

AnSci

Connection

Department of Animal Science, University of Minnesota



Issue 53

April 2003

Notes from the Department Head

By F. Abel Ponce de León

In 1990 E. Boyer discussed (Scholarship reconsidered: priorities of the professoriate, Princeton: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching" 1990, pp 147), the importance of the different forms in which academic scholarship can be, and is achieved. Boyer's work spurred a wave of debates and discussions at many institutions of higher education where, for the most part, the scholarship of research was heavily recognized and rewarded over the scholarships of teaching and civic engagement. At the time, I was faculty at the University of Massachusetts and participated in several seminars and debates over this subject. Finally, in 1995 I was asked to be a member of a discussion group that included faculty from the sciences and the humanities. By the end of 1995, I wrote an essay on the subject titled "Teaching vs. Research: towards the reconciliation of an academic dilemma". I submitted the essay for publication but was rejected because it only focused on land grant universities. Therefore, I invited a colleague, Dr. Mario Norbis, faculty at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, to be a co-author and in turn he recruited Dr. Angela M. Arrey-Wastavino also from Quinnipiac University to participate in our intellectual discussion and present the teaching vs. research dilemma from the perspective of private universities. The essay was finished by the end of 1996; just about 6 months before I joined the University of Minnesota. Needless to say, our essay was rejected several times, either because the journals did not see the issue as important or because it did not quite fit the topics of their interest. Finally, last month, we received word of acceptance by Essays in Education a peer reviewed, online journal. The essay can be found at <http://www.columbiacollegesc.edu/essays/home.html>.

I have given you this long preamble because it is important to consider the time when the publication was written and compare it with our current challenges. The essay addresses trends in academia that have now become very obvious, like the increased dependency on tuition revenues now very apparent in land grant universities. It also proposes to reconsider the way we evaluate the scholarship of teaching so that it can be invested with the prestige it deserves. I have to admit that while the essay touches these issues in a global and gen-

eral form, there are still recognized but not addressed differences in values among universities and between colleges within universities. Again, average trends fit some institutions perfectly while others do not.

The point I want to make is that by analyzing trends, we can predict where we are going and if the path is good then we need to continue it. However, if it is not, then we have to strategize to change it. What is happening today is the result of actions or inactions that occurred 8 to 10 years ago. What will happen in the future will be the result of our actions or inactions of today. We, in academics, influence and in part shape the future through our teaching and research endeavors. Our students carry on the torch.

Our department, through the generosity of the W. E. Petersen family, has organized the W. E. Petersen Symposium to be held on April 8 at the Earle Brown Center (Room 135). Please join us to hear renowned researchers address the problem of reproductive loss in dairy cows and how this trend could be reversed. Again, through this symposium we are trying to change a declining trend in reproductive efficiency of the dairy cow that, if it continues, would be devastating for our dairy industry.

Last, but not least important, is that we are at war. We are reminded daily of the sacrifices our troops make. Our thoughts are with all of them and especially our friend and colleague Fred Hrbek who was recently deployed to Iraq. Times are difficult abroad and at home. Let us maintain our spirits high and hope always for peace to come.

COAFES Legislative Calling Night

To ensure that the University of Minnesota remains a high-quality institution and is able to serve the state for years to come, join University faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other supporters on April 22 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center for Legislative Calling Night. Learn about what's happening at the U and call advocates to remind them to contact their legislators in support of higher education. Orientation and training will be provided and questions will be answered before the calling begins. Food (pizza and pop) will be provided to all volunteers.

For additional information or to sign up, contact Mary Buschette at 612-624-1745 or mbuschet@umn.edu.

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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.

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

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

Graduate Student Profile:

Brad Heins

Brad Heins was raised in Lake City, Minnesota along with his younger sister, Diane. During high school, Brad was involved in raising and milking a herd of 150 Jersey cows. Throughout most of his youth, he participated in 4-H and FFA activities and exhibited his little brown Jerseys at cattle shows.

After graduating from high school, Brad decided to further his education at the University of Minnesota majoring in animal and plant systems. During his senior year in college, Brad was offered an internship at World Wide Sires in Visalia, California. Because of the work he enjoyed there, his long-time interest in genetics was solidified. After college graduation, Dr. Les Hansen offered Brad the opportunity to attend graduate school in the Department of Animal Science to work on a M.S. degree in dairy genetics. Dr. Hansen serves as his advisor along with Dr. Tony Seykora as co-advisor.

Brad's M.S. research has focused on a few topics. Along with his advisors, he contributed to the formation of the new Net Merit Index in Dairy Cattle Evaluations by using body size data collected from the Body Size Project at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center in Crookston. He also researched calving disorders of large body size cows vs. small body size cows. Crossbreeding in dairy cattle is the focus of Brad's current research. He's working with seven large dairy herds in the Modesto, California area collecting and analyzing calving ease, still-birth and milk production data on crossbred and Holstein cows. The California herds are using Montbeliarde, Normande, Scandinavian Red, Holstein, Jersey, and Brown Swiss as sires in their crossbreeding program. Brad also collects data on the crossbreeding being conducted on the University research herds at St. Paul and Morris.

In addition to his research responsibilities, Brad co-instructs the lab section of Intro to Animal Science (AnSc1101) with Dr. Seykora, and serves as Cow Game coordinator for Dr. Hansen's Dairy Breeding course (AnSc4011). Cow Game is a computerized dairy herd simulation program that gives students a real-world view of dairy herd production and type.

When Brad isn't working on the computer in his Haecker Hall office or out in the field collecting data, he enjoys sharing activities with his wife, Joni, of 18 months. And, together they own and manage 15 Jersey cows and heifers. Brad also values his time with friends, fellow graduate students, fraternity brothers and family, especially his four nephews. Among his many outdoors interests, Brad also plays golf.

Attention!

Graduate Students Involved in Sheep-Related Research Studies

Apply for the American Sheep Industry Association's
National Wool Growers Memorial Fellowship

\$1200 Will Be Awarded to a Qualified Graduate Student

For an application and information about the American Sheep Industry's research, development and education priorities, contact Bonnie Rae at 612-624-4995 or bjrae@umn.edu.

The application deadline is June 1, 2003.

Birthday List – April

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 - Alan Hunter | 14 - Claire Kari |  |
| 3 - Christine Savidge | 15 - Charles Christians | |
| 4 - Nicole London | Clifford Wilcox | |
| 5 - Grant Crawford | 17 - Mark Lostetter | 21 - Jonathan Holt |
| Jared Tessmer | David Plath | 25 - Roger Walker |
| 8 - Mindy Spiehs | 18 - Timothy Uhlenkamp | 26 - Douglas Foster |
| 9 - Wansheng Liu | 20 - Lee Johnston | 28 - Melvyn Fahning |
| 12 - Al-Zailaie Khaled | Derrick Sommers | 30 - Sara Davis |
| | | George Marx |

Agriculture 2003: Breaking New Ground

The theme of the 5th Annual Women's Agricultural Leadership Conference is "Agriculture 2003: Breaking New Ground". The conference will be held on April 16, 2003 at the John Deere Training Facility in Bloomington, Minnesota. This conference focuses on the integral roles women play in agriculture. Sessions on leadership, current events, issues in agriculture, and skill-building opportunities will be offered. The program is specifically aimed at women who are actively involved in all forms of agriculture as a career or who are students with the intent of entering an ag-related career; although, anyone with an interest is welcome to attend.

The conference format includes breakout sessions where participants may connect with those in agriculture. There will also be a panel discussion — Breaking New Ground. The panelists will be Marcia Endres, Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Science, University of Minnesota; Beth Lauwagie, Vice President, Minnesota FFA; Carol Molnau, Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota; and Kristin Weeks Duncanson, President, Minnesota Soybean Growers Association.

The program agenda and information about conference fees as well as on-line registration are available at: <http://www.a2kconference.org>. For additional information, please contact Doris Mold at 651-645-3275 or doris@sunriseag.net.

Professional Dairy Heifer Growers Association (PDHGA) Conference Exceeded Expectations

The 7th Annual PDHGA Conference was held at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin this past March 27-29th. Over 500 people attended the conference of which 60% were calf and/or heifer growers, 15% dairy producers and the remainder agricultural industry and university professionals. Attendees were from 20 U.S. states and Canada.

For two of the three days, the conference was designed to follow seminar sessions with two afternoon on-farm tours focusing on calf and heifer health, nutrition and management. Each of the tour days were attended by over 300 people. A third full day of seminars and concurrent sessions addressed industry issues such as supply and demand of dairy heifers, communicating with Hispanic employees, non-traditional leadership skills and family business concerns. Breakout sessions included intensive calf feeding, calf and heifer health, heifer reproduction, and standard operating procedures.

Minnesota was well represented on the 2003 PDHGA Board with President Ron Scherbring, heifer grower from Minnesota City; Secretary Roger Imdieke, heifer grower from New London; North Central Regional Director Tom Gustafson, heifer grower from Willmar; and Conference Chair Hugh Chester-Jones from the Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca. The conference program was led by Pat Hoffman from the University of Wisconsin. Wisconsin Dairy Extension was an integral part of the

local logistics. Speakers from Minnesota included Sandra Godden from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

More information about the PDHGA may be found on their Web site at <http://www.pdhga.org>.

Program Well Received at Four-State Forage Conference

The Four-State Forage Conference was well received by the 200+ participants who attended the program on March 25th and 26th in Baraboo and Prairie-du-Sac, Wisconsin.

Presentations at the hotel and convention center in Baraboo included topics on forage production, nutrient management, forage quality, silage preservation, future direction of forage equipment, nonfiber carbohydrates in forages, and fiber digestibility. Jim Linn presented "Minerals in Forages: Cow Considerations" and served as moderator for one of the two producer panel discussions. The producer panels focused their discussions on use of forage equipment and issues in contracting forage.

Hands-on breakout sessions were held at the U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center in Prairie-du-Sac on the afternoon of March 25th. The breakout sessions included bunker silo facer and hay processing equipment demonstrations, manure evaluation, rumen pH measurements, bunker and bag density, and issues pertaining to nitrogen and phosphorus from manure.

The planning committee members for this four-state event were Mike Hutjens, University of Illinois, Neal Martin, US Dairy Forage Research Center, Randy Shaver, University of Wisconsin, Dale Thoreson, Iowa State University, and Marcia Endres, University of Minnesota, who served as planning committee chair.

Participants Give Turkey Health School High Ratings

In early February, 30 participants from Minnesota and several areas of the U.S. and Canada attended the University of Minnesota Turkey Health School. Workshop topics covered basic anatomy and physiology, necropsy techniques, diseases associated with brooding and growing of turkeys, and disease prevention and treatment. Participants rated the program highly and provided feedback comments such as "very useful", "worth the time and money", and "greatly informative and educational".

Thanks to all the course instructors — University of Minnesota faculty: Dave Halvorson, Sally Noll, Jagdev Sharma, and Andre Ziegler; and industry faculty — Mahash Kumar, Dale Lauer, Don Roepke, Rade Spasojevic, Jim Trites, and Helen Wojcinski. Thanks as well to the workshop sponsors for their support — Biomune, Best Veterinary Solutions, Northwest Veterinary Supply, and Elanco.

Coming: Poultry Ventilation School (October 7-8, 2003), Chicken Layer Health School I (December 2-3, 2003), and Turkey Health School I (February 3-4, 2004). For more information, contact: Dave Halvorson at 612-625-5292 or halvo002@umn.edu; Jacquie Jacob at 624-2766 or jacob150@umn.edu; or Sally Noll at 624-4928 or nollx001@umn.edu. To be placed on a pre-registration list, contact Sarah Summerbell at 624-3434.

Congratulations...

Dr. Trevor Ames, College of Veterinary Medicine, was recently reappointed as Chair of the Clinical and Population Sciences Department for an additional 5 years. Way to go, Trevor!

Dr. Jerry Hawton was recently recognized for his outstanding contributions to the Minnesota livestock industry. Presented by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association at their 2003 Annual Banquet, the award includes induction into the Livestock Hall of Fame located in Haecker Hall where Jerry's portrait will be displayed along with past award recipients.

Dr. Jeff Reneau was presented with the Minnesota Dairy Herd Improvement Association's Distinguished Service Award for leadership and service to Minnesota dairy farmers and DHIA on March 27th at Minnesota DHIA's Annual Meeting in Sauk Centre.

Dr. Bill Schafer was appointed interim head of the Department of Food Science and Nutrition effective February 19th.

Animal Science wordprocessing specialist Julie Tuel resigned on March 27th with plans to move to northern Wisconsin. Congratulations, Julie!

Mark Whitney placed 2nd in the Ph.D. student paper competition at the 2003 Midwest ASAS/ADSA Meeting held in Des Moines, IA in March.

Condolences...

Our condolences to family and friends of Dr. John Douglas Smith. Dr. Smith, J.D. as he was known to colleagues, passed away on February 17th, 2003. Originally from Oakland, California, J.D. came to the University of Minnesota in 1959 and held a faculty position in the Department of Animal Science until his retirement in 1980. With expertise in the areas of animal nutrition and physiology, his research interests included studies on the use of minerals in ruminant nutrition.

Animal Science Seminars April 2003

- 7th Chikako Abe - Distiller grains with solubles as a feed ingredient for poultry
Gaofeng He - Fiber and performance of weaned to finished pigs
- 14th Soner Dogan - Effect of estrogen on CD38/cADPR mediated calcium signaling
Eb Ballinger - Evaluation of the components of reduced input dairy farms
- 21st Jeff Reneau - Title: TBA
- 28th Nicolas DiLorenzo - Manipulation of the rumen microbial environment to improve beef cattle production efficiency
Allegra Toll - Organic poultry

Assure the Future Meet the Challenge

Over the past 86 years, the University of Minnesota's General Livestock Judging Teams have established an outstanding record in competition with the best university judging teams in the nation. Regardless of this outstanding record, the continuance of the General Livestock program is at risk due to financial shortfalls at the University. One way to assure that the program will continue in the future is to establish an endowment that will provide perpetual funding. Such an endowment would need \$250,000, which would provide a minimum of \$12,500 in earnings annually — enough to assure continuance of the General Livestock Judging Team travel funds.

Recently an anonymous donor pledged \$100,000 toward an endowment contingent upon another \$125,000 being raised by former livestock judging team members, alumni, friends and supporters by June 30, 2003. Combining that amount with the anonymous pledge and another \$39,000 currently available in the J.D. Hawton Animal Evaluation and Teaching Fund, would fund the endowment.

Please consider making a generous contribution to the fund and contact others to follow your lead. A \$250,000 endowment is doable — together we can meet the challenge!

For more information on making a donation, please contact Sue Shepard at 624-3625.

***Please Join Us for a
Retirement Celebration***

In Honor of

Kathryn (Kay) Loseth

***April 21, 2003 • 1:00-2:00 PM
Room 365 Haecker Hall
St. Paul Campus***

Please RSVP to

Marcia Hill by April 15th

612-624-9752 • mhill@umn.edu

Animal Science Receives Book Donation

The Department of Animal Science has received a donation of an English/Romanian book from Dr. Alexandru Popescu of the University of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest, Romania. The book, Normal and Pathological Histology of Bone Development in Birds: New Revealed Microstructures, will be placed in the Poultry Science Library in Room 430 Haecker Hall. The book contains photographs of clinical expression and histopathology of bone-related disorders.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Tech Tips

By Chris Buzzetta

When a recall is issued on your vehicle such as defective tires, do you quickly have that problem repaired to protect you and your family? What if a similar defect is found on your computer? Would you have that defect repaired to protect your data and private information?

Many of us forget to check regularly for security patches and updates to our machines. They are very important in preserving the integrity and security of the computer. How many of you are aware of University policy regarding such updates? According to the Office of Information Technology at the University:

Computers attached to the University network should be regularly maintained including the application of critical security patches not less than quarterly (every 3 months). Computers with non-public or sensitive data must have critical patches applied more frequently. Security-related patches not designated as critical by the vendor should be applied on a normal maintenance schedule, which may depart from the above.

Many vendors have automated the patching procedure, particularly for desktop computers. While there is some potential for error by the vendor, the risks are substantially greater than if patches are never applied at all due to oversight.

<http://www1.umn.edu/oit/security/updates-patches.shtml>

Those of you working on Windows machines can use their automated update process. You need to be connected to the Internet through a dial-up connection, cable/DSL modem, or on Ethernet before you begin. If you launch Internet Explorer and click on Tools > Windows Update in the menu bar, it will launch Windows Update. You must use Internet Explorer — Netscape or other browsers will not work with Windows Update. A warning message may pop-up asking you to grant access to Microsoft — choose yes. You will see a link to “Scan for updates” in the middle of the screen that you will need to click to initiate the scan of your machine. When the scan is complete, you will see three categories of updates - Critical Updates and Service Packs, Recommended (Windows) Updates, and Driver Updates. The Critical Updates and Service Packs are the ones specifically addressed by the University policy above. Generally we recommend installing the updates that are indicated in any of these three categories. These updates are issued frequently — sometimes more than once per week. We recommend that you check for updates at least once a month to keep your machine protected from security vulnerabilities inherent in computers.

For more information, you can download a Home Computer Security guidebook at:

http://www.cert.org/homeusers/HomeComputerSecurity/home_computer_security.pdf

Minnesota/Wisconsin Dairy Policy Conference (joint meeting with the Dairy Directors Leadership Conference)
April 4-5 - Embassy Suites, St. Paul, MN
Contact: Lori Weaver, WFCMAC at 608-258-4414

MinnRoyal

April 7-12 - UMN, St. Paul Campus
Contact: Jessica Krueger at 612-625-9254

2nd Bi-Annual W.E. Petersen Symposium: Reproductive Loss in Dairy Cows

April 8 - Earle Brown Center, St. Paul Campus
Contact the Department of Animal Science at 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
Call 1-800-380-8636, or to register on-line, see:
<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach/03mqfs.htm>

North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge-2003

April 11-12 - Hosted by Michigan State University, East Lansing
Contact NAIDC Chair Dave Thorbahn (Select Sires), 614-733-3411; NAIDC Vice Chair Matt Budine (Cargill) 209-234-4427; or NAIDC Secretary/Treasurer 1-800-947-7379

Area Turkey Grower Meetings

April 14 at Sleepy Eye; April 22 at Melrose; April 23 at Mahanomen; and April 24 at Willmar
Contact Sally Noll at 612-624-4928 or nollx001@umn.edu for program information, or see the link to the program brochure at:
<http://www.ansci.umn.edu/poultry/extension/extension.htm/>

5th Annual Women's Agricultural Leadership Conference

April 16 - John Deere Training Center, Bloomington, MN
See: <http://www.a2kconference.org>

COAFES Legislative Calling Night

April 22 (5:00-8:00 PM) - McNamara Alumni Center
Contact Mary Buschette at 612-624-1745 or mbuschet@umn.edu

Employment Expo

April 23 (1:00-7:00 PM) - McNamara Alumni Center
Contact Karla at 612-625-9195 or see: <http://www.alumni.umn.edu/expo>

71st Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science and 17th Winchell Undergraduate Research Symposium

April 25-26 - St. Paul Campus
See: <http://www.mnacadsci.org>

2003 State FFA Convention

April 27-29
See: <http://www.ffa.umn.edu/association/>

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony - Microbial and Plant Genomics Building

May 5 at 2:00 PM - St. Paul Campus

Commencement

May 11 at 2:00 PM - Northrup Auditorium

2003 Minnesota Dairy Conference

May 20-22 - Earle Brown Center, St. Paul Campus
Contact: Veterinary Outreach Programs at 1-800-380-8636 or 612-624-3434

Position Announcements

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

- 123 County Extension Educator-Livestock.** South Dakota State University. Location: Hutchinson County, Olivet, SD. Applications accepted through March 26, 2003 or until a suitable applicant is selected.
- 124 Assistant or Associate Professor of Equine Surgery.** Veterinary Clinical Sciences, Louisiana State University. DVM or equivalent is required. Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 125 Assistant or Associate Professor-Equine Research Scientist.** Veterinary Clinical Sciences, Louisiana State University. Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 126 Assistant or Associate Professor-Agricultural Practices.** Department of Clinical Sciences, Kansas State University. M.S. or Ph.D. degree is recommended. Screening of applications begins April 15, 2003 and will continue until the position is filled.
- 127 Assistant Professor of Animal and Range Sciences/Beef Reproductive Management Specialist.** Department of Animal and Range Sciences, South Dakota State University. Available June 1, 2003. Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 128 Livestock Judging Coach/Lecturer of Animal Sciences (9-month, non-tenure track).** Department of Animal and Ranges Sciences, South Dakota State University. Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 129 Assistant Professor of Animal Science/Ruminant Nutritionist.** Department of Animal and Ranges Sciences, South Dakota State University. Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 130 Executive Director.** American Society of Animal Science, FASS Headquarters Office, Savoy, IL. Applications deadline: April 30, 2003.
- 131 Assistant Professor-Animal Breeding and Genetics.** Department of Animal and Ranges Sciences, South Dakota State University. Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2003 or until a suitable candidate is selected.
- 132 Assistant Extension (81%) / Research Professor (19%).** Department of Animal and Dairy Science, Mississippi State University, Starkville. Applications will be accepted until May 1, 2003 or until the position is filled.
- 133 Assistant or Associate Professor of Ophthalmology.** Veterinary Clinical Science, College of Veterinary Medicine, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. DVM or equivalent is required. M.S. or Ph.D. is highly desirable. Application deadline: May 30, 2003.
- 134 Poultry Scientist.** Department of Biological Research and Development, Schering-Plough Animal Health, Elkhorn, NE. B.S. or MS. in biology, microbiology, virology, immunology or related field is required. No stated application deadline.

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