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## Animal Science E-Newsletter, September 2015

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Department of Animal Sciences

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# Animal Science E-Newsletter

## Welcome Dr. Yan Huang

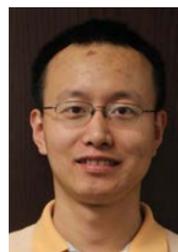
We are excited to welcome Dr. Yan Huang, Assistant Professor of Muscle Biology, to the Department of Animal Science. Huang comes to the University of Arkansas from Cincinnati Children's Hospital. We sat down with Dr. Huang and asked about his role in the Department.

### • What is your job title; what is your role in the Department?

Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Science. My role here is to strengthen the research in molecular and gene regulation in muscle and meat science.

### • Are you a native Arkansan?

No, I am from China.



Dr. Yan Huang

### • What is your educational background?

I received my B.S. at the China Agriculture University in Animal Science; my M.S. degree in Animal Resource and Science from Dankook University in South Korea; and my PhD in Animal Science from the University of Wyoming.

### • What do you do with your weekend? (In other words what are your hobbies and interests?)

I like to listen to music, I sometimes play basketball and ping pong in my spare time. I love to spend time with

my son on weekends.

### • Do you have a favorite food?

I am open minded to a wide variety of food.

### • What is your favorite book, TV show or movie?

My favorite book is a science fiction novel The Three Body Problem, and its sequels The Dark Forest and Death's End.

### • If you want to, share something about your family.

My wife Jingshu is a writer and translator of children's books. She is now a graduate student studying Educational Psychology. We have a 3 year old son, and pet Sheltie.

### • What is your favorite time of year/holiday

Chinese New Year

### • What is your ideal vacation?

Any time with my family.

### • Where were you working before the UofA? What was your position there?

I was a postdoc research fellow at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

### • What is your favorite thing about Fayetteville/ University of Arkansas so far?

Traffic is so much better... }

## Foreign Attachés Learn about Arkansas Agriculture

On August 30, agricultural attachés from around the world gathered at the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center for dinner and to learn more about agricultural programs at the University of Arkansas.

The group of 27, which was part of the Foreign Agricultural Service's annual foreign attaché tour, traveled to both Arkansas and Louisiana for an in-depth look at each state's

agricultural business.

They toured farms, processing and shipping plants and universities/research institutions.

Jason Apple, Animal Science Professor, spoke to the delegates about the Department's research and future research opportunities.

The European Union, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Australia and a few individual European countries all had delegates present. 2015 marks the second

time that the tour has traveled to Arkansas. }



2015 FSA foreign attaché tour delegates.

## Therapies Course Offers Training in Growing Field

Drawing in students from across the University of Arkansas campus, the new Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) course gives students a first-hand look at the growing field of study.

Taught by Dr. Kathleen Jogan, and offered by the Department of Animal Science, students from animal science, social work, education, kinesiology, psychology, agricultural business and criminal justice are enrolled in the class. EAAT allows students to gain an understanding of what makes equine assisted therapy effective. During the semester, students learn: the different client bases served; what makes horses good partners in therapeutic settings; and the different types of equine assisted therapies practiced.

The course offers guest lecturers from across the industry. Some of the guest lecturers include: a VA psychologist specializing in PTSD; licensed social workers who utilize horses in a variety of therapeutic settings, Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) and Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA) certified instructors; and an attorney who specializes in the administration and legalities of running an EAAT agency.

Concepts introduced during lectures are reinforced using hands-on demonstrations, allowing students the chance to explore, in depth, different horse therapies. Area EAAT agencies providing demonstrations include: Horses for Healing; Heroes & Horses; The Unbridled Journey; and Equestrian Bridges. As part of their course work, students take part in service learning projects at an EAAT agency. Along with hands-on learning opportunities in the classroom, service learning enables students to experience the value of EAAT firsthand. The class has also drawn the attention of, and support from, the American Quarter Horse Foundation.

An open house hosted by the EAAT class will begin at 5:30 pm, December 8 at the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center. }



EAAT students observe the behavior of different horses during one of their first classes of the semester.

## Animal Science Day 2015

**When:** Friday, October 30  
5:30 - 9:00

**Where:** Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center

There will be a **haunted house**, herding dog demonstration, games and **costume contests** for everyone in the family, including the dog! We will have demonstrations and activities featuring the Animal Science Department's horses, cattle and sheep! Admission is **FREE** and open to everyone! There will also be **trick-or-treating** in a safe environment!

Go to [animal-science.uark.edu](http://animal-science.uark.edu) for more information.



## Notes...

- Congratulations to Dr. Koltjes on being awarded a NSF Fellowship to attend the Gathering on Functional Annotation of Animal Genomes Conference.

- Welcome to the Department: Robert Story, Program Technician; and Fanli Kong, Visiting Scholar

- Welcome to our new Graduate Students: Cotton Althaber, Justin Bacon, Jase Ball, Hunter Burnett, Brandon Dailey, Jacob Irwin, Arthur Ma and Brittany Rodgers. }