

COWPOKE NEWS

Department of Animal & Food Sciences, Oklahoma State University
Summer 2018





DEPARTMENT OF
**Animal &
Food Sciences**

We've Made a Change

We're pleased to announce we are now the Oklahoma State University Department of Animal and Food Sciences! The name change became official on July 1, 2018. The decision to change the name came about after receiving input from faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Our department has been home to the OSU food science major for 12 years. The new name takes into consideration the growth of our food science program, the increasing demand for knowledgeable food science professionals and the strong collaboration between the animal and food science industries.

Our website changed to afs.okstate.edu to reflect the new name and acronym for our department.

We're excited about this progressive step for our department and its Extension, research and teaching programs.

Our History



1890

Oklahoma State University was founded on December 25, 1890, as Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (Oklahoma A&M). For the next 16 years, the College of Agriculture consisted of two departments, agriculture and horticulture.

1906

The department of agriculture was divided into the department of agronomy and the department of animal husbandry and dairying.



1908

The department of animal husbandry and dairying was split into two separate departments, the department of animal husbandry and the department of dairying.

1915

The poultry husbandry department was formed four years after the first poultry courses were taught.



1967

The animal, dairy and poultry departments were merged, forming the institute of animal sciences and industry. The name was changed again a few years later to the department of animal sciences and industry.

1977

In 1977, the department's name was shortened to the department of animal science.



2018

The department of animal science officially changed its name to the department of animal and food sciences. The department has been home to the food science major in 2006.

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On the Cover

Jerseys are hanging out in the new freestall barn at the OSU Ferguson Family Dairy Center on the cover of this edition. The dairy center had a grand opening April 5. Read about the facility upgrades on page 8. Photo by Samantha Siler.



Stay Connected

Want more information about our department? Follow us on social media! #okstateats



COWPOKE NEWS

Cowpoke News is published three times a year by the Oklahoma State University Department of Animal and Food Sciences. We strive to keep students, alumni and friends of the department informed about our activities and successes. Cowpoke News is distributed through both e-mail and mail and is available 24/7 at afs.okstate.edu/cowpoke-news. To subscribe, e-mail us at cowpokenews@okstate.edu or mail in your request. Please give us your full name and either your e-mail or mailing address.

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A Letter from the Department Head



PHOTO / TODD JOHNSON

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 and Food Sciences. 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 changing of the department's name to the OSU Department of Animal and Food Sciences. You will read about the 2018 Animal Science Weekend, including the Alumni Gala, the Scholarship Banquet and the grand opening of the OSU Ferguson Family Dairy Center. You will learn about our outstanding seniors, plus stories about other students and clubs who have represented the department of animal and food sciences very well this winter and spring in various events and competitions.

This issue of the Cowpoke News features stories about our talented faculty and staff and some of their accomplishments over the past few months. You will learn about our recent study abroad trip to New Zealand with Adele Tongco and 33 OSU students. You will read about our recent success with outstanding OSU cattle, horses and swine. We have also included a list of our major sponsors who faithfully support 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 distribution list, please contact us at cowpokenews@okstate.edu.

Sincerely,

Clint Rusk, Head
OSU Department of Animal and Food Sciences

15th Anniversary Gala Reunion



Dr. Gerald Horn and Dr. Bob Wettemann Hall of Fame Chairback Campaign raised **\$11,500**



Totusek Brand of Excellence Award Recipient—Kim Brock



Awarded **\$25,000** in scholarship support to animal science students and judging teams



Honored National Champion Livestock and Meat Animal Evaluation Team

More than **\$40,000** generated for Animal Science Student Scholarships!





OSU Ferguson Family Dairy Center upgrades a labor of love

By Donald Stotts

OSU alumnus Larry Ferguson discovered the loves of his life when he was working at the OSU Dairy Center in 1975, both in terms of his career and in the former Kayleen Helms. Forty three years later, the former president and CEO of Schreiber Foods and his wife Kayleen were in Stillwater April 5, 2018, to witness dedication ceremonies for new facilities at the OSU Ferguson Family Dairy Center.

In 2016, the Ferguson Family Foundation kicked off new construction for the upgraded dairy center by committing \$2 million to construct a state-of-the-art freestall barn. Completed in December of 2017, the freestall barn includes space for insentec-system cattle feeding stalls, a maternity area and a data room. The insentec system records daily feed and water intake by individual cows, allowing for research possibilities undertaken by faculty, staff and students that was not possible in the old facilities.

“The goal of everyone involved is to not only make OSU an enhanced

learning center for dairy students, but to provide continually advancing research-based educational support for the dairy industry,” said Tom Coon, vice president of the university’s Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. “Larry and Kayleen are always asking ‘what do we need to do next?’ They have worked diligently to engage others in the dairy industry; combined with their direct gift and matching support, we have generated \$6 million so far, and we’re not done yet.”

Coon added ongoing improvements at DASNR’s dairy facility will help sustain good husbandry of the cows and calves in OSU’s dairy herd, while also promoting environmental stewardship, cost efficiency and safe food-handling practices through on-site practices and improved technologies.

The Fergusons likewise were instrumental in the construction of Helms Hall, the new student living quarters named in honor of Kayleen’s parents, who also met at OSU and had their own connection to the OSU dairy

programs. Her father, Kenneth Helms, earned a dairy science degree before marrying Kathleen Cunningham. They both went on to earn master’s degrees in education from OSU while teaching and raising two daughters and a son.

“Helms Hall provides a modern living space with six individual bedrooms,” said Randy Raper, DASNR director of capital projects and assistant director of the statewide Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station system. “Students living on-site provide for the well-being of our dairy cattle and by extension the viability of scientific studies conducted on behalf of dairy producers and related industries, a very valuable contribution to the center’s mission.”

The renovations continue. State-of-the-art equipment is being added to the existing milking parlor, expanding research capabilities and capturing individual milk weights by each animal.

“New milking equipment using radio frequency ID tags worn by the cows will communicate with software that tracks milk production,” Raper said. “This will not only enhance

ongoing scientific studies but enable our students to train on the type of equipment they will one day use upon entering the dairy industry.”

A visitor center and robotic milkers set for stage two of ongoing construction will create a showplace for student training opportunities and enhanced awareness of both dairy production and the research that promotes continued industry advances.

“Of particular interest is the incorporation of live web cams that have the potential to reach unprecedented numbers of people, expanding educational opportunities directly or through programs such as Ag in the Classroom curriculum provided through schools and Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service workshops, meetings and conferences,” Coon said.

Naming opportunities still exist in each area for those wishing to enhance the new Ferguson Family Dairy Center’s ability to make a positive difference in the lives of the region’s dairy producers and related agribusinesses, and have their gift matched by the Ferguson Family Foundation, reminds Heidi Griswold, OSU Foundation senior director of development for DASNR.

“The old dairy center dated back to 1920,” she said. “It’s important that OSU be in a position to solve concerns and issues of the dairy industry in the 21st century, especially given as how many dairy programs at

other universities have shut down over the years.”

A number of donors in addition to the Fergusons have stepped up, taking advantage of naming opportunities inside the facility. Among them are:

- Brian and Mary Liddy, the Brian and Mary Liddy Maternity Area;
- Mike and Leanne Haddad, the Haddad Family Helms Hall bedroom;
- Ron and Dana Dunford, the Dunford Family Patio;
- Scott and Nancy Armbrust, the Armbrust Family Data Center;
- Jack and Engrid Meng, the Meng Family Helms Hall bedroom; and
- The Shelley family: the Stephen and Nanette Shelley Warming Stall, the Ann Shelley Insentec Stall and the Maggie Moo Shelley Insentec Stall.

Additional donors present during the dedication ceremonies were OSU alums Chuck and Linda McFate; Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents member Rick Davis of Davis Farms, Logan County; and representatives from Milk Source LLC, headquartered in Wisconsin.

