

COWPOKE NEWS

Department of Animal Science, Oklahoma State University
Spring 2017

In this Edition:

Feeding Cattle Candy Helps Save Producers Cash

Speaking from Experience: Facilities Equip Students

Sydney Stewart Receives Fulbright U.S. Student Award

ANSI Honor Students Journey to Jason Abraham's



TABLE OF CONTENTS



Feeding Cattle Candy Helps Save Producers Cash



Speaking from Experience
Facilities equip students with the tools needed for success after graduation.



Sydney Stewart Awarded Fulbright



ANSI Honor Students Journey to Jason Abraham's Mendota Ranch



Our History
Take a trip back in time!



Outstanding Faculty & Staff

On the Cover



A colt from the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center is on the cover of this edition of Cowpoke News. Learn more about our equine program on page 20!

16 Seeking Faculty Members

We are looking to add to our ANSI family!

17 Hires & Departures

Meet our new staff member, Carla Shipley!

18 Outstanding Students

Learn about our amazing students and judging teams!

25 Alumni Awards

Animal Science Weekend awards & recognition.

28 Events & Announcements

Get ready for an action packed summer!

30 Sponsors & Donors

View sponsors and donors of our department, as well as the ASAA board of directors.

COWPOKE NEWS

Cowpoke News is published by the Department of Animal Science within the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (DASNR) at Oklahoma State University. We strive to keep students, alumni and friends of the department informed about our activities and successes. The Department of Animal Science offers two majors to students; animal science and food science. It is one of the largest departments on campus with more than 1,000 undergraduate students, but with a small town feel, a caring attitude and a commitment to every student.

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To subscribe, e-mail us at cowpokeneeds@okstate.edu or mail in your request to Rebekah Alford. Please give us your full name and either your e-mail or mailing address.

Stay Connected

Want more information about our department? Follow us on social media! To learn more, visit <http://ansi.okstate.edu>.

From the Department Head

Dear Alumni and Friends:

We hope you enjoy this issue of the Cowpoke News. We are committed to keeping you informed about the OSU Department of Animal Science. Our goal is to stay in touch with you on a year-round basis. We plan to send you the Cowpoke News three times per year and the Alumni Update once in the Spring.



In this issue of the Cowpoke News, you will read about the Animal Science Weekend, including the Alumni Gala, the Scholarship and Awards Banquet and the Cowboy Classic. You will also learn about our outstanding seniors, plus stories about other students and clubs who have represented the Department of Animal Science very well this spring in various events and competitions.

This issue of the Cowpoke News features stories about our talented faculty and some of their recent accomplishments. You will find a story written about Dr. Dan Stein taking students to Jason Abraham's. You will learn about three faculty positions we are currently working to fill, as well as read about our facilities and Animal Science history. You will read about our recent hires and the most generous Alumni Association in the world! We have included announcements, as well as a list of our major sponsors and those who have donated animal genetics to our department.

If you or someone you know would like to receive a hard copy of the Cowpoke News or would like to be added to our e-mail list, please contact Rebekah Alford at cowpokenews@okstate.edu.

Sincerely,
Clint Rusk, Head

OSU Department of Animal Science

Clubs Recognized

The Pre-Veterinary Science Club was recognized as the Outstanding CASNR Club. Dr. Udaya DeSilva is the advisor for the Pre-Vet Club.

The Dairy Science Club won 1st place in CASNR Week Activities. Dr. Leon Spicer, David Jones and Jason White advise the Dairy Science Club.



Pre-Veterinary Science Club Meeting (2017)



Feeding Cattle **Candy**..... Helps Save Producers Cash

Written by Sean Hubbard, Agricultural Communications Specialist

News circulated early in 2017 about a truck hauling Skittles to a producer in Wisconsin, where it was to be mixed into feed for cattle. Social media was abuzz with the strange thought of cattle tasting the rainbow. Apparently, however, the novelty of this story is not so unique.

“For cattle, other than a taste difference, candy is not any different than including corn in the diet. They serve as an energy source for the cattle,” said Chris Richards, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension beef cattle nutrition specialist. “The bacteria in the rumen of the cattle break down the candy into the same materials it would the starch in the corn they are fed.”

It is not just candy, either.

“Cattle are well equipped to utilize feed and forage resources that are not suitable for human consumption or use,” said Dave Lalman, OSU Cooperative Extension beef cattle specialist. “Restaurant grease, grocery store unsold produce, outdated bread, water-damaged flour or cereal and on and on. And, of course...grass.”

With compartmentalized stomachs, cattle can utilize a wide range of forage quality. The first compartment, the rumen, is where much of the magic happens. Carbohydrates, sugar in particular, are rapidly fermented in the rumen. This process transforms the sugar into volatile fatty acids.

“These acids are then absorbed into the blood stream and used for energy by different tissues,” Lalman said. “Consequently, blood sugar does not vary dramatically in ruminants compared to humans. It is highly regulated in ruminants.”

While the stomachs of cattle are impressive, they can only do so much. A diet strictly comprised of candy, doughnuts or restaurant grease, for example, is not a good idea.

“Nutritional expertise is required to create a balanced nutritional program, especially when dealing with feeds other than grazed forage,” Lalman said. “The diet needs to be carefully balanced to keep everything working in concert and minimize any risk of mineral imbalances or digestive upset.”

Many of the forage materials carefully folded into cattle diets would otherwise be wasted.

“They are either landfill material or can be repurposed for other industries,” said Richards. “It’s a win-win-win; the candy company gets some revenue, the environment wins by avoiding landfills and the cattle get a great energy source that is tasty.”



Speaking from Experience

Teaching, research and extension facilities equip students with the tools needed for success after graduation.

Written by Rebekah Alford, ANSI Communications Specialist

The Oklahoma State University Department of Animal Science offers something many universities cannot; well-equipped facilities and large herds of beef and dairy cattle, equine, sheep, goats and swine, as well as a poultry research unit. The department's facilities encompass nearly 13,000 acres and are used for teaching, research and extension purposes.

Fully functioning farms provide hands-on learning opportunities for students to conduct research and apply what they are taught in class. Once, it was common for land-grant universities to have farm units and livestock. Due to operation and maintenance costs, many universities no longer have these important teaching facilities.

"There would have been a time that just about any land grant university we went to in the United States would have had purebred livestock through all the species," said Dr. Mark Johnson, Department of Animal Science associate professor. "In more recent years, many have phased those out. OSU is one of the last, if not the very last."

As supervisor of the OSU Purebred Beef Center, Johnson oversees a purebred beef cattle operation. The herd has an inventory of approximately 300 mature cows representing five breeds (Angus, Hereford, Brangus, Limousin and Simmental). The facilities and animals are used for teaching and extension purposes. Students can work at the Beef Center

and help with their annual sale, the Cowboy Classic.

"Mainly, this facility is here to teach students who want to have a background in purebred seedstock or who would one day want to be a part of an annual sale or market livestock," said Purebred Beef Herd Manager Jeremy Leister. "They get a hands-on learning experience while they are getting an education here, and you can still combine everything you want

to do in the beef cattle business. You are learning how to do it the best way possible."

Having these facilities at Oklahoma State University brings distinction to its animal science degree and makes the Department of Animal Science highly sought after. The department believes the knowledge and experience the students gain at these facilities is invaluable.

"We want students to have a well-rounded experience," said Dr. Jerry Fitch, Department of Animal Science professor and state sheep specialist. "When students go out in extension, teaching or other types of jobs, they can talk from experience and be able to teach others about how you handle sheep and how you work sheep and how you manage a sheep operation."

Fitch supervises the department's sheep and goat center. Built in 1930, the main sheep barn is one of the oldest structures on campus. In fact, it is second only to Old Central. The farm consists of three sheep breeds (Suffolk, Hampshire and Dorset), and all are competitive on a national level. The purebred sheep and goat flocks are primarily used in teaching several Animal Science courses, as well as demonstrations and judging for 4-H, FFA and field days. These facilities allow for faculty and staff to work with large student groups or on a one-on-one basis in order to teach them about the sheep industry.

"OSU Animal Science is one of the last universities to have every one of



"Working at the OSU Purebred Beef Center has allowed me to pursue my passion for cattle while providing an opportunity to take my mind off of school and be outside. Additionally, some of my coworkers have become my best friends. This group of like minded individuals share the same passions I do, making every day at the beef center one to enjoy. I am blessed to be able to have a job that doesn't ever seem like work."

- Jera Pipkin, animal science and agricultural communications sophomore



“Living and working at the OSU Swine Center has allowed me to grow as a leader and continue to attend OSU by providing affordable student living. The faculty and staff who manage the center and research projects are skilled and love to share their knowledge with students. I came from a smaller farm with only 20 sows. My time at the center has provided a better understanding of how a production operation works on a larger scale.”

- Justin Leonard, animal science and agricultural communications junior

these units,” said Darin Annuschat, sheep center herd manager. “I think keeping these units open is very important to the success of our students. You sit in the classroom and look at PowerPoint slides, but then you can come out in lab and actually work those animals, tag, tail dock, process baby lambs and learn about what grazing wheat pasture is. There are so many facets of this industry that we do right here, and that is important to the learning process.”

Class and research projects aren't the only ways students can benefit from these facilities. Students who want to gain more experience can take it a step further by getting an internship and/or part-time job at one of the farm units.

“Each unit employs multiple part-time students to aid with daily care and maintenance,” said Carrie Jansen, student success coordinator. “The farm managers are skilled, qualified individuals who enjoy imparting knowledge on their employees and helping them grow personally and professionally during their time at the farms. The opportunity to work at these facilities allows students to develop a strong work ethic, as well as critical thinking and communication skills.”

Gaining work experience with industry professionals is an invaluable asset that can set students apart when they apply for jobs after graduation.

“Students have the unique opportunity to note these experiences on their job or internship applications and talk about them in an interview,” said Jansen. “This can differentiate them from other candidates. Students find great value in the chance to visit the farms during class, but those who choose to dedicate more time have the opportunity to gain knowledge beyond the class and practice needed skills before graduation.”

Whether a student is looking for interactive classes, research opportunities or on-the-job training, the diverse and well-equipped facilities at Oklahoma State University's Department of Animal Science are an extraordinary and crucial resource for anyone seeking to gain experience in their field of interest.

Animal Science Facilities

Interested in our facilities? Get an in-depth look of our farms and research and teaching centers by watching our facility tour videos at <http://bit.ly/2oN06MA>, or read more about them on our website at <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/about/facilities>.

If you would like to tour one of our buildings or farm units, please contact Student Success Coordinator Carrie Jansen (carrie.jansen@okstate.edu) to schedule a visit!

- **Animal Science Building**
- **Animal Science Research Range**
- **Bluestem Research Range**
- **Ferguson Family Dairy Center**
- **Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center**
- **Feedmill**
- **Lake Carl Blackwell Research Ranges**
- **Marshall Wheat Pasture Research Unit**
- **Nutrition Physiology Research Center**
- **Poultry Research Center**
- **Purebred Beef Research Center**
- **Sheep and Goat Center**
- **Stillwater Wheat Pasture Barn**
- **Swine Research and Education Center**
- **Totusek Arena**
- **Willard Sparks Beef Cattle Research Center**



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

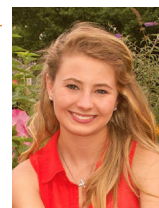
Purebred/Teaching Center Endowments

EXCELLENCE IS JUST A WORD TO SOME, BUT FOR THE ANIMAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, IT'S A TRADITION.

To continue to excel, support is needed to add to the Purebred/Teaching Center Endowments. **Make your gift today.**

“*As a sixth generation dairy farmer, I have increased my knowledge working at the Ferguson Family Dairy Center. I have gained hands-on opportunities that have broadened my dairy knowledge and sharpened my animal husbandry skills. Partaking in various farm chores, I have been able to further my education on dairy cattle nutrition, reproduction and calf care.*”

— TAYLOR LEACH, Animal Science and Agricultural Communications, Senior



“*Working at the OSU Sheep and Goat Center has cultivated relationships and opened extremely beneficial opportunities for me on a personal and professional level. The Barn is a tremendous asset to the Animal Science Department, university and students regarding teaching, research and Extension. I have gained knowledge and experience that will be advantageous in my planned career as an agricultural education instructor.*”

— BARRETT NEWELL, Agricultural Education, Junior

“*The Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center has greatly enriched my college experience. Working at an equine breeding farm, I've learned how to run and maintain a facility, from general pasture maintenance to equine health and reproduction. I have gained practical, industry skills, which a person simply cannot learn during a lecture. The experience makes me feel like an important member of OSU and proud to be a part of the animal science family.*”

— REBECCA JANES, Animal Science, Junior



By joining us and contributing to these endowments, you are supporting the operation and maintenance of each Center, ensuring our facilities and purebred herds will be sustained for current and future Cowboys. Through your support, we will continue to employ some of the finest animal science students in the nation; propelling them into a bright future. Annual costs at each center often include student labor, feed, vet expenses, equipment and facility improvements. Individuals, companies or organizations who contribute \$10,000 or more to an endowment fund will be recognized on a plaque in the respective Center.

The following endowments exist to support students, programs, and operations within the Department of Animal Science:

- Dairy Center Endowment Fund
- Equine Center Endowment Fund
- Purebred Beef Center Endowment Fund
- Sheep and Goat Center Endowment Fund
- Swine Center Endowment Fund
- Willard Sparks Beef Research Center Endowment Fund

For more information about how you can be a part of this important legacy, please visit OSUgiving.com/ansi or contact:

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Stewart Awarded Fulbright for Research in Germany

Written by Jim Mitchell, OSU Communications Staff

Sydney Stewart, an undergraduate student at Oklahoma State University, has been awarded a Fulbright U.S. Student Award to conduct research in Germany during the 2017-2018 academic year. The Fulbright program places U.S. students in countries around the world where they act as an ambassador for the United States, work with research advisers and learn about the people and culture.

Stewart, a graduate of Life School Red Oak Secondary School in Red Oak, Tex., is scheduled to graduate from OSU in May with a bachelor's degree in animal science (pre-veterinary option) and a minor in microbiology. She will join a team of researchers from the Institute of Animal Sciences, in Bonn, Germany, to evaluate pig health and biosecurity measures on commercial swine farms in the rural northwestern part of the country.

"We will use bacterial samples taken from the animals, as well as animal health and performance data, to determine if pigs are more susceptible to particular pathogens (infection or disease-causing agents) at specific points in the pork production chain, and whether certain biosecurity measures are more effective than others at preventing the spread of pathogens among pig herds," said Stewart.

She was attracted to Germany because livestock producers there have already gained a reputation for quickly adapting to strict regulations for antibiotic use in food animals, without sacrificing animal welfare and animal production performance.

"Germany is now the world's third largest producer of pigs and pork products, and is one of Europe's top livestock producing members," said Stewart. "By studying modern antibiotic-free disease control and prevention systems on commercial German farms, and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each system, we may be able to develop viable, cost-effective, practical models for implementation on U.S. farms."

Stewart, whose family is heavily involved in the U.S. agriculture industry, said she never imagined she'd have the opportunity to take part in cutting-edge, internationally-significant research abroad while representing her country and the ag industry.

"To actually have that chance now is an incredible honor and a privilege, and I'm very grateful for my mentors in the Departments of Animal Science and Foreign Languages who encouraged me and supported me throughout the application process," said Stewart. "I am inspired by Fulbright's mission to promote a 'cultural exchange' between people all over the world, and I strongly believe that my experiences in a diverse, innovative country like Germany will further my development as both a scientist and an effective advocate for agriculture."

In addition to the Fulbright award, Stewart is a recipient of a General Honors Award and will graduate with the Departmental Honors Award and an OSU Honors College Degree. She is a three-year participant in the Animal Science Undergraduate Research Program, recipient of the

Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Undergraduate Research Scholars Grant and two-time recipient of the Lew Wentz Undergraduate Research Grant.

Stewart's hobbies include cooking, photography, soccer and horseback (trail) riding. She was a member of the 2015 OSU Intercollegiate Meat Judging Team and OSU German Club.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the country's largest student exchange program, offering opportunities to students and young professionals for graduate study, advanced research, university teaching and primary and secondary school teaching worldwide.

Funded by an annual congressional appropriation to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the program was initiated by Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946 for the promotion of international goodwill through the exchange of students in the fields of education, culture and science.



ANSI Honor Students Journey to Jason Abraham's Mendota Ranch

Dr. Dan Stein provides students with an opportunity to meet animal science industry professionals during a trip to the Texas panhandle.

Written by Carrie Jansen, Student Success Coordinator

When students are in grade school, middle school and even high school, field trips are a fairly frequent occurrence. The chance for students to escape the classroom and venture out into the “real world” is relished by both pupils and teachers. Often, the goal of this fun day is to educate students in some form or fashion. Unfortunately, field trips become less frequent during college but are still as anticipated and exciting as most of those from days past.

Dr. Dan Stein's annual trip to the Texas panhandle is no exception to the highly anticipated rule. For the last five years, Dr. Stein has taken a group of honor students to visit reproductive specialists who are leaders in their field.

“It's a laid back atmosphere out there,” said Stein. “The kids are pretty relaxed, and they'll visit and ask questions in that type of setting.”

Dr. Veneklasen, a practicing DVM in Canyon, Tex., is a world-renowned equine reproductive and cloning specialist. Jason Abraham holds the patent on the deer cloning process and has his practice at his home near Canadian, Tex. The two are business partners who own one of only three cloning labs in the U.S. and have collaborated on multiple projects, including cloning deer and horses.

Students who journey to Texas have the opportunity to meet some of the best in the business and learn about other opportunities within the animal science industry. During these visits, students get to interact with both Dr. Veneklasen and Mr. Abraham.

“Dr. Veneklasen took three and a half hours out of his day during spring, his busiest time of year, to speak with our students. You don't get that often for students,” said Stein. “They are adamant about taking time to talk with students about the science, and to not be afraid of it.”

Mr. Abraham walks students through his facilities and explains the process of cloning and his day-to-day activities. Students also get to see cloned animals and learn why their owners chose to clone them. Additionally, Dr. Veneklasen and Mr. Abraham hope the students learn a thing or two about business. Mr. Abraham encourages the students to be smart about the monetary decisions they make and be willing to invest should the right opportunity come along.





Dr. Stein hopes the students gain an understanding of the vast possibilities and importance of connections within the industry.

“Jason encourages the students to find what they are good at and do it,” Stein said.

During the trip, students get to ask questions and see the things they’ve learned in class implemented in a real-world scenario. More than one student has changed their career focus after attending this learning excursion.

“This year, Dr. Veneklasen showed clones, jumping horses, going to Belgium that were probably a week old,” said Stein. “He had rodeo stock who had three fouls on the ground born within two days of each other for rodeo stock up in Iowa. Most of the mares in the finals of the NFR were out there getting ready to go through and be bred or do embryo transfer. The students were in awe of the caliber of clientele he works with.”

Ty Davis, a December 2016 graduate, said, “Going on this trip solidified my decision to pursue a career in reproduction because of the opportunities that technology continues to give us in the field.”

“The knowledge and experience Mr. Abraham possesses regarding reproduction is both fascinating and intriguing. His ability to clone and raise world class horses and deer gave me the value of curiosity as to what else can be done in the future.”

Ty, along with four others who will graduate this May, have been accepted into Colorado State University’s Master of Science in biomedical sciences with a specialization in assisted reproductive technologies. Of the six students from the Department of Animal Science who have went on to this program, almost all attended the field trip to Texas. Dr. Stein credits the students’ continued interest to the neat lessons they learn both in the classroom and

while visiting with Dr. Veneklasen and Mr. Abraham.

“This time of year, Jason’s ultra sounding mares every morning to see what stage of the cycle they are in,” said Stein. “He went through his daily procedure with the mares with the students.”

“Every year there is something different. Last year dogs weren’t on the table; this year they had 455. It’s pretty amazing.”

While the nearly eight hours of driving to the Texas panhandle and back does make for a long trip, you would be hard pressed to find someone who did not think it was worth it. It is not every day you get to rub elbows with true innovators and pick their brains about the future of our industry.

Our History

Learn about the historical events that helped make our department what it is today.

1890 - OSU Founded

Oklahoma State University was founded on December 25, 1890, as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (Oklahoma A&M).



1895 - Pond Plans

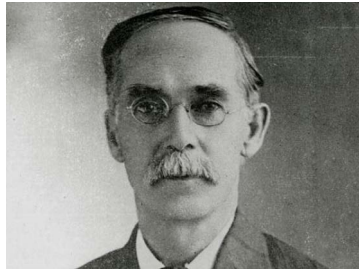
In an attempt to solve water shortage issues, students were recruited to help build a pond on campus. It was called Horse Pond or College Pond because it was used as a watering hole for horses. It eventually became known as Theta Pond.

1906 - Ag Divided

In 1906, the Department of Agriculture was divided into the Department of Agronomy and the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

1907 - Father of Extension

W.D. Bentley and W.M. Bamberge began extension efforts to help Oklahoman farmers and rural families. Bentley became known as the "father of extension."



1924 - Animal Husbandry Building

The Animal Husbandry Building and Livestock Pavilion opened. It contained offices, laboratories, classrooms and a livestock arena.

1929 - Livestock Judging Team wins at American Royal Livestock Show

Oklahoma A&M College's 1929 livestock judging team became the first Oklahoma team to win at the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City. Clarence E. Kingery was the high man in the judging competition.



1947 - Royal Jupiter Crowned "King Sirloin"

Royal Jupiter (a Shorthorn steer born and bred at Oklahoma A&M College) won the grand championship at the Chicago International Exposition in 1947. The steer was crowned "King Sirloin" for 1946-47.

1928 - Bronze Bull

Oklahoma A&M College's 1928 livestock judging team earned permanent possession of the International Livestock Exposition's bronze bull trophy by placing first in 1925, 1926 and 1928. The trophy now resides in the Animal Science lobby.



1908 - Departments Divide

Animal Husbandry and Dairying are further split into separate departments in 1908.

Courses dealing with poultry began being offered in the Animal Husbandry Department in 1911. In 1915, the Poultry Husbandry Department was created, and the teaching of poultry classes moves to the new department.

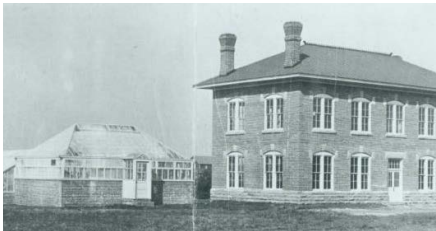


1922 - Barn Burns Down

The College Barn (Horse Barn) burned down in 1922. A new one was built in 1926 and lasted until the 1970's.

1902 - College Barn Built

The college barn (AKA Horse Barn) was built to house 40-50 draft horses.



1904 - Dairy Building

A new dairy building was approved in 1904. A wing was added later, which expanded the dairy's creamery. Students and faculty often purchased inexpensive dairy products there.

1952 - First Woman on Livestock Judging Team

Minnie Lou Ottinger (Bradley) became the first female member of the Oklahoma A&M College livestock judging team. She was also the first woman to ever win the individual livestock judging championship at the International Livestock Exposition.



1954 - Lake Carl Blackwell

Lake Carl Blackwell was deeded to Oklahoma A&M College. Part of this land is still used by the Oklahoma State University Department of Animal Science for research and extension.

1976 - Final Name Change

In 1976, the name of our department was officially shortened to the Department of Animal Science.

1998 - Sparks Center

The Sparks Center was dedicated in 1998 thanks to an investment of more than \$2.3 million dollars.



1987 - Arena Constructed

The new animal science arena was completed in 1987 and dedicated in 1988.



2016 - Cline Equine Center

The grand opening for the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Facility occurred February 17, 2016. The state-of-the-art facility provides hands-on opportunities for students.

2015 - Arena Renamed

The OSU Animal Science Arena was renamed on April 11, 2015, to honor the late Dr. Bob Totusek, who fostered a culture of excellence in the Department of Animal Science for over 60 years.

1967 - Departments Combined

In 1967, the Animal, Dairy and Poultry Science Departments were merged into the Institute of Animal Sciences and Industry. In 1970, the name of the department changed to Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.



1996 - First Female Spirit Rider

Patti Campbell, animal science junior, became OSU's first female Spirit Rider in the fall of 1996.

2004 - Swine Center Dedicated

The Swine Center was dedicated in 2004 as a new, total confinement facility that features modern waste and odor management technologies, as well as an indoor facility for swine judging.



2017 - Dairy Freestall Barn

Thanks to the generosity of the Ferguson Family, we are making improvements to our dairy facilities. One of these updates is building a new, state-of-the-art freestall barn.



1948 - National Livestock Judging Champs

The 1948 livestock judging team became National Champions! The team included (l-r) Glenn Bratcher, E.J. Turman, Bob Totusek, Thomas E. Cox, Myron Schnaithman and J.C. Christensen.



1982 - New ANSI Building

Construction for the current Animal Science Building was completed in 1982, allowing faculty to be housed in one building for the first time. Before this, the department was split among six different buildings.

Outstanding Faculty & Staff

Dr. Dan Stein was recognized with the 2017 CASNR Award for Excellence in Teaching and the 2017 Animal Science Tyler Award. Dr. Stein is an associate professor with primary emphasis in livestock production. His love and passion for student success has propelled him into being recognized as one of the most accomplished and highest honored teachers and advisors in the university.

He has been honored with numerous awards, including the University Leave the Ladder Down Award for outstanding mentoring in 2012, the Gamma Sigma Delta New Teacher Award of Merit in 2013, the Mortar Board Golden Torch Award for the Outstanding CASNR faculty member in 2013 and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Educator Award in 2016. His outstanding relationship with students is highlighted by Dr. Stein being named one of the Top Ten Most Wanted Professors at OSU by our campus paper, the Daily O'Collegian, in 2014.



Dr. Jerry Fitch was recognized with the Advising Excellence Award at the 2016 University Awards Convocation. Last spring, he was also recognized with the 2016 CASNR Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising and Mentoring. Dr. Fitch is a professor and sheep specialist who has served as the advisor to more than 100 students. Having previously served as the department's undergraduate advising coordinator, Fitch often holds workshops to help the animal science faculty grow in their advising skills. Currently he is the department's teaching coordinator and he maintains the option sheets for both animal science and food science majors.

Fitch has been with our department for more than 25 years. He joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1988 and was promoted to professor 11 years later. Fitch's research interests are evaluations of ewe breeds for lambing, synchronization techniques and artificial insemination. He also conducts extension programming for sheep nutrition, reproduction and genetics.

Dr. Ranjith Ramanathan was recognized with the 2017 Outstanding Young Animal Scientist Education Award. Dr. Ramanathan is an assistant professor and coordinator of our department's undergraduate research scholar program. He currently teaches the fundamentals of food science, food chemistry I, food chemistry II, analysis of food products and advanced food chemistry. His research interests are postmortem meat biochemistry and meat quality, role of mitochondria in beef color, myoglobin and lipid oxidation, application of novel techniques to better understand meat quality, effects of enhancement on raw color, cooked color and lipid oxidation, inter-relationship between oxygen consumption and metmyoglobin reduction, packaging and meat color.



Mr. Jake Nelson was recognized with the Leave the Ladder Down Award (staff category) at the 2016 University Awards Convocation. Nelson is a value-added meat processing specialist in the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center (FAPC) and teaches classes for the Department of Animal Science.

Some of Nelson's successes include developing the famous Vegas Strip Steak. He also makes appearances on SUNUP's Food Whys segment. Along with his success in FAPC, he works closely with students in the classroom.



Dr. Steven Cooper was recognized with the 2017 Alpha Zeta Outstanding Teacher Award. Dr. Steven Cooper is an associate professor and director of the equine teaching and research program in the Department of Animal Science. His responsibilities include teaching both lecture and hands-on courses, as well as supervising the quarter horse production herd, coaching the horse judging team and assisting with youth and adult outreach programs within the state.

Dr. Cooper is a successful horse judging team coach, having coached eight world champion and four reserve world champion senior college teams. He conducts youth and adult judging clinics within and outside the state and has taught both judging and horsemanship clinics for AQHA in other countries. Other industry related activities include serving as a judging contest official and reasons taker at the National FFA Convention, International Equine Judges' Seminar, AQHA Youth World, APHA Youth World and numerous state level 4-H competitions.

Hitch is our departmental therapy dog and a member of OSU's pet therapy program, Pete's Pet Posse, that received the Loyal and True Award at the 2016 University Awards Convocation.

Hitch, a 10 year-old Australian Shepherd, makes appearances throughout the year to ensure everyone who steps onto campus feel welcome! Interaction with Hitch and other OSU therapy dogs is encouraged. The dogs can be identified by their uniforms, which include special orange vests with "Ask to Pet Me" patches, "Therapy Dog" patches and "Pete's Pet Posse" patches. They also wear unique orange leashes and collars that identify them as being part of the program.



Tenure-Track Positions

The Department of Animal Science at Oklahoma State University is seeking applicants for three 11-month, tenure-track faculty positions (70% Research and 30% Teaching) in the fields of ruminant nutritional physiology, animal well-being and animal genomics. The positions carry the expectation of excellence in research productivity, teaching and advising commensurate with the land grant mission of Oklahoma State University.

Application Procedure: Candidates should submit a letter of application, official academic transcripts, statement of research goals, statement of teaching and graduate advising philosophy and a complete CV that includes: background, education, experience, and a list of publications and extramural funding. Candidates should also provide the name and contact information of five (5) references. Materials must be submitted via the following link: <https://jobs.okstate.edu>. (Ruminant Nutritional Physiology: req3102; Animal Behavior & Well-being: req2648; Animal Genomics: req2633. Questions may be sent to Dr. Clint Rusk, department head, at clint.rusk@okstate.edu.

Ruminant Nutritional Physiologist

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

The successful candidate will be expected to develop an internationally recognized research program and oversee a core nutrition lab utilized by multiple faculty. Opportunities for independent and collaborative research include, but are not limited to nutritional physiology, gastrointestinal physiology, microbiota and animal health, or growth and metabolism in ruminants. The successful candidate will seek and secure extramural funding in support of a multidisciplinary research program in collaboration with other faculty in the Department, the Division, and the University. The individual will have the opportunity to help develop a nutrition and physiology metabolism research center. Teaching responsibilities include 2-3 undergraduate or graduate courses per year based on the department's needs and the new hire's expertise. In addition, the new hire will have an undergraduate advising responsibility and will also advise graduate students. Requirements include a Ph.D. in animal science or a closely related field with an emphasis in nutrition or digestive physiology and metabolism.

Temple Grandin Endowed Professor in Applied Animal Behavior and Well Being

Assistant or Associate Professor

The successful candidate will develop an internationally recognized research program in the areas of animal behavior, animal well-being, and auditing/assessment of animal well-being in production environments. The new hire will be expected to seek and secure extramural funding in support of an applied, multidisciplinary animal well-being research program in collaboration with other faculty in the Department, Division, and University. Teaching responsibilities include an undergraduate course in livestock behavior and 1-2 additional undergraduate or graduate courses in the area of the new hire's expertise. In addition, the new hire will have an undergraduate advising responsibility and will also advise graduate students. Requirements include a Ph.D. or DVM/Ph.D. in Animal Science, Animal Behavior, or a closely related field.

Animal Genomics Professor

Assistant Professor

The successful candidate will develop an internationally recognized research program in high-throughput genome analysis, bioinformatics, gene network analysis, and/or other areas of genetics or genomics with applications to production efficiency and quality, health, and/or disease resistance of food animals. Establishment of a research program capable of attracting external funds and collaboration with other scientists is expected. There are many collaborative opportunities and resources across the university including the high performance computing center, bioinformatics certificate program, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences. Teaching responsibilities include 2-3 undergraduate or graduate courses per year in animal breeding, animal genetics or animal genomics based on the department's needs and the new hire's expertise. In addition, the new hire will have an undergraduate advising responsibility and will also advise graduate students. Requirements include a Ph.D. in Animal Breeding, Molecular Genetics, Computational Biology, Bioinformatics or a closely related area.

Hires & Departures



Carla Shipley has joined our staff! She is the new administrative support assistant for suite 104 in the Animal Science Building.

Carla is originally from Atoka, Okla. In her spare time, she likes fishing, bow hunting, antiquing and spending time with her sons, Ty (age 22) and Wes (age 19).

We are happy to have Carla on our team. Be sure to drop by and say hi!

Josh and Sara Ricklefs are leaving our department and heading to New Mexico, where Josh has accepted a job offer.

Sara was an accountant and grant representative for our department for the last two years.

Josh was a student at OSU and worked at our research range. He graduated in May of 2017.



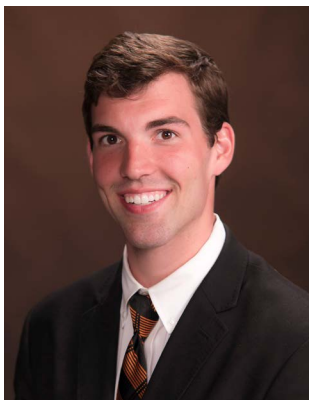
Debra Danley left our department this spring. Debra has been a part of our animal science family since August 2002 and most recently held the title of information assistant.

Debra was well known by the graduate students, since she was actively involved with our graduate student program.

Debra is now working with KKT, an architectural firm in Tulsa, Okla. We would like to thank Debra Danley for her 14 & a half years of service to the Department of Animal Science.



Outstanding Students



Clay Daily was recognized as the Oklahoma State Charles and Magda Browning Outstanding Freshman at the 2017 CASNR Banquet. He was also selected as both an OSU Top 20 and a Top 10 Freshman.

Clay is an animal science major with a business option. He has been very involved with clubs and organizations on campus, including the OSU Freshman Representative Council, CASNR Freshman and Transfer Council, Block and Bridle, Animal Science Leadership Alliance, Collegiate Farm Bureau and Oklahoma Collegiate Cattlemen's Association.



Alyx Hanson was announced as the 4th place National Block and Bridle Outstanding Junior at the National convention held in March of 2017. She was also recognized with a 2017 Animal Science Senior Leadership Award.

During her time at OSU, Alyx has been actively involved in many leadership roles. She was a member of Freshman in Transition, Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow and Block and Bridle, serving as club secretary, reporter, 2015 National Convention co-chair, 2016 Showmanship Clinic chairman and Animal Science Leadership Alliance (ASLA) member. Hanson will continue to serve her community and the agricultural industry wherever she is, and looks forward to being able to continue as a liaison between the producer and consumer as a voice for agriculture.



Allison Christian was selected as a 2016-2017 OSU Outstanding Senior and a 2017 CASNR Senior of Distinction. She also received a 2017 Animal Science Senior Leadership Award.

While at OSU, Allison has been extremely committed to seeking out extracurricular activities on campus. Within in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Allison has served as an ambassador, career liaison, student academic mentor, Collegiate Farm Bureau reporter and as the student spokesperson for CASNR Student Council. She is a current member of Oklahoma Agriculture Leadership Encounter Class XIV, and she took part in a Beef Industry Study Abroad Trip to New Zealand during her junior year. Allison has aspirations to work in agricultural law and policy, and she plans to attend law school post-graduation.



Chandler Steele was recently recognized as the 2017 Animal Science Outstanding Senior and received a 2017 Animal Science Senior Leadership Award. She was also recognized as a 2017 CASNR Senior of Distinction and 2016-2017 OSU Senior of Significance.

Chandler has been an active leader in several Department of Animal Science student organizations and competitive judging teams. She is currently serving as president of the Meat Science Association, vice president of Block and Bridle, and the communications chairman of the Animal Science Leadership Alliance. Additionally, Chandler currently serves as the membership executive assistant in the Mortar Board Honor Society. Upon graduation, Chandler will be pursuing a Master of Science in animal science with an emphasis in meat science at Texas A&M University.



Lana Petrie, graduate student and teaching assistant, received the 2017 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Graduate Student Teaching Award. This award recognizes graduate students involved in class instruction who excel as teachers in the agricultural disciplines.

Lana is currently pursuing a degree in animal science and is advised by Dr. Dan Stein. She is a teaching assistant for Introduction to Animal Science (ANSI 1124) and Animal Reproduction (ANSI 3443).



Kendra Wills was recognized with the 2017 Animal Science Outstanding Graduate Student Award (M.S.).

Kendra's research focused on the incorporation of aging, antioxidant-enhancement and modified atmospheric packaging to improve the appearance of dark-cutting beef. In addition to research, Kendra has served as a teaching assistant for Fundamentals of Food Science, Food Chemistry II, and Processed Meat courses. She has served as secretary and alternate GPSGA representative for the Animal Science Graduate Student Association, as well as served on the Graduate College Ambassador team to assist with prospective students and their families. Following graduation, Kendra plans to obtain a Juris Doctor with a primary focus in food and agriculture law.



Pushpinder Litt was recognized with the 2017 Animal Science Outstanding Graduate Student Award (Ph.D.). She was also awarded a 2017 summer dissertation fellowship through the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association.

Other awards and honors include the Developing Scientist Award for her research at the annual meeting of IAFP-2015 and the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association Travel Award through OSU GPSGA and the Department of Animal Science in 2015. She has also been awarded the Distinguished Graduate Fellowship (2015-17) through the OSU Foundation and the Niblack Graduate Student Mentor Scholarship (2016-2017) through the office of OSU Vice President for Research. After completing her degree, Pushpinder is planning to pursue a career in food safety by developing practical, feasible and effective methods to control foodborne pathogens at pre- and post-harvest levels.

2017 ANSI Senior Leadership Awards

Marissa Chapa
 Allison Christian
 Ali Duval
 Alyxandria "Alyx" Hanson
 Klair Hartzold
 Jenna Kool
 Chandler Steele
 Jessica Webster
 Kassidy Wilson
 Amy Wolff

2017 CASNR Seniors of Distinction

Allison Christian
 Laurie Fitch
 Klair Hartzold
 Courtney Karr
 Garrett Reed
 JD Rosman
 Will Shaffer
 Chandler Steele

Department of Animal Science

Equine Program



Oklahoma State University has a long-standing tradition of excellence and involvement in the equine industry. The institution is committed to preparing students to have both an understanding of the science behind the species and a practical understanding of what it takes to work with them.

While there is not a formalized degree plan offered, the OSU Department of Animal Science recognizes the importance of providing a quality learning experience focused on horses. Students have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience at the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Facility as well as participate in courses taught by award-winning faculty and staff. This combination provides an inclusive learning environment for students of all backgrounds and skill levels. In addition, the strong alumni and professional network students have access to enables them to interact with and learn from key players in the industry.

▶ *Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Facility*

The 40-acre facility maintains a quarter horse production herd of more than 30 horses. Students can spend time working with mares, foals and stallions to emulate real-world scenarios they will see in the industry. The brand new teaching facility offers additional classroom and meeting space. There are five horse stalls, including a foaling stall. Students can watch the foaling stall through a one-way mirror situated in a comfortable observation room. A small indoor arena offers students protection from the elements while they work horses in the various hands-on courses.

Beyond coursework, students have the opportunity to work or intern at the farm. These paid positions allow students to apply skills and knowledge learned in class to a working operation. Students aid the farm manager in general care and maintenance of the horses and grounds.

▶ *Horseman's Association*

The Horseman's Association strives to connect students with those in the industry and showcase unique opportunities to work with horses. The goal of the organization is to provide networking opportunities between students and with professionals in the equine field. Students travel to the National Horseman's Convention each spring to experience equine endeavors in different parts of the United States.

▶ *Judging Team*

Collegiate horse judging offers exciting and challenging opportunities for students seeking to further their knowledge of the horse industry and better their professional skills. Students travel across the country to compete in contests and interact with industry professionals. Those who participate on the team gain practical knowledge and hone their decision making and speaking skills. OSU has a rich heritage in the judging world, producing numerous carded judges and other successful collegiate and youth coaches.



► Equine-Related Courses

In addition to the general education and degree specific requirements, students have the opportunity to take many hands-on and lecture-based equine courses. Students work with their faculty academic advisor to incorporate these courses into their plan of study.

Advanced Spring and Fall Equine Evaluation

Two evaluation classes designed to complement one another are available for students wishing to be on the competitive fall judging team. The spring class is available for students wishing to gain more knowledge of all disciplines and learn industry standards. This class also provides the foundation to transition to the competitive judging team, known as the advanced equine evaluation class. The fall class deepens the understanding of all show disciplines, scoring systems, and progression of competitive oral reasons.

Equine Behavior and Handling

Students work with horses on the ground and learn safe handling practices, basic equine science, health concepts, and behavior. Students are exposed to various ages, genders, and types of horses and gain valuable experience working with them in an interactive environment.

Equine Training Methods

Students are assigned a long-yearling and taught how to properly handle, groom, trim feet, lunge, saddle and bridle the colts and fillies.

Equine Breeding and Foaling

Participants will get practical experience managing and observing pre-partum mares in addition to watching the stages of parturition. Students will be responsible for care of the mare and foal and will work with them for the first weeks of the foal's life. The students also will help check the mare's reproductive cycles, collect the stallions, and assist with rebreeding the mares.

Equine Sales and Marketing

This class is a great opportunity for students who want to expand their knowledge of professional marketing schemes, including horse descriptions, photography and videography. Additionally, individuals will work directly with the OSU sale prospects to train them on the ground, under saddle, and eventually in the final stages of sales preparation.

Horse Science

The focus of this class is to teach students how to apply the scientific principles from their core courses to the equine industry. Students have the opportunity to gain hands-on learning through labs conducted at the Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center.

Horse Management and Production

The course is designed to provide students with general management information from several disciplines including economics, marketing, behavior, genetics, reproduction, nutrition and exercise physiology.

Equine Enterprise Management

This class teaches business aspects related to management of an equine based enterprise. Students apply both hands-on experience and knowledge gained from core courses to develop business skills applicable to the equine industry.



Department of Animal Science
101 Animal Science | Stillwater, OK 74078
405.744.7442 | ansi.okstate.edu

Reserve National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Team

The 2017 OSU Meat Animal Evaluation Team competed in the national contest in Manhattan, Kans. They were the high team in the meat judging, 2nd in the breeding animal division and 3rd in the market animal division. The team is coached by Drs. Gretchen Mafi and Blake Bloomberg.

“This team was better prepared and worked harder than any of the Meat Animal Evaluation teams we have coached,” said Mafi. “I am extremely proud of the students’ performance and dedication to the team.”

Oklahoma State was named the 2017 Reserve National Champion Team. Four students on the team also ranked in the top eight individuals scores. Jessica Judge was 2nd high individual overall, Justin Jensen was 5th high individual overall, Julianna Albrecht was 7th high individual overall and Carter Ward was 8th high individual overall.

“We couldn’t be prouder of the hard work and dedication this team has shown,” said Bloomberg. “Having four of the top eight students in the contest is a true testament to their perseverance and tireless work ethic.”

Other Team Members include:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Jennifer Bedwell – Fairview, Okla. | Cheyenne Jones – Campbellsville, Ky. | Mackenzie Spisak – Fredricksburg, Tex. |
| Layna Bond – Galatia, Ill. | Clay McGuire – Auburn, Ala. | Lonny Trehal – Kiowa, Colo. |
| Brandon Collopy – Gilson, Ill. | Faith Onstot – Granger, Tex. | Blake Tucker – North Platte, Nebr. |
| Amber Cox – Morrison, Okla. | Hope Onstot – Granger, Tex. | |
| Katie Friederichs – Walcott, Iowa | Clark Reuter – El Reno, Okla. | |
| Michelle Helm – Geary, Okla. | Mike Scott – Townsend, Del. | |



Livestock Judging Team Spring Contest Results

Arizona National

The OSU Livestock Judging Team kicked off the 2017 season with a sweeping victory at the Arizona National! The team was high team overall and scored high team in every division.

Individual Results:

Lonny Trehal – 1st high individual
Jennifer Bedwell – 2nd high individual
Amber Cox – 3rd high individual
Clay McGuire – 5th high individual
Brandon Collopy – 6th high individual
Jessie Judge – 7th high individual
Layna Bond – 9th high individual
Grant Colvin – 10th high individual

National Western Stock Show

OSU took home a 4th place finish from the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colo. The team was 1st in swine and reasons and 4th in cattle and overall. The team also took home Reserve Champion honors in the Carload Contest!

Individual Results:

Carter Ward – 5th high individual overall, 2nd swine and reasons, 5th cattle & cattle reasons
Jessie Judge – 10th high individual overall, 3rd reasons and swine
Clay McGuire – 3rd cattle and cattle reasons, 5th reasons
Lonny Trehal – 1st feedlot cattle, 2nd swine, 9th sheep and goats
Brandon Collopy – 10th reasons

Carload Team Members:

Cheyenne Jones
Jennifer Bedwell
Justin Jensen
Clark Reuter
Amber Cox

Fort Worth Contest

Oklahoma State was the high team overall in Fort Worth. They were the high team in horses, cattle, reasons and hogs.

Individual Results:

Jessica Judge – 3rd high individual
Brandon Collopy – 7th high individual
Lonny Trehal – 8th high individual



Dixie National

Oklahoma State won at the Dixie National in Jackson, Miss. Not only was the team high point overall, but OSU was 1st in the brahman, continental, steer and reasons divisions, placing second in the english division!

Individual Results:

Jessie Judge – 1st high individual
Justin Jensen – 2nd high individual
Clay McGuire – 3rd high individual
Jennifer Bedwell – 5th high individual
Lonny Trehal – 8th high individual
Brandon Collopy – 10th high individual

San Antonio Stock Show

Oklahoma State finished as the 3rd High Team at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo. The team was 2nd in sheep, 3rd in swine and reasons and 4th in goats.

Individual Results:

Jessie Judge – 3rd high individual, 5th sheep & reasons
Clay McGuire – 9th high individual, 1st cattle
Brandon Collopy – 8th reasons, 10th sheep
Layna Bond – 1st goats
Clark Reuter – 2nd cattle
Hope Onstot – 2nd swine
Grant Colvin – 5th swine

Justin Jensen – 6th goats
Jennifer Bedwell – 10th goats

Houston Livestock Show

Oklahoma State was high team in all divisions, species and reasons at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo!

Individual Results:

Jessie Judge – 1st high individual
Clay McGuire – 4th high individual
Justin Jensen – 7th high individual
Jennifer Bedwell – 10th high individual

Alternate Division Results:

Clark Reuter – 1st high individual
Lonny Trehal – 3rd high individual
Mackenzie Spisak – 4th high individual

Horse Judging Team Begins 2017 Season

The 2017 Oklahoma State University Horse Judging Team had their first contest at the beginning of April in Oklahoma City, Okla. The team ranked 5th in halter, 6th in reasons and 6th team overall out of a total of 33 teams.

It was a tight, tough contest with only 13 points of spread between the 1st and 6th high team overall. The team is coached by Dr. Steven Cooper, Marissa Chapa and Sarah Schobert.

“They are motivated to keep working hard the rest of this coming year, and I am excited to see the results they produce in the fall of 2017,” said Schobert.

Individual Results:

Hannah Allaben – 8th high individual overall

Kayleigh Crane – 3rd high individual in halter, 9th high individual in reasons



Meat Judging Team Wins Reserve Championship at the National Western Stock Show

The 2017 OSU Meat Judging Team was named Reserve Champions at the National Western Stock Show! The team finished 1st in beef judging, as well as 2nd in beef grading, reasons and specifications.

Individual Results:

Charley Rayfield – 2nd high individual overall, 2nd placings, and 3rd pork judging

Jacob Green – 11th high individual overall, 1st total beef, 1st beef grading, and 4th beef judging

Jera Pipkin – 5th reasons and 5th beef judging

Hallie Barnes – 4th reasons

Corbin Cowles – 2nd high individual alternate division

Brittany Lippy – 4th high individual alternate division

Other Team Members:

Jennifer Apple

Wyatt Catron

Charlie Sasscer

Alexandria Schut

Ciara Smith

Gabrielle Strickland

Coby Wilson

In addition to their National Western Stock Show win, the 2017 team also competed at the Iowa State competition where they were named champions!



Alumni Awards

Below are the alumni and friends of the department who were recognized at the 2017 Animal Science Scholarship Banquet. Read more about our recipients at [http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/weekend/awards/!](http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/weekend/awards/)

Graduates of Distinction



George Clift has been involved in agriculture for over 40 years. After graduating from Oklahoma State University in 1979 with animal science and agribusiness degrees, he went to work for the Ralston Purina Company, working with feed stores and large cattle, swine and dairy operations. As a district manager for Ralston Purina, George provided business management assistance to agri-business owners and marketing assistance to livestock owners. George assisted cattlemen with genetic evaluation, grazing management, retained ownership opportunities and ration formulation.

While working in southeastern Oklahoma, George also became involved with the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, Junior livestock shows and the Boys and Girls Club. George was the first president of the Animal Science Alumni Association in 1980-81. George began his real estate brokerage business in Amarillo, Texas in 1997. Clift Land Brokers is now the largest farm and ranch real estate firm in the Texas Panhandle with 21 real estate brokers and sales associates.



Dr. Randy Harp has been a professor of animal science at East Texas State University/ Texas A&M University - Commerce for five years, served as department head of meat/food science at Eastern Oklahoma State College for 15 years and was a professor of animal science at Tarleton State University for 16 years. He returned to Texas A&M - Commerce in the fall of 2016 and currently serves as director for the School of Agriculture.

During his career, he has coached over 40 first place collegiate meat judging teams, including 12 national championships. Dr. Harp has also assisted several first place 4-H and FFA teams. He served 18 years on the National FFA Meat Evaluation and Technology Career Development Event committee. He was superintendent of the National FFA Meat CDE for seven years. In 2005, he received the Honorary American FFA Degree. One of his ultimate honors was receiving the American Meat Science Association Intercollegiate Meat Judging Meritorious Service Award in 2013.



John C. Thomas has had a passion for agriculture his entire life and has dedicated over half of his life to the pork industry. The contributions he has made to the pork industry in Oklahoma are immeasurable. John has a profound love for the land, the animals and the people in the pork industry, and that is what has made this lifelong passion so personally fulfilling and professionally invaluable.

John joined Tyson Foods, Inc. in 1984, after graduating from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree in animal science. In 1994, he became the director of operations. He worked on behalf of The Pork Group, the live hog division of Tyson Fresh Meats, to build and establish a strong business in the area, working with contract producers to ensure growth and success. In his 25 years with The Pork Group, John has served in many capacities. John finished his career with Tyson as vice president of live hogs. Since then, he has had the opportunity to learn and teach about multiple aspects of the live swine business and the contributing factors to growing a strong operational foundation from the ground up.

John's wife and daughter (shown left) accepted the award on his behalf.

Advanced Degree Graduates of Distinction



Dr. Jerry Gresham was raised on a cotton and wheat farm near Headrick, Okla. He graduated from Altus High School in 1961, where he was an officer in FFA and showed cattle and hogs. He graduated in animal science from Oklahoma State University in 1965. Dr. Gresham attended graduate school at Oklahoma State University from 1969 to 1973 and obtained his Masters and Ph.D. degrees in meat science.

He began his teaching career at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1973 as assistant professor of animal science, and progressed to associate professor, professor, department chair, and interim dean. During his career, Dr. Gresham coached the Livestock Judging Team for 20 years and was also the Block and Bridle Club Advisor. During his tenure at UT Martin, he received the Outstanding Advisor Award, the Cunningham Teacher/Scholar Award and the UT National Alumni Association Distinguished Service Professorship. As a special recognition, Dr. Gresham was appointed to the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame Board by Governor Bill Bredesen.

Jerry's wife and daughter (shown left) accepted the award on his behalf.



David Secrist took a technical services position with Farmland Industries in 1996. Over the next five years, he did nutritional work with feedlots and large cow/calf operations across seven states. Dr. Secrist joined Agri Beef, Inc. in January of 2001, where he started as an operations manager at a large feeding operation in Moses Lake, WA. He was quickly promoted to general manager and oversaw major pen renovations and construction of a finished feed mill. He was integral in improving processes and developing people, while managing the large feedyard business.

After a very productive eight years at Agri Beef, Dr. Secrist was given the opportunity to join AgReserves, Inc. in April of 2009. ARI, also known as Deseret Ranches, has large cow/calf and stocker operations across the U.S. and Canada. They brought David on board to lead the company into an integrated program with the purchase of a feedyard and eventually, development of a branded beef product. In 2014, he was named the vice president of cattle operations, with oversight of cow/calf, stocker, feedlot and dairy operations across eight states

and provinces in the western U.S. and Canada. David is still heavily involved in cattle operations, in addition to working on branded product development.

Distinguished Service Award



John Patrick Lopez is the chief operating officer for Lopez Foods, Inc. in Oklahoma City, Okla. He has been employed for the last 23 years in various positions of responsibility including vice president of operations for the Flagship Lopez Foods facility in Oklahoma City, vice president of operations at their Caryville, Tenn. facility, various department leadership positions, as well as an extensive two-year training program in every department and business unit of the company.

Lopez Foods, Inc. is a principle supplier to McDonald's Corporation for premium all-beef patties, sliced Canadian Style Bacon and pre-cooked premium pork sausage patties. Lopez Foods, Inc. employs more than 500 Oklahoma City residents, operates a state-of-the-art 200,000 square feet food processing facility and enjoys more than \$500 million of annual sales revenue. Lopez Foods, Inc. produces more than one million pounds of food products each day. John Patrick has been one of the driving forces on the food science/food safety option at OSU and currently serves as chairman on the board of directors for the Robert E.

Kerr Food and Agricultural Product Center (FAPC).

Lopez Foods, Inc. is a significant business force in Oklahoma City. Along with the executive team and all the associates of Lopez Foods, John Patrick has helped build the largest Latino-owned meat manufacturer in the United States that produces safe and wholesome food as efficiently as possible.

Master Breeder



John Henry and **Alline Pfeiffer** followed their heritage and became the third generation of Angus producers, alongside J.F. and Elizabeth Pfeiffer. Pfeiffer Stock Farm held 34 annual production sales and provided seedstock to many prominent Angus producers, including Minnie Lou Bradley who purchased her first Registered Angus heifer in Orlando. John Henry and Alline raised six children, John Henry Jr., JoVona, James, Jerry, Jackie, and Jay. When they were born, their grandfather gave each of them a heifer and a membership to the American Angus Association. The six children were very active in 4-H and served in leadership roles in the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association. Both JoVona & Jackie, served as Oklahoma Angus Queens.

Due to the dry conditions and shortage of water in the area, John H. helped start the rural water district and served on the board. He also served on the Logan county hospital board to help build the new hospital in Guthrie. John also served on the Oklahoma Angus Board, the Logan County Fair Board, the Co-op Board and the Logan County ASCS Board. John was an Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association Director and won the State 4-H Alumni Award. Alline and John H. served as 4-H leaders, were members of the state leadership board and both held numerous positions in the church.



Jerry and **Ada Pfeiffer** have a farm operation in Orlando, Okla., which consists of nearly 900 does and 400 commercial cows.

Jerry Pfeiffer was raised on an Angus farm near Orlando, Oklahoma, the son of John Henry and Alline Pfeiffer. He then attended Oklahoma State University where his livestock judging coach was Dr. Bob Kropp. Jerry met his wife, Ada Leven, while attending OSU. Ada was a member of the 1981 National Champion Livestock Judging Team.

Jerry returned to the family farm in 1981, with the goal of improving the Angus herd. Artificial insemination and an embryo transfer program were implemented to optimize genetic improvement using proven sires. In the late 90's, the operation purchased a percentage of Northern Improvement, which proved to be highly successful. Jerry and Ada bred multiple champions.

In 2004, 100 Boer goat does were purchased from Harbor Livestock to form the foundation of the Pfeiffer goat program. Goats are currently offered in sixteen sales per year: four sales at the farm, four consignment sales, and eight online sales on the Oklahoma Show Goat website.



John and **Gaye Pfeiffer** run Pfeiffer Angus Farms. John Pfeiffer bought his first farm in 1975, while still a student at Oklahoma State University. John was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity and the OSU Livestock Judging Team. After graduating from OSU, John taught science, worked with Pfeiffer Farms and continued building his own cow herd. He married Gaye Burgin in 1981.

John learned animal husbandry and developed his passion for Angus cows from his grandfather, John F. Pfeiffer. In the 70's, John made a conscious decision to breed productive Angus cows based on performance. He enrolled his herd in the Angus Herd Improvement Record program in 1976 to quantify the progress the cow herd was making. John started using artificial insemination so he could provide his customers with superior genetics. When John and Jerry started testing bulls at OBI, Dusty Rich told them to just concentrate on breeding a lot of good, functional bulls. This was advice John heeded as he developed his Angus cow herd.

After the Pfeiffer Farms dispersal in 2001, John began marketing bulls and females with Blackjack Farms in Seminole, OK. John has been an early adopter of the Maternal Plus program developed by the American Angus Association. This program allows John to verify that his birth weights are decreasing, while weaning and yearling weights are increasing and the carcass quality of his cattle is improving. Today, Pfeiffer Angus Farms run 200 registered cows, 100 commercial cows and market about 60 bulls per year.

Events & Announcements

Cowboy Classic Sale

The 2017 annual Cowboy Classic Sale at the OSU Purebred Center grossed \$358,400! The average spent on female lots was \$6,524 and the average spent on bull lots was \$3,412.

Old Timer's Judging Contest

This year, the winning judging team consisted of Sammy Coffman, Terry Richardson, Kass Pfeiffer and Megan Bryant.

Graduate Students Recognized at GPSGA Awards Ceremony

Three of our graduate students received recognition at the 2017 Graduate and Professional Student Government Association Awards Ceremony. Pushpinder Kaur Litt received the Summer Dissertation Fellowship. Kelsy Robinson and Kendra Wills were named Graduate College Ambassadors. Congratulations!

New Food Science Course

A new food science course (ANSI 4900/5010; FDSC 4900/5120) is being offered this fall! Foodborne Toxins and Allergens is a course designed to introduce the discipline of food toxicology and to provide sufficient background and learning opportunity to understand and discuss food toxicological issues.

Specific types of foodborne toxins and allergens will be studied, including naturally occurring toxins, toxins of microbial origin, food additives including nutrients, heavy metals, environmental contaminants and processing derived toxins. Some topics include: types, metabolism, detection and risk assessment of foodborne toxins and allergens.

For more information, please contact Drs. Divya Jaroni and/or Ravi Jadeja!

Summer 2017 Calendar

To learn more about our events or to register, visit our website at <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/events>.

Animal Science Road Trip

The Animal Science Road Trip "Ranchin' Oklahoma" will take place May 31, 2017 to June 1, 2017. We will depart from the Apache Casino Hotel in Lawton, Oklahoma, and travel to five cattle ranches (Ballou Cattle Company, MCS Cattle Company, Glover Cattle Company, Coyote Hills Ranch, and Collins Cattle).

Hotel arrangements must be made by participants. Apache Casino Hotel (580-248-5905 or <http://apachecasinohotel.com/>) \$89/night (use Code G175AST). Registration is \$30 per person and due by May 24, 2017!

OSU Livestock Judging Camp

The OSU Livestock Judging Camp brings 100 prospective students to campus each year to participate in one of two 3-day events. This unique experience will give participants the exciting opportunity to work with some of the most successful livestock judging coaches in the country. Participants will also benefit from personal training by members of the 2017 team. Get your Livestock Judging Camp Packet today!

Session I: June 12-14, 2017

Session II: June 15-17, 2017

Equine Extravaganza

The Equine Education Extravaganza is a hands-on approach to real-world experience! This three-day program will be held July 11-13, 2017, in Stillwater, OK, and offers Introduction to Hippology, Beginner Horse Judging and Intermediate/Advanced Horse Judging for any youth (ages 12 to 18).

Attendees may register for all three days (\$120) or individual days (\$50 per day). The judging sessions will be conducted with one-on-one reasons coaching.

OSU Big 3 Field Days 2017

Our Big 3 Field Days is the most time-honored summer field day in the country! The three day event draws approximately 1,500 youth to OSU to participate in livestock judging and other educational events. More than 100 awards and scholarships are given each year, including the Joe Hughes Memorial Traveling Trophy! This year, the event will be held on July 18-20, 2017.

To learn more about extension youth events and activities, visit our website at <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/extension/youth/>.

2017 Animal Science Weekend



Dr. Don Wagner
Hall of Fame Chairback Campaign
raised over **\$31,000!**



Honored World Champion Horse Teams
& National Champion Meat Teams



Totusek Brand of Excellence Award
Steve & Patty Armbruster



Scholarship Auction raised \$27,668
OSU Knife Raffle raised \$18,200

Totaling **\$45,868** for
Animal Science Student Scholarships!

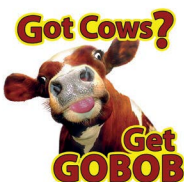


Totusek Brand of Excellence Award
Bill Troub



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