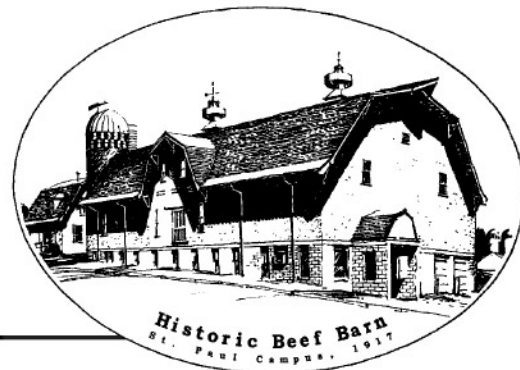


AnSci

Connection

Department of Animal Science, University of Minnesota



Issue 52

March 2003

## Notes from the Department Head

By F. Abel Ponce de León

I am now on an airplane returning from a short visit to Davis, California (this was an invited visit with all expenses paid). Last night, I had dinner with a couple of colleagues from UC-Davis and another from the University of Florida. Our conversation mostly revolved around the common theme of budget reductions. We shared information about what we have learned is happening at universities around the nation as each state proposes solutions to budget deficits. In a nutshell, all Land Grant Universities are under relatively the same financial pressures. Budget reductions to universities range from 5% to 20%. The ones at the low end have already experienced significant reductions in 2002. Proposed solutions vary from targeted cuts (closing support and academic units) to across the board reductions. In at least one instance, faculty and staff have accepted a 3% salary reduction (University of Arizona).

The fiscal year 2003 budget deficit in Minnesota is estimated at 365 million dollars and will result in a rescission (unallotment) of 25 million dollars to the University of Minnesota. The latter entails a budgetary reduction for the period July 2002- June 2003 or what is the fiscal year 2003 (FY03). This budget rescission represents about one million dollars less to our College. In the next few weeks, we will learn what this budget cut represents to our department.

We also learned that Governor Pawlenty has proposed a reduction of 185 million dollars to the University of Minnesota budget for the biennium FY04-05. This is about a 15% reduction of the state biennium allocation (1,269.7 million for FY02-03) to the University budget. Indeed a very significant reduction, at par with the significant state budget deficit (4.2 billion) for the biennium. Since the House and the Senate are debating the budget proposal, it is difficult to predict what will be the final budget reduction.

We all know that budgetary reductions of the magnitude proposed will have an impact in our units and on

each of us in different measures. President Bruininks has repeatedly referred to the challenges this budget reduction imposes on our University. A combination of increasing revenue generating streams and targeted cuts will mitigate the impact of budget reductions at departmental levels.

Whatever the end result, we will be different. We will change. We will not have the luxury of maintaining all we currently value. We cannot avoid these losses, however, we can work hard towards moving our department into position for a better future.

*The Department of Animal Science  
Invites You to Attend*

**The 2nd Bi-Annual  
W. E. Petersen Symposium**

**"Reproduction Loss in Dairy Cows:  
Is the Trend Reversible?"**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2003**

**1:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Earle Brown Center, Room 135  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul Campus**

For a program agenda or  
additional information, see  
<http://www.ansci.umn.edu/>  
or contact the Department of  
Animal Science at 612-624-2722

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**AnSci Connection** is a monthly newsletter of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Minnesota.

If you would like to contribute information (articles, upcoming events, announcements of special achievements, etc.), please contact Bonnie Rae, Editor.

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The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

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The next issue of  
**AnSci Connection**  
will be published in  
April 2003.

**The deadline for  
submitting articles  
is 12:00 p.m. on  
March 25.**

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## Graduate Student Profile:

### Jamie Larson

Jamie grew up in Iowa on a beef/corn/soybean farm. Her older brother and sister-in-law farm there with her father. She has a younger sister who attends the University of Northern Iowa and a younger brother who will graduate from high school this spring.

As an undergraduate, Jamie attended Iowa State University majoring in animal science. Among other reasons, she came to Minnesota because of her love of Iowa jokes.

Jamie is co-advised by Drs. Cliff Lamb and Alfredo DiCostanzo. Her emphasis is beef reproductive physiology. This spring she will begin working on her thesis project, which will involve synchronizing estrous using the CIDR in beef cows.

When Jamie can tear herself away from her work, she enjoys hanging out with friends, preferably somewhere with music and a brew in hand. Jamie is looking forward to getting to know more graduate students and is patiently awaiting SPRING!

## Students Receive Recognition at Gopher Dairy Club's Annual Award's Banquet

The Gopher Dairy Club held their 19th Annual Award's Banquet on Sunday, February 9, with 132 students, parents, and friends of the undergraduate student organization attending. Animal Science Department Head Ponce de León welcomed those in attendance, and Dean Muscoplat provided some remarks on the prestige of the University of Minnesota and the value of a degree from the University. Sarah Olson, Princess Kay of the Milky Way and sophomore in Agricultural Production Systems, presented words of encouragement to the club members.

The club's Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Alan Hunter for long-time contributions to members of the club. Pam Hendel, Regional Marketing Manager for Accelerated Genetics, was the featured speaker. As an alumnus of the club, she related many experiences from her years as a student at the St. Paul campus that were helpful for her personal and professional life.

The nominees from the University of Minnesota for the Student Recognition Program of National Dairy Shrine were announced; the two recipients, Kelly Sheehan and Morgan Strusz, received award plaques sponsored by Genex/CRI. The senior intercollegiate dairy cattle judging team was recognized and each team member received a photo award plaque sponsored by the Midwest Dairy Association.

Kelly Rickeman was announced as the 2003 recipient of the R. W. Touchberry Outstanding Junior in Animal Science award. Other scholarship winners from the college and the department were also announced.

Amy Hazel received the Outstanding Rookie Award (sophomore), and Betty Berning and Morgan Strusz tied for the Outstanding Senior Award. The latest edition of "The Topline" was hot off of the press, and attendees at the banquet were the first to see it. The program concluded with a slide show by the 12 seniors that traveled on a senior trip to California during the first ten days of January. Assistant scientist for the St. Paul dairy barn, Bill Hansen, traveled with the seniors to California.

### Birthday List - March

- |                   |                       |                      |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Yang Da       | 11 - Daniel Carlson   |                      |
| Deb Roeber        | 12 - Jay Watje        |                      |
| 2 - John Donker   | 14 - Shelly Christman | 23 - Mark Whitney    |
| Robert Shoffner   | 15 - Joe Conlin       | 25 - Gladys Hanson   |
| 4 - Jamie Larson  | 18 - Marshall Stern   | 26 - Sheila Groth    |
| 5 - Samuel Raser  | 19 - Kyle Sonnek      | 28 - Joyce Goodrich  |
| 6 - John Tutewohl | 20 - Brian Crooker    | 30 - Adriano Pereira |
| 8 - Scott Welch   | Nduka Omeoga          | 31 - Lloyd Randall   |



## 2003 Research Review for Decision Makers in Turkey Production

The 2003 Research Review for Decision Makers in Turkey Production will be held on March 18, 2003 at the Touchstone Energy Place, RiverCentre, St. Paul, Minnesota. This program uses intensive presentations to enable incorporation of the benefits of current research information into production systems.

Producers, breeder and growout farm managers, veterinarians, nutritionists, and others as interested are encouraged to attend. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet with researchers from the University of Minnesota, ask detailed questions about past and current research, and provide input into future research directions.

Producers have provided funds for this research through their check-off programs. They now have the opportunity to reap the benefits of their investment and learn about the results.

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Registration - 9:00 a.m.

Morning program - 10:00 a.m.

Establishment of an Avian Pneumovirus (APV) Infection Model - Dave Halvorson

Further Epidemiological Studies on Suspected APV Vectors and APV Persistence - K. V. Nagaraja

Generation of Deletion Mutant and Recombinant Vaccines for APV - M. Kariuki Njenga

Vaccination Strategies Against APV - Sagar Goyal

Pathogenesis and Control of Respiratory Viruses of Turkeys - Jagdev Sharma

Diets for Heavy Toms- Utilization of Distiller Dried Grains with Solubles and Threonine - Sally Noll

Lunch

Afternoon program - 12:30 p.m.

Soluble Vitamin E and Sodium Salicylate (Uni-Sol™) and *E. coli* Infection - G. R. Huff\*

Light Intensity and Wavelength and Breeder Hen Reproductive Performance - M. E. El Halawani

Turkey Genomics at the University of Minnesota - Kent Reed\*

Immortalization of Turkey Cells as Substrates for APV Propagation and Vaccine Production - Doug Foster

Recombinant Vaccines for Avian Respiratory Pathogens - Vivek Kapur

\*Guest speakers

The registration fee per person is \$25 and includes lunch. **Pre-registration is required.** For additional information, contact Sally Noll (612-624-4928) or David Halvorson (612-625-5292), or see <http://www.ansci.umn.edu/poultry/extension/2003turkeyresrev.html>.

Decision Makers in Turkey Production is sponsored by the Department of Animal Science, Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, the University of Minnesota Extension Service, and the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association.

## Minnesota Livestock Breeders to Honor Hall of Fame Inductees

The Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association will hold their Annual Banquet and Awards Program on March 13, 2003 in the Northstar Ballroom on the St. Paul Campus.

The awards program recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to the Minnesota livestock industry. The recipients will be inducted into the Livestock Hall of Fame located in Haecker Hall. The 2003 Hall of Fame inductees are:

**Jerry Hawton, Department of Animal Science**

**Howard and Marian Heins, Oronoco**

**Gerald Bratland, Spring Grove**

Registration will be open from 10:30 a.m. until noon when the banquet will begin. The awards program will begin at 1:00 p.m. Tickets for the banquet are \$15; there is no charge to attend the awards program.

For meal planning and seating purposes, please contact Steve Pooch at 651-642-2314 **in advance** to reserve a ticket.

## Alumni Named Director of Research and Development

New York Health Care, Inc., a licensed home health care agency, has named University of Minnesota alumni Eileen F. Bostwick as its Director of Research and Development at Bio Balance Corporation, the company's wholly-owned subsidiary.

Bio Balance owns "probiotic" technology and intellectual property, and has a fully developed product for the treatment of gastrointestinal diseases and disorders in animals and humans, including Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) and chronic diarrhea.

Dr. Bostwick earned her Ph.D. in Animal Physiology from the University of Minnesota in 1983 after completing her B.S. and M.S. degrees at Michigan State University. Dr. Bostwick holds four patents and has published numerous articles, presentations and abstracts.

Dr. Bostwick will be responsible for research and development affairs at Bio Balance, focusing her initial efforts on working alongside Dr. Robert Hoerr, its Director of Medical and Regulatory Affairs, in assisting Bio Balance with its effort to obtain GRAS approval for its first product offering, PROBACTRIX™.

This is the second time that Dr. Bostwick will team up with Dr. Hoerr. From July of 1992 until February of 2002, Dr. Bostwick was employed by GalaGen, where she authored and co-authored 4 INDs, and established clinical and research collaborations with leading academic and governmental investigators in the development and evaluation of biopharmaceutical products for the treatment of AIDS-related and infectious GI diseases.

SOURCE: 2003 Business Wire

# Animal Science Seminars

March 2003

- 3rd Aree Thayananuphat - Dopaminergic Regulation of Prolactin Secretion in the Turkey
- 10th Claudia Ariza Nieto - Application of Growth Models in Contemporary Pork Production  
Rud Wasson - Inclusion of a CIDR after Initial Artificial Insemination, Concentrations of Progesterone and Corpus Luteum Volume in Suckled Beef Cows
- 17th NO SEMINAR (Spring Break)
- 24th Department Seminar with invited speaker Jack Garrett, Balchem Corporation - Title TBA
- 31st Mariana Carriquiry - Title TBA  
Thomas Nortey - Title TBA

## Graduate Club Goes Snow Tubing

On Thursday, February 20th, Eb Ballinger, Grant Crawford, Jon Holt, Jamie Larson, Jeff Knott, Andy Knott, Mindy Spiehs, and Jeff Spiehs traveled to Buck Hill for an evening of snow tubing. The warmer than usual weather made the snow a little slushy but conditions were still great for some fast snow tubing. Grant had the most thrilling ride of the evening when he fell off his tube and tumbled halfway down the hill. Mindy's near-miss collision with two grad-school boys and Jeff Spiehs' fall on the way up the hill were also highlights of the evening. Fortunately, no one in the group was injured. After an hour of laughter and exciting snow tubing, the grad students retired to the dining area for some beverages, food and conversation.

## 2003 Minnesota Cow-Calf Days: Another Successful Year!

The 2003 Minnesota Cow-Calf Days program was conducted statewide during the first two weeks February. Nearly 750 producers and industry representatives attended the program at 11 locations (Bagley, Staples, Detroit Lakes, Greenbush, Grand Rapids, Finlayson, Glenwood, Pipestone, Spring Grove, Rochester, and Elysian). This year's program was expanded to include two new locations, Detroit Lakes and Elysian, based on the demand for the program in their local areas. The speakers for the program focused on improving the quality and profitability of beef produced in Minnesota and covered topics from reproductive management to nutrition to quality and safety issues relative to cows and bulls.

The 2003 Minnesota Cow-Calf Days would not have been possible without the continued overwhelming support of the allied industry. Speaker sponsors included Elanco Animal Health, Genex Cooperative, and Intervet. Additional sponsors for the northern region and/or southern region programs included ABS Global Inc., Alparma Animal Health, Hubbard Feeds Inc., Ag Star Financial Services, Big Gain Inc., Merial, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association, Pfizer Animal Health, and Vita Plus Corporation.

Special thanks to all those who contributed to the 2003 Minnesota Cow-Calf Day program, including all of the Regional Extension Educators who served as local coordinators and local presenters.

## Coming Up in April Meat Quality and Food Safety Workshop

**Tuesday, April 8, 2003**  
**Andrew Boss Laboratory of Meat Science**  
**U of MN St. Paul Campus**  
**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon or 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

The Meat Quality and Food Safety Workshop is a hands-on look at farm to table beef and dairy production for producers, processors, students, veterinarians, extension personnel and others who may be interested.

Workshop topics: Quality Defects in Market Cows; Injection-site Lesion Demonstration; Food Safety; Consumer Preferences and Attitudes. Each topic will be covered in lab format. Participants spend 45 minutes in each of four rotations. Time is allowed for questions.

The workshop is limited to ensure hands-on opportunities, so register early. Contact Sarah Summerbell by phone at 612-624-3434 or 1-800-380-8636, or by email to peter415@umn.edu.

## Congratulations to...

Allegra Toll on her marriage to Torie King in Fort Riley, Kansas. Their March 1st wedding date was chosen after Torie was informed he would soon be shipped out to Kuwait.

## Condolences to...

Kaleb Kromman on the recent loss of his father. Kaleb is one of our student employees who works in the swine barn.

Juliana Tuel, word processing specialist, on the recent loss of her mother-in-law.

## Thinking of...

Fred Hrbek, farm animal attendant at the Rosemount Turkey Unit, who has been active in the military reserves for some time now. Last January he was called for active duty. Initially stationed in Germany, Fred indicated that he would be relocated. He kept in touch with Sally Noll by email even though he said it was difficult to get to a computer. Sally has not heard back from him recently. We all hope that Fred is safe and returns to Animal Science soon!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## **Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association Annual Banquet and Awards Program**

March 13

Northstar Ballroom, St. Paul Campus. Contact Steve Pooch to reserve a ticket (651- 642-2314)

## **Midwest Section ASAS/ADSA Annual Meeting**

March 17-19

Des Moines, IA

## **Spring Break**

March 17-21

## **Strategic Job Search and Networking**

March 27 at 6:00-7:00 PM

120 Coffey Hall, St. Paul Campus. For more information call 612-624-2710

## **4-State Forage Conference**

March 27-29

Ho-Chuck Hotel & Convention Center, Baraboo, WI. Contact Wisconsin Agri-Service Association 608-223-1111

## **7th National Dairy Calf and Heifer Conference**

March 27-29

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, Green Bay, WI. Contact PDHGA 877-434-3377 or Hugh Chester-Jones 507-835-3620

## **Minnesota/Wisconsin Dairy Policy Conference**

April 4-5

Embassy Suites, St. Paul, MN. Contact: Lori Weaver, 608-258-4414

## **Minn Royal**

April 7-12

St. Paul Campus. Contact Liz Schliecher 651-646-3786 or Jess Krueger 612-625-9254

## **W. E. Petersen Symposium: Reproductive Loss in Dairy Cows**

April 8, 1:00-5:00 PM

135 Earle Brown Center, St. Paul Campus. Contact the Department of Animal Science 612-624-2722 or south005@umn.edu

## **Meat Quality and Food Safety Workshop**

April 8, 8:00 AM-Noon or 1:00-5:00 PM

Andrew Boss Laboratory of Meat Science, St. Paul Campus. To register call 612-624-3434 or 800-380-8636, or email peter415@umn.edu

## **Spring Classes at Magrath Library**

Automatic E-mail Updates

March 4, 6, 26, April 6

Searching: 14 Habits of Highly Effective Searchers

March 6, April 2

Organizing Your Personal Library Using EndNote

March 18, April 3

E-journals: Tips and Tricks - March 4, 26, April 7

Grant Resources: Locating Grants in Your Field

March 11

SciFinder: Web Access to Chemical Abstracts

March 25

Register on the Web at

<http://www.lib.umn.edu/registration>

If the times don't fit your schedule, contact the

Reference Desk at 612-624-1212 to

make other arrangements

# Tech Tips

By Chris Buzzetta

When walking down the street or riding the bus, do you normally provide any stranger you meet your name, zip code, and the first four digits of your credit cards? Are you comfortable giving these strangers a list of all the computer programs installed on your machine? This may be happening on your computer without your knowledge. As this is a continuing problem in our department, I felt it important to highlight this topic once again.

