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Animal Science

Spring 2011

Animal Science Newsletter, Spring 2011

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Animal Science 2011

Newsletter

What's inside...

From the Department Head	2
Graduate Student Awards	3
Outstanding Students	4
2011 Graduates	5
Scholarships	5
Alumni Awards	6
Meat on Mondays	7
Block & Bridle	8
Meats Quiz Bowl	8
Pre Vet Club	9
Livestock Judging	10
Team Efforts	11
Whitt Bell Internship	11
Faculty News	12
Faculty Activities	13
In Memory	13
Arena Seats	14
Growing Pains	15
Career Success	15

Dr. Mike L. Looper named Animal Science Department Head



The Department of Animal Science is excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Michael L. Looper as the new head of the Department, beginning September 1, 2011. Dr. Looper comes to us after a distinguished career as a Research Animal Scientist with the USDA/ARS.

Michael L. Looper was raised on a fifth generation beef/dairy cattle farm in Arkansas. He earned his B.S. and M.S. degree in Animal Science from the University of Arkansas and his Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, where he studied the physiological mechanisms of reproduction in cattle. He joined the faculty of New Mexico State University in 1999 as Extension Dairy Specialist/Assistant Professor.

Since 2002, Dr. Looper has served as a Research Animal Scientist at the USDA-Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center in Booneville, AR. While there, he developed collaborations with numerous universities, federal and state governmental agencies, as well as several allied industry partners. He served as Lead Scientist of the Food Animal Production Program with oversight and accountability for approximately one million dollars. As Adjunct Faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Arkansas-Ft. Smith, he instructed courses in Anatomy/Physiology and Biological Sciences. Dr. Looper has also held Adjunct Associate Professor and Graduate Faculty status at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and has served on numerous graduate committees.

Dr. Looper has served as Associate Editor, and currently as Animal Production Division Editor, for the Journal of Animal Science. He is a member of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS), currently serving on the Executive Committee, American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists, Arkansas Cattlemen's Association, Sebastian County 4-H Foundation, and the Arkansas-Oklahoma Regional Education and Promotion Association. He is past president of the Southern Pastures and Forage Crop Improvement Conference and the Arkansas Forage and Grassland Council.

Dr. Looper has trained over 10 graduate students in production management and reproductive physiology, and authored or co-authored over 150 non-abstract, scientific publications. Numerous awards include Southern Section, ASAS Outstanding Young Animal Scientist Education Award; University of Arkansas-Ft. Smith, Luella M. Krehbiel Teaching Award; Southern Section, ASAS Outstanding Young Animal Scientist Research Award; and the USDA/ARS, Herbert L. Rothbart Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist Award. In 2009, he received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the United States government on science and engineering professionals.



From the Department Head:

by Dr. Mike Looper

It is an honor to be selected as the new Department Head for Animal Science. My wife Joneta, daughters Madison and Taylor, and I are extremely excited about this new chapter in our lives. I extend my appreciation to everyone involved in the selection process. In addition, I also would like to thank Dr. Beth Kegley for doing an outstanding job as Interim Department Head for the past several months. As you are aware, many people are responsible for this Department's current success. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Keith Lusby for his leadership over the past 15 years. Dr. Lusby's insight and vision will be realized for many years to come. I would also like to congratulate Dr. Lusby on his recent selection as a Fellow in the American Society of Animal Science. I would be remiss at this time if I did not also acknowledge former Vice President of Agriculture, Dr. Milo Shult's passion for advancement of Arkansas agriculture.


The Department is fortunate to have great faculty, staff and students that are largely responsible for its success. I am amazed at the number of people in and outside of Arkansas that are aware of some specific aspect of our teaching, research, or extension program. Further we are blessed to have a very supportive community of agriculture stakeholders in the state that are, and will continue to be, instrumental in our growth and advancement. I will be working with the entire faculty, staff, students, stakeholders, other academic departments, and the administration of Bumpers College and the Division of Agriculture to continue to move us into one of the premiere Animal Science programs in the U.S. I believe many exciting things will happen in the next few years.

As a Department, I feel it is our responsibility to educate, educate, educate! We must provide knowledge and learning experiences to our students so that they are work-ready, educated citizens. We all recognize, these students are the next generation of animal scientists and leaders that will, in some way, help feed the world. Further, we also must educate elected officials as well as the general public. With so much misinformation regarding animal production in today's society, and the speed in which it is disseminated, the Department must be a source of 'on-demand', unbiased, scientific-based knowledge both inside and outside the classroom. I look forward to working with extension personnel as we deliver timely information to all producers and consumers in the state.

With an ever-increasing human population, a demand for increased food production will be needed in the next few years. This Department is in an excellent position to be a research leader in developing best management practices that increase whole farm/ranch efficiency, and ultimately, increase producer profitability. It is no secret that university budgets are tight, and we all are being asked to do more with less. We must plan and conduct our extension and research programs with several things in mind including the economic feasibility, environmental impact, and consumer preference of our research findings and recommendations. Although there will continue to be budget constraints, I am eager to help find new funding opportunities so our faculty can continue to answer researchable questions important to producers and stakeholders.

On a sad note, I join the faculty and staff of the Department in expressing our sadness and condolences to the wife and family of Dr. Brett Barham who passed suddenly on July 9th, 2011. Brett was an exceptionally talented faculty member as well as a devoted husband and father. We will miss him as a dedicated professional as well as a special friend and colleague.

In closing, I am extremely humbled by this unique opportunity. I look forward to traveling the state and meeting with future students, alumni, and stakeholders to discuss the direction of the Department. I value your input. There is no other place in the U.S. that has the potential that we have here at Arkansas. Please feel free to contact me or stop by and visit when you are in Fayetteville.



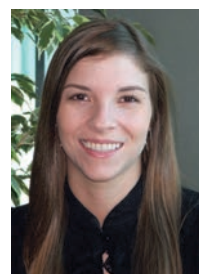
Graduate Student Awards



John Richeson has been selected for the 2011 Emerging Scholar Award by the American Society of Animal Science. The award is presented in recognition of outstanding academic and research accomplishments. A native of Stillwater, Oklahoma, John developed an early appreciation for livestock agriculture through involvement in youth livestock projects. He was awarded a competitive meats judging scholarship at Eastern Oklahoma State College and was a key member of an undefeated National Champion Intercollegiate Meats Judging Team earning High Individual, Total Beef honors at the 1996 Excel High Plains contest. After earning a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University in 2000, John served as Cattle Superintendent for Continental Beef Research in Lamar, CO where he advanced his strong interest in feedlot nutrition and health management of newly received beef cattle. From 2002 to 2004, he pursued a Master's Degree in Ruminant Nutrition at Texas Tech University, studying effects of supplemental urea in wet corn gluten feed diets fed to finishing cattle. From 2004 to 2008, John worked for the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service providing leadership of the Arkansas Beef Improvement Program and education of cow-calf and stocker producers on cost-effective management practices. In 2008, John decided to further his experience in health and well-being of newly received cattle by pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Arkansas. His Ph.D. research focused on the physiological and immunological status of newly received cattle and the role of persistently infected bovine viral diarrhea virus challenge on health and growth performance.



Ben Williamson has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the Zimbelman-Hafs Public Policy Internship by the American Society of Animal Science Foundation. The Zimbelman-Hafs Public Policy Internship is designed to give an outstanding student in Animal Science, agricultural policy or a related discipline, the opportunity to gain experience and knowledge of actions in Washington D. C. that affect animal agriculture. Ben is the son of Chuck and Karen Williamson, and grew up in Cedarville, Ohio on a diversified farming operation producing grain, cattle, and hogs. Mr. Williamson received his B.S. in Animal Science from Morehead State University before enrolling at the University of Arkansas. He is co-advised in the Department of Animal Science by Drs. Mike Loooper (USDA/ARS) and Charles Rosenkrans, Jr. In his first year in the graduate program, Mr. Williamson concentrated on research, working at the USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farm Research Center near Booneville, AR. After completing a large portion of his research, he moved to the Fayetteville campus to complete his M.S. course work. In order to gain experience and knowledge of actions in Washington D. C. that affect animal agriculture, Mr. Williamson will work in the Washington, D.C. offices of the National Milk Producers Federation during the month of June and in the office of Ohio Congressman Steve Austria in July. He will return to the University of Arkansas in August to complete his Master of Science degree.



Angela (Boyer) Mayes was recently elected to the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) Board of Directors as a Graduate Student Representative. Angela grew up in southeast Missouri and is the daughter of Curt and Terry Boyer. She earned a B.S. in 2008 and an M.S. in 2010, both in Animal Science from Missouri State University, Springfield. Angela is currently working on her Ph.D. degree under Dr. Charles Rosenkrans. Angela also won second place in the Graduate Student Competition at ASAS Southern Sections meeting in San Antonio for her presentation "Effects of forage and breed type on grazing behavior and temperament of beef heifers". She won first place in the 13th Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture Ph.D. oral presentation competition for "Effects of forage type on behavior and temperament of beef heifers". Her future plans upon completion of her Ph.D. are to pursue a post doctoral position with the USDA-ARS. Her long term goal is to become a research scientist and contribute to the understanding of the physiology and behavior of livestock animals.

Outstanding Student Awards

Outstanding Student Award recipients are selected by vote of the Animal Science faculty. Selections are based on academic performance, participation in departmental activities and programs, research accomplishments, and other contributions in the Department of Animal Science.



Undergraduate Student. Daniel R. Keeton is from Mountainburg. His parents are Tom and Linda Keeton and they live in Mountainburg. Daniel is a member of FarmHouse Fraternity, Alpha Zeta, Block and Bridle, and Meats Quiz Bowl Team. He plans to begin post-graduate studies in Agriculture Economics at the University of Arkansas.



Transfer Student. Chelsea Coffman is from Garvin, Oklahoma. Chelsea attended Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, Oklahoma, where she was a Student Senator for the Aggie Club and a member of the Livestock Judging Team for two years. According to Chelsea, "Livestock Judging is what brought me to the University of Arkansas". Chelsea's activities at the University of Arkansas included; the Livestock Judging Team, Block and Bridle, and Chronicler of Alpha Zeta Honors Fraternity where she has been involved in several community and volunteer efforts. Upon graduation, she plans to attend Physical Therapy School. Chelsea is the daughter of Sammy and Linda Coffman, also of Garvin, Oklahoma.



Ph.D. Graduate Student. John Richeson completed his Ph.D under the direction of Dr. Beth Kegley in May, 2011. He is a native of Stillwater, OK and is the son of Thomas and Pamela Richeson of Stillwater. John developed an early interest in livestock and in beef cattle nutrition and health. After attending Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, he completed his B.S. in animal science at Oklahoma State University. He worked for Continental Beef Research in Lamar Colorado, before attending Texas Tech University where he completed his M.S. in animal science in 2004. Shortly afterward, John joined the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service where he provided key leadership for the Arkansas Beef Improvement Program. He started his Ph.D. studies at the University of Arkansas in 2008 to pursue his research interest in beef cattle nutrition and stocker/feedlot health. John's dissertation title is "Mitigation of bovine respiratory disease complex: interactions of physiology, immunology, nutrition, and management" (See the related news on page 3 regarding Dr. Richeson's selection for the the 2011 Emerging Scholar Award by the American Society of Animal Science). Dr. Richeson has accepted a post-doctoral position with the Department of Animal Science to continue research work related to health in beef cattle and calves in Arkansas.



M.S. Graduate Student. Chance Williams was born in Shamrock, TX and is the son of Ricky and Missy Williams. Chance grew up in the small, quiet town of Quemado, NM on a family owned commercial cattle ranch. After graduating from Quemado High School, he attended Clarendon College in Texas on a livestock judging scholarship. After finishing his tenure at Clarendon College, Chance attended Texas Tech University where he later graduated with his B.S. in Animal Science. Chance is currently finishing his M.S. at the University of Arkansas in Animal Science with a focus in Beef Reproductive Physiology. His thesis advisor is Dr. Rick Rorie. Upon completing his Master's degree, Chance plans to pursue a Ph.D. in poultry nutrition at the University of Arkansas.

Other Student Honors:

Crystal Ahrens won second place in the Undergraduate Research Presentation Competition at the Southern Section Meeting of the American Society of Animal Science in San Antonio, TX. She also won first place in the Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Undergraduate Research Oral Presentation competition in Fayetteville. Whitney Downum won second place in the same Gamma Sigma Delta Undergraduate Research Oral Presentation.

Dallas Greenbury was selected as a Bumpers College Ambassador to represent the Department of Animal Science. Ambassadors serve as the student liaison between the department and the Dean's Office, participate in the planning and implementation of special college events and assist with new student recruitment.

American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Achievement Awards

Seniors:

Rachael D. Guidry
Daniel R. Keeton
Caroline K. Mallory
John David Milum
Virginia Diane Yiannas

Juniors:

Sarah Elizabeth Avey
Kendall Renee Madson
Emma Eileen Manning
Ashley J. Korin Roberts
Ashley Rose Winters

Sophomores:

Kelsy Jane Bryant
Alexandra Estha Lee Canfield
Dallas Laural-Ellen Greenbury
Jessie Kate Hargis
Abigail Rose Reith

Congratulations!!!

2011 Graduates

Bachelor of Science:

Beeson, Keith T
Brown, James Nathan
Bryant, Eric
Curry, Wesley Robert
Eisenbach, Angela K
Frank, Karlie Marie
Hardwick, Stanley Adam
Henry, Rachel M
Huff, Robert Todd
Keeton, Daniel R
Leal, Arthur
Mann, Michael J
Milum, John David
Murray, Colleen Margaret
Penn, Jennifer Kathleen
Rojas, Chelsea Marie
Sabo, Avril Katherine
Scott, Elizabeth Joy
Sexton, Keith Joseph
Shelby, Elizabeth Grace
Sullivan, Douglas K
Yates, Carolyn K

(Summer 2010)

Cattaneo, Audra Nichole
McIntyre, Sarah Nicole
Wilson, Allison Grace

Master of Science:

Briggs, Bradley Edward (Aug, 2011)
Keys, Cari Ann
Hawley, Jamie
May, Kimberly Danielle (Aug, 2011)
McKenzie, Laura Megan
Mehall, Lindsey Nicole (Dec, 2010)
Morgan, Mark Steven (Dec, 2010)
Silver, Tiffany Kindle
Starnes, Amber Rayfield (Aug, 2010)
Williams, Chance L. (Aug, 2011)

Doctor of Philosophy:

Ata, Mysaa (Aug, 2011)
Bradley, Casey Lynn (Dec, 2010)
Caldwell, James Dale, Jr. (Dec, 2010)
Richeson, John Thomas

Scholarship Recipients

Arkansas Cattlemen's Association Scholarship

Chelsea Coffman, Garvin, OK

Arkansas Beefmaster Scholarship

Brent Dorn, Gentry

Arkansas Brangus Scholarship

Richard Salmon, Jr, Frisco, TX

C. J. Brown Scholarship

Emily Bardot, Lonedell, MO

William and Frances Dorough Scholarship

Denise Kordis, Red River, NM

Farm Credit Services State Federation Scholarship

Stephanie Lampman, San Antonio, TX

Robert Felsman Scholarship

Michael Schlumbohm, Leipsic, OH

Richard and Ann Fulton Scholarship

Dallas Greenbury, Albuquerque, NM

Hudson Family Scholarship

Troy Sloan, Cameron, MO

Carl B. and Florence E. King PreVet Scholarships

Kendall Madson, Rogers
Ashley Roberts, Timbo

Florence E. King Equine Scholarships

Lauren Aday, Fayetteville
Megan Wadley, Bentonville

Mary S. and Paul K. Lewis, Sr. Scholarships

Cody Tabler, Booneville, AR
Sara Guillen, Siloam Springs
Mallory Hiss, Collierville, TN

Danny Metz Scholarship

Thomas Devine, Newton, NC

Dr. A. L. and Lorena Neumann Scholarships

Christopher Addison, Hazen
Sarah Avey, Springdale
Kristopher Bottoms, Oklahoma City, OK
Kelsy Bryant, Monticello
Rondell Carter, Springdale
Claire Crews, Jacksonville
Mary Dalby, Hot Springs
Lindsey Etzkorn, Edgemont
Jessie Hargis, Fayetteville
Courtney Hayden, Fort Worth, TX
Alexander Jackson, Greenbrier
Caroline Mallory, Little Rock
Emma Manning, Center Ridge
Patrick McFadden, Cabot
Courtney Moon, Fort Smith
Alyssa Myer, Allen, TX
Kathryn Pezoulas, Plano, TX
Diane Tyler, Fayetteville
Ashley Winters, Van Buren

Paul R. Noland Scholarship

Rachael Guidry, Ashdown

J.O. and Marie Parker (PLR Farms) Scholarship

Whitney Downum, Springdale

Jack L. Perkins Scholarship

Emily Bardot, Lonedell, MO

Ned Ray Purtle Scholarship

Tiffany Evans, Aurora, MO

Ned Purtle Scholarship

Kassadi Click, Muldrow, OK

O. T. Stallcup Scholarship

Schlote Becca, Flippin

ALUMNI AWARDS



Graduate of Distinction

LINDA L CARPENTER
DAVID R CARPENTER



David R. Carpenter grew up on a Dairy Farm outside Everton, AR, graduating from Bruno High School (1970). He graduated from the University of Arkansas (1974) with a BS in Agriculture majoring in Dairy Science and minoring in Business. David also holds a MBA from Lindenwood College. During his college career, David was a member of the U of A Livestock Judging Team, assisted Dr. Bernard Daniels in the research lab and helped when necessary on the University Dairy Farm. Out of college, David's first job was Quality Control Manager at Coleman Dairy, Inc. in Little Rock. His next career progression was with BlankeBaerBoweyKrimko working in Technical Service and then serving as Director of Sales and Marketing. After serving as Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Ramsey Sias, a French owned company, he continued his international career in the food ingredients business by joining Sanofi Bio Ingredients and subsequently headed the Global Cultures and Enzymes Business. In 1999 David continued his career in the Food Industry by joining Chr. Hansen, Inc., a global Biotechnology company providing cultures, enzymes, and natural colors to the food and nutrition industry. During his tenure at Chr. Hansen, he has served as Director of Sales and Marketing, Dairy Ingredients Division; Sr. Vice President Bio Ingredients; and Sr. Vice President of Sales & Marketing. David was appointed President of the North American activities for Chr. Hansen, Inc. in 2005. He is active in industry associations, including the International Association of Color Manufacturers and is the co-chair of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, Milwaukee 7 Food and Beverage Council. David and his wife, Linda, who also graduated from the University of Arkansas (BA 74), and is a professor at Cardinal Strich University, reside in Brookfield, WI. David and Linda have one son, William, who is a Business Analyst at US Bank, Milwaukee, WI.

QUINTIN B. WELCH



Quintin B. Welch was born in Sterling County, Texas and moved to Green Forest, Arkansas shortly before entering high school, where he graduated as Valedictorian in 1953. He entered the University of Arkansas and graduated with a BS in Animal Nutrition in 1957 and then attended Oklahoma State University where he finished an M.S. in poultry breeding in 1960. Quintin's interest in genetics and statistics continued at the University of California, Berkley, where he finished a Ph.D. in population genetics in 1969. Following graduation from UC Berkley, Dr. Welch worked as a consulting Biometrician, as Senior Statistician in two departments at UC Berkley, and as lecturer at UC Santa Barbara. He served as a Research Associate in Pakistan and Malaysia in association with the University of Maryland and the UC San Francisco from 1970-1973. He took a position with the Department of Biology at the University of Missouri, Kansas City as Assistant Professor from 1973-1977 and then accepted a position as Research Analyst with the Kansas City Department of Health. He became Chief of the Kansas City Office of Health Research & Analysis in 1979 and Registrar and Chief of the Kansas City Office of Vital Records & Health Statistics in 1988. During his teaching career, Dr. Welch developed and taught upper level and graduate courses in Introductory Biometry, Biometry, Principles of Genetics, Genetic Counseling, and Population Genetics. During his tenure with the Kansas City Department of Health and the Office of Vital Records, Dr. Welch developed innovative techniques in the analysis of health and vital statistics data and their use for management and policy making decisions. He produced the first irrefutable analysis with adequate data to confirm the detrimental effects of smoking during pregnancy. Dr. Welch currently lives in Green Forest, and is president and co-founder of W.B. Cattle Country, a natural, grass-fed beef operation.

Advanced Graduate of Distinction

WERNER ESSIG

H. WERNER ESSIG M.S.




H. Werner Essig was born December 9, 1930 near Paragould, Arkansas. He was reared on a small diversified family farm that produced cattle, swine, poultry and an apiary of 350 hives. He graduated with the first senior class from Greene County Tech High school in May 1948, attended Arkansas State College in 1948, and enrolled at the University of Arkansas in 1950, where he completed his BSA in 1953. Werner was a charter member of the Arkansas Farm House Fraternity. He married fellow U of A student Alice Hudson, Parthenon, AR, in June 1953, and in March, 1953 began active military service in Korea before release as Infantry 1st Lieutenant in 1955. Werner enrolled at the University of Arkansas as a graduate student under Dr. Maurice Ray and completed his M.S. in 1956. Following summer employment with Charles Pfizer, Inc., he enrolled at the University of Illinois, and completed his Ph.D. in 1959. He was employed shortly afterwards by Mississippi State University. At MSU, Dr. Essig developed a wide ranging research, graduate, and undergraduate teaching program focused primarily on animal nutrition and served as Graduate Coordinator of the interdepartmental Nutrition program for over 30 years. His research resulted in more than 260 publications. Professional memberships include the American Society of Animal Science, American Society of Dairy Science, Sigma Xi, and numerous other affiliations. He was instrumental in establishing the MSU Farm House Chapter and was inducted into the College of Farm House Founders in 1974. Awards include: GSD Award of Merit for Research, Faculty Achievement Award in Recognition of Outstanding Achievements and Continuing Contributions in Research, American Forage and Grassland Council Merit Certificate, ASAS Certified Animal Scientist in Animal Nutrition, First Mississippi Cooperation Award of Excellence for Outstanding Performance with the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, and ARPAS Certified Charter Diplomate of the American College of Animal Nutrition. In 1997 the MSU Animal Sciences Nutrition Laboratory was named "The H. W. Essig Nutrition Laboratory". In 2005 the Werner and Alice Essig Endowed Graduate Student Scholarship was established with the MSU Foundation. In 2007 the MSU Division of Agriculture Forestry and Veterinary Medicine honored H. W. "Werner" Essig with an endowed undergraduate scholarship.

Block and Bridle Club Initiates Meat on Mondays

The Block and Bridle Club joined with the Agriculture Communicators of Tomorrow Club to start a "Meat on Mondays" campaign on campus. Students distributed over 2,500 beef jerky samples on campus on Mondays to promote eating meat and the nutritional benefits of meat in the diet. Students also distributed samples on the Fayetteville Square and traveled to the State Fair in Little Rock to distribute the Meat On Mondays beef jerky. Club members have secured funding from the Arkansas Beef Council to repeat this activity next year.



Handing out Meat on Monday beef jerky samples at the Arkansas Union (L-R) Diane Tyler, Emma Manning, and Crystal Ahrens.



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Block and Bridle Club

The Block and Bridle Club had another busy year in 2010/2011. One of the most exciting activities of the year was the "Meat on Mondays" campaign (see related story on page 7). In October, the club hosted the first Halloween Play Day for local equestrians. Young and old participants competed in events ranging from speed events like pole bending to trail and jumping events. The evening ended with a horse and rider costume contest.

Seven Block and Bridle members represented the University of Arkansas at the National Convention in East Lansing, Michigan. There, students had the opportunity to network with other B&B members from all over the US as well as tour farms and ranches in Michigan. Daniel Keeton was awarded the National Block and Bridle Club 3rd Most Outstanding Junior. In the spring semester, members enjoyed a trip to Hot Springs to attend the races at Oak Lawn Park. One of the largest events of the year was the hosting of the Razorback Classic junior cattle show.

Finally, the club hosted the college-wide Annual Ag Olympics competition in which students form teams to compete in fun, agriculture based events for their name on a big trophy and year's worth of bragging rights.

The 2010-2011 officers were: President - Crystal Ahrens, Lamar, AR; Vice President - Daniel Keeton, Mountainburg, AR; Secretary - Jessica Fritts, Huntsville, AR; Treasurer - Christopher Addison, Hazen, AR; Reporter - Ashton Williams, Broomfield, CO; Block Head (chair of livestock activities) - Keith Beeson, Jonesboro, AR; Bridle Head (chair of equine activities) - Denise Kordis, Red River, NM. Officers for the 2011-2012 school year will be Christopher Addison as President; Ashton Williams as Vice President; Brandi Whittemore, Huntsville, AR, as Secretary; Meghan Sommers, Morrilton, AR, as Treasurer; Nikolas Birchfield, Prairie Grove, AR, as Reporter; Dax DeShazo, Rudy, AR as Block Head; and Denise Kordis will remain as Bridle Head.



Block and Bridle members (Front) Keith Beeson (Rear, L-R) Denise Kordis, Daniel Keeton, Toph Addison, Dax DeShazo, Katlin Mitchell, Ashton Williams, and Crystal Ahrens.

Meats Quiz Bowl

The University of Arkansas Meats Quiz Bowl Team attended their 4th Reciprocal Meats Conference in June 2010 to compete in the Quiz Bowl Competition. Team members prepared for the contest by learning about meat science, the meat industry, and the history of the American Meat Science Association. Prior to the competition, team members traveled to the Dallas, TX Metroplex area and spent three days touring a whole-hog slaughter plant, a pepperoni plant, a case-ready beef and pork processor, and a bacon plant.

Then students participated in the Iron Chef RMC event hosted by Texas Tech University. Undergraduate and graduate students were placed on teams consisting of peers from universities all over the nation, and worked with a food scientist from Tyson Foods to develop a novel meat product from a goat carcass. The next day, students tested their knowledge in the Quiz Bowl Competition. Team members included Aaron Coffman, Ola, AR; Nathan Tapp, Gravette, AR; Kameron Sullivan, Prairie Grove, AR and Brandi Whittemore, Huntsville, AR. Eight new students have been preparing for the 2011 quiz bowl competition to be held in Manhattan, KS. New team members include Daniel Keeton, Courtney Moon, Dallas Greenbury, Denise Kordis, and Christopher Addison from Animal Science, as well as Jessica Fritts, Brandi Whittemore, and Dustin Dixon from Poultry Science.



2009 Meats Quiz Bowl Team Members at Texas Tech University (L-R) Kameron Sullivan, Nathan Tapp, Aaron Coffman, Brandi Whittemore, and coach Janeal Yancey.

Pre-Vet Club

Each year the U of A Pre-Veterinary Club serves to familiarize students with career options available in the field of veterinary medicine and to facilitate their application to professional school. This past year the Pre-Vet Club hosted speakers such as Dr. Richard Meiring, Director of Admission at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Dr. Katrina Meinkoth Coordinator of Recruitment at the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine. These speakers informed the students about their respective veterinary academic programs.

Other exciting events included volunteering at the Washington County Pet Wellness Expo in October, a visit and tour of the Emergency Veterinary Hospital in Springdale, and a field trip to the Gentry Safari Park. In March, seventeen students and the club advisor, Dr. Powell, attended the American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Symposium at Mississippi State University. The Pre-Vet Club is proud to congratulate at least eight of its members on acceptance to various schools of veterinary medicine.

2010-2011 officers

President- Mary Dalby

Vice Pres – Kendall Madson

Treasurer – Rachel Henry

Secretary – Dallas Greenbury

Public Relations Chair – Jessica Perkins

Student Chair – Heather Hawkins



Front (L-R) Mary Dalby, Kendall Maison, Mary Ann Carroll, Erica Unz.
Rear (L-R) Malin Bernheart, Traci Sconyers, Dallas Greenbury, Heather Hawkins, Heather Pennington, Brittany Pepper, and Ryan McCarver



Livestock Judging

Arizona National

The University of Arkansas livestock judging team coached by Bryan Kutz and Ryan Page claimed top team honors at the Arizona National Livestock Show judging contest for the second straight year on December 31, 2010 in Phoenix, AZ. The Razorbacks swept the team contest, receiving the top scores in beef, sheep, swine, and reasons. Tom Devine was third high individual. AnnHeidi Reed finished sixth, Tiffany Evans placed seventh and Brett Isbell finished ninth place in route to top team honors. Top individual beef scores included: Rachael Guidry, 1st; Tom Devine, 5th; Tiffany Evans, 7th; AnnHeidi Reed, 8th; and Brett Isbell, 10th. Individual Sheep scores were: Tom Devine, 5th; and Tiffany Evans, 7th. Blaze Wynn placed 2nd in swine followed by Brett Isbell, 3rd; Tom Devine, 4th; and AnnHeidi Reed, 10th. Top individual reasons were: AnnHeidi Reed, 5th; Brett Isbell, 6th; and Rachael Guidry, 7th.

National Western Livestock Judging Contest

Rachael Guidry, a member of the University of Arkansas Livestock Judging team, finished 9th in the sheep and Goat division with teammates Blaize Wynn, Brett Isbell, Tiffany Evans and Tom Devine close behind to capture top honors in Sheep and Goats at the National Western Livestock Judging contest in Denver, Co. on January, 14, 2011. All five members of the U of A team finished in the top 40 out of 138 individuals. The combined team effort was very consistent and catapulted this year's team to a 5th place finish. The result marks the best finish in coach Bryan Kutz's tenure in this contest and ties the best finish in a National contest of this magnitude.

Southwestern Livestock Exposition

The University of Arkansas livestock judging team coached by Bryan Kutz and Ryan Page claimed third place honors at the Southwestern Stock Show judging contest for the second straight year on February 5, 2011 in Fort Worth, TX. The Razorbacks were 2nd in Swine, 2nd in Cattle, 3rd in reasons, 5th in sheep and 7th in horses. Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Arkansas, Kansas State and San Angelo were the top five overall teams. Tiffany Evans took fourth high individual honors and also placed 4th in cattle and 10th in reasons. AnnHeidi Reed placed 5th in swine and Brett Isbell ranked 10th in cattle.

Dixie National

The Dixie National Judging contest consisted of the evaluation of 12 classes of cattle. The Razorbacks finished 2nd among the 16 teams that competed on February 12, 2011 in Jackson, MS. The team captured top honors in the Market Steer Division; was 2nd in the Zebu division, 2nd in team reasons; 4th in the Continental and 7th in the English Divisions. Brett Isbell finished as 8th high individual honors and Tiffany Evans placed 10th. Rachael Guidry finished as high point individual in Market Steers followed by Brett Isbell at 3rd, Tiffany Evans at 5th and AnnHeidi Reed at 9th. Top individual scores in the Zebu division included: Rachael Guidry at 5th; Lauren Wilson at 6th; Tom Devine at 9th; Brett Isbell at 10th, AnnHeide Reed at 12th and Blaize Wynn at 14th. Isbell and Evans also finished in the top ten in overall reasons scores.



U of A Livestock Judging Team: (L-R) Assistant coach Ryan Page, AnnHiedi Reed, Tiffany Evans, Lauren Wilson, Rachael Guidry, Blaize Wynn, Brett Isbell and Tom Devine.



U of A Livestock Judging Team: (L-R) Coach Bryan Kutz, Brett Isbell, AnnHiedi Reed, Lauren Wilson, Rachael Guidry, Blaize Tiffany Evans, Tom Devine, and assistant coach Ryan Page.

Animal Science and Agricultural Communications Departments Combine Talents to Promote Equine Program Activities

Faculty and students in the UA Equine Science program and the UA Agricultural Communications program collaborated this year for the first time on efforts to promote two special equine events at the D.E. King Equine Center.

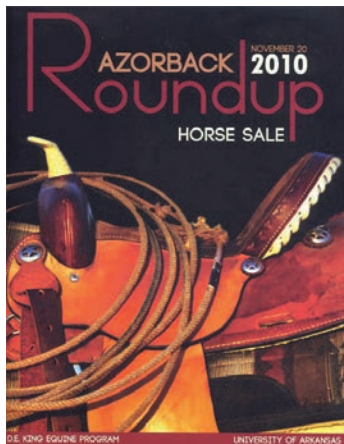
Animal Science student Ann Bennett and agricultural communications students Allyson McGuire and Christina Gordon were members of an editorial team that created the sale catalog for the Razorback Roundup horse sale in October 2010. The annual sale benefits the self-funded D.E. King Equine Science academic program in the UA Department of Animal Science.

Another team, led by agricultural communications student Megan Crudup and animal science student Arthur Leal worked from January to April in 2011 to develop a promotional campaign for the annual UA Horse Festival.

Agricultural communications professor Jefferson Miller, who served as faculty adviser to both teams, said the two projects were perfect opportunities for students to exercise their skills while earning course credit.

Dr. Miller stated that "...these projects with the Roundup and the Horse Festival, were really good opportunities for our students to strengthen their skills and get some real-world experience in publication production as well as PR and advertising."

Dr. Nancy Jack, associate professor and Director of the Dorothy E. King Equine Program and instructor Kathi Jogan said "We feel this is a powerful opportunity for students to exercise their academic skills in marketing and communication to produce actual events. When they walk into a job interview, their resume and project portfolios will clearly illustrate their experience and advanced practical skills".



Dorothy E King Equine Program Publications produced through the combined efforts of Animal Science and Agricultural Communications Department students.



Animal Science Student Whitt Bell on board Mixmeastrawberry Lena, 4 year old Amateur Champion at the Abilene Spectacular

Animal Science Student Whitt Bell Participates in Internship with World Renowned Cutting Horse Trainer

Animal Science freshman, Whitt Bell grew up driving monster tractors and planting hundreds of acres of crops in Hickory Plane, AR. His parents, Mark and Kim Bell are full time farmers and Whitt has always had to do his part. He didn't start riding horses regularly until the summer of 2006 when his grandfather, Jerry Bell, got him hooked on cutting. Whitt started getting competitive just 2 years later in 2008. Since then he has kicked up a lot of dust, earned 35 belt buckles, 2 saddles, an impressive silver AQHYA Reserve Champion trophy, and 4 AQHYA award blankets for riding horses to the finals. And oh yes, to date he has earned \$62,359.89 in prize money.

This summer, as part of his Equine Minor curriculum, Whitt will be an intern for cutting legend Bill Riddle. Bill has served the National Cutting Horse Association at every level including vice-president twice and president in 2007. His customers have won a collective \$2,100,000 and Bill has a lifetime earnings record in excess of \$4,000,000. As a former teacher, Bill Riddle is inarguably one of the industry's premier instructors.

In Ringling, OK, at Bill Riddle Cutting Horses, Witt will be learning about maintaining soundness of horses in training, starting young horses on cattle, and preparing horses through exercise for working and showing on cattle. Under Bill Riddle's tutelage, Whitt will practice flag work, herd work, using angles for advantage showing, advanced cutting techniques, and showmanship strategy and finesse. Whitt will also be expected to study tack selection and application, loading and hauling of show horses as well as cutting cattle management.

Faculty News



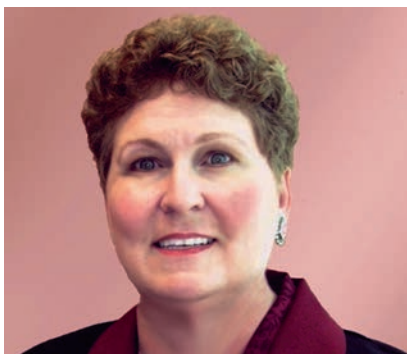
Dr. Jeremy Powell Receives National Advising Award

Jeremy Powell, Associate Professor of Animal Science in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas, was presented the 2010 Outstanding Advising Award by NACADA at the association's annual meeting in Orlando in October.

The National Academic Advising Association, based in Manhattan, Kan., promotes quality academic advising in higher education and professional development for its 10,000 members. The national award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated qualities associated with outstanding academic advising of students or outstanding academic advising administration. Powell is one of only ten faculty advisers honored in this category in the nationwide competition in 2010.

Powell advises pre-veterinary medicine students and is faculty adviser to the Pre-Vet Club in the Animal Science Department. He teaches and conducts University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture research and extension programs in livestock animal management and animal health.

Dr. Powell has also previously received the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences Alumni Society Advising Award and the University of Arkansas Outstanding Faculty Advising Award. “



Dr. Nancy Jack Promoted to Associate Professor

Nancy Jack was promoted to Associate Professor effective July, 2010. Dr. Jack joined the faculty of the Department of Animal Science in 2000 as an Instructor. She directs the D. E. King Equine Program, teaches equine classes, and raises the funds required to sustain the program.

During her tenure Dr. Jack has developed and implemented 5.25 classes and led the effort to develop an Equine Science Minor. She also developed 3 in-house internships that involve care and management of horses and offers hands-on experience for interns. Since 2006 one hundred fifty three (153) students have taken the internship program.

Dr. Jack has received 6 teaching awards and since 2006, has led an effort that raised over a half million dollars to fund the D. E. King Equine Program. According to Dr. Jack, the program has contributed an average of 25% of student credit hours taken in the Department of Animal Science.



