

ANFS *Scratchings*

The Newsletter of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at the University of Delaware

Issue 3

December 2009

Message from the Chair

During the Holidays, we often think about the past and recall important people and events that have helped us find our way. We are living through a most difficult time and, while economists see a glimmer of hope for the end to this recession, there continues to be great uncertainty about the future and a return to the prosperity that we have enjoyed in this country. Time will tell but we need to remain optimistic. Those of you who donated to ANFS show that optimism. Your donations go directly to

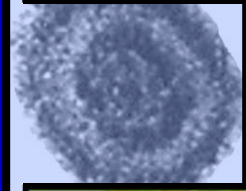
supporting ANFS students and student activities that enrich their college experiences. Your support may defray travel costs to attend regional and national club meetings, provide supplies for an independent research project, or other worthy causes. In addition to the many donors recognized on page 4 of this edition of *ANFS Scratchings*, we also acknowledge and thank the family of Dr. George Rosenberger (*George Rosenberger Scholarship Fund*), Dr. Hiram Lasher (*Dr. B. V. Rao Scholarship*), the *Delmarva Flock Supervisors' Association Scholarship*, Mr. Neil and Mrs. Patricia Kline (*R. Neil and Patricia Kline Award*), Dr. Paul and



Front row: Bob Alphin, Carl Schmidt, Kali Kniel, Tanya Gressley, Marlene Emara, Limin Kung, Changqing Wu, Carissa Wickens, Sue Snider, Haiqiang Chen. Second row, left to right: Calvin Keeler, Rolf Joerger, Jack Gelb, Serguei Golovan, Larry Cogburn, Robert Dyer, Mark Parcells, Lesa Griffiths, Dallas Hoover, Conrad Pope and Bill Saylor

Mrs. Diane Sammelwitz (*Paul H. Sammelwitz Award*), Dr. George and Mrs. Elizabeth Haenlein (*Dairy Scholarship Award*), and Dr. Bill Benton (*William J. Benton Graduate Student Award*) as well as other contributors to these important scholarships and awards for their tremendous generosity. On behalf of the department, I would like to say "thank you very much" to our alumni, friends and supportive organizations for their generous contributions to ANFS. Wishing you Happy Holidays and the best for 2010.

Jack Gelb Jr.



Contents

- Message from the Chair
- 2009 Graduates Going to Vet School
- Food Science Exploration Day
- Distinguished Alumni Award to Linda Stallings
- Alumni Wall of Fame—Spangler Klopp
- Presidential Citation for Outstanding Achievement to Faye Corman
- Faculty and Staff News
- News from Students and their Organizations
- List of Donors to the Department

Fourteen 2009 ANFS Graduates Starting Veterinary School

The dream of becoming a veterinarian became much closer to reality for 14 University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) graduates as they entered veterinary school this fall. "This year's class was a very special one," says Jack Gelb, chairperson and professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. "The success of the students in obtaining admission to veterinary school is certainly a reflection of their motivation, dedication and enthusiasm for learning. These students are among the very best at the University of Delaware and we are very proud of them. I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge our excellent animal and food science faculty and their commitment to providing a



Some of our graduates admitted to veterinary school in 2009. Top, left to right: Tom Hart, Vince Baldanza, Adam Yoskowitz, Robert Gooden. Seated: Sarah Mainardi, Lorna Dougherty. Center: Sarah Nebydoski. Front: Dan Lantz, Erika Gennusa, Michella Lopera, Dawn Lenihan

Edited by Rolf Joerger and Bill Saylor

* **Giving to the Department of Animal and Food Sciences:** If you would like to donate to the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, please visit the website: <http://www.udel.edu/development/makeagift.htm>. All (100%) of the money you give to the UD reaches the program you wish to support. You may of course give a gift to the University, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or other program. However, if you wish to designate your gift specifically to our department, please be sure to complete the "Other designation - indicate a specific purpose below" section and fill in "Dept. of Animal and Food Sciences". If you have any questions or require assistance when completing any of these forms, please contact Dr. Jack Gelb, Chairperson, Animal and Food Sciences at 302-831-2524 or igelb@udel.edu.

high quality pre-vet program.” Ten of the students entered the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. They are: Vince Baldanza, Wayne, N.J.; Brett Cooper, Marlboro, N.J.; Lorna Dougherty, Howell, N.J.; Seth Finger, Port Jefferson Station, N.Y.; Thomas Hart, Gladstone, N.J.; Daniel Lantz, Kingston, Pa.; Michelle Lapera, Lewes, Del.; Sarah Mainardi, Franklin Lakes, N.J.; Sarah Nebzydowski, Jeffersonville, N.Y.; Adam Yosko-

witz, New City, N.Y.; Attending the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University in Massachusetts is Dawn Lenihan, East Brunswick, N.J.; Attending the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine is Robert Gooden, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Dan Linden, Ardsley, N.Y., and Erika Gennusa, Wilmington, Del., attend Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in the Caribbean.