You must steer clear of the following programs:

- Gator programs - Including GAIN AdServer
- Morpheus
- Kazaa
- BearShare
- DoubleClick
- Bonzi Buddy
- Comet Cursor

To help you in the removal and monitoring of such insidious programs, we recommend that you install Lavasoft AdAware 6.0 from the following location:

<http://www.lavasoft.de/support/download/>

Here are excerpts from the privacy statement from the Gator Corporation (TGC):

“The GAIN AdServer is patent-pending technology that identifies the interests of anonymous computer users based on their computer usage and web surfing behavior, including the URLs of Web pages viewed by users and other criteria. The GAIN AdServer displays GAIN Ads on computer screens on behalf of TGC’s advertising clients. TGC’s advertising clients may be competitors of the publishers whose Web pages users may be viewing, or may have recently viewed.

“While we don’t know the identity of GAIN-Supported Software users, the GAIN AdServer and TGC does collect and use the following kinds of anonymous information:

- Some of the Web pages viewed
- The amount of time spent at some Web sites
- Response to GAIN Ads
- Standard web log information (excluding IP Addresses) and system settings
- What software is on the personal computer
- First name, country, and five digit ZIP code
- Non-personally identifiable information on Web pages and forms
- Software usage characteristics and preferences”

<http://www.gatorcorporation.com/help/privacystatement.html>

For more detailed information about the data they collect - bulleted items above, check this link out (quite alarming!):

<http://www.gatorcorporation.com/help/psdocs/datause.html>

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## Position Announcements

Complete details, descriptions and requirements for application are listed in the "Position Announcements" book in 305 Haecker Hall.

- 110 **Government Relations Assistant.** Biotechnology Industry Organization. Entry level position for a student with a 4-year degree interested in government relations.
- 111 **Customer Service Representative.** Roland Mann & Associates, Inc. is recruiting to fill a position for an animal science nutrition software firm in Minneapolis, MN.
- 112 **Summer Intern-Animal Research (Dairy Beef & Swine).** Land O'Lakes, Inc. Research Farm, Webster City, IA. Spring/summer position primarily running a feeding trial with dairy beef calves but will also work with other calves and swine.
- 113 **Research Associate.** Akey, Lewisburg, OH. Position will have responsibilities for coordinating research projects conducted at Akey's swine research farms. MS degree required in an agricultural or biological science, preferably in swine nutrition.
- 114 **Formulator.** Milk Products Inc. Minimum requirements: 2-year degree in agribusiness or related field with chemistry and mathematics proficiency; BS in animal science with computer or nutrition emphasis preferred.
- 115 **Assistant Research Scientist.** Animal & Dairy Science Department, University of Georgia, Athens. Preference will be given to applications received by March 1, 2003. Position available: April 10, 2003.
- 116 **Assistant Professor-Equine Production & Management.** Animal & Dairy Science Department, University of Georgia, Athens. Application deadline: May 1, 2003.
- 117 **Assistant Professor-Dairy Production Medicine Veterinarian (Theriogenology).** Department of Animal & Veterinary Science, University of Idaho, Moscow. Requires DVM or equivalent, dairy production medicine experience with emphasis on theriogenology, and/or cow comfort and lameness, and academic experience.
- 118 **Assistant Professor-Dairy Production Medicine Veterinarian (Dairy Nutrition).** Department of Animal & Veterinary Science, University of Idaho, Caine Veterinary Teaching Center, Caldwell. Requires DVM or equivalent, dairy production medicine experience with emphasis on dairy nutrition, and academic experience.
- 119 **Assistant Professor-Equine Internal Medicine & Physiology.** Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Screening of applications begins April 1, 2003.
- 120 **Assistant Professor-Equine Reproductive Physiology.** Department of Biomedical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins. Preference will be given to applications received by April 1, 2003.
- 121 **Assistant or Associate Professor-Veterinary Toxicology/Pharmacology.** Department of Biomedical Sciences, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Canada. Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is identified.
- 122 **Post-doctoral Associate (Insulin Signaling/Proteomics).** Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences, Mississippi State University. Position available April 1, 2003.

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*Through education and research, we serve people by providing continued improvements in the efficient and humane production of animals and wholesome animal products.*

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED