Summer 2019

Animal Science Department News

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2019 New Zealand Study Abroad Course:
Dr. Julie Walker, Dr. Benoit St-Pierre and 30 students from SDSU participated in an agricultural study abroad course to New Zealand May 5-21. Read about their experiences on the travel blog at [https://2019sdsunewzealandtrip.blogspot.com/](https://2019sdsunewzealandtrip.blogspot.com/)

2019 China Study Abroad Course:
Dr. Bob Thaler, Dr. Sharon Clay and 19 students from SDSU participated in an agricultural study abroad course to China May 6-20. Read about their experiences on the travel blog at [https://sdsu2019chinaag.blogspot.com/](https://sdsu2019chinaag.blogspot.com/)

Annual Hampshire Sale:
The 9th annual SDSU Hampshire sale was held on May 1 using an on-line auction format. Thirteen lots were offered this year with the average selling price of $560; the top selling animal was a fall ram lamb selling for $1,400. Several animals were sold to South Dakota breeders as well as buyers from Montana, Missouri, and Minnesota. The SDSU Hampshire flock is the oldest established flock of Hampshire sheep in the U.S. Thanks to Karolynn Marsan, SDSU Sheep Unit Manager, and the undergraduate students employed at the Sheep Unit for the excellent presentation of the sheep for the on-line auction.

Youth Livestock Judging Camp:
The SDSU Youth Livestock Judging Camp held two sessions in the Animal Science Arena. Session 1 was held June 10-12 with Session 2 on June 13-15. The sessions were available to students age 8-18 years. Instruction at the camps covered live evaluation of the primary livestock species (cattle, sheep/goats and swine), as well as preparation and critique of oral
reasons. Eighty campers from South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Iowa and North Dakota attended the camp.

Beef Improvement Federation Annual Meeting:
SDSU hosted the annual Beef Improvement Federation Research Symposium and Convention June 18-21. Approximately 500 people attended the event at Wilbert Square Event Center in Brookings, SD. Dr. George Perry opened with a presentation on sexed semen research. Speakers from around the world presented on a wide range of topics including advancements in production and genetics. The conference included tours of area ag businesses and beef producers.

Farewell Reception - May 15:
A farewell reception was held for Chelsea Sorensen, Animal Science Professional Advisor on May 15. Several co-workers attended the reception.

Condolences:
We express our sympathy to Jason Griffin and family on the loss of his grandmother, Roberta Moore from Dodge City, KS, who passed away May 21.

We express our sympathy to Dr. Amanda Blair and family on the loss of her grandfather, Orville Weaver from Aurora, IN, who passed away June 13.

Congratulations:
Graduate student Emma Northