CELEBRATIONS Galore!

2014 NATIONAL CHAMPION
Meat Judging Team!

2014 RESERVE NATIONAL CHAMPION
Livestock Judging Team!

BOB KROPPE
The ride continues!

Now the “Totusek Arena”
Tom White

Greetings to everyone from your Board of the Animal Science Alumni Association (ASAA). The success of ASAA is due to the committed and devoted alumni who tirelessly support ASAA and continue to help support the Department of Animal Science, as well as help generate thousands of dollars in scholarships for our students.

You will know the future growth of our Department of Animal Science is in great hands after you’ve had a chance to interact with Dr. Clint Rusk or any of the faculty. They are one of the primary reasons students from around the country decide to invest in their education at Oklahoma State University. The best way to describe the Animal Science student body is impressive. I hope you find the accomplishments noted throughout this newsletter as impressive as I do......everyone truly rides for the brand at OSU!

We lost some significant contributors and leaders in 2014 and I would be remiss without acknowledging Dr. Bob and Nell Totusek and Ben Grant. I never really knew the leadership and care I was experiencing from “Tot” and Nell while I was a student, but I appreciated it more and more as I charted my professional career. Ben and Alma were very humble, but they made it a point to give back to the Department of Animal Science because of everything it gave to them. These folks left an awesome legacy at Oklahoma State that will live for generations to come.

We are thrilled to be honoring Dr. Bob Kropp at this year’s Gala. All of us have stories about Dr. Kropp as a teacher, advisor, coach or friend. “Kropp” is one of the best ambassadors for the Department of Animal Science at Oklahoma State that we will ever have. He continues to ride for the brand even in retirement and we look forward to the fellowship and stories on April 10.

In 2014, we initiated endowments for our livestock teaching units here at Oklahoma State. All of the livestock units have had tremendous success in the past and the hands-on experience students receive with teaching units so close to campus is one of many reasons students are drawn to OSU. Please consider making a contribution to one of the five endowment funds through the Oklahoma State University Foundation.

If you are not a member of ASAA, please consider filling out the form in this newsletter and returning it. If you are a member, please pass this newsletter to fellow alumni and encourage them to become a member. Our Alumni Association is dependent on membership and it is always great to hear from past graduates and what they have been doing since graduating.

We hope to see everyone the weekend of April 10, 2015 at the Animal Science Alumni Weekend. We have a fun-filled schedule of activities and offer several chances to get caught up with friends, past graduates as well as current faculty and students. Until then, blessings to all of you and GO POKES!

Clint Rusk - Department Head

Greetings and “Thank You” to the Alumni of the OSU Department of Animal Science. I am honored to be your Department Head. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first two and a half years getting acquainted with many of you across the state of Oklahoma and the country.

I am also very excited about the upcoming Alumni Gala Reunion and the opportunity to honor Dr. Bob Kropp who retired this past July after 48 years in the Department of Animal Science at Oklahoma State University. We are hoping that each of you who judged for Dr. Kropp, were advised by Dr. Kropp and all of you who enrolled in one of Dr. Kropp’s classes will return to Stillwater to attend the 2015 Animal Science Alumni Gala Reunion. As you know, our department was built by legends of the livestock industry, like Dr. Kropp, who “rode for the brand” and promoted a “Tradition of Excellence” on a daily basis. Please join us on April 10, 2015 as we celebrate the successful career of Dr. Bob Kropp.

We are also blessed with an outstanding faculty and staff. In late August, Dr. Kris Hiney joined our faculty as an Assistant Professor and Equine Specialist. Dr. Hiney came to us from the University of Wisconsin - River Falls where she led a very successful teaching program. In addition to serving the Oklahoma Equine Industry as our Equine Specialist, Dr. Hiney will also teach and advise students in our Equine Program. We were also fortunate to hire Dr. Ravi Jadeja and Dr. Blake Wilson as Assistant Professors in Food Safety and Ruminant Nutrition, respectively. Dr. Jadeja will teach Food Safety courses and serve as our Food Safety Extension Specialist. Dr. Wilson will teach Applied Nutrition and other courses, advise students, and develop a vibrant research program. During the past year, the OSU Department of Animal Science has experienced numerous success stories:
Dr. J. Robert Kropp
ARENA CHAIRBACK CAMPAIGN

Name______________________________________________________
Address ____________________City/State/Zip ____________________
Telephone Number________________________

I pledge the sum of:
☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $500  ☐ $1000  ☐ $5000
☐ $_________ Other Amount

Proceeds from the Dr. J. Robert Kropp Chairback Campaign will support the following funds. Please indicate your choice:
☐ Purebred Beef Center Endowment Fund or
☐ Dr. J. Robert Kropp President’s Distinguished Scholarship Fund

Make checks payable to: OSU Foundation - ASAA
Mail to: Kim Brock, 212 Animal Science Building, Department of Animal Science, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078-6051

You can mail your gift now or wait to be billed after the arena chairback presentation. The Dr. Kropp chairback will be presented Friday, April 10 at the Animal Science Gala/Reunion at the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center.

Each contribution towards the Dr. J. Robert Kropp arena chairback is considered a donation. The OSU Foundation will provide an acknowledgement for tax purposes to each donor.

To make a credit card payment online, please go to: https://www.osugiving.com/bobkropp

Dr. J. Robert (Bob) Kropp
OSU: BS, MS, PHD

A straight shooter and ‘classic’ Cowboy. During four decades taught over 12,000 students. Sought after adviser to over 1,500 undergraduates. Respected livestock judge and national champion coach.

His Legacy:
Professor, coach, mentor and friend who impacted countless lives with his humor, honesty, integrity, leadership, passion and loyalty.

“IT’S BEEN A RIDE”

Meat Animal Evaluation Team Wins National Championship!

Every competitor dreams of winning a championship and being the best at their craft. All 15 members of the Oklahoma State University Meat Animal Evaluation Team are living that dream.

The team recently won the National Championship at the 2014 Meat Animal Evaluation Contest in Lubbock, Texas, defeating the other 11 teams from universities all over the United States. This is OSU’s second time in the last four years to claim the title.

The team placed 1st in the overall contest, 1st in the Market Animal Division, 1st in the Cattle Division, and 1st in the Communication Division. The team placed 2nd in Meats, 2nd in the Breeding Animal Division and 2nd in Swine. The team placed 3rd in the Sheep Division.

“Our team did very well in each division,” said Dr. Blake Bloomberg, team coach. “They are a really good testament to what can be accomplished with hard work and dedication.”

Dr. Blake Bloomberg, Coach; Jake Bloomberg; Taylor Langford; Gary Agar; Taylor Graham; Dr. Clint Rusk, Department Head
Assistant Coach; Austin Kindschi; Kyle Wilson; Kurt Parsons; Cody Johnson; Kelly Vierck; Dr. Gretchen Mafi, Coach
Shannon White, Ashley Judge, Morgan Neilson

Mark Johnson’s Judging Teams To Be Honored at Gala

April 1, 2016
ASAA Lifetime Memberships have tripled in the last 5 years! Please consider joining this loyal group of Animal Science Alumni!
WIN THIS PORTER FIRE PIT!!!

Customized for OSU Animal Science Alumni

Join the ASAA Lifetime Membership for a chance to win this firepit in the April 10 drawing!

For your customized Porter Fire Pit:

Brad Criner
Ph: 918.231.4277
E-mail: bkcriner@hotmail.com

Get fired up on game day or any day with this custom made “Porter Fire Pit”. Metal art of Pistol Pete and the wording “OSU Animal Science Alumni” make it very unique.

The Animal Science Alumni Association will be giving away one of these “Porter Fire Pits” in a “New Lifetime Member Drawing” at the Gala Reunion Friday, April 10th.