Dr. Lusby Named ASAS Fellow

Dr. Keith Lusby who retired as head of the Department of Animal Science in February, 2011, has been named as a Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science in recognition of distinguished service to animal science and the livestock industry. Dr. Lusby was presented with the award on July 11th, 2011 at the annual meeting of the American Society of Animal Science in New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Lusby served on the faculty of the Department of Animal Science at Oklahoma State University for 19 years, prior to being named as the head of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Arkansas on August 15, 1995.

Prior to Dr. Lusby's appointment as department head, the number of faculty and the facilities of the department had declined markedly over a period of years. Under Dr. Lusby's leadership and with the support of the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, the department was able to rebuild and refurbish facilities and through the efforts of existing and newly hired faculty and staff, successfully rebuild the Animal Science academic and research programs.

Other Faculty Activities:

Emeritus University Professor Dr. C.J. Brown has recently published a new book titled "Hard Times in God's Country" which details life and times in and around Everton, AR, a small community in Boone County, during the "Great Depression". The book is published by Blurb Inc. and is available at blurb.com.

Drs. Ken Coffey and Paul Beck received Merit Awards from the American Forage and Grassland Council on June 23, 2010.

Dr. Hayden Brown gave an invited presentation entitled "Importance of Data Collection and Proper Contemporary Grouping in Breed Evaluation" to the Beefmaster Symposium, DARR Agriculture Center, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, on July 30th, 2010. There were approximately 300 attendees with nine different countries represented.

Dr. Wayne Kellogg attended the 'Pasture-Based Dairy Summit' with Danny Griffin (Van Buren Co. Agent), Shaun Rhoades (Scott Co. Agent), Keith Perkins (Lonoke Co. Agent), and Brian Haller (White Co. Agent) on May 18-19. The meeting included 1 day touring large dairy farms in eastern Georgia and a day of classroom presentations in Aiken, SC.

Dr. Fred Pohlman chaired the Muscle Foods Division at the Institute of Food Technologists annual meeting in New Orleans, in June, 2011.

Dr. John Jennings took four 4-H Teams to Springfield, MO to compete in the Mid-America Grassland contest. Twenty three teams competed and Arkansas had the 1st and 5th high individuals and the 2nd and 4th placed teams.

Dr. John Jennings and Kenny Simon attended the American Forage and Grassland Council Conf. in French Lick, IN.

Bryan Kutz, Dianna Watson, and the Livestock Judging Team hosted the 2011 Livestock Judging Camp, with over 80 kids participating!

Drs. Ken Coffey, John Jennings, Shane Gadberry, Paul Beck, Brett Barham, and Tom Troxel gave presentations to producers and clientele at the Livestock Field Day at the Livestock and Forestry Research Station in Batesville in April, 2011.

Drs. Jason Apple, Paul Beck, Fred Pohlman, and Tom Troxel gave presentations at the Beef ROI (return on investment) from Pasture to Plate conference at U of A Community College at Conway in April, 2011.

Drs. Jeremy Powell, Paul Beck, Shane Gadberry, Brett Barham, John Richeson, Tom Yazwinski, Steve Jones, Mr. Bryan Kutz, and graduate student Matt Rowe conducted a Herd Health Beef IQ session in Hope in May, 2011.

Alumni News:

Andrea Banks (MS, 2007) is relocating to Oranjestad, Aruba as Agriculture Specialist, Operational Support Unit, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations.

James Caldwell (MS 2007, PhD 2010) is Assistant Professor of Animal Science/Ruminant Nutritionist at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO.

In Memory

Animal Science Department Saddened by the Loss of Friend and Colleague, Dr. Brett Barham



The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and the Department of Animal Science were deeply saddened by the loss of a great friend and colleague in the unexpected death of Dr. Brett Barham. His friendship and his contributions to the program will be sorely missed. The official obituary is listed below:

Brett Barham, 36, of Maumelle, beloved son, husband, father, brother, colleague, and friend left this world to join his Heavenly Father unexpectedly on Saturday, July 9, 2011.

Survivors include his wife, Amber Barham; daughters, Adley and Adison of the home; parents, Gordon & Jan Barham; sister, Julie; niece, Janae; in-laws, Robert & Bridget Lehmann; brother-in-law, Shannon (Melissa); and his grandmother, Irene Barham. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, R. C. Barham, Bill and Geraldine Randle.

Brett grew up on a cattle ranch in Carrizozo, New Mexico and graduated from Carrizozo High School. He received his bachelors, masters, and doctorate from Texas Tech University and was a proud alumnus and Red Raider fan. While at Texas Tech, he utilized the experience gained in his many years of showing livestock and served as a livestock judge for which he won numerous awards. While at Tech, Brett met his future wife the former Amber Lehmann and his world was forever changed. Although he was recognized for many things, including publication of his work in professional journals, Brett's proudest accomplishment was the birth and raising of his two daughters. Adley and Adison were the apple of their daddy's eye and there was no prouder daddy than he. Although he was raised around cattle, Brett quickly became a "girl dad" and even helped fix the girls' hair for cheer competitions. Brett was their biggest fan and although a quiet man, he made his presence known on the soccer sidelines and in the stands at cheer events. All who knew Brett appreciated his deep devotion to his family.

Brett was Associate Professor of Animal Science for the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and was President of the Arkansas Association of Cooperative Extension Specialists. He worked in education and research specializing in beef cattle breeding and genetics. Brett was committed to his profession and the betterment of the beef industry.

Contributions to the Brett Barham memorial fund can be made at any Arvest bank.