Food Science Exploration Day 2009



of the program and the opportunity to work “with actual students and professors to see what food science is really about” and “getting the personal feel that UD is known for”.

The Food Science program hosted its 6th **Food Science Exploration Program** for 15 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors with demonstrated interest and potential in the field of food science. Students conducted laboratory activities with food dyes and artificial flavors, protein foams and anti-browning agents and learned about microbial food safety. The program is designed to expose the students to the different food science disciplines and to meet with alumni to discuss careers in Food Science. This year’s visiting alumni were **Tracy Jaico** (Food Science, '08) from David Michael & Co., Inc., Philadelphia and **Pete Jamieson** (Food Science, '97) from Corn Products, Newark, DE. As always, the students were enthusiastic about the hands-on nature

Distinguished Alumni Award

Linda (Pill) Stallings, who received a bachelor's degree in animal science with a minor in music in 1996, is the collections manager of operations at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. In this role, she is responsible for the daily operations of the animal department including managing 50 staff, scheduling, payroll, media events, construction and exhibit design, facility maintenance, security of animal areas, pest control, and staff training, development, and safety. This year the zoo is undergoing significant construction with Stallings' guidance and a budget of \$3 million. Stallings started her post-graduate career at the Maryland Zoo as an animal keeper. She was founder and leader of the Baltimore Zoo Behavior and Training Team, and was promoted to senior keeper in 2002 and supervised the African and polar bear areas with not only animal care duties, but those of supervision, facilities maintenance, and leadership. Stallings has several publications that have advanced the knowledge of Southern white rhinos and animal behavior and training.



Alumni Wall of Fame

In the Spring of this year, **Dr. Spangler “Buzz” Klopp**'s ('66 AG, '68; MS AG) name was added to the **University of Delaware's Alumni Wall of Fame**.

Dr. Klopp received his undergraduate and Master's degree from our department, obtained a degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia in 1972, and then continued his involvement with our department throughout the years. For example, in collaboration with fellow UD alumnus, Dr. John Rosenberger, Dr. Klopp developed a technique of vaccinating hens to prevent disease in broiler progeny. Dr. Klopp has also remained connected to UD as an active member of the Ag Alumni Association. From 2003 - 2006, he served on the advisory board of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and in 2000, Dr. Klopp was the recipient of the George M. Worrielow Award given by the Ag Alumni Association to honor outstanding service to agriculture. Currently, Dr. Klopp is semi-retired and continuing his 15-year career with Townsends Inc., a chicken raising and processing company headquartered in Georgetown and he resides in Lewes with his wife, Terri.



Presidential Citation for Outstanding Achievement



Faye (Harper) Corman was honored as one of UD's five 2009 Presidential Citation for Outstanding Achievement recipients in October. Corman, who received bachelor's degrees in animal science and agricultural education in 1997, serves as a global product stewardship specialist for DuPont. Responsible for following the development of more than 200 industrial and consumer products from beginning to end to ensure that the chemicals

do not harm people or the environment, Corman has worked with a pilot team for corporate regulatory social networking to get the word out on environmental stewardship. A passionate advocate for children, Corman is a dedicated volunteer with The Little Rock Foundation for visually impaired and blind children. “Delaware gave me the educational foundation to succeed in my career, but it also gave me something more -- it taught me that we get what we give,” Corman said. Faye lives with her husband, Michael, and daughter, Camille, in Barrington, New Jersey.

Faculty and Staff News

Dr. **Carissa Wickens** joined the faculty in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences in July of this year as the new Assistant Professor of Equine Science. She will also serve as the Equine Extension Specialist for the state of Delaware. Carissa completed her Ph.D. in Animal Behavior and Welfare at Michigan State University in May 2009. The focus of her doctoral research was stereotypic behavior in horses, with an emphasis on the oral stereotypy of crib-biting. During her Ph.D. program, Carissa also assisted with the development of an online Animal Welfare Assessment Course funded through

the USDA Higher Education Challenge Grants Program. Dr. Wickens will develop and teach undergraduate animal science courses focused on the horse and develop and implement both adult and youth equine education and outreach programs throughout the state.



This is exciting research with studies around the world being performed in the laboratories and in greenhouses in Newark, Maryland, and Israel.

In July, 2009, **Dr. Limin Kung, Jr.** received the American Feed Ingredient Association Award for excellence in research in the area of dairy nutrition. He also was the keynote speaker at the International Symposium of Forage Quality and Conservation held in October in Sao Pedro, Brazil.

Dr. Tanya Gressley received a University of Delaware Research Foundation (UDRF) grant to study how the internal clocks of cows influence their metabolism. **Dr. Serguei Glovan** received a UDRF grant to construct RNA molecules that will inhibit avian influenza virus replication.

Dr. Bill Saylor was recognized as the 2009 Distinguished Animal Science Alumnus from the Department of Dairy and Animal Science at Penn State University. He was the guest of honor at the 2009 Little International Show and Penn State Dairy Exposition on April 18.



Food safety issues concerning leafy greens have become more prominent following the large illness outbreaks related to spinach and shredded lettuce in 2006. Recently **Dr. Kali Kniel** and **Dr. Dallas Hoover** received funding to address specific issues concerning

the leafy greens industry from the Center for Produce Safety, an organization established by the produce industry. The UD research group will be working with the Environmental Microbial & Food Safety Laboratory from the USDA-ARS in Beltsville MD and with Dr. Sima Yaron from the Laboratory of Molecular Biology of Pathogens in Technion, Israel. In these two projects the research team will address ways to reduce contamination from noroviruses, *Salmonella* and pathogenic *E. coli*. Specifically, the teams hope to assess pathogen attachment, persistence, and survival mechanisms and develop a novel irrigation water filtration system using zero-valent iron.

News from Students and their Organizations

Upendra Katneni received the "Best Graduate Student Presentation" at the 2009 Northeastern Conference on Avian Diseases held in Hershey, PA. The title of the paper was "Characterization of the Marek's Disease Virus (MDV) pp38 Family of Proteins". **Dr. Mark Parcels** is his graduate advisor. **Jaqueline Harris, Huimin Dong, Shireen Shaikh, Syamsundar Gaddamanugu,** and **Lauren Preskenis** also presented at this meeting.

The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) awarded an IFT Foundation Freshman Scholarship to **Teresa Brodeur**, an IFT Foundation Junior/Senior Scholarship to **Matthew Sulenberg**, and two scholarships to **Hudaa Neetoo** (IFT Food Microbiology Division Graduate and Foundation Graduate Scholarship).

Katie Ciasullo, current FOSC club president, completed an internship in quality control at Kozy Shack in Hicksville, NY, where she tested and (tasted many) different puddings. **Emily Watts** (Food Science, '09) worked in the research and development department at TIC Gums in their new facility in White Marsh, MD, testing gum arabic replacements. Currently Emily is student teaching at W.B. Saul High School in their Food Science program. **Amanda Prudente** started an internship with DuPont over the summer and is still working with a research group there with the goal to increase healthy and usable oils in soybeans and other plants. Recent graduate **David DiVirgillio** (Food Science, '09) credits his internship with TIC Gums for helping landing in his current position at the Hershey Company in Hershey, PA. David is involved in continuous quality and cost improvement efforts. His current target is the Reese's Peanut Butter Cup,

Amanda Welch's (Junior, ANFS) poster entitled

"Expression of Involucrin and PCNA in the Normal and Ulcerated Bovine Sole Region" was awarded "Best Poster Presentation" at the 5th International Conference on Laminitis and Diseases of the Equine Foot in Palm Beach, Florida, November 6-9, 2009. The work represented her research effort as a Science and Engineering Scholar this past summer and the poster was co-authored by **Trista Reeder** (Ph. D. student, ANFS), **Alicia Greenwalt** (ANFS Senior, Degree with Distinction) and **Dr. Robert Dyer**.

Animal Science Club President **Nicole Aizaga** and Executive Board Members led a packed meeting the first Wednesday in September and

kicked off the new school year with an ice cream social on The Green. Throughout the semester, members took in the sights at the Cowtown Rodeo (right), or met at Kilby Cream for an off-campus that



allowed members to enjoy delicious ice cream and tour the ice cream parlor. Several members formed a team for Ag Carnival in October. We held a pumpkin sale in late October where we sold UD's own ice cream and heralded the arrival of personalized t-shirts for club members. An admissions counselor from North Carolina Vet School spoke to the group in November. With the arrival of many new members this year came more new and exciting ideas! Check out the Animal Science Club website (<http://copland.udel.edu/stu-org/ansci/index2.html>) to see more pictures and updates from our year!

We would like to thank the following individuals who have supported our Department through generous donations in recent years

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