The “Fire Pit” drawing is for anyone PURCHASING an ASAA Lifetime membership after April 4, 2014.
During the Dust Bowl days and the Great Depression of the 1930’s, many people left Oklahoma to find work in California and other states. Those who stayed carved out a living with meager resources in an unforgiving land. That was the backdrop for the childhood days of Bob Totusek. On a family farm near Garber, Okla., the Totusek family endured, and through the spirit of community and faith, were able to supply enough food to feed not only their family, but other families in need. These beginnings planted the seed of a burning passion for agriculture in the mind of a young Oklahoman.

Bob Totusek enjoyed everything about farming, including the hardest of work. He especially liked doing field work with the horses. Even after his family obtained a tractor for big jobs, he still used horses for hauling hay and working in small fields where the big, awkward steel-wheeled tractor was too unwieldy. Bob enjoyed working with animals. Even well through college, his ultimate goal was to return to the farm and produce livestock.

Bob met Nellie Maynard when they attended Garber High School. They started dating soon after. Bob thought Nell was “the prettiest girl in the school.” Nell was feisty, energetic, and spontaneous. She loved to laugh out loud and have fun. She was the quarterback for the Powder Puff football team, the FFA Sweetheart and the salutatorian at her graduation. She was the perfect compliment to Bob, who had a dry sense of humor and tended to be more reserved.

Bob and Nell both decided to attend Oklahoma A&M College after they graduated from high school. Bob had signed up for the war at age 17, but because of the surplus of pilots at the time, didn’t get called up until after he had attended Oklahoma A&M for a year.

It was then that he decided he would pursue advanced degrees.

At Purdue, Totusek’s passion for animal agriculture continued to intensify, with the added dimension of research and the opportunity to do considerable teaching as well. When he finished his Ph.D., he had to make a decision about where to go from there.

“By the time I finished the Ph.D. my desire to work in a university was firmly entrenched. Even then, if I had returned to the farm, I would not have considered my graduate experience a waste of time. However, by this time I had fully realized that a return to farming was not a realistic option. Since I did not have much to ‘return to’ and would have had to ‘start from scratch’ at a near poverty level, it wasn’t even close to a prudent consideration with a family evolving.”

“The folks at Purdue were eager to have me stay on the faculty there (I had been an instructor my last two years of graduate school) and I had a likely job offer at Ohio State but fortunately, I had a job offer at OSU. In retrospect I cannot imagine being as happy anywhere other than at OSU.”

“Passions and Consequences (at high price)”, Dr. Robert Totusek

The Totuseks returned to Oklahoma A&M in 1952 –Bob, as one of the youngest faculty members in Animal Science.

“I began at OSU with a teaching and research appointment but within a few months was offered the opportunity to coach the livestock judging team by Glen Bratcher, who was moving to the position as department head. I had not really thought about coaching but since my coach, Glen Bratcher, had exerted such a strong influence on my life, I decided to consider it, thinking perhaps I could have a positive influence on the life of others. So, I went to Dr. Al Darlow, the department head who had hired me, for his advice. He was always very frank and blunt and simply told me he wasn’t sure I could do the job. He was sure Glen Bratcher could do it from the outset, when he hired him for the job, but he wasn’t at all certain about me. That sealed the deal– I couldn’t resist the challenge! The first team I coached for the full year won the International contest, so I felt vindicated...
Early in my teaching career, my goal was to help students learn how to solve real problems in the industry.

Totusek to the case study method of teaching, a student at Harvard Business School introduced Totusek to the case study method of teaching, a student at Harvard Business School introduced

A visit to his daughter Darla while she was a student at Harvard Business School introduced Totusek to the case study method of teaching, which he brought to the attention of his fellow faculty members. At that time, Totusek said few faculty members had been exposed to the method and did not realize its value in helping students learn how to solve real problems in the industry.

“Early in my teaching career, my goal was to transfer as much information as possible to the students,” said Totusek. “Later, I learned that wasn’t the only important thing. I realized that helping them learn to think and to assemble information from all sources, not just my class, would help them in industry situations.”

Totusek took a similar attitude toward management of the department after becoming department head in 1976. His goals as department head included promoting sound, useful research and maintaining the traditions of quality teaching and industry rapport for which the department had become known. These goals were vital to keeping the balance of teaching, research and extension.

In addition to his own teaching and research contributions and his efforts to bring in quality faculty members, Totusek worked to restore the horse program soon after becoming department head. With the help of Frank Baker, the dean of agriculture at that time, Totusek rallied Oklahoma’s horse industry to rebuild the program.

Totusek’s support of Doyle Meadows, the first horse extension specialist in the new program, allowed it to grow.

Soon after re-establishment of the horse program, Totusek became involved with another program-building project — construction of new facilities for the department.

During the oil boom of the late 1970s and early 1980s, the state appropriated $15 million to establish a research center for agriculture and renewable natural resources at OSU. Totusek played a pivotal role in establishing the need for new departmental facilities as a part of the center, including the present Animal Science Building and Animal Science Arena.

Following Totusek’s retirement in 1990, he remained active in the animal science alumni association, Oklahoma’s livestock industry and national animal science groups by serving as a director and officer for the organizations through which he could continue to promote the beef cattle industry and the field of animal science as a whole.

Dr. Totusek was a legend in his own right long before his faithful admirers decided to honor him in early 2005. His 38-year career in animal science at OSU reshaped the livestock industry and brought notability and commendation to Oklahoma State University. These contributions inspired many of his most ardent supporters to create an enduring legacy by endowing a faculty chair in his honor.

The Totusek Endowed Chair in Animal Science made OSU history in late 2005 when it achieved its $500,000 goal through the support of nearly 400 individuals and industry partners — the greatest number of contributors to ever support an endowed chair.

While the staggering sum presented a lofty goal for donors to reach, the full amount was officially raised within twelve months — mostly in the form of $100-$250 gifts.

Bob Totusek shared his passion for Oklahoma agriculture with thousands of OSU students. That passion dramatically influenced the industry, yet Totusek remained oblivious to his quiet role in changing the face of Oklahoma livestock.

“I’ve always felt that nothing good would have happened in my life if it weren’t for the 5,000+ students that came through the program. Their accomplishments and desire to stay connected with OSU are a wonderful reflection on the program,” he said.

What makes a person a legend in his field? On the surface we see an incredibly talented person who loves his vocation and inspires the people around him. It appears that his life is golden and he has done everything just right. What we don’t see is his personal sacrifice. Dr. Totusek gave up a lot to support a university and an industry that he loved. Our current students will someday attempt to fill his shoes. They are some big shoes to fill.
ANSI Arena Renamed

Oklahoma State University will be renaming the OSU Animal Science Arena in memory of Dr. Robert Totusek. The naming ceremony will be held at the ANSI Arena on April 11th, 2014. Decades ago, Dr. Totusek had the vision and plan to build our Animal Science Arena, which includes an almost 18,000 square foot floor with adjacent seating for 779 people and a 1,675 square foot classroom. The arena has now stood for 26 years and remains a state-of-the-art structure that facilitates the three-fold land grant mission of our University and Animal Science Department. It is only fitting that the structure should bear his name.

Dr. Totusek fostered a culture of excellence in the Department of Animal Science at OSU for over 60 years. To say his influence was far-reaching would be an understatement. Dr. Totusek’s efforts for OSU are virtually impossible to quantify. Renaming the Animal Science Arena in his honor is our way of saying thanks for all this great man did for our University.

Ross McKnight Named 2014 Distinguished Alumnus

Ross McKnight, from Throckmorton, Texas, graduated from OSU with a bachelor’s degree in animal science in 1971. While serving as president of the Student Government Association during his senior year, he met his wife, Billie. Since then, the McKnights have gone on to help thousands of current and future OSU students have the opportunity to pursue their own dreams.

Serving as co-chairs for the $1 billion Branded Success campaign, the McKnights committed a $15 million gift, to be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Pickens Legacy Scholarship Match program. The commitment established the McKnight Leader Scholars Scholarship Endowment to recruit up to 50 students annually from rural areas and smaller towns outside Oklahoma, primarily from the north Texas area, where the McKnights live and manage their banking, energy, real estate and ranching businesses.

Minnie Lou Bradley Receives Highest National Honor

Oklahoma State University alum, Minnie Lou Bradley has been selected to the most prestigious honor an animal agriculturalist can receive: Having her portrait hung in the Saddle and Sirloin Gallery in Lexington, Ky.

“Throughout her more than 60-year career, Mrs. Bradley has been an innovator, an educator, an industry leader, a steward of the land and a master breeder,” said Clint Rusk, head of the OSU Department of Animal Science. “She is genuinely revered in the livestock industry and exceptionally worthy of being the 2014 portrait honoree.”

The portrait presentation took place on Nov. 16, during the 41st annual North American International Livestock Exposition. The gallery is believed to be the largest portrait collection commemorating a single industry, with honorees selected by their peers. The collection was established in 1903.

Anyone who wishes to donate to the Minnie Lou Bradley induction fund can still do so by contacting the Oklahoma State University Foundation by phone at 1-800-622-4678 or by visiting the organization’s website at OSUgiving.com via the Internet.

Bob Kropp to be Honored at Gala

Join us in the celebration of Dr. Bob Kropp’s 42-year career as animal science professor and 1972-1981 OSU Livestock Judging Team coach. It’s all happening on April 10, at 7pm at the beautiful ConocoPhillips Alumni Center where Bob will visit with former students, friends and judging team members.

Bob Kropp received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. from OSU in 1970, 1972 and 1975, respectively. After completing his Ph.D., he was hired as assistant professor at Oklahoma State. At OSU Bob taught Cow-Calf and Purebred Cattle Management, Livestock Sales Management and Applied Animal Nutrition.

During Kropp’s tenure as livestock judging coach, his teams competed in 52 intercollegiate contests with 16 champion teams, 39 top five teams, 2 national champion teams and 1 reserve national champion team.

Reflecting on his career at OSU, Kropp thinks back to his days as livestock judging coach and how that experience has made him what he is today. “I learned about responsibility—the time and hard work you had to put in to have a winning team. It really made me grow up. At the same time I learned to deal with a lot of pressure. OSU has this tradition of excellence in their judging teams that’s hard to live up to.”

You would think when asked what legacy he has left for the OSU livestock judging team Kropp would refer to the championships. Instead it’s the relationships and success of his students that mean the most to him.

“Winning a national championship is an unbelievable experience and a great honor,” said Kropp. “But, knowing all those students on the ’72-’81 teams—getting to know each one personally and becoming friends—it’s an experience I’ll never forget. The ’73 team is especially dear to me. They got me hired. I was 26 years old and got my New York Yankees job because of them. To see those people today and how well they’ve done in their lives—it’s all about their success.”
The 2014 Dairy Judging team placed 6th at Viroqua, Wis. Tyler Chupp received 1st high individual placings and 5th high overall. They placed 9th at the World Dairy Expo where Wilma Van der Laan was named All-American.

**Horse**

The OSU Horse Judging team had a very competitive season this year. They were the Reserve Champion team at the Spring Sweepstakes Contest, which was held at North Central Texas College in Gainesville, Texas on April 15. Two team members received top honors at the contest, with Jessica Neal taking 4th and Tayler Miles being 10th high individual overall.

At the start of the fall season, the team was 4th at the Tulsa State Fair Contest on September 29. There were three team members who achieved individual successes there, with Lauren Rufo taking 3rd, Helen Gagan taking 8th, and Tayler Miles taking home 10th high individual respectively.
DeSilva Receives Regents Distinguished Teaching Award

Dr. Udaya DeSilva was awarded the Regents Distinguished Teaching Award at the 2014 Fall Convocation. The Regents Distinguished Teaching Award recognizes faculty who have shown unusually significant achievement in the instruction of students for an extended number of years.

DeSilva was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He graduated with a degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Peradeniya in Sri Lanka and started his professional career as a large animal veterinarian. In 1990, he joined Kansas State University to study for a M.S. degree in Animal Genetics. After completing his M.S., he joined Washington University in St. Louis to work towards a doctoral degree in human molecular genetics. In 2001, he joined Oklahoma State University and is currently an Associate Professor in Animal Molecular Genetics. His research interests are in functional genomics of adipogenesis in cattle and in metagenomics of rumen microorganisms. He teaches animal genetics and a class in the Honors College.

Krehbiel Receives University Service Award

Dr. Clint Krehbiel, Assistant Department Head and Regents Professor, was awarded the University Service Award at the 2014 University Awards Convocation. The University Service Award is given to a faculty member, a staff member and an administrator who have rendered meritorious service to the university.

Krehbiel grew up in rural Kansas. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Science at KSU in 1988 and 1990, respectively. He received his Ph.D. in ruminant nutrition at Nebraska-Lincoln in 1994. Krehbiel was an instructor in Animal Science at Nebraska-Lincoln and a Research Associate at the USDA US Meat Animal Research Center at Clay Center, Neb. before joining the Animal and Range Science departmental faculty at New Mexico State University. Krehbiel joined the beef nutrition program at OSU in January, 2000 and has since established an outstanding record and national reputation in energy, protein and lipid metabolism in growing-finishing beef cattle. Dr. Krehbiel supervises the Willard Sparks Beef Research Center and coordinates all research activities with other scientists.

Zhang named 2014 OSU Whatley Award Recipient

Guolong “Glenn” Zhang has been named the 2014 recipient of the James A. Whatley Award for Meritorious Service in Agricultural Sciences. The award is presented annually in recognition of outstanding research contributions that command national and international respect in their applicable career fields.

An OSU animal science faculty member since 2002, Zhang’s research focuses on the regulation of animal immunity. His research outcomes have led to the development of innovative antibiotic-free strategies for disease control and prevention in both humans and animals. A startup company called Altbiotics was formed by OSU to exclusively develop and commercialize one of his technologies related to alternatives to antibiotics.

Zhang earned his B.S. degree in animal genetics and his M.S. degree in nutritional immunology from China Agricultural University in 1993 and 1995, respectively. He earned his Ph.D. in immunophysiology from Kansas State University in 1999.

Dan Stein Receives Advising Excellence Award

Dr. Dan Stein was awarded the Advising Excellence Award at the 2014 Fall Convocation. The Advising Excellence Award provides institutional recognition for outstanding advising.

Stein began his graduate program in Animal Science at OSU in the fall of 2002. He completed his M.S. degree in Reproductive Physiology in 2004 and went on to complete his Ph.D. at OSU in Animal Breeding and Reproduction in 2009. Dan accepted his current position in the OSU Department of Animal Science in the fall of 2009 with a split teaching and extension appointment. He is currently teaching courses in Animal Reproduction and Domestic Animal Behavior with his Extension emphasis in the area of Reproduction. Dan co-advises the OSU Collegiate Cattlemen Assoc. and the Animal Science Undergraduate Research Scholars Program. He is also a Faculty Advisor for CASNR Freshman in Transition (FIT) Living Community. Dan currently advises 115 undergraduate students and 3 graduate students.
Top 10 Freshmen Women

The Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board at OSU selected twenty students as the Top Ten Freshmen women and Top Ten Freshmen men for 2014. The honor is based on scholarship, leadership and service during their freshman year.

Allison Christian, an Animal Science major with a pre-vet option has been honored as one of the Top Ten Freshmen Women. Allison is the daughter of Jon Christian, and Tina and Mack Huffman. She is originally from Duncan, Okla. and graduated from Duncan High School.

Allison is a participant of the honors program and the Chi Omega sorority. She has been very involved with the campus and the community, including: Big Event Day of Service, Humane Society Active Volunteer, Into the Streets Day of Service Committee Member, Chi Omega Walk for Wishes, and Chi Omega Wish Week. In her time on campus, Allison has also been active in Block and Bridle, Oklahoma Collegiate Cattelwomen, Oklahoma Collegiate Farm Bureau, Student Alumni Association, Chi Omega National Women’s Fraternity, CASNR Student Council Public Relations Committee, and the OSU Student Foundation.

2014 OSU Animal Science Outstanding Seniors!

Corbit Bayliff was born on October 3, 1991 to Brent and Wendy Bayliff in Alva, Okla. and lived on a cattle operation that his parents managed. At a young age, the family moved several times before settling in Gardner, Kan. where Corbit graduated high school. At OSU Corbit maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.652 and made straight As in Animal Science courses.

Corbit was active in several departmental clubs and activities including: Animal Science Leadership Alliance and Pre-Vet Club. For three years, he was an Undergraduate Research Scholar working on a novel project entitled “Differential Gene Expression of Skeletal Muscle Tissue due to Association with Intramuscular Fat in Beef Cattle.” Corbit was inducted to the honor society of agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, in 2013 and served as a Student Academic Mentor. Corbit’s University organizations include helping found the Collegiate Students Fighting Hunger of which he served as Vice-President. He is also a member of the Achafoa Chapter of Mortar Board Honors Society and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. He is a President’s Distinguished Scholar, a Wentz Research Scholar, and in 2013 competed as a Truman Scholar at the national level for OSU. Corbit is currently pursuing a master’s degree at OSU under Dr. David Lalman. Eventually, he intends to own and operate a commercial beef cattle ranch in Oklahoma.

Morgan Neilson was born on January 8, 1992 to Dr. Paul and Renae Neilson in Meeker, Colo. and grew up on a commercial sheep operation. She graduated with a degree in Animal Science and Agricultural Communications and maintained a 3.946 GPA.

Her college activities included being a member of the CASNR Ambassador team and a member of the Oklahoma Agricultural Encounter Class XI. She served as an AG 1011 Student Academic Mentor and a Freshman In Transition Student Academic Mentor, helping freshman find success at OSU. She also was on the Red Shirt Orange Friday Steering Committee and represented multiple clubs as a CASNR Full-Council representative. Morgan was involved at the university level as a member of the Mortar Board Honors Society and Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society, as well as, being on the Presidents Leadership Council in 2010-2011. She was also recognized by OSU as a Senior of Significance.

Morgan participated in two valuable internships during her undergraduate career: one with Cargill Feed & Nutrition as a part of the sales and marketing team and the other with the United States House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture under Chairman Frank Lucas in Washington, D.C. Morgan is currently working on a master’s degree under Dr. Gretchen Mafi at OSU. In the future she aspires to work as a lobbyist to protect agriculture and to develop agricultural friendly policy.

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Pablo Jorge Zerbino is a cattle breeder, veterinarian, businessman, and leader in the cattle industry in Uruguay. He received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the Universidad de la Republica in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1980, and a Master of Science Degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University in 1982. His research at OSU determined relationships of hip height with growth and carcass traits of Hereford and Angus cattle. Dr. Zerbino and his family are in the third generation in the operation of San Jose del Yaguari Ranch which started agricultural business in 1945. They breed, exhibit, and supply Hereford, Polled Hereford, and Angus genetics to the cattle industry. Pablo is a leader in the cattle and agricultural industries in Uruguay. He has been a member of the Uruguayan Hereford Breeders Association since 1991, and was the President between 1999 and 2001. As a veterinarian, Pablo directs herd health for ranchers and is a technical adviser for animal nutrition for beef cattle. His cattle nutrition and health products company is associated with Cibeles SA, a family owned and operated company which develops human nutrition, veterinary, and agrochemical products. Pablo and his wife Cecilia live in Montevideo. They have a son, three daughters, and three grandsons.

Jack Douglas LeForce was born on May 29, 1928 near Covington, Okla. Jack attended grade school in a one-room schoolhouse prior to graduating from Covington High School in 1946. After graduation, Jack came to Oklahoma A&M College where he graduated in 1950 with a degree in Animal Science and a reserve officer commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. Jack served his country during the early days of the Korean War as an Infantry Combat Platoon leader and was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal and the Army Occupations Medal. Following his return from the war, Jack worked in the registered Hereford business in Arizona and California for 26 years. In 1958, Jack was recruited to be Beef Superintendent at the Lucky Hereford Ranch at Gilroy, California. In 1964, the late actor John Wayne and his partner recruited Jack to establish the “26 Bar Ranch”, one of the top registered Hereford ranches in the nation. Due to John Wayne’s declining health and other circumstances, Jack sold his interest in the cattle operation in 1976 and moved back to his beloved Oklahoma to take a Vice President position in the First Bank and Trust company in Oklahoma City. Jack retired from the bank in 1993 and established a cattle operation in Noble County, Oklahoma that continues today.

Dr. John Mabry grew up on a purebred Hampshire swine farm in Batesville, Ark. After high school John enrolled in Animal Science at OSU, graduating in 1972. After graduation in 1972 he then enrolled at Iowa State University in Animal Breeding and Genetics working under Dr. Lauren Christian. Upon completion of his Ph.D. in 1976, Dr. Mabry took a teaching position at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls for three years before moving to the University of Georgia in 1979 in a teaching and research position. In 2000, Dr. Mabry moved to Iowa State University as the Director of the Iowa Pork Industry Center. In this position he coordinates the technology transfer program from the 50+ swine faculty at Iowa State University to users in the pork industry in Iowa and beyond. Dr. Mabry has been recognized for his contributions to domestic and international genetic improvement programs in swine by the National Swine Improvement Federation with its Distinguished Service Award, by ISU with its Faculty Award for Excellence in International Agriculture Programs, and Outstanding Faculty Award for Extension.

Robert Williams was raised on a farm and ranch in Freedom, Okla. where his family members still maintain a farming and cow/calf operation. He graduated with a B.S. degree in Agriculture in 1982 from the department of Animal Science. Following graduation, he moved to San Antonio, Texas, where he served as Classifier and Director of Junior Programs for Beefmaster Breeders Universal. After working at Beefmaster for 5 years, he accepted a management position at Still Hills Ranch in Ft. Payne, Ala. After the herd was dispersed in 1992, Williams decided to pursue his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Breeding and Genetics from the University of Georgia. After graduation in 1998, he joined the staff of the American-International Charolais Association as Director of Breed Improvement and Foreign Marketing Programs. Notably, Williams directed the release of the US Beef industry’s first web-based selection index through his work at the AICA. Not only has Dr. Williams been very involved in beef industry activities, he has authored or co-authored numerous research papers and educational articles. Robert and his wife, Nancy, and family reside in Kansas City, Mo.
**Tyler Award**

The Tyler Award recognizes professional achievement in research, teaching or public service by faculty members of the OSU Department of Animal Science.

Dr. Guolong “Glenn” Zhang is an Associate Professor in Molecular Biology and Immunology with a strong passion to apply multidisciplinary approaches and state-of-the-art technologies to address important questions relative to animal health. He received a Ph.D. from Kansas State University in 1999. After two years of postdoctoral training in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Zhang joined the Department of Animal Science at OSU as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in 2002. During his career at OSU, Professor Zhang has developed a well-funded, internationally recognized research program in modulation of animal health and immunity. To date, Dr. Zhang has received a total of 31 research grants as PI or Co-PI from the USDA, NIH, OCAST, OSU, and industry groups totaling nearly $4.5 million. He has been the lead PI for 23 grants worth over $1.6 million. Because of his research and teaching accomplishments, Dr. Zhang was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in 2007, a year ahead of the normal timeline. His research program was recently profiled in a 3-page article in the February 2014 issue of International Innovation, a leading global journal for dissemination of the latest findings in science and technology. Glenn and his wife, Yan Song, have three children Alex, Andrew and Audrey.

### Distinguished Service Award

This award was established in 1978 to recognize those individuals who have achieved excellence in terms of accomplishment and service in some field of animal agriculture, but who are not graduates of the OSU Department of Animal Science.

Randy Byford grew up on a purebred swine operation near Duncan, Okla. After graduating from high school, Randy enrolled in the Department of Animal Science at OSU. At the age of 20, after his sophomore year, Randy was recruited by Mr. Dan Parrish to become a fieldman for the Chester White Swine Record Association. In March of 1983, Randy met Robin Linduff, a Bank Auditor from Duncan, Okla. He and Robin became engaged, and Randy decided to change careers since being a fieldman required a lot of travel. In August of 1983, Randy became a car salesman at Bob Moore Cadillac in Oklahoma City, where he eventually became a partner. In 2005, Randy purchased a Lincoln/Mercury dealership in Lawton and has since bought two other car dealerships. In the fall of 2012, Dr. Dennis White reintroduced Randy to his roots in the Department of Animal Science. Dennis and his wife, Marta, hosted Clint Rusk, Mark Johnson, Kim Brock and Randy Byford in their home near Ninnekah, Okla. After presenting their need, Randy agreed to provide a 15 passenger van for judging teams in the department. We are very grateful for the support provided by the Byfords! Randy and Robin are the proud parents of two children, Abby and John.

Walt Garrison grew up in Lewisville, Texas in a family of modest means. Needing financial assistance to attend college, Walt’s high school football excellence brought him to Oklahoma State University on a football scholarship. He enrolled at OSU in 1962 as an Animal Husbandry major with a Pre-veterinary medicine option. Walt was an excellent student and a role model for many of the students enrolled in the College of Agriculture at OSU. Although Walt had not completed sufficient credit hours to earn his university degree, the economic opportunity to pursue a professional football career with his hometown team was simply too much to turn down. Entering the National Football League draft in 1966, Walt Garrison was selected by “America’s Team”, the Dallas Cowboys. During his Dallas Cowboys career, Walt played in two Super Bowls, winning the 1971 Super Bowl Championship. After retirement from the National Football League, Walt became a promotional spokesperson for the American Tobacco Company for over 30 years. Today, he is able to utilize his celebrity status and his gregarious personality to participate in and/or host many charitable fundraising events benefitting charity organizations in the Dallas – Ft. Worth area and throughout the nation.

**Outstanding Graduate Student Award**

This award is presented to one Ph.D. degree candidate and one Master’s candidate. The selection is based on academic and professional accomplishments.

Ph.D. – Casey Lee Maxwell was born and raised on a commercial cow-calf operation in Stinnett, Texas. Casey graduated Salutatorian from West Texas High School in 2004 and received a B.S. degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University in 2007. Casey began his M.S. degree at WTAMU in January of 2008 with Dr. Mike Brown. After completing his M.S. in 2010, Casey accepted the full-time herd manager position at the Willard Sparks Beef Research Center at OSU while completing requirements for his Doctoral degree with Dr. Clint Krehbiel. Casey oversaw all research and daily activities at the 980-head capacity facility. He also assisted in the design and supervised construction of the new Feed Efficiency Building at the Sparks Center. Upon graduation, Casey was hired by Elanco in Bushland, Texas to work as a senior associate consultant. Casey is married to Marsha Maxwell, a M.S. degree recipient from the OSU Department of Animal Science. They have one son, Mason.

M.S. – Andy Harding was raised in State College, Penn. on a family-owned club calf and custom beef operation. He graduated from State College Area School District in 2008 and earned his B.S. degree in Animal Science at OSU in 2012. After completing his B.S. degree, Andy began his graduate work in feedlot nutrition under the direction of Dr. Clint Krehbiel. Andy’s graduate studies took him to Feedlot Health Management Services, Ltd. in Alberta, Canada, to study under the direction of some of the feedlot industry’s leading nutrition and production consultants. While in Alberta, Andy had the opportunity to be involved with research projects at several commercial feedlots including a 960-head trial that was included in his M.S. thesis. After receiving his M.S. degree from OSU, Andy went to Kansas State University to pursue a Ph.D.
ALUMNI UPDATE    Spring 2015

McKenzie, Crutcher & Noble  
Chairback Donors

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<td>J. Glen Smith</td>
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State of the Department  Cont’d. from p. 2

-Dr. Blake Bloomberg – Livestock Team Coach - named “Coach of the Year”
-Minnie Lou Bradley inducted into the Saddle and Sirloin Club
-Dr. Zerle Carpenter inducted into the Meat Industry Hall of Fame
-Dr. Russell Cross – featured as the 2014 Totusek Lecturer
-Debra Danley – received the “Leave the Ladder Down” Award
-Dr. Udaya DeSilva – selected as a Regents’ Distinguished Teacher
-Dr. Clint Krehibiel – received the University Distinguished Service Award
-Ross McKnight – selected as a Distinguished DASNR Alumnus
-Tyler Norvell – received the 2014 Early Career Achievement Award
-Dr. Dan Stein – selected as the outstanding DASNR Advisor and Mentor
-Dr. Deb VanOverbeke – received Distinguished Teaching Award from AMSA
-Dr. Glenn Zhang – selected as a Sarkey’s Distinguished Professor
-Morgan Neillson and Kelly Vierck received the AMSA Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Award
-The OSU Meat Animal Evaluation Team won the National Contest
-The OSU Meat Judging Team won the International Contest
-The OSU Livestock Judging Team finished as Reserve National Champions
-Jessie Heidlage and Audrey Zoeller – Meat Judging All Americans
-Gary Agar, Jake Bloomberg and Kelly Vierck – Livst. Judging All Americans
-Allison Christian selected as a Top Ten Freshman Woman at OSU
-Niblack Scholars – 2 out of 12 from ANSI - $8,000 per student
-Wentz Scholars – 4 out of 40 from ANSI – $4,500 per student
-Published the first “Research Edition” of the “Cowpoke News”

I look forward to meeting many of you at the following events in 2015:
-National Western Stock Show – Denver, Colo. – January 12-17
-Oklahoma Youth Expo – Oklahoma City – March 11-19
-Animal Science Alumni Reunion Gala – April 10
-Animal Science Scholarship Banquet – April 11
-Cowboy Classic – Stillwater – April 12

The next time you are in the Stillwater area, please stop by the Animal Science Department and say “Hi”.

Carrie Doyle
Student Success Coordinator

Carrie Doyle joined the OSU Animal Science team in October as the new Academic Success Coordinator. Carrie is originally from Elgin, Okla.

Carrie graduated from Oklahoma State's Department of Animal Science in 2013. She then went on to earn her Masters of Science in Agriculture from West Texas A&M University.

Carrie wants to continue recruiting the nation's best and brightest students and expand the department's internship program. “I’m incredibly excited to be a part of continuing the tradition of excellence in OSU’s Animal Science Department,” said Carrie. “As an alumnus, it’s nice to be back home.”

Arena Offers Walk Down Memory Lane

The ANSI Arena is now decked out with historical photos of current and past judging teams, starting with the 1925 National Champion Livestock Judging Team. The displays include World Champion Horse Judging Teams, National Champion Meat Teams and Livestock Judging Teams for Oklahoma A&M and Oklahoma State University.

The next time you’re at the Arena, be sure to check out this exhibit. It will give you some insight as to where we came from and where we’re going.
Tyler Norvell Receives Career Award

Tyler Norvell was recognized by CASNR with the 2014 Early Achievement Career Award. Tyler graduated from Oklahoma State University in May of 2006 with a degree in Animal Science. While he attended OSU, Tyler was a member of the National Champion Livestock Judging Team and was recognized as an Outstanding Animal Science Senior. Since January 2012, Tyler has served as the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Youth Expo and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Youth Expo, as well as fundraising efforts. He is also the managing partner of Norvell Consulting, LLC, where he provides consulting and lobbying services, as well as marketing strategies for his clients. Tyler and his wife, Beth, currently live in Tuttle, Okla., with their 4 year old daughter, Madilyn.

106th Annual Meeting ASAS Awards

President. Debra K. Aaron received her B.S. and M.S. from the University of Kentucky and her Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. Since joining the University of Kentucky faculty in 1984, she has taught over 3,000 graduate students in Basic Statistical Analysis, Regression and Correlation, and Experimental Design and Analysis courses. She also developed and has taught several undergraduate courses. Dr. Aaron served as ASAS President-Elect in 2013 before transferring to the position of President in 2014.

ASAS Fellow Award EXTENSION. Dr. John W. Mabry's contributions to Animal Science programs include teaching, extension, research and administration. He has been recognized for his efforts with the National Pork Board Distinguished Service Award, NSIF Distinguished Service Award, ASAS Animal Industry Award and many others. He embodies the concept of understanding a problem, conducting research to find answers, and working directly with the industry to apply new technology to improve the industry and their sustainability.

ASAS Fellow Award EXTENSION. Dr. James W. Oltjen, an Animal Management Systems Extension Specialist at UC Davis, was raised on a crop-livestock farm in Kansas. He received his B.S. and M.S. from Kansas State, and Ph.D. from UC Davis. Prior to joining UC in 1990 Dr. Oltjen was faculty at Oklahoma State. He received the ASAS Extension Award in 2003 and was President of ASAS in 2010. Dr. Oltjen has over 200 extension papers or abstracts, 33 invited papers, and 100 refereed publications.

ASAS Early Career Achievement Award. Dr. Jason W. Ross is an Assistant Professor active in the teaching, research and outreach mission of the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. Ross's research focuses on using both basic and applied research approaches to test hypotheses investigating the biology of 1) pig oocyte maturation and early embryo development, 2) noncoding RNA regulatory capabilities of reproductive function in pigs, 3) epigenetic imprinting of offspring exposed to in utero heat stress, 4) physiological regulation of puberty onset and seasonal infertility in pigs, and 5) the use of pigs as animal models for disease and physiology. Dr. Ross received his B.S. degree from Iowa State University in 2000 and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State in 2003 and 2006, respectively.

Meat Industry Hall of Fame

Two OSU Animal Science alums Dr. Zerle Carpenter (BS, 1957) and Dr. James Marsden (MS, 1973) are among six people being inducted into the Meat Industry Hall of Fame for 2014. Dr. Carpenter has been a Professor of Animal Science at Texas A&M University for the past 35 years. He has been recognized for his leadership in helping conduct the foundational research that led to the establishment of USDA’s official grades of beef, pork, and lamb. The value of U.S. meat produced in the United States is based on this research.

Dr. James Marsden, Regents Distinguished Professor of Food Safety and Security at Kansas State University and Senior Science Advisor for the North American Meat Association, has been one of the industry’s most important voices advocating for food safety, a tireless proponent for industry adoption of anti-microbial technology, and a leading presenter at numerous industry meetings devoted to food safety issues.

AMSA Distinguished Teaching Award

The American Meat Science Assoc. (AMSA) selected OSU Animal Science Professor Deborah (Deb) VanOverbeke to receive the Distinguished Teaching Award.

Deb received her B.S. degree in Animal Science from the University of Nebraska in 1996. After completing her B.S. degree, she worked for the Nebraska Cattlemen where she coordinated the Beef Quality Assurance and Nebraska Corn-Fed Beef Program until 1998. Deb received her M.S. degree in 2000 and her Ph.D. in 2002 from Colorado State University. Upon completion of her Ph.D. in 2002, she joined the University of Minnesota as the Meat Quality and Safety Specialist. In 2005, Deb joined Oklahoma State University as an Assistant Professor in Meat Science. In 2010, she was promoted to Associate Professor.

Deb is responsible for teaching two undergraduate courses and two graduate courses each year. In 2009, she also began offering the senior Animal Science Capstone course online. In addition to these courses, Deb serves as the Advising Coordinator for the Department of Animal Science and she advises nearly 90 undergraduate students and has served as the major professor for 11 graduate students. She also advises the OSU Block and Bridle Club and has also advised the Meat Science Association and the College’s Student Council. Deb has served on the teaching and assessment committees in the Animal Science Department, as secretary for the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Faculty Council and currently serves on the University’s Faculty Council and as the University Academic Standards and Policies Committee Chair.

ANIMAL SCIENCE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Kyle Wilson
Butch Young

*Purchased the #1 Brick
**Purchased the #1 Photo

You Can Count On Me!

I want to invest in the future of OSU Animal Science by supporting one or more of the following endowments:

Joe and Lynn Hughes Animal Science Endowed Scholarship Fund - Project # 21-58400
Dairy Center Endowment Fund - Project # 21-75550
Equine Center Endowment Fund - Project # 21-75500
Purebred Beef Center Endowment Fund - Project # 21-75450
Sheep and Goat Center Endowment Fund - Project # 21-75600
Swine Center Endowment Fund - Project # 21-75650

Gifts can be made, in any amount, payable to: OSU Foundation, Attention Kathy McNally, 400 S. Monroe, Stillwater, Okla. 74074
Ph. 405-385-5606 or 405-205-0068  https://www.osugiving.com/ansi-centers
On October 15, the OSU horse team judged the All-American Quarter Horse Congress Horse Judging Contest and brought home a 7th place team finish overall. Team member Jenae Nies was 5th high individual for the contest. The annual contest took place in Columbus, Ohio at the world’s largest horse show.

In November, the team traveled to Oklahoma City, Okla. to compete at the American Quarter Horse World Show Horse Judging Contest. On November 20, the day of the contest, the OSU Horse Team was placed fifth overall.

To finish out the season, the team took part in the National Reining Horse Association Horse Judging Contest in Oklahoma City on December 5 and 6. The team placed 3rd overall, with Jessica Neal being 7th and Taylor Miles being 10th high individual overall.

The 2014 team was coached by Steven Cooper and Tabatha Taylor. The following were members of the 2014 Horse Judging Team:


Judging Teams

The 2014 OSU Livestock Judging Team began competition in Denver, Colo. at the National Western Stock Show in January. Oklahoma State was the High Team in Swine, Sheep/Goats, Cattle, and Oral Reasons on their way to being named the Champion Team Overall by 90 points. Individual achievements included Ashley Judge 2nd High Individual Overall, 2nd in Swine, 6th in Sheep/Goats, 4th in Cattle, and High Individual in Reasons; Jake Bloomberg 3rd High Individual Overall, 3rd in Swine, 9th in Sheep/Goats, 5th in Cattle, and 8th in Reasons; Austin Kindschi 4th High Individual Overall, 7th in Sheep/Goats, 2nd in Cattle, and 7th in Reasons; Mari Palacio 5th High Individual Overall, 8th in Swine, 3rd in Sheep/Goats, 7th in Cattle, and Gary Agar 7th High Individual Overall, 5th in Sheep/Goats, 3rd in Cattle.

The Carload Judging Team finished as Reserve Champions with Gary Agar being the 10th High Individual Overall.

The Team returned to competition in Jackson, Miss. at the Dixie National Livestock Show in February. Oklahoma State was the High Team in every division including the Brahman, Continental, English, Market Steer and Oral Reasons on their way to being named the Champion Team Overall by 90 points. Individual achievements included Nolan Hildebrand as the High Individual Overall, 6th in Reasons; Mari Palacio 2nd High Individual Overall, High Individual in Reasons; Blake Boyd Mays Lick, Ky. 3rd High Individual Overall, 9th in Reasons; Ashley Judge 4th High Individual Overall, 2nd in Reasons; Gary Agar 5th High Individual Overall, 5th in Reasons; Taylor Langford 6th High Individual Overall, 4th in Reasons; Cody Johnson 7th High Individual Overall, 8th in Reasons; Jake Bloomberg 8th High Individual Overall, 7th in Reasons; Austin Kindschi 10th in Reasons and Kelly Vierck 6th High Individual in Continental Cattle.

At the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo, the team finished 2nd in Cattle, 4th in Sheep/Goats, and 3rd in Reasons in route to a 4th place finish overall.

The final competition of the spring judging season occurred at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The team finished 3rd in Swine, Sheep/Goats, and Reasons and finished 3rd Overall. Jake Bloomberg was the 7th High Individual Overall and Mari Palacio was the 8th High Individual Overall.

The team returned to competition at the National Barrow Show in September. The team finished 5th overall and was the high team in reasons. Ashley Judge was the 4th High Individual Overall and won reasons. Taylor Langford finished 3rd in reasons and Mari Palacio was 4th.

Oklahoma State University won high team honors at the Flint Hills Classic in El Dorado, KS. Within divisions, the team was 3rd in Sheep/Goats, 2nd in Swine, 2nd in Beef, and 2nd in Reasons.

Individual honors included Jake Bloomberg – 1st High Individual Overall, 10th Sheeph/Goats, 2nd Hogs, 5th Cattle, 7th Reasons; Gary Agar – 2nd High Individual Overall, 3rd Cattle, 9th Reasons; Ashley Judge – 3rd High Individual Overall, 2nd Hogs, 8th Cattle, 2nd Reasons; Mari Palacio – 9th High Individual Overall, 9th Sheep/Goats, 10th Cattle, 8th Reasons; Blake Boyd – 4th Cattle; Cody Johnson – 6th Hogs and Austin Kindschi – 10th Hogs.

Oklahoma State Team Orange pulled off another win at the Mid America Classic in Wichita, Kansas. Team Black also placed 5th Overall. Within divisions: Team Orange 2nd in Sheep/Goats, Team Black 4th in Swine, Team Orange 2nd in Swine, Team Orange 1st in Cattle, Team Black 5th in Reasons, Team Orange 1st in Reasons. Individual Results were as follows: Cody Johnson – 2nd High Individual Overall, 2nd Swine; Austin Kindschi – 5th High Individual Overall/Ashley Judge – 10th High Individual Overall, 4th cattle, 3rd Reasons; Blake Boyd – 3rd Sheeph/Goats; Gary Agar – 2nd Cattle and Mari Palacio – 2nd Reasons.

The team was also named the champion team overall in Tulsa. Ashley Judge was the 4th High Individual and Jake Bloomberg captured 5th High Individual.

The Oklahoma State Livestock Judging Team took home top honors at the 2014 American Royal in Kansas City. The team was 2nd in Sheep, 1st in Hogs, 4th in Cattle, 2nd in Reasons.

Individual achievements include: Jake Bloomberg – 2nd High Individual Overall, 3rd Hogs, 4th Cattle, 4th Reasons; Ashley Judge – 4th High Individual Overall, 7th Cattle, 2nd Reasons; Gary Agar – 5th Sheep and Austin Kindschi – 9th Hogs.

The Oklahoma State University Livestock Judging Team continued their intercollegiate judging career this week as the Reserve National Champion Team! The team was fortunate to have the following three members recognized as All Americans – Gary Agar, Jake Bloomberg and Kelly Vierck.

Individual results from the National Contest:

Ashley Judge – High Individual Overall, 1st in Oral Reasons, 1st in Sheep and 4th in Cattle; Gary Agar – 4th High Individual Overall, 1st in Cattle, 1st in Performance Cattle and 5th in Oral Reasons; Austin Kindschi – 8th in Swine.

Team Members include: Gary Agar, Santa Rosa, N.M.; Jake Bloomberg, Berwick, Ill.; Blake Boyd, Mays Lick, Ky.; Nolan Hildebrand, Paso Robles, Calif.; Cody Johnson, Meeker, Okla.; Ashley Judge, San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Austin Kindschi, Orlando, Okla.; Taylor Langford, Calhoun, Ga.; Mari Palacio-Bend, Ore.; Kurt Parsons, Ducon, Calif.; Amanda Tiessler, Franklin, Ind.; and Kelly Vierck-Juneau, Wis..

The team is coached by Dr. Blake Bloomberg and assisted by Taylor Graham, Crossville, Tenn.

Meat

OSU Meat Judging Team wins National Championship. This is the university’s 17th national title in the 88-year history of meat judging. OSU has now won more meat judging national championships than any other university.

The team was: 1st Total Beef, 1st Beef Judging, 1st Pork Judging, 1st Lamb Judging, 1st Placings, 1st Reasons, and 2nd Beef Grading.

Individual Results: Jessie Heidlage, Claremore, Okla. – 2nd high individual, 1st total beef, 1st beef judging, 1st lamb judging, 2nd reasons, and 3rd placings; Audrey Zoeller, Boerne, Texas – 3rd high individual, 2nd lamb judging, 2nd placings, 3rd beef judging, 3rd reasons and 5th pork judging; Wes Griffin, Tuttlet, Okla. – 10th high individual, 4th placings and 5th beef judging; Kaylee Price, Allen, Texas – 5th high alternates contest.

Other team members include: Hanna Barney, Wagoner, Okla.; Chance Billups, Colcord, Okla.; Macy Griswold, Perkins, Okla. and Will Marshall, Buhl, Idaho.

Jessie Heidlage and Audrey Zoeller were also

Judging Teams...contd. on p. 20
Friday Night Gala

A Reunion for all Alumni, Members of all Judging Teams & Friends

- Special recognition of Dr. Bob Kropp!
- Introduction of current judging teams & 50-yr teams!
- Silent and live auctions!
- Visiting with old & new friends!
Name(s) ____________________________________________________________

(Ladies, please include your maiden name, if you were not married when you graduated)

Address ___________________________________________________________

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Please reserve tickets for the following events: (To be picked up immediately preceding each event)

_____ Ticket(s) for ASAA Gala Reunion & Judging Teams Reunion
        Heavy Hors d’oeuvres at 6:00 p.m. April 10 @ ConocoPhillips Alumni Center $30.00/each_______
        Animal Science Students $10.00/each__________
        \textit{Walk-in guests for the Gala will be an additional $10.00/each}

_____ Ticket(s) for Animal Science Alumni & Judging Teams Luncheon
        at 12:00 p.m. April 11 @ the Animal Science Arena $15.00/each_______

_____ Ticket(s) for Animal Science Banquet at 5:45 p.m. April 11 @ Wes Watkins Center
        Animal Science Students/Spouses $15.00/each_______
        Alumni/Spouses and/or Guests/Parents $30.00/each_______

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED __________

Please make checks payable to:

\textbf{Department of Animal Science}

Please list all names as you would like them on your name tags.

Names (please print) ____________________________ If ANSI alumni 

Yr Graduated __________

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Please return to ANSI Banquet, Department of Animal Science, 101 Animal Science Bldg.,
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla. 74078-0425. For further information, call 405/744-6062.
Amanda Curtis Takes First Place at 3MT®

Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is a research communication competition developed by The University of Queensland which challenges research higher degree students to present a compelling oration on their thesis and its significance in just three minutes in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience. On April 10, 2014, OSU held its second 3MT® competition as part of Graduate Education Week. Eleven finalists who won their college’s competition presented their research. The first place winner was Animal Science M.S. student, Amanda Curtis. Her topic was “Using Innate Immunity to Fight off Infections without the Use of Antibiotics”.

Animal Science Graduate Students Receive Travel Awards

Justin Buchanan, a Ph.D. student of the Department of Animal Science was one of two graduate students chosen to receive the 2014 Neal A. Jorgenson Graduate Student PAG Travel Award. The award was provided by the Bovine Genome coordinators and covered $1,000 of his travel and registration expenses for the PAG (Plant and Animal Genome) meeting he attended in January, 2014 which was held in San Diego, Calif. Justin presented a poster at the 2014 Plant and Genome Meeting, titled “Deriving gene networks underlying fatty acid composition of the triacylglycerol lipid fraction in Angus longissimus muscle.”

OSU Department of Animal Science graduate students Kristi Allwardt and Samantha Lowman were among ten students that were awarded a graduate student travel award at the 2014 ARSBC conference held on campus October 8th -9th. Winners were listed in the proceedings and were required to monitor a general session during the conference. This year, Kristi Allwardt also received the Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, OSU Foundation Beef Improvement Federation Travel Scholarship, and Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Travel Scholarship.

Badrinath Jagannathan Wins IFT Food Biotech Competition

Badrinath Jagannathan, a master’s student at OSU’s Robert M. Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center, represented the FAPC Microbiology Laboratory by presenting findings of the lab’s research in a poster during the IFT Annual Meeting and Food Expo in New Orleans, La., in June. The various research areas described in the award winning poster included isolating bacteriocin-producing lactic acid bacteria from retail food samples; phylogenetic identification and characterization of isolates; evaluation of fermentor conditions for optimization of bacteriocin production in different media, under different pH-controlled conditions and at different temperatures; and the application of bacteriocin-containing supernatant culture preparations using a mixed-mode-of-action strategy as food preservatives against Listeria monocytogenes. Dr. Peter Muriana is Badrinath’s advisor.

Catherine Haviland - GPSGA Social Chair

Many factors can influence a student’s choice to enroll in graduate studies. For Catherine Haviland, the motivation came from the encouragement she received from her undergraduate advisor, Haviland, who serves as the Social Chair of the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association, was considering veterinary school, but with her advisor’s encouragement she decided to attend graduate school instead. Haviland not only works at the OSU feed yard, but also conducts her research there on the effects of environmental temperature on cattle performance. Her research includes monitoring rumen temperatures and water intake when feedlot cattle are under heat stress.

OSU Dairy Club Wins National Ag Education Competition

Oklahoma State University students have been honored nationally for being advocates for agriculture. The Animal Agriculture Alliance announced the results of its sixth annual College Aggies Online (CAO) scholarship competition. The nationwide program helps college students share agriculture’s story and become passionate spokespeople on behalf of the food and fiber industries.

CAO is an online competition open to all college students with an interest in agriculture. Since its launch in 2009, more than 2,500 college students from more than 160 different colleges and universities have registered to compete in the program. Members of the Oklahoma State University Dairy Science Club formed the top-scoring club with 107,450 total points. The club will receive $5,000 and a trip for two club representatives to the Alliance’s annual Stakeholders Summit in Kansas City, Mo. to be formally recognized.

Judging Teams Cont’d. from p. 17

The team is coached by Dr. Gretchen Mafi and Morgan Neilson. The team and coaches would like to thank all OSU administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni for the dedication and support of the meat judging program.

The team was 4th overall at the Cargill Meat Solutions Contest: 1st beef judging, 2nd reasons, 2nd overall beef, 3rd pork judging, 4th placings, 5th specifications. Jessie Heidlage – 3rd high individual, 2nd beef, 3rd specifications, 5th placings, 6th pork; Audrey Zoeller – 5th high individual, 3rd reasons, 5th pork; Kaylee Price – 1st beef.


The team was 4th overall at the American Royal. They won lamb judging, pork judging, reasons and specifications. Jessie Heidlage was 6th overall, 3rd in specifications, 3rd in pork, 3rd in reasons. Audrey Zoeller was 1st in pork and reasons, 2nd in lamb judging, 4th in specifications. Wes Griffin was 4th in specifications.
Welcome New Faculty!

Dr. Kris Hiney joined the Department of Animal Science as an Assistant Professor and Extension Equine Specialist on August 29, 2014. Dr. Hiney received her Ph.D. in Equine Physiology from Michigan State before joining the faculty at the University of Wisconsin Department of Animal Science. Along with teaching courses, she served as coach of UWRF Horse Judging Team, breeding manager of Equine Enterprise, co-advisor for Horseman’s Association, and advisor for Companion Animal Respect and Education Club. She also been active in the American Society of Animal Science, Equine Science Society, American Quarter Horse Association, and the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association.

Dr. Ravi Jadeja received his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University in 2010. After graduation, he joined the University of Georgia as a postdoctoral research associate, where he worked on the development of strategies to control foodborne pathogens and to improve the safety and quality of a variety of food products at pre and post-harvest levels. He has been active in International Association for Food Protection and Institute of Food Technologist since 2006 and also has a special interest in the area of food safety regulations and education.

Dr. Blake Wilson grew up north of Okemah, Oklahoma where his family raised commercial cattle, harvested pecans, and maintained native grass meadows for hay production. Blake has always been a Cowboy and obtained his BS, MS, and PhD all from Oklahoma State University. During his PhD program, Blake investigated interactions between nutrition and health in “high-risk” or immune challenged calves. He and his wife Amanda currently reside on a small farm near Coyle, Okla.. Blake will be teaching the Applied Animal Nutrition course and conducting the labs, and assisting with the Animal Management Techniques course.

Noble Research Foundation Awards OSU Alums

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation presented Kent Donica (BS, Animal Science 1988) with the 2014 Leonard Wyatt Memorial Outstanding Cooperator Award during a special presentation at the organization’s all employee meeting. The Leonard Wyatt Memorial Outstanding Cooperator Award is given annually to one of the 1,400 farmers and ranchers who work with the Noble Foundation’s Agricultural Division.

“Kent has built a financially successful stocker operation through hard work and staying informed about applicable research,” said Steve Swigert, agricultural economics consultant. “He has developed a niche for himself through the handling of high-risk, light-weight stockers.”

The Society for Range Management (SRM) awarded Yates Adcock (BS, Animal Science 1987) the national Excellence in Rangeland Management award, one of the organization’s most prestigious honors, during its 2010 annual convention.

Noble Foundation consultant Chan Glidewell nominated Adcock for the Oklahoma Section award. “Yates is a progressive manager with a wealth of experience and knowledge,” Glidewell said. “He works tirelessly to improve his ranch and his skills as a manager, and that’s why he is so successful.”

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation presented Kent Moore (BS, Animal Science 1963) with the 2012 Leonard Wyatt Memorial Outstanding Cooperator Award during a special presentation at the organization’s all-employee meeting.

“One of Kent’s strongest suits is consistency, he does the fundamentals well and on time,” said Eddie Funderburg, senior consultant. “He pays close attention to details and is not afraid to try new methods and adopt new technologies.”

The Society for Range Management (SRM) awarded Yates Adcock (BS, Animal Science 1987) the national Excellence in Rangeland Management award, one of the organization’s most prestigious honors, during its 2010 annual convention.

Noble Foundation consultant Chan Glidewell nominated Adcock for the Oklahoma Section award. “Yates is a progressive manager with a wealth of experience and knowledge,” Glidewell said. “He works tirelessly to improve his ranch and his skills as a manager, and that’s why he is so successful.”

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation presented Jack Cunningham and Jack “Jackie” Cunningham Jr. (BS, Animal Science 1989) with the 2009 Leonard Wyatt Memorial Outstanding Cooperator Award during a special presentation at the Southern Plains Beef Symposium.

“Jack and Jackie Cunningham have the work ethic, the know-how and the flexibility that makes them great stewards of the land,” said James Locke, soils and crops consultant. “The Cunningham ranch is what a true family farm is all about. Jack and Jackie provide assistance to their fellow producers, helping them develop their business and finding ways to improve their farm or ranch. Their willingness to share is one of their greatest attributes.”
News from the Purebred Teaching Centers

2014 Tulsa State Fair: Reserve Division Fall Yearling Bull

2014 National Barrow Show: Champion Yorkshire Breeding Gilt
Shown by Thomas Grippando of Hartshorne, Okla.

2014 Tulsa State Fair: Sooner Alexander Poppy
Grand Champion Holstein & Supreme Champion

OKState 402 was successfully campaigned by OSU students Dakota Quickle of Chattanooga, Okla. (pictured) & Cameron DeBorde of Sapulpa, Okla.
This Hampshire ewe lamb was 1st in the February class and Reserve Grand Hampshire ewe overall. We always appreciate our Donors of Genetics that make success like this possible for the students involved.

2014 National Barrow Show: Yorkshire Hog College Boar
Austin, Minn.

3rd Annual Cowboy Classic
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015
1 p.m. at the OSU Purebred Beef Cattle Center, west of Stillwater
Thank You!

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