“More than 5,000 people have visited the Ferguson Family Dairy Center,” Raper said. “These visitors include current and potential students, producers and some urbanites totally unfamiliar with the milk-production system. Being able to have a facility with a visitor center and a robotic milking parlor will expose visitors

to the labor-saving and cow-health benefits afforded by the newest technology of milking and caring for cows.”

The importance of greater awareness of agricultural industries cannot be understated, as fewer and fewer people have a direct connection to rural America.

“We have a responsibility to the betterment of future generations,” Kayleen Ferguson said. “You have to work hard but you have to pass it on as well.”

Husband Larry agrees, citing he would never have become CEO of the world’s largest employee-owned dairy company without coming to Oklahoma State and going through its dairy program.

“Kay and I love the dairy industry,” he said. “We want to see more young people educated in the industry, but our monetary gift is about more than just education. OSU has played an important role in our lives, and we feel its agricultural programs always have and should continue to play an important role in helping feed the world. We became Cowboys as students. We’ve remained Cowboys in our hearts. Go Pokes.”

Additional information about opportunities to support this or other Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources programs is available by contacting Griswold by email at hgriswold@OSUgiving.com or by phone at 405-385-5656.





A Real Zeal for Agriculture

Students from Oklahoma State University learn about New Zealand agriculture on a two-week study abroad trip

By Rebekah Alford

Clint Rusk, animal and food sciences department head, and Adele Tongco, former director of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources study abroad program, recently took 33 OSU students on a study abroad trip to New Zealand. The trip lasted two weeks in May 2018 and led the group to scenic destinations, businesses and farms all over the north and south islands of New Zealand. They toured beef cattle, dairy cattle, honey, orchards, red deer, sheep, and vegetable operations and even spent a night at family farms.

Students of various majors went on the trip, including agricultural business, agricultural communications, agricultural economics, agricultural education, agricultural leadership, animal science, food science, plant and soil science, biochemistry and molecular biology and natural resource and ecology management.

Rusk has led the New Zealand trip several times and has seen first hand what a great opportunity study abroad can be for students.

“This trip is a once-in-a-life-time experience for our students,” said Rusk. “They learn about international travel, studying abroad, a new culture and a tremendous amount about New Zealand agriculture. Most importantly, our students make new friends and learn that we are living in a global world. They discover that even on the other side of the world, people and agriculture look quite similar to agriculture in the U.S.”

The students studied New Zealand agriculture and maintained a blog during their trip, writing details and sharing photos of their travels.

“We traveled to Mount Linton Genetics where they have had about five inches of rain in the last 48 hours,” wrote Halie Schovanec in the blog. “Mount Linton is a very diverse operation running 105,000 stock units, which makes them the largest farm in New Zealand by way of stock units. Their operation runs on 32,000 acres.

“They run about 55,000 head of sheep, 7,500 head of Angus cattle,

23 brood mares and progeny and one stallion. Their sheep flock consists of Romney and Texel ewes.

“In the afternoon, we traveled to Westholm Polled Herefords and Blue Mountain Angus Stud. They run a very diverse farming operation that includes dairy cows, beef cattle and cross bred ewes. Their goal is to breed stock that performs well and has high production on a grass based system.”

In addition to educational trips, the group also had the opportunity to sightsee.

“We first took an hour or so boat ride, where we had to disembark and take a bus over the Milford Pass. At the top of the hill we saw snow, and it snows there 300 days of the year,” wrote Kaila Williams, Haley Bokern and Zane Hilbig. “On the cruise, we saw waterfalls, rainbows, beautiful lush mountains and a beautiful sunset over the water.”

Read more about the group’s adventures on their blog at <https://ansinz.blogspot.com/>.



Doubtful Sound. The photos were taken by students during their 2018 New Zealand trip.

Travel Destinations

- New Zealand Labor Party Memorial
- Auckland Museum
- Sky Tower
- Gallagher International
- Preston Wills Limited Dairy
- Tamaki Village
- Kairuru Polled Hereford Stud
- Foothill Orchard
- Hawke's Bay
- Arataki Honey
- Coleman Sheep and Beef Farm
- Te Mania Ranch
- Haldon Station
- Lakes Tupako and Pukaki
- Silverstream Charolais
- Lincoln University Research Stations
- Earnsclough Station
- Milford Pass
- Doubtful Sound
- Good Shepard Gospel Church
- Limehills Hereford
- Mount Linton Genetics
- Westholm Polled Herefords and Blue Mountain Angus Stud



Silverstream Charolais



Limehills Hereford



OSU students in Auckland, New Zealand

Cowhorse Classic Sale

By Rebekah Alford

Students in the OSU Equine Sales and Marketing class sold a select group of horses at the 2018 A Bar Ranch Cowhorse Classic Sale on June 16, 2018, in Claremore, Oklahoma. These 2-year-old OSU born, raised and trained geldings and fillies were started under the leadership of student trainers with instructor guidance.

“Many students in our equine program have an interest in training, marketing and sale fitting techniques,” said Natalie Baker, OSU equine herd manager, “so preparing our horses for the sale at the end of the semester is the perfect avenue to teach them how to produce a quality prospect.”

Each gelding and filly had 45 rides in various environments, including the OSU dairy, rodeo team arena and trails of Lake Carl Blackwell. The

student trainers spent 60 days and over 120 hours starting their horses with a solid foundation on the ground and under saddle, ensuring they were ready to excel on the ranch or in the performance pen.

“My time in classes and working at Oklahoma State University has helped me get more horses under my belt and gain a better understanding of sales and marketing techniques within the horse industry,” said Dylan Steeley, OSU student. “Overall, my experience with the OSU equine program has been awesome, and the horses and people are great!”

The industry support the students received from various companies helped them prepare the geldings and achieve their goals for the sale. Sponsors included Zoetis, ADM Animal Nutrition, Central Saddle and

Tack, Kimes Ranch, Stillwater Milling Company and Cactus Ropes.

“We are blessed by the Armitage family, who are OSU alumni and donors, for allowing us to learn about their production operations, tour the ranch and consign our offspring in their annual public auction,” said Baker. “The sale is a great opportunity for students to showcase their work and dedication to their horses throughout the course.”

Recognizing the importance of a solid equine education, the department of animal and food sciences is creating a new Equine Enterprise Management certificate program. Starting in the Fall 2018 semester, this program will be available to undergraduate students. For more information about the OSU equine program, visit www.afs.okstate.edu/equine-program.



PHOTO / JUSTIN LEONARD

FAPC recognizes food industry leaders through Food Safety Professional program

By Tori Lock

Oklahoma State University's Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center created a Food Safety Professional program to recognize industry leaders specializing in food safety.

As food safety evolves, professionals are necessary to ensure quality products are being developed and manufactured, said Peter Muriana, FAPC food microbiologist and chair of the program. The Food Safety Professional program distinguishes individuals who complete a significant number of food safety trainings hosted by FAPC.

"Food industry representatives from across Oklahoma, and even around the nation, come to FAPC to get food safety training," Muriana said. "We saw a need in recognizing these individuals who continually come back to FAPC to receive training and for their focus and drive in providing safe and quality products to consumers."

FAPC's trainings not only attract industry participation, but also students interested in pursuing a career in the food industry.

"Because of the importance to industry in the topics covered by our various workshops, many of our food science students also take a broad repertoire of our workshops," Muriana said. "OSU students can qualify for the Food Safety Professional program by participating in our workshops or by taking the equivalent food safety academic courses."

Muriana hopes employers might consider providing some kind of financial stipend to their employees who receive the award as they become higher valued assets to their organization through participation in trainings.

To become a FAPC Food Safety Professional, individuals must complete at least two trainings from the basic, regulatory and advanced groups of courses. Individuals are required to obtain 10 workshop credits to apply for the program.

Since launching in March 2018, 11 people have applied for the program, and FAPC has awarded seven individuals with the Food Safety Professional certificate. The awarded recipients include:

- Praveen Yerramsetti, Head Country Food Products
- Badrinath Jagannathan, University of Kentucky
- Neeharika Thunga, Value Added Products
- Tommie Berry, QuikTrip
- Conner McDaniel, Oklahoma State University
- Sabra Billups, Oklahoma State University
- James Hearn, Oklahoma State University

Berry is one of the newest recipients of the program. She applied for the program because QuikTrip, headquartered in Tulsa, Oklahoma, saw value in the courses and the information she obtained.

"Each time I came back from a class at OSU, I gained a great deal of knowledge and different perspectives that I was able to apply to QuikTrip's current methodologies to continue fostering a robust and dynamic food safety program," Berry said. "Being in this industry, we all have one goal — to produce safe food."

For more information or to apply for the Food Safety Professional program, download the FAPC Connect App by texting FAPC to 80802 or visit www.fapccconnect.com.

FAPC, a part of OSU's Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, helps discover, develop and deliver technical and business information that stimulates and supports the growth of value-added food and agricultural products and processing in Oklahoma.



OSU Wins at 2018 NWSS

By Rebekah Alford

Each January, Oklahoma State University competes at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado. The livestock judging team and Purebred Beef Center both participated in competitions during the 2018 NWSS and came home with awards.

The Purebred Beef Center won Early Winter Calf Champion in the Angus Sale Bull Show. The bull was later sold to Brady Angus Farm in Illinois. The Purebred Beef Center also won the Champion Pen of Three Heifers with three flushmate sisters by Barstow Cash. The team included

Associate Professor Mark Johnson, Herd Manager Jeremy Leister and student workers Clay Daily, Katie Friederichs and Sadie Reddick.

“This place is built on the support of alumni and a tradition of excellence. It was awesome to hear all the positive comments about how well the cattle were presented and how incredible the students were,” said Leister. “That is why we have the greatest beef center in the country.”

The 2018 OSU Livestock Judging Team captured High Team Overall and Champion Team in the Carload.

The team is coached by Blake Bloomberg, assistant professor at OSU, who has been recognized as Coach of the Year by the National Collegiate Coaches' Association four times. He has coached the livestock judging team since 2013.

“The students had an outstanding day and displayed the depth of the team by winning both the Carload and the regular contest,” said Bloomberg.

The wins were a great start to the 2018 judging team season and showcased the solid genetics of the OSU Purebred Beef Center herd.



Cowboy Classic

The OSU Purebred Beef Center had a packed house for its Cowboy Classic Sale on April 8th, 2018. The highest selling female went to Castonguay Farms of Omega, Oklahoma, for \$10,000. The highest selling bull went to Townsend Brangus of Milburn, Oklahoma, for \$7,000.

In all, the sale grossed \$277,025!

Champion Yorkshire Gilt

By Rebekah Alford

The Oklahoma State University Swine Research and Teaching Center exhibited the Champion Yorkshire Gilt at the World Pork Expo in Des Moines, Iowa, on June 8, 2018. The champion gilt sold the next day at the Pork Expo Yorkshire sale. The team consisted of Associate Professor Scott Carter, Herd Manager Jim Coakley and student workers Jared Harshman, Justin Leonard, Cooper Wood, Andrew Coakley, Georgena Ratliff and Alex Adams.

“The World Pork Expo was an amazing event for OSU,” said Coakley. “Exhibiting the Champion Yorkshire Gilt is a huge honor that everyone who wears orange and black can be proud of. The OSU swine program has been built with a great deal of tradition, excellence and heritage. This honor reflects on all of the people who have had a hand in

the OSU swine center from past to present.”

The swine center is well known for its outstanding purebred herd. It has experienced numerous national show champions throughout the years, as well as high-selling boars. With hard work and determination, the team was able to add the 2018 Champion Yorkshire Gilt to the center’s substantial record.

“Having the Champion Yorkshire Gilt at the 2018 World Pork Expo was exciting, memorable and a huge blessing,” said Wood. “All of us at the farm are on one team, and it’s always so prideful when hard work pays off. It reminds us that as a team we can accomplish huge things. Our drive and passion for this industry is huge, and we are so thankful for the experiences OSU and the OSU swine center give us.”

The swine center shows and sells breeding swine at national shows three to five times each year. Leonard has participated in a number of swine competitions and successes as a student worker.

“This win is one I will always remember,” said Leonard. “The work ethic and determination everyone at the swine center has is second to none and it is bound to take the farm to great success. In four short years, I’ve seen the swine center win the Hog College Boar, the \$12,000 Reserve Champion York Boar at the fall closure, a historic National Barrow Show win, and now the Champion York Gilt at the World Pork Expo. Needless to say, I am proud to have worked at the swine center and cannot wait to see more and more success in the years to come.”



*Pictured above: Cooper Wood and the Champion Yorkshire Gilt
Pictured right (L to R): Justin Leonard, Jim Coakley and Cooper Wood
Photos provided by Jim Coakley*

Meat Animal Evaluation Reserve National Champions

By Rebekah Alford

Oklahoma State University's Meat Animal Evaluation Judging Team captured the Reserve National title at the 2018 National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest in Lubbock, Texas. They were the high team in beef cattle evaluation and they placed 2nd in the breeding animal division. The team was coached by Gretchen Mafi and Blake Bloomberg.

"The 2018 Meat Animal Evaluation Contest evaluation division was very challenging," said Mafi. "The students worked hard preparing for the contest to better understand livestock and meat pricing, as well as industry averages of yield and quality. The students gained beneficial knowledge to use in the future evaluation of livestock and meat."

Four of the team members were named High Individual Overall; P.D. Miller (first), Jesse Henson (fourth), Lori Edwards (17th), and Haley Stark (20th).

Other team members include Rachel Booth, Riley Bradshaw, Corbin Cowles, Kevin Edwards, Cody Heavin, Sarah Hunker, Jessica Juvinal, Hannah Lauffenburger, John Nelson, Anna Grace Parnell, Macy Perry, Colton Pratz, Mikalyn White and Amber Wright.

Did you Know?

The department sponsors the dairy cattle, livestock, meats, meat animal evaluation and horse judging teams, as well as animal science quadrathlon and food science quiz bowl competitive teams. All have established enviable national reputations in competition. The department has more national judging championships than any other university.

2018 Quadrathlon

By Brittany Lippy

In February 2018, the Animal Science Quadrathlon team competed at the Southern Section competition. This year's competition was hosted by Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. Teams participated in four events: laboratory practicum, written exam, oral presentation and quiz bowl.

In the laboratory practicum, the team demonstrates its ability to perform physical skills. The work at each station lasts 15 to 20 minutes and usually involves a species such as beef or swine or a disciplinary area such as nutrition or meats.

The written exam has a 60 minute time limit. The questions may involve any area related to animal production and products. Each team works on one exam, dividing the questions as they wish.

In the oral presentation, students may choose from a list of topics related to animal agriculture. They have 60 minutes to prepare the presentation.

In the quiz bowl, questions may be on any topic relating to animal agriculture and are answerable in a short period of time. Each round consists of toss up questions. After a series of toss up questions, teams can earn the chance to get extra points on a bonus question. Toss up questions must be answered individually. For bonus questions, individuals may confer with their team. Quiz games are organized as a double elimination tournament.

Members of the 2018 team include Corban Hemphill, Yancey, Texas; Brittany Lippy, Lineboro, Maryland, Wyatt Catron, Stillwell, Oklahoma; and Charlie Sasscer, Park Hall, Maryland.

The team placed first in the written exam, second in the live practicum, fourth in the quiz bowl and fifth in the presentation. They placed third overall out of 11 teams from the southern United States.