Animal Science Faculty

Name/Specialty	Phone/email
Looper, Michael L. Department Head	479-575-3745 looper@uark.edu
Apple, Jason Meat Science	479-575-4840 japple@uark.edu
Beck, Paul Ruminant Nutrition	870-777-9702 pbeck@uaex.edu
Brown, A. Hayden Jr. Breeding & Genetics	479-575-4855 hbrown@uark.edu
Coffey, Ken Ruminant Nutrition	479-575-2112 kcoffey@uark.edu
Ford, Vic SWREC - Director	870-777-9702 vford@uaex.edu
Gadberry, Shane Beef Nutrition	501-671-2169 sgadberry@uaex.edu
Hubbell, Don Livestock Forrestry	870-793-7432 dhubbell@uark.edu
Jack, Nancy Equine Program	479-575-4380 njack@uark.edu
Jennings, John Forage Systems	501-671-2350 jjennings@uaex.edu
Jones, Steve Yth Lvstck/Sm Rum	501-671-2067 sjones@uaex.edu
Kegley, Beth Ruminant Nutrition	479-575-3050 ekegley@uark.edu
Kellogg, Wayne Nutrition	479-575-6397 wkellogg@uark.edu
Kreider, David Phys/Endocrinol	479-575-6323 dkreider@uark.edu
Kutz, Bryan Livestock Judging	479-575-4337 bkutz@uark.edu
Maxwell, Charles Swine Nutrition	479-575-2111 cmaxwell@uark.edu
Philipp, Dirk Forage Nutrition	479-575-7914 dphilipp@uark.edu
Pohlman, Fred Meat Science	479-575-5634 fpohlma@uark.edu
Powell, Jeremy Veterinarian	479-575-5136 jerpow@uark.edu
Rorie, Rick Repro Physiology	479-575-6398 rrorie@uark.edu
Rosenkrans, Charles Repro Physiology	479-575-4376 crosenkr@uark.edu
Russell, Mark Equine	501-671-2190 mrrussell@uaex.edu
Troxel, Tom Assoc. Dept Head	501-671-2188 ttroxel@uaex.edu
Yazwinski, Tom Parasitology	470-575-4398 yazwinsk@uark.edu



Support Animal Science Department Scholarships by putting your name on a chairback in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center

You can support scholarships for Department of Animal Science students and receive permanent recognition by purchasing a chairback in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center. Purchases are tax deductible and can be made in the name of an individual, a business, or in honor or memory of a loved one or friend.

If you are a former judging team member and would like to purchase a seat in honor of your judging team, contact Bryan Kutz at 479-575-4337.

Chairbacks are available for a minimum donation of \$500, although many individuals have donated more.

If you would like to help with scholarships by purchasing a chairback, fill out the form below and mail it with your check payable to the "Agricultural Development Council" with a notation on the check for "Arena Chairback".



Chairback Order Form

Please use separate page if needed.

Donor:

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 Address _____
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Please list information desired on chairback:

Make checks payable to:

Agricultural Development Council

Mail to:

Connie Stewart
 University of Arkansas
 1120 W. Maple
 Dept. of Animal Science
 Fayetteville, AR 72701



Early Career Success

University of Arkansas Animal Science graduate Jenny S. (Thurlow) Jennings has been named Ruminant Research

Manager for Altech Inc. Jennings earned her BS degree in Animal Science (2004) from Missouri State University in Springfield and her M.S. degree in Animal Science with an emphasis in animal physiology from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville in 2006. Her advisor in her M.S. program was Drs. Charles Rosenkrans. Jenny received her Ph.D. (2009) in ruminant nutrition at South Dakota State University, investigating physiological and genetic regulation of composition of gain in beef cattle. As a result of her Ph.D. research, Jennings was selected as an American Society of Animal Science 2010 Young Scholar. In 2009 she began working for Alltech, Inc. as a Postdoctoral Fellow, specializing in beef cattle research before assuming her current position in 2011. She manages product research in dairy and beef cattle for the US, and oversees the Alltech South Dakota Ruminant Physiology Lab in Brookings, SD. She and her husband Tracy Jennings and son Tyler reside in Brookings. Alltech is a global leader in the animal health and nutrition industry and among the top 10 animal health companies in the world. The Nicholasville, Kentucky based company is focused on natural scientific solutions to today's biggest agriculture and food industry challenges, and has annual sales revenues approaching \$500 million.



How to Join:

You automatically become a member of the DBCAFLS Alumni Society when you become an active member of the Arkansas Alumni Association. Join online at <http://www.arkansasalumni.org/> or call 479.575.2801 to become a member today.

In small and big ways, your gifts change lives. Increasing private gift support is critical to moving the University of Arkansas and the state of Arkansas forward. If you would like to join other alumni and friends to support the Department of Animal Science at the University of Arkansas, contact, Blake S. Bard, Director of Development, Bumpers College, E-108 AFLS, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701, 479-575-2270, or email: bsbard@uark.edu



Hembree Gift Eases Growing Pains as Enrollment Climbs

A generous and forward thinking gift by Mr. H.L. Hembree, III, prominent Fort Smith businessman and farmer, in August of 2003, has had a large and far reaching impact. The gift has been important in helping to ease the pains of a growing enrollment in the Department of Animal Science and on the Fayetteville campus. In the Spring semester of 2011, student enrollment reached record numbers at the University of Arkansas (20,586), Bumpers College (1,731), and the Department of Animal Science (210).

One of the strengths of the Animal Science program as well as other Bumpers College programs are the out of classroom experiences, conversations and exchanges that occur and the relationships that develop when students have classes in the vicinity of their "home" department. Informal interactions of students with faculty, clerical staff, research personnel, and peer students in the same discipline area are an important component of the entire educational experience. Growth in the number of students on the campus and in the Department, loss of classroom space due to remodeling, and the need of the college to convert the only sizable classroom in the Animal Science wing of the Agriculture, Food, and Life Sciences (AFLS) building into a college computer lab has required several core Animal Science classes to be move out of the AFLS building to other areas of campus.



The gift from Mr. Hembree, for the purpose of renovating and equipping the Animal Science Auditorium, has proved to be valuable to students in Animal Science, by allowing at least some larger Animal Science courses to remain in the AFLS building. The remodeling allowed by the Hembree gift, provided for the complete renovation of lighting, furnishings, handicap-accessibility, and the installation of state-of-the-art video and audio technology in the Animal Science auditorium, which was originally built in 1966. The auditorium was renamed the H.L. Hembree Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences Auditorium in honor of Mr. Hembree following the renovation. The availability of the facility has also been valuable to other students and faculty in Bumpers College.

As enrollment at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville approaches 25,000, pressure on classrooms will increase and classroom availability will become increasingly limited. The 144 seat H.L. Hembree Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences Auditorium has allowed the Department to keep at least some key classes in the AFLS building, rather than shifting them to other parts of campus. The generosity of Mr. Hembree, who passed away on January 21, 2011, has and will continue to enhance the educational experiences of hundreds of young men and women.

Tell us about Yourself!!!

We would like to hear how and what you are doing. Please use this form to provide information about yourself that you would like to see in the Alumni news section of a future Animal Science Newsletter.

Name: _____

Address: _____

U of A Degree B.S. Year _____

M.S. Year _____

Ph.D. Year _____

email: _____

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Dept. of Animal Science

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Department of Animal Science
University of Arkansas
AFLS B-114
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

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