



Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2005

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Message from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends,

At last, a newsletter from the Department of Animal Sciences! I have been remiss in my communications with you. Nevertheless, it is always a pleasure for members of this department to hear from you. If you have news, please pass it along to one of us.

I am often asked by prospective freshmen and their parents, "What can one do with an Animal Science degree?" Here's a career path summary for our recent graduates based on 20 exit interviews with Seniors in May 2005. Fifteen of these Seniors declared veterinary school interests as freshmen. There were 13 who followed the Natural Science option, 4 followed Business and 3 followed Production. At graduation, these are their destinations: 4 to Vet School, 3 to Grad School, 4 to vet clinics, 3 to lab animal commercial research, 3 to livestock/equine agriculture, 1 to marketing, and 2 were undecided.

If you are back on campus, don't hesitate to visit the Department!
 Dan Schaefer, Department of Animal Sciences Chair

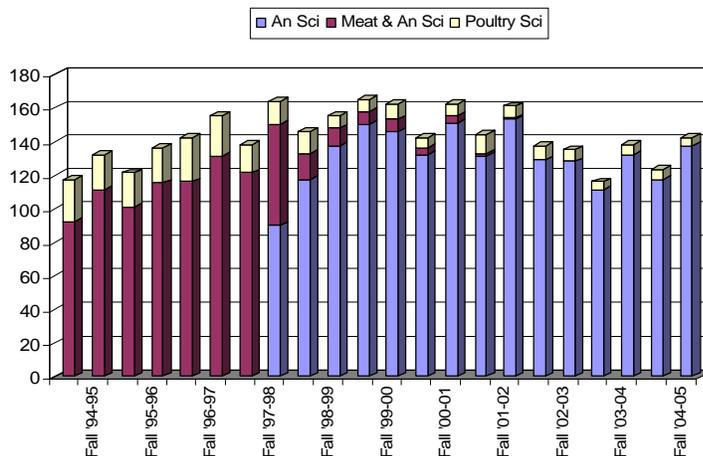
Undergraduate Numbers Holding Up

Shown below are numbers of students in the Animal Science, Meat & Animal Science and Poultry Science majors for the period Fall 94-95 through Fall 04-05. Fall enrollment has stabilized at 135-140 total undergraduates.

Currently searching for new faculty members:

- *Avian Biology 70% Research and 30% Instruction*
- *Pre-Harvest Animal Product Safety and Security: 80% Extension and 20% Research (new position)*
- *Meat Science: 80% Extension and 20% Research*

Undergraduate History



Aquaculture Joins Animal Sciences

CALS Aquaculture Program transferred from the Food Science Department. The Director is Dr. Jeff Malison, and staff members are Dr. Terry Barry and Mr. Jim Held. They have exceptional funding records and conduct cool-water fish research in small tanks in the Water Research Building, in ponds at the DNR Lake Mills Fish Hatchery and in laboratories in the Animal Sciences Building. Instructional contributions are made to Reproductive Physiology and Meat Science courses.

For more program information see us on the web at www.ansci.wisc.edu/research/aquaculture/index.htm



Aerial view of the Lake Mills Fish Hatchery
Photo by the WDNR

Traditional and Non-traditional Class Offerings

"Biology and Appreciation of Companion Animals has 150 students per semester which is taught twice a year by Ron Kean!"

Poultry Science Summer Curriculum

We just completed our tenth year for hosting the six courses offered by the Midwest Poultry Consortium. Instructors and students come from 13 participating states. Of the approximately 150 graduates, about 30% have entered poultry industry positions. This may be a model for future interstate species-specific collaboration.

Distance Outreach Course

John and Joan Parrish

offer Equine Reproductive Management, Spring semesters. It is web-based instruction together with four Saturday laboratories

Other New Courses

Animal Handling, Terry Jobsis

Human/Animal Symbiosis-Ethics, Law, Practice, Mark Cook

Career Orientation in Animal and Poultry Sciences, Dan Schaefer

Lab Techniques in Mam-

malian Gamete and Embryo Biology, Rick Monson

Veterinary Genetics, Brian Kirkpatrick

Beef Cattle Marketing, Dan Schaefer

Cargill-Benevenga Scholarship Undergraduate Research Scholarship

Cargill-Benevenga endowment supports undergraduate research projects for any project mentored by a departmental faculty member. Project may be semester-long (\$1000) or year-long (\$2000).