2017-2018 Judging Team Records

Dairy

Western Spring National - Richmond, Utah	1st
Eastern Nationals - Springfield, Massachusetts	3rd
North American International Livestock Expo - Louisville, Kentucky	3rd

Coach: David Jones

Members: Garrett Boer, Taylor Leach, Carly Olufs and
Leanne Van der Laan

Horse

Tulsa State Fair - Tulsa, Oklahoma	1st
APHA World Show - Tulsa, Oklahoma	2nd
Arabian Nationals - Tulsa, Oklahoma	1st
All American QH Congress - Columbus, Ohio	1st
NRHA - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	1st
Quarter Horse World Championship - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	2nd

Coaches: Steven Cooper and Marissa Chapa

Members: Hannah Allaben, Brooke Catterton, Kayleigh
Crane, Emily Haak, Karli Jones, Mattie Lemmons, Krista
and Rodney Weaver

Livestock

Fall Team

National Barrow Show - Austin, Minnesota	4th
Tulsa State Fair - Tulsa, OK - Orange Team	1st
- Grey Team	5th
Aksarben Stock Show - Grand Island, Nebraska	1st
American Royal - Kansas City, Missouri	4th
North American - Louisville, Kentucky	1st

Coaches: Blake Bloomberg, Ashley Judge, Kyndal
Reitzenstein and Tim Hubbard

Members: Jennifer Bedwell, Layna Bond, Tyler Clark,
Brandon Collopy, Grant Colvin, Amber Cox, Karen
Hiltbrand, Justin Jensen, Cheyenne Jones, Jessica Judge,
AJ Line, Clay McGuire, Faith Onstot, Hope Onstot, Jacob
Postin, Clark Reuter, Mike Scott, Mackenzie Spisak, Lonny
Trehal, Blake Tucker and Carter Ward

Spring Team

GCC Classic - Stillwater, Oklahoma	1st
Arizona National - Phoenix, Arizona	1st
National Western - Denver, Colorado	1st
Carload - Denver, Colorado	1st
Ft. Worth Stock Show and Rodeo - Ft. Worth, Texas...	1st
Dixie National - Jackson, Mississippi	1st
San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo - San Antonio, Texas	1st
Houston Livestock Show - Houston, Texas	2nd

Coaches: Blake Bloomberg, Ashley Judge, Kyndal
Reitzenstein and Tim Hubbard

Members: Rachel Booth, Riley Bradshaw, Corbin Cowles,
Kevin Edwards, Lori Edwards, Blake Goss, Cody Heavin,
Jesse Henson, Caroline Hughes, Sarah Hunker, Brett
Jones, Jessica Juvinall, Hannah Lauffenburger, P.D. Miller,
John Nelson, Anna Grace Parnell, Corey Pell, Colton Pratz,
John Romero, Haley Stark, Mikalyn White and Amber
Wright

Meat

Fall Team

International - Dakota City, Nebraska	5th
Cargill Meat Solutions - Plainview, Texas	4th
American Royal - Emporia, Kansas	3rd
Eastern National - Wyalusing, Pennsylvania	

Coaches: Gretchen Mafi and Morgan Pfeiffer

Members: Jennifer Apple, Hallie Barnes, Wyatt Catron,
Corbin Cowles, Jacob Green, Brittany Lippy, Jera Pipkin,
Charley Rayfield, Alexandria Schut, Ciara Smith and
Gabrielle Strickland

Spring Team

Iowa State - Ames, Iowa	5th
National Western - Denver, Colorado	4th
Southwestern - Ft. Worth, Texas	3rd
Houston Livestock Show - Houston, Texas	4th
Carload - Denver, Colorado	

Coaches: Gretchen Mafi and Morgan Pfeiffer

Members: Emmy Bechtold, Mason Blinson, Ally Casey,
Katelyn Gillum, Kathryn Hearn, Lilly Hildabrand, Katy Harris,
Kiera Leddy, Sam Nehls and Andrea Thomas

Meat Animal Evaluation

2018 Team

National Meat Animal Evaluation - Stillwater, Oklahoma	2nd
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Coaches: Gretchen Mafi and Blake Bloomberg

Members: Julianna Albrecht, Jennifer Bedwell, Layna Bond,
Brandon Collopy, Amber Cox, Katie Friederichs, Michelle
Helm, Justin Jensen, Cheyenne Jones, Jessica Judge, Clay
McGuire, Faith Onstot, Hope Onstot, Clark Reuter, Mike
Scott, Mackenzie Spisak, Lonny Trehal, Blake Tucker and
Carter Ward

DeSilva honored with Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising and Mentoring

By Ashley Hanson

Udaya DeSilva, associate professor in the animal and food sciences department at Oklahoma State University, was recognized with the Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising and Mentoring at the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Scholarships and Awards Banquet on March 29, 2018.

The award recognizes and promotes exceptional undergraduate advising and mentoring.

“Dr. DeSilva sincerely cares for and is committed to his students both in and out of the classroom,” said Cynda Clary, CASNR associate dean of academic programs. “But, what makes him a great advisor is that students trust him—his knowledge, guidance and honesty—not only relative to their

coursework, but also with their career plans and future.”

DeSilva joined the department in 2001 and currently advises approximately 70 undergraduate students, one master’s student and one doctoral student. He has served as the faculty advisor for the Sri Lankan Student Association and currently serves as the advisor for the Pre-Vet Club, which has more than 300 members.

“When students sense sincerity, they are motivated to learn,” said Clint Rusk, animal and food sciences department head. “He sincerely cares for students and is committed to both their personal and professional growth.”

DeSilva has won numerous awards for teaching and advising, including

the 2010 and 2015 Alpha Zeta Outstanding Teacher Award and the 2015 Regent’s Distinguished Teaching Award at OSU.

“I believe my aim in mentoring should be to facilitate my mentees to become well-rounded, independent, purposeful individuals,” DeSilva said.

DeSilva has helped colleagues in the animal and food sciences department understand the current generation of students and has introduced new strategies to help students learn, Rusk said.

“He is more than just a professor and mentor,” a current student said. “He is one of my biggest role models, and I hope someday to positively impact people’s lives the way he has mine.”



PHOTO / TODD JOHNSON

MAFI RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS GOLDEN TORCH AWARD

By Rebekah Alford

Professor, mentor, advisor, coach; students at Oklahoma State University know Gretchen Mafi by many titles. She has taken on numerous roles and dedicated much of her time to the betterment of her students.

Mafi, a professor and the Ralph and Leila Boulware Endowed Chair in the department of animal and food sciences, has been a faculty member at OSU since 2006. Since that time, she has impacted the lives of many OSU students through teaching, research and judging teams.

Mafi has a passion for teaching and mentoring students. She currently teaches three meat science courses each semester and serves as the advising coordinator for the department.

“Dr. Mafi has taught me and many students at Oklahoma State University the value of hard work, dedication,

integrity and honor, all while helping us find a passion in life that will turn into a successful career,” said Morgan Pfeiffer, animal science graduate student. “I hope to one day have half the impact Dr. Mafi has had on my life and all students she has advised in various capacities.”

Mafi has coached the OSU Meat Judging Team and Meat Animal Evaluation Judging Team for 12 years. She plays a vital role coordinating meat judging contests and providing support for other programs and activities on campus and around the state.

Mafi recently received the 2018 Golden Torch Award - College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. This award is presented by the Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board to six outstanding faculty members (one per college) who



make a significant impact to student success.

“We are very proud of Dr. Mafi for being selected by the Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board to receive their Golden Torch Award for 2018,” said Clint Rusk, animal and food sciences department head. “This award is given to an outstanding faculty member who ‘has shown dedication to the ideals of Mortar Board - which are scholarship, leadership, and service - and have promoted those ideals among the students of Oklahoma State University.’ The Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board selected Dr. Mafi to receive this award because she has made significant contributions toward the success of students.”



Gretchen Mafi is pictured (left) with the 2017 OSU Meat Judging Team. She has coached the OSU Meat Judging Team and Meat Animal Evaluation Judging Team for 12 years.

RAMANATHAN RECOGNIZED FOR *EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING*

By Rebekah Alford

Ranjith Ramanathan, food science associate professor at Oklahoma State University, received the 2018 North American College and Teachers of Agriculture Educator Award and the 2018 College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Alpha Zeta Outstanding Teacher Award.

