially through generous donations by agribusinesses and coordinated by a volunteer board of directors, the first NAIDC was held in April 2002.

Block & Bridle club raises money with new fundraisers and sales

After a busy fall semester, the Purdue Block & Bridle club is in full swing with spring activities. Membership continues to grow and includes approximately 150 students from a wide variety of backgrounds, majors and interests. In the fall semester, members participated in the Royal Showmanship contest that was held at the Animal Science Research and Education Center. This year, Ms. Libby Marks Shepard of Shepard Stable in Brookston, Indiana, was recognized as the Purdue Block & Bridle Honorary Member and served as the judge for the third Annual Alumni and Faculty Showmanship contest. In October, 12 members traveled to East Lansing, Michigan, for the 91st National Block & Bridle Convention which was co-hosted by the Purdue chapter. Dr. Patsy Houghton of Heartland Cattle Company in McCook, Nebraska was invited by Purdue to be one of the featured speakers at convention. Dr. Houghton represented Purdue and Heartland Cattle Co. well and was a wealth of information and life lessons for those in attendance. This trip to convention provided an excellent opportunity for members to meet and network with fellow students and members around the country.

Purdue Block & Bridle also began a new fundraiser this past fall through a Christmas Meat Sale. Teaming up with the Purdue Butcher Block, members sold boxes of pork chops with three marinade options and boxes of beef New York strip, ribeyes and fillets to community members and anyone interested in purchasing. The club plans to repeat the sale again next year and is looking forward to expanding the buyer pool.

The spring semester holds many activities in store for Block & Bridle members. Annual events including Tot’s Day, a program designed to introduce young children to animal agriculture; intramural sports; the 4-H/FFA livestock judging contest; and the Classic Hog Show will be taking place and can be found on the club website through the calendar tab.

If you are interested in receiving a Block & Bridle newsletter please contact purdueblockandbridle@gmail.com and visit our website http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/ugrad/b-b/ for more information.

Dairy Club prepares for Heifer Sale

The spring semester is always a busy time for the Purdue Dairy Club, and this year is no different. At the end of February, 16 students and Dr. Nicole Olynk traveled to River Falls, Wisconsin for the 2011 American Dairy Science Association’s student division dairy conference. In early March the club prepared for the annual Spring Judging Invitational where the club invites 4-H and FFA judging teams from across Indiana to participate in the invitational, which will also feature club members in a friendly showmanship class. In April, the club finalized plans for the College of Agriculture’s Spring Fest in which we serve milk, grilled cheese, and of course, ice cream. Aside from the food tent, the club is set up in the Boiler Barnyard to give everyone an opportunity to hand milk a cow at the “I Milked a Cow” Booth. The club will end the semester with the Boilermaker Heifer Sale on April 30th which will offer a variety of dairy consignment cows from across the Midwest.
Alumni Updates

The Gamma Sigma Delta Recognition Reception was held April 6, 2010 to recognize academic achievement and accomplishments of students, faculty and alumni in the College of Agriculture, College of Consumer and Family Sciences and the School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Larry Rueff, D.V.M. (B.S. 1976, D.V.M. 1979) was the keynote speaker and received the Alumni Award of Merit for both the College of Agriculture and the School of Veterinary Medicine. Marian Elaine Benitez (B.S. 2007), senior in Veterinary Medicine, received the Senior Scholarship Award for the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Jim Bishop (B.S. 1995, M.S. 1997) is District Sales Manager - Swine Division at Elanco Animal Health, Greenfield, Indiana. He is married to Nicole (Lenz) Bishop (Purdue Liberal Arts, 1997) and they have three children, Owen (7), Claire (5), and Everett (2).

Dr. Paul F. Clemente, D.V.M. (B.S. 1976, M.S. 1978 University of Wyoming, D.V.M. 1982) has a predominantly small animal practice East State Veterinary Clinic, Fort Wayne, Indiana (past 25 years). He is also a part-time instructor, Veterinary Tech Institute, International Business College, Fort Wayne. In February 2010, he began a term as president-elect of the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association. He was appointed by governor Daniels this year to serve on the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

Kenneth Casebere (B.S. 1988) and Mary Veenuhizen Casebere (B.S. 1986) have been married 22 years. Ken is Dairy Nutritionist with Vita Plus Corp., and Mary is Construction Coordinator with Design Builders. They live in Clare, Michigan. Daughter Kelsey has acceptance letter at Purdue for Fall 2011, but she needs to decide between UW, MSU, and Iowa State as well. Ken notes that the Best Guidance Prof was Tip Cline - "Ken, all these A's & B's, and if you don't pass MA 154, they don't give you a diploma!" Most Motivational was Hobe Jones - "Kenny, when you think about that ol' sow, think about the dairy cow."

Hubert R. “Hub” Johnson (B.S. 1961, M.S. 1965, Ph.D. 1975) has retired. He served 50 years as an Assistant Professor at Purdue, USDA Food Safety Officer, Meat Processing Executive and Food Industry Advisor. He and his wife Barbara have been married 32 years. They have four children: Beth, Becky, Bryan and Brad.

Kellyann Haniford Boehm (B.S. 2001) is US Air Force Judge Advocate (JAG) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. She and husband Ben had a daughter (Tabitha) on January 2, 2010.

Chelsie (Culler) Kilmer (B.S. 2004) and husband Jim Kilmer announce the arrival of Kolton James Kilmer, born January 1, 2011. They live in Monticello, Indiana.

Tiffanee Conrad-Acuña (B.S. 2001) received an M.S. in Agriculture Education in 2008 from North Carolina State University. She is Livestock Agent for North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Richmond County and lives in Maxton, North Carolina. She married Orlando Acuña in 2005.

Dr. Jack Oliver, D.V.M. (B.S. 1960, M.S., D.V.M., Ph.D.) was in the fourth graduating class at Purdue’s Vet School. He held Assistant Professorships at Colleges of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue (1969/70), Texas A&M (1970/71) and Ohio State (1972 to 1975). He has been an Associate Professor (1975 to 1982) and Professor (1982 until now) at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville for 35 years (Pharmacology and Endocrinology). He currently serves as the Director of the Clinical Endocrinology Service at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. The Service specializes in adrenal disorders, and Dr. Oliver and co-workers did the initial studies that led to the concept of an adrenal syndrome that is now recognized as “Atypical Cushing’s Syndrome”, where the sex steroids are increased and cortisol levels are normal. Dr. Oliver and his co-workers also developed the usage of adrenal steroid profiles in the diagnosis of adrenal disease (cortisol, sex steroids and aldosterone). Dr. Oliver and his current wife Suanné, live in Maryville, Tennessee. They have 6 children and 8 grandchildren between them.

Amanda Weaver (B.S. 2001, Ph.D. 2007) is assistant professor of Meat Science at South Dakota State University. Dr. Weaver was awarded the 2010 USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching in Food and Agricultural Sciences New Teacher Award. She was also featured in an article titled “Inspiring Students” in the SDSU College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences magazine.

Col. Richard E. Geyer (B.S. 1958) was inducted into the Purdue University Reserve Officer’s Training Corps Hall of Fame on April 17, 2010. The annual induction ceremony honors distinguished graduates from the Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force ROTC programs at Purdue. Following graduation from Purdue, Geyer was commissioned as a signal officer, beginning a career of more than 33 years in the U.S. Army. His officer service included time in the Signal Corps, infantry, civil affairs and Judge Advocate General Corps. Geyer also held several Army Reserve assignments. In 1990-91 he was deployed to Kuwait as part of Desert Shield-Desert Storm and served as liaison officer to the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait. Geyer played a key role in drafting, negotiating and preparing international agreements involving U.S.-Kuwaiti relations. In his civilian career, Geyer, who earned a law degree in 1976 from Ohio State University, served for 15 years as a lead attorney for the Food and Drug Administration. From 1991-99 he served as the FDA’s deputy director and lead policy analyst. Since his retirement, he has provided pro bono legal representation to veterans before the Department of Veterans Affairs, and he opened his own law practice in 2009. Geyer’s major awards and honors include: the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Army Commendation Medal (two awards), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (four awards), National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medals, Distinguished FDA Alumni Award and Public Health Service Recognition Award. He also was a four-time recipient of the FDA Award of Merit.

Erin James-Crook, CPDT-KA (B.S. 2007) is Owner and Head Instructor of Collegiate Canine, LLC in Winston-Salem, North Carolina (http://www.collegiatecanine.com). She conducts in-home assessments for manner training and behavioral modification, provides one-on-one private and owner-absent training services, matches people and pets through their pet selection service, and speaks to groups, on radio, and tv about behavior topics. The favorite part of this career is that “I get to work with a huge variety of people and pets - no day is ever the same - all while being my own boss and making a difference for pets in my community.”

Pembroke Oaks Farm was named one of the 2010 Pork Industry Environmental Stewards by the Pork Checkoff and National Hog Farmer magazine. The award recognizes producers who demonstrate a firm commitment to safeguarding the environment and their local communities. Malcolm DeKryger (M.S. 1983), vice president of Belstra Milling in DeMotte, Indiana, oversees all pork production at Pembroke Oaks Farm. Malcolm received the Distinguished Animal Sciences Alumni Award in 2008 (Mid-Career) and is currently on the Dean’s Agriculture Advisory Council. He has not only excelled in environmental stewardship with their operations, but has been studying the use of new gestation crate systems and has provided windows in several of the housing units to allow visitors to see how pigs are being raised in modern production systems.

We regret that we ran out of space for your photos! Alumni photos are online in the html version of the newsletter.
2011 Distinguished Animal Sciences Alumni Awards

Criteria for Selection:
Nominees will have earned a B.S., M.S. or Ph.D. in Animal Sciences from Purdue. Successful nominees will have demonstrated excellence in industry, academia, governmental service, or other endeavors as exemplified by leadership, community service, and professional accomplishments.

There are three categories of awards: Early Career (5-15 years since first degree), Mid-Career (16-30 years) and Lifetime (31+ years).

Nominations:
Nominations may be made by any person or group affiliated with the Department of Animal Sciences, Purdue University, or the animal science industry.

Nomination forms will be available online at http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/alumni/ANSC_DAA2011.pdf, or contact Barry Delks (delks@purdue.edu) if you need one. Nominations must include the nomination form and the nominee’s vita or resume.

Presentation of Awards:
The award will include an appropriate gift presented to the recipient. Recognition of recipients will be placed on the Department Distinguished Alumni plaque. The recipients of these awards will be honored during a reception and expected to give a brief response to the Department of Animal Sciences faculty and students on Friday, November 11, 2011.

Nominations are due April 29, 2011.

Mail completed nominations to:
Distinguished ANSC Alumni Award Committee
Barry Delks, Chair
Dept. of Animal Sciences
915 W. State St., Lilly Hall of Life Sciences
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054

Send us your Alumni Updates!
The Animal Sciences Newsletter Committee would like to include your alumni update in next year’s newsletter. Let everyone know what you have been doing! Just send us your name, address, and phone number. Also include your degree, employer, and update information. Photos would be great, too!

We would be delighted to hear from you! Send your updates to: Purdue University, Department of Animal Sciences, Lilly Hall of Life Sciences, 915 W. State St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054. Or email to Barry Delks at delks@purdue.edu.

Send us your Historical Photos from ANSC! Scan those old photos from Animal Science events, programs, college days. The older the better! Send photos to sbarlow@purdue.edu with names, dates and details. We hope to put together a great collage of photos for Homecoming.

Thank you for supporting Purdue Animal Sciences!

Yes! I want to support the Department of Animal Sciences

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Please use my gift for:

$___ Undergraduate Scholarships #51010140
(e.g. merit, study abroad, etc.)

$___ Industry Tour #51010143

$___ Book-Harmon Seminar #51010134

$___ Graduate Student Support #51010133

$___ Career Services/Placement Partners #51010131

$___ Facility Improvements #51060083

$___ 4-H ANSC Workshop for Youth #51010130

$___ Other __________________________

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Circle one:  Visa     Mastercard    Discover

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Print name as it appears on credit card ____________________________

Signature ____________________________ Date ________________

*Contributions to Purdue University are deductible as charitable contributions within the limits of the Internal Revenue Code. This includes gifts of securities.

*Indiana taxpayers are eligible for a 50% state income tax credit for gifts up to $400 on joint returns or $200 on individual returns.

*Matching gifts increase your giving power. Please include your completed matching gifts form.

*Your commitment and/or designation may be changed by calling Purdue’s pledge line at 800-319-2199
Upcoming Events Calendar

April
29  Deadline for 2011 Distinguished Animal Sciences Alumni Nominations

May
15  College of Agriculture Graduation

August
5-21  State Fair
12  Purdue Day at the State Fair

October
22  Purdue Homecoming

November
11  2011 Distinguished Animal Sciences Alumni Program

Would you like to receive the Animal Sciences e-mail updates?

Just e-mail Barry Delks at delks@purdue.edu and state “add to ANSC Alumni e-mail newsletter.”

Do you prefer reading and receiving the Animal Sciences newsletter in print or by email or both?

E-mail Barry today at delks@purdue.edu and let us know what is best for you.

We care about your feedback!