2004 award winners were: Jennifer Cigan, Stacy Johnson, Tina Herfel, Nicole Nelsen, Tyler Schaaf, and Josh Schindler.

Animal Facilities Update

Due to budget reductions, the Arlington Turkey Farm, Arlington Poultry Farm and Bovine Reproductive Technology Lab have been mothballed or closed. Likewise, the purebred beef cattle herd has been dispersed.

CALS is preparing to become accredited by the Assoc. for Assessment and Accreditation of Lab Animal Care. This necessitated sizeable investment in facility improvements and the closure of the campus Horse Barn for animal use. As a result, our equine program is now lo-

cated in renovated sections of the Old Dairy Barn. We now call this building the Equine Center, but campus officials haven't bought into the name change, yet.

The Department is aggressively working with campus planners to site a new Meat Science and Muscle Biology Lab and a new Poultry Research Lab. Both are considered essential for research/ instructional programs and industry vitality.

Franbrook Farm, New Glarus, Update

This beautiful farm property was donated to the UW Foundation with the expectation that it be used to study the interface between production agriculture and natural resources. Current research projects at the Farm include: genetics of twinning in beef cattle, grassland ecology and vegetative restoration techniques. Recent property improvements include driveway reshaping by the National Guard, construction of a workshop area and installation of cattle handling facilities.

Faculty Comings and Goings

The following faculty have retired. Here is what they are doing to fill up their spare time.

N. J. Benevenga – some Atlantic sailing, midget racer construction, still active as Chair of CALS Animal Care Committee

Jim Bitgood – travel, family and gardening

Neal First – family activities and horse shows

Vern Liebbrandt – family and photography

Bernie Wentworth – still doing much teaching

The following faculty are new to our program and here is a little bit about their backgrounds.

Gabriela Cezar Ph.D. – arrived from Pfizer, animal physiology instruction, stem cell research and biotechnologies

Jeff Lehmkuhler Ph.D. – arrived from Univ. of Missouri, beef cattle extension specialist, beef cattle nutrition, grazing research

Mark Richards Ph.D. – arrived from Univ. of Massachusetts, poultry meat product quality, especially lipid oxidation mechanisms.

David Barnes departed to assume duties as Director of Research and Development for Standard Process, Palmyra, WI (a nutraceutical company).

Elton Aberle, Dean Emeritus of CALS has joined the emeritus faculty of this department and is officed in the Meat Lab.

We have lost one of our own: **Professor Arthur Chapman** died on December 29, 2004. Chappie focused on genetic improvement of livestock. He was 96 years young.

New Program Staff Leaders

Bernadette (Bernie) O'Rourke – arrived from Minnesota, youth livestock extension specialist, co-advisor to Saddle and Sirloin Club, recently engaged to Ron Patterson, a May 2006 wedding is planned.

Liv Sandberg – arrived from North Carolina State, horse extension specialist for youth and adults, teaches Horse Science and Management.

Dan Short, well-known Dodge County Extension Specialist, has assumed state-wide swine programming duties (75%) and maintains his county-level duties (25%).

Have you ever wondered what happened to... ?



Animal Sciences Building

For more information about the programs listed in this newsletter, please contact Dan Schaefer at schaeferd@ansci.wisc.edu call us at 608-263-4300

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Lou Arrington – so supportive of poultry programming that he's not really retired

Bob Bray – At a recent surprise party for the Brays— Bob and Kathryn were recognized for their gift that helped establish a graduate fellowship and their new donation relative to the building plans for a new Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory.

Bob Cassens – Presented key-note address in August 2005 at International Congress of Meat Science and Technology.

Jack Gorski – still showing Jerseys

Bob Grummer – active fisherman

Bob Kauffman – Madison-based manager of his family's cow-calf operation in Missouri.

Art Pope – attends sheep field days and sheep programs; his farm has become the Pope Farm Park in the Town of Middleton; 105 acres of green space

Jan Rapacz – flower genetics and propagation

Max Shackelford – still driving his car, amazing fitness

Milt Sunde – Celebrated his 58th Anniversary with UW-Madison, often seen in the Department full of humor, friend of the office staff

Dick Vatthauer – as friendly as ever

Dick Vilstrup – seen at CALS events, still smiling