Both awards recognize outstanding efforts in teaching. Ramanathan has a 65 percent teaching appointment and teaches both undergraduate and graduate level courses, including FDSC 1133: Fundamentals of Food Science, FDSC 3373: Food Chemistry I, FDSC 4373: Food Chemistry II, FDSC 4763: Analysis of Food Products and FDSC 5573: Advanced Food Chemistry.

“Dr. Ramanathan’s approach to teaching and mentoring is what sets him apart as an outstanding teacher,” said food science student Charley Rayfield. “His passion for teaching and helping students is evident in every class he teaches. Dr. Ramanathan is not only an outstanding teacher, but also an outstanding leader and mentor within the animal and food sciences department.”

Ramanathan joined Oklahoma State University’s Department of Animal and Food Sciences in 2012. He has shown a true talent for teaching and is beloved by students. He has a high overall score on ratemyprofessors.com, with 100 percent of student

reviewers saying they would take his class again.

“Dr. Ram has been a great mentor to me and has taught me many helpful tools in my educational career,” said Emmy Bechtold, food science student. “After I took his introduction to food science class, I immediately knew I wanted my major to be food science. He showed me a new take on the agricultural industry. He also introduced me to research, which has pushed me intellectually.”

In addition to teaching, Ramanathan has been the academic advisor for approximately 86 undergraduate students, served as faculty advisor for the Food Science Club and is the coordinator for the department’s

undergraduate research scholar program where students gain hands-on experience working on research projects. In 2017, he was the recipient of the American Society of Animal Science Young Animal Scientist Award - Education.

“Dr. Ram has been the biggest influence on my academic career here at OSU,” said Jessie Payne, food science student. “Without his guidance I would have never gotten research opportunities, job opportunities and much much more. He is truly the best thing about the food science program at OSU. He is a great leader, but a even better person. I have worked with him the past two years and he always knows what to say.”



Ranjith Ramanathan (faculty) received the Educator Award and Kelsey Bruno (graduate student) received the Graduate Student Teaching Award at the 2018 NACTA Conference. Left to Right: Dan Stein, Ranjith Ramanathan, Kelsey Bruno and Cheyenne Edmundson

Cowger named CASNR outstanding freshman

By Ashley Hanson

Jordan Cowger from Kansas City, Missouri, was recently named Oklahoma State University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Charles and Magda Browning Outstanding Freshman for 2018.

The Brownings established the Outstanding Freshman award to recognize both the academic excellence and outstanding leadership activity during a student's freshman year at OSU. It is awarded at the end of a student's sophomore year for his or her efforts as a freshman in CASNR.

Cowger is a biochemistry and molecular biology and animal science double major and a 2016 graduate of Liberty High School. She is the daughter of Scott and Lorraine Cowger. Her campus

involvement includes serving as a CASNR Ambassador, OSU Honors College Ambassador, OSU Student Foundation secretary and the National Women's Fraternity academic chair assistant. During her freshman year, Cowger was a freshman research scholar and a Freshman and Transfer Council representative.

"As an out-of-state student coming into CASNR and OSU, it is safe to say that I found my home, and I found my family," Cowger said. "My passion for agriculture drew me to OSU, but it has been further cultivated through my involvement and interaction with those in CASNR."

Jordan was a National Women's Fraternity Outstanding New Member, Outstanding Freshman Dinner attendee and National Society of Collegiate Scholars nominee. She

has been recognized on the Dean's and President's Honor Rolls and is currently an OSU Honors College student.

"Jordan came to OSU and, as an out-of-state student, made the decision to get involved and find ways she could to contribute to her college and her campus," said Cynda Clary, CASNR associate dean of academic programs. "She has an incredible ability to connect and engage with those around her and I look forward to seeing what she does during her career here."

Cowger maintains a 4.0 GPA alongside serving her community in various capacities such as volunteering for the Ronald McDonald House, Into the Streets, the Make-a-Wish Foundation and CowboyThon for Children's Miracle Network.



PHOTO / TODD JOHNSON

Haviland recognized with Phoenix Award

By Rebekah Alford

Catherine Haviland, animal science graduate student, received the 2018 Phoenix Award - Ph.D. The award is given annually to one master's student and one doctoral student at Oklahoma State University who have excelled in leadership, scholarship, service (community and university) and professional involvement.

As part of the award, Haviland was formally recognized at an awards ceremony and received \$350 from the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association and the Graduate College. Her name will also be engraved on the Phoenix Award plaque located in Whitehurst Hall.

Haviland worked as a graduate assistant at the Willard Sparks Beef Research Center for five years. During that time, she assisted with over 20 difference trials, conducted a Holstein trial for her research and helped manage the yard. She was also involved in the GPSGA where she has served as representative, social chair and president.

Catherine will receive her Ph.D. in animal science in July 2018. Her thesis is titled, "Effects of metabolic modifiers and environment on cattle health and performance."

Haviland has accepted a post-doctoral position with Texas A&M under Jenny Jennings. She will be stationed at the Agrib Beef research yard in Bushland, Texas, where she will oversee daily activities, conduct research projects with graduate students and manage manuscript publications.



Swine Club Recognized

The OSU Swine Club was recognized as the Outstanding CASNR Club and also won first place in the CASNR Sign Competition at the 2018 CASNR Awards and Scholarship Banquet.

The Swine Club serves as an outlet for swine enthusiasts to be involved in the industry, educate on campus and serve the community. The club hosts a jackpot show each spring. The student club is advised by Scott Carter.



Swine Club CASNR Sign Competition (2018)

2018 Student Awards

Gilliland Memorial Fellowship

Audrey Boeken

NACTA Graduate Student Teaching Award

Kelsey Bruno

CASNR Seniors of Distinction

Julianna Albrecht
Courtney Mapes
Taylor Neilson
Macy Perry
Alexandria Schut
Alexis Shanes

Seniors of Significance

Emily Hart
Courtney Mapes
Taylor Neilson
Macy Perry

Top Twenty Freshman Men

Cody Gingrich
Jacob Burch-Konda
Grant Wilber

Top Ten Freshmen Men

Cody Gingrich
Jacob Burch-Konda

Browning Outstanding Freshman Award

Jordan Cowger

Student Employee of the Year Finalist

Rebecca Janes

Mapes named OSU Outstanding Senior

By Rebekah Alford

Courtney Mapes graduated in May of 2018 with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science and a minor in microbiology. Upon her graduation, she was highly recognized for her leadership and active participation on campus and within the department of animal and food sciences. Recently, she received the honor of being named a 2018 OSU Outstanding Senior.

“Receiving the award of Outstanding Senior was a direct effect of being surrounded by so many people willing to push me towards growth and success during my four years at Oklahoma State, many specifically being from the department of animal and food sciences,” said Mapes.

During her time at OSU, Mapes completed over 900 hours of community service. She was also involved in the Freshmen in Transition program, Student Academic Mentor, CASNR Student Council, Freshman Representative Council, President’s Leadership Council, Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Encounter, Boren Mentoring Initiative, Student Alumni Board, Homecoming Steering, Mortar Board Honor Society, her sorority and several departmental clubs. Mapes was also an undergraduate teaching assistant for several classes.

“We are extremely fortunate to have such a sought after student who raises the standard of excellence we so strongly desire to have the privilege to work with at Oklahoma State University,” said Rusty Gosz, OSU Cooperative Extension youth specialist. “In addition to her voluntary leadership activities, Courtney also serves as the Oklahoma State University animal science youth livestock intern. Through her efforts in this role, I have had the opportunity to observe her professionalism, work ethic and attention to detail. Courtney

has assisted me in organizing and conducting many state and national youth events.”

In the past four years, Mapes has been recognized as a Top 10 Freshman Woman, CASNR Outstanding Freshman, 2017 Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Mentor, Women for OSU Student Philanthropist of the Year and 2018 CASNR Senior of Distinction. She is also a recipient of the 2018 Animal Science Senior Leadership Award.

“Although my leadership, academic and service experiences have been of incredible value to me, I am certain that the people of Oklahoma State have held the utmost importance to my college experience,” said Mapes. “The cowboy family has surrounded me since birth and will accompany me far past graduation.”

Mapes is applying to medical schools in the surrounding area and plans to continue serving others as a rural family physician.

“She is moving on from her time with us, and pursuing her next set of goals,” said Gosz. “I couldn’t be prouder of Courtney and I count it a privilege to have had her contributions that will be felt for years to come. She is now family and she will be missed.”



2018 Banquet Awards

The 2018 Oklahoma State University Department of Animal and Food Sciences, or AFS, held its annual banquet on April 7, 2018. Both animal science and food science students were recognized with scholarships and awards. Thanks to alumni support, three new scholarships were created this year; the Cline Equine Center Intern Scholarship, the Gerald W. Horn Graduate Student Endowed Fund and the Amy Down Steward Livestock Judging Scholarship. Below are the students, faculty, alumni and friends of the department who were recognized with awards. Read more about our recipients on the department's website at afs.okstate.edu/weekend/awards.

Animal Science Outstanding Senior



Julianna Albrecht was named the 2018 Animal Science Outstanding Senior. She has also been named a CASNR Senior of Distinction and received the Animal Science Leadership Award.

Albrecht was actively involved in Animal Science Leadership Alliance, Block and Bridle Club, Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, Mortar Board Honor Society, Freshmen in Transition, Student Academic Mentor program, Academic Integrity Panel, Meat Science Association and was a member of multiple judging teams, including the 2016 National Champion Meat Judging Team and the 2017 Reserve Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Team.

She studied abroad in Thailand with the agricultural communications department and was selected as a member of the Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Encounter Class XV, which serves at Oklahoma Youth Expo and networks with other progressive agriculturists to learn more about global agriculture.

Albrecht volunteered her time to work with judging team practices and AFS communications. During her time at OSU, Albrecht worked for AFS as a student employee at the Totusek Arena and interned for the Animal Science Alumni Association, 2017 National Western Stock Show and Cargill Protein.

Albrecht graduated in May of 2018 with a dual-degree in animal science and agricultural communications. She moved to eastern South Dakota where she can continue working as a marketing associate for the Saskatoon Colostrum Company Ltd. and spend time with family.

Cowboy Up Award



Justin Leonard received the 2018 Cowboy Up Award for undergraduate distinguished service, as well as an Animal Science Leadership Award.

Leonard successfully put himself through college by working and living at the OSU Swine Research and Education Center while building a reputation as a student leader, mentor and friend. Justin was actively involved in several student programs and organizations, including Freshmen in Transition, Student Academic Mentor, Swine Club, Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, Animal Science Leadership Alliance and Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Encounter.

Leonard has worked at the swine center for four years and lived there for three-and-a-half years. From late night farrowing to fixing heaters, he simultaneously juggled classes, leadership roles and the rigors of college life. This year he served as the interim herdsman for roughly five months.

Leonard was a 4-H youth development intern at Kansas State Research and Extension (Douglas County) and a communications intern for the Pinto Horse Association's World Championship Show and Color Breed Congress Show. He also served as the official annual convention photographer for the Pinto Horse Association, publishing two articles and a cover photo for the Pinto Horse Magazine.

Leonard graduated in May of 2018 with a dual-degree in animal science and agricultural communications. He plans to continue his education by receiving a master's degree in a policy-related field with an international agriculture focus. He will remain an animal agriculture ambassador and wants to encourage more transparency between the farm and the consumer population that continues to be further removed from the farm.

Student of the Year Nominees

Jackie Bauer
Jared Smith

Animal Science Senior Leadership Award

Julianna Albrecht
Jennifer Apple
Katie Friederichs
Justin Leonard
Courtney Mapes
Clay Maynard
Hannah Murphy
Taylor Neilson
Faith Onstot
Hope Onstot
Macy Perry
Alexandria Schut
Leanne Van der Laan

Animal Science Senior Scholastic Achievement Awards

Jennifer Apple
Abigail Bechtold
Mindi Bracy
Kirsten Chamberland
Jessica Eastep
Marissa Fennell
Emily Hart
Corban Hemphill
Alayna Jackson
Rebecca Janes
Serena Kline
Courtney Longhouse
Gayle Mages
Clay Maynard
Jacqueline Nichols
Melissa Rothenay

Outstanding Graduate Students



Carson Cooper received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award (M.S.). Cooper began her graduate education career joining the lab of Scott Carter in swine nutrition research. Because of her experience, she became the leader of day-to-day research activities and coordinated research efforts at the OSU Swine Research and Education Center. Serving in this role, she has been directly responsible for the oversight and management of 12 nursery and three wean-to-market pig experiments which involved approximately 4,980 pigs. She was responsible for ordering supplies, tracking expenditures and overseeing 12 undergraduate employees. She also served as a mentor for three undergraduate students in the research scholars program. She has authored or

co-authored 10 abstracts presented at scientific meetings, of which she was lead author on three abstracts and presented the data.

For her efforts, she was awarded the Bill Luce Scholarship in 2016 and 2017. She is a member of the American Society of Animal Science, Oklahoma Pork Council and the Animal Science Graduate Student Association. Cooper served as a teaching assistant for two semesters for ANSI 4643: Swine Science and one semester for ANSI 3443: Animal Reproduction. Her research has focused on the effects of plant extracts on growth performance and immune response of nursery pigs fed antibiotic-free diets. Cooper will graduate this summer with an M.S. in animal science and plans to pursue a career in research in the swine nutrition field.



Margaret Youngers is currently pursuing her Ph.D. under the direction of Chris Richards with an anticipated graduation date of December 2018. Younger's research has been focused on characterization of variation in physiological, microbial and behavioral responses of finishing beef cattle to long-term acidosis challenges.

She has functioned as the Nutrition Physiology Research Center manager overseeing upkeep of the facility, coordinating research conducted by multiple faculty, assisting other graduate students and supervising undergraduate students. She has hosted numerous industry and public tours at the Willard Sparks Beef Research Center and Nutrition Physiology Research Center to highlight current research efforts and research capabilities of these facilities. Youngers has also provided guest lectures in Rumenology and Advanced Ruminant Nutrition.

She has served as the vice president of the Animal Science Graduate Student Association and served as the coordinator of a Totusek Lectureship Series. She has received the Strasia and Totusek Scholarships for graduate students while at OSU. She has served as a teaching assistant for several classes under the direction of AFS faculty members Mark Johnson, Blake Wilson and Clint Krehbiel.

Tyler Award

Divya Jaroni received the Tyler Award at the 2018 Animal Science Banquet. This award recognizes professional achievement in research, teaching or public service by faculty members of the OSU Department of Animal and Food Sciences.

Jaroni was born and raised in Indore, India, where she received her first bachelor's degree in chemistry and biology. Her passion for teaching prompted her to get a second bachelor's degree in education. The desire to get a higher education brought her to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to pursue an M.S. in animal science with a focus in non-ruminant nutrition. At UNL, she learned about the discipline of food science and decided to pursue a doctoral degree with specialization in food microbiology. Her dissertation focused on the control of *E. coli* O157:H7 in live cattle, and that work produced a patented Direct-Fed-Microbial (DFM, Bovamine™) for beef cattle.

Following graduation, she joined the "*E. coli* team" at UNL, under the

mentorship of Terry Klopfenstein and Rodney Moxley. This position was a continuation of her Ph.D. project where she tested the DFM as a dietary supplement in live cattle. In 2002, Jaroni joined the USDA-MARC in Clay Center, Nebraska as a postdoc, followed by a second postdoc at UNL. She then joined the faculty of Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she continued to conduct food safety research in food animals. After five years at SU, she joined Oklahoma State University in 2012 as an assistant professor with an 80 percent research and 20 percent teaching appointment. In 2014, she also became part of the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center. Recently, Jaroni was promoted to associate professor.

Jaroni is passionate about food safety research and teaching. Her current research focuses on strategies to reduce foodborne pathogens within the food production chain. She has been very successful in obtaining both extramural and intramural funds. Research in her lab has

been supported by several of these funded projects, totaling more than \$3 million. Jaroni has 147 publications stemming from her research, with 37 peer-reviewed journal articles, 50 abstracts, 4 book chapters, 6 articles in magazines and newsletters and 50 proceedings and technical reports. She has 13 invited presentations and more than 50 research presentations at various national and international professional conferences.

Jaroni has been involved in the education of students, consumers and industry professionals. She developed three new courses at OSU in the area of food microbiology/food safety to be offered to undergraduate and graduate students in the food science and animal science programs. She also introduced the Pre-Harvest Food Safety course, which is one of the few courses of its kind being offered in the country.

Jaroni also teaches Advanced Food Microbiology and Foodborne Toxins and Allergens for undergraduate and graduate students. In addition to teaching, she serves as an academic advisor for 18 undergraduate students, as a research mentor for three undergraduate research scholars and as a supervisor for 15 undergraduate research assistants in the food microbiology lab.

Divya believes in providing strong mentorship to students. She has served as the major advisor for seven graduate students and two postdoctoral fellows who have been very successful in her program and have received multiple scholarships, fellowships, awards and recognitions for their research at the national and international level. Jaroni currently serves as the faculty advisor for the OSU Tiny Paws Kitten Rescue Club and the ESCRIPT program for the enhancement of research presentation skills of graduate students.

As a food microbiologist, Jaroni plans to continue working and contributing to benefit the food industry and the community.



PHOTO / GENESEE PHOTOS

Graduates of Distinction



Jane (Nash) Deewall graduated from high school in Canon City, Colorado, in 1968. She was active in 4-H, showed cattle and was on the livestock judging team. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science from Oklahoma State University in 1972, and was the only woman in many of her classes. She was on the OSU Livestock Judging Team in 1971, and was the high individual on the team at the International in Chicago. She was active in Block and Bridle and received the Outstanding Woman of Agriculture in 1971-1972.

Deewall was a professional cattle photographer from 1971-1985. She worked closely with Hereford breeders and was an advisor for the Oklahoma Junior Hereford Association.

She assisted her husband, Mike, with the management of several Hereford ranches. They managed the OSU Purebred Beef Center (1973-74), Higgins Hereford Ranch (1977-78), Middleswarth Hereford Ranch (1979-1983) and LeForce Herefords (1983-1998). In 1991, the Deewall family began Deewall Herefords. They continue activity with the Hereford Association and sell bulls and heifers. They produced cattle with the top ribeye and top yield grade in the 2004 American Hereford Association Genetic Outreach Test. In 2000, Deewall Herefords showed the Reserve Champion pen of Junior Yearling Bulls at the National Western Stock

Show. They donated the right to flush the top selling cow in the LeForce Herd Reduction Sale (which they purchased) to OSU.



Mike Deewall has managed and bred Hereford cattle since he graduated from OSU in 1970. He started his career as herdsman in charge of show and sale cattle at Winrock Farms – Turner Ranch Division in Sulphur, Oklahoma. He exhibited the Champion Hereford Bull at the National Western Stock Show and the Reserve Champion Hereford Bull at the American Royal. After the Turner Ranch dispersal, he became herd manager at the OSU Purebred Beef Center for 2 years. He continued his excellence with cattle as Manager of Higgins Hereford Ranch in Nowata, Oklahoma, and as herdsman for Middleswarth Herefords in Torrington, Wyoming.

He spent 15 years as manager of LeForce Herefords near Nash, Oklahoma, where he was responsible for the production and marketing of a 400 cow registered Hereford herd. His activities included eight production sales, feedlot and carcass testing, promotion of Hereford cattle and support of OSU judging teams.

During his career, he has been dedicated to Hereford cattle, animal agriculture and the OSU Department of Animal and Food Sciences. He was president of the Oklahoma Hereford Association, vice president and board member of the Kansas Hereford Association, and member of the Oklahoma Cattlemen and Kansas Livestock Associations. The Deewalls have received the Kansas Farm Bureau Centennial Farm Award and the American Hereford Association Centennial Breeders Award. The Deewalls were recognized as Kansas Hereford Breeders of the Year in 2016.



Ronald Nimmo began his career with Feed Specialties in Ankeny, Iowa, in 1980 and then joined Continental Grain Company in 1981. He served as manager of research and product development, as well as large account technical service. In 1991, he joined Carroll Foods in Warsaw, North Carolina, serving as manager for nutrition feeding programs/diet formulation, feed milling operations and lab services. While at Carroll's Foods (later Smithfield Foods), he helped grow the business from 30,000 sows to 187,500 sows in six U.S. states, Mexico and South America. He managed a 30 million pig database that contained production and financial data on pigs produced as well as carcass information and ingredient value. He also was responsible for approximately \$2 million per week in ingredient use in formula feeds over a 10 year period.

Nimmo is the owner of Triangle Concepts Consulting, which provides animal production records analysis, feed formulation assistance and research direction to animal production systems in the U.S. and internationally. He has served clients in the integrated swine industry, as well as feed manufacturers, animal breeding companies and human vitamin and OTC product companies.

Dr. Nimmo is a member of the American Society of Animal Science, American Association of Swine Veterinarians, Carolina Feed Industry Association and North Carolina Pork Producers Association.



Ron Ramming was raised on a diversified livestock and crop farm in Hinton, Oklahoma. After attending Connors State College, Ramming then completed his undergraduate studies at Oklahoma State University in 1987 earning his Bachelor of Science in agriculture with a major in animal science. While earning his degree, he was a member of the livestock judging team and worked at the OSU Swine Center. Ramming was offered a graduate teaching assistantship position in the animal science department at the University of Tennessee. His responsibilities there included coaching the livestock judging team and teaching the live animal evaluation courses, as well as the meat animal sections of the department's introductory course.

In 1990, Ramming began his career in higher education at Connors as an agriculture instructor and assistant livestock judging team coach. He earned his doctorate in agricultural education with an emphasis in higher education administration at OSU in August of 1997 and became the director of distance and extended education in 1998 at Connors State College and then dean of enrollment services in 2004. In 2009, he assumed the role as vice president for enrollment management and student services, as well as interim vice president of academic affairs. He served as senior vice president for academic and student affairs from 2014-2016

and as interim president of the college from 2016-2017. On April 20, 2017, Ramming was named the 17th president of Connors State College by the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma A&M Colleges.

Advanced Degree Graduates of Distinction



Mike Burge developed a quality control program to ensure consistency of processing and matched different starch fermentation rates to improve cattle performance. He moved to southwest Kansas in 1988 to work as a beef feedyard consultant with Farr Better Feeds where he worked with over 20 feedyards, grow yards and backgrounding yards. Burge realized in 1991 there was great potential for applying feedyard technologies to dairies in the areas of rates of fermentation of grains and development of rations to improve conversions in dairy cattle. He moved to central Texas in 1991 as a consulting dairy nutritionist with Farmland Industries and was soon promoted to the south region dairy manager, responsible for managing 12 dairy consultants and dairy feed mill profit and loss in six southern states.

Burge founded Compass Nutrition, Inc. in 2000. Compass Nutrition has consultants working with clients in seven states and internationally, and based on number of cows is one of the largest independent consulting groups in the country. Compass Nutrition is recognized nationally and internationally as an industry leader in providing cutting edge technologies and innovative ideas to economically improve cow health, production, reproduction and ultimately dairy profitability. He has continued to consult with dairies in the United States and internationally (India, China, Morocco and Mexico). He is recognized as one of the best in

the industry for his work in transition cow rations and management. He was one of the first in the dairy industry to start evaluating energy corrected milk conversions.



David Weakly went to work for the Ralston Purina Company after earning his doctorate and established a program studying the metabolic effects of digested dietary nutrients on ruminant production parameters in both dairy and beef cattle. In 1998, he became director of dairy research for Purina Mills, with additional responsibilities for the Land O'Lakes Purina feed dairy research program in 2002. During this time, Weakley managed research efforts leading to numerous products and feeding programs developed from a greater understanding of the metabolism of protein, starch, fiber and fats in dairy cattle. His research also helped create metabolizable energy and metabolizable protein systems for balancing dairy cattle rations with greater accuracy and improved efficiency of nutrient use.

In 2010, Weakley was appointed director of dairy forage nutrition research for Forage Genetics International, a division of Land O'Lakes, developing advanced feeding and forage formulation algorithms for Calibrate Technologies. During his working career, Weakley has designed over 400 experiments and managed the teams that executed them to completion. These experiments have led to the granting of 12 patents, with others pending, covering numerous technologies still practiced in the industry today. Weakley is a member of the Stakeholder's Advisory Board to the U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center.

Master Breeder



Albert Rutledge managed Windy Hill Angus Farm with his wife, Betty, in southern Illinois before returning to Oklahoma so he could serve as herdsman at Angus Valley Farm near Sand Springs, Oklahoma. In 1953, they returned to Oklahoma A&M as the beef cattle herdsman when his former boss, Orville Deewall, retired. For many years, he rode in railroad boxcars with the college cattle as he showed them in Chicago, Denver, Ft. Worth and Kansas City. In 1955, he showed the Champion Angus steer at Ft. Worth for Oklahoma A&M. He also raised and sold a Register of Merit Hereford Bull for the college. Rutledge served as herdsman at the Beef Cattle Center for 10 years. He was then assigned to the Live Animal Evaluation Center where he helped collect a variety of measurements from live animals for numerous experiments. He retired from OSU in 1990, but he is far from retired.

Rutledge runs a herd of about 30 Angus cows north of the OSU Purebred Beef Center along Range Road. From an Angus cow he purchased in 1956 for \$165, he bred Angus cattle for six generations until he produced the Reserve Grand Champion Angus Heifer at the 1996 National Junior Angus Show in Kansas City, Missouri. This was the largest single breed show ever held. In 1998, he sold an Angus heifer that won several shows before being named the

Grand Champion Heifer at the 1999 All-American Angus Futurity in Louisville, Kentucky.

For three years in-a-row, Rutledge Angus topped the OBI Bull Test Sale held west of Stillwater, Oklahoma. Until January of this year, Rutledge Angus held the record for the top gaining Angus bull at the Panhandle State Bull Test in Goodwell, Oklahoma, where their Angus bull gained 6.49 pounds per day in 112-day test. Rutledge Angus is still testing bulls in the Panhandle State Bull Test. Rutledge understands cattle and knows cattle history. He delights in talking about cattle and is well respected for his knowledge of beef cattle. He is also known for his dry wit and his sense of humor. Through the years, Rutledge has served on the Payne County Cattlemen's Association where he served two terms as president. He also served on the Payne County Fair Board and the Payne County Farm Bureau board of directors and was president of the North East Oklahoma Angus Association. Rutledge was inducted into the Payne County Producers' Hall of Fame in 1999.

Distinguished Service Award



Doug Hufstedler grew up on his family's farm and stocker operation near Amherst, Texas. To earn extra spending money when their work on the farm was done, Hufstedler and his brother would also work at nearby Littlefield Feedyard (now part of Friona Industries) cleaning out feed bunks, scrubbing water tanks and helping the processing crews when they were shorthanded. This was where he first met Wally Koers, Littlefield Feedyard's nutritional consultant at that time, who first introduced Hufstedler to opportunities in beef cattle nutritional consulting as a potential career to consider pursuing.

After graduating from high school, he enrolled in the department of animal science at Abilene Christian University. During the summer of his junior year, he renewed his acquaintance with the Koers Nutrition group and traveled with their consulting associate collecting and summarizing feedlot performance data. He graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1988. He went on to Texas A&M University where he received his M.S. degree in animal science in 1991 and his Ph.D. degree in nutrition in 2001.

After completing his master's degree and starting a family, Hufstedler put his graduate education on hold to provide for his family by serving as the multi-species nutritionist for Producers Cooperative Association in Bryan, Texas. In 1996, he was promoted to feed division manager. In 2001, he completed his doctorate in nutrition and became a founding partner with Livestock Management Consultants, LLC. In 2005, he went to work for Elanco Animal Health, a division of Eli Lilly and Company.

Hufstedler has most recently served as beef technical advisor and cattle technical consultant manager for Elanco Animal Health. His expertise is in Beef Cattle Nutrition specializing in extensive cattle production sectors (cow-calf, heifer development, stocker cattle and backgrounding/grow-yards), as well as feed manufacturing operations and VFD regulations. Hufstedler and his team were instrumental in the establishment and FDA approval of the Rumensin Free Choice Veterinary Master File, which will enable feed companies a more rapid, less expensive path for FDA approval of new free-choice Rumensin products. He has recently taken on a new management role at Elanco serving as the sales manager for the Cattle South District with sales representatives covering New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

JOIN US IN HONORING DAVID JONES AND HIS COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO OSU, STUDENTS AND THE DAIRY PROGRAM

Former judging team members, dairy center employees, friends and colleagues in the dairy industry have joined together to raise support for the Oklahoma State University Dairy Judging Team in honor of David Jones and his upcoming retirement in fall 2018.

David has served as the dairy center herd manager for 23 years. At the center, he fostered a work ethic second to none and enhanced the lives of students who have been employed at the dairy or participated on the dairy judging team. Through his relationships, David has served as a mentor and friend who profoundly impacted the lives of dairy students with his dedication, leadership and loyalty. Above all, he is a key advocate for the dairy program at OSU.

With his leadership, OSU's dairy program is now reaching new accomplishments with the updated

Ferguson Family Dairy Center while gaining national attention for recruiting dairy enthusiasts to Oklahoma.

Because of his continued years of service, it is only fitting we celebrate his passion for students and the dairy industry with the establishment of the David Jones Dairy Judging Team Endowed Fund in honor of his retirement. Supporting the dairy judging team fund will instill David's legacy to the program in perpetuity and ensure opportunities for future students are sustained with the establishment of the first endowed fund for the dairy judging team.

Please join us in honoring David and recognizing his lifelong work to the dairy judging team and dairy program and ensure his legacy continues to impact students and the dairy program for generations to come.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF DAVID JONES

1995 – 2018 | OSU Dairy Center Herd Manager

2017 | Oklahoma State University, University Service Award

Coached **16** Dairy Judging Teams

7 All-Americans

Judged **46** State Fairs across the United States

Provided vision and leadership for construction of the Ferguson Family Dairy Center
Freestall Barn and Helms Hall

Established national quality cattle exhibited at Louisville and Southern National



I'D LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT OSU BY SUPPORTING THE DAVID JONES DAIRY JUDGING TEAM ENDOWED FUND:

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GIFT OF:

\$1,000 \$500 \$100 Other: \$ _____

Proceeds from the David Jones Dairy Judging Team Campaign will support the following fund.

PLEASE DESIGNATE MY GIFT TO:

David Jones Dairy Judging Team Fund (21-00380)

Have you included OSU Foundation in your estate plan? Have you looked to see if you or your spouse's employer will match your contribution and double your impact? See a list of matching employers at OSUgiving.com/matching

FULFILLMENT OPTIONS:

one-time in monthly installments of \$ _____

Pledged for: 1 yr 2 yr 3 yr 4 yr 5 yr indefinite **CC ONLY**

Beginning: _____ (mm/yyyy) Ending: _____ (mm/yyyy)

** Pledge reminders will be sent based on your fulfillment schedule*

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Check - payable to OSU Foundation, is enclosed

Credit Card

Card Number _____ / Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____ 3-Digit CVC _____

Signature _____

**Gifts to the OSU Foundation may be tax deductible*

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: OSU FOUNDATION | P.O. Box 258818 | Oklahoma City, OK 73125-8818 Give online at OSUgiving.com X18DJRS-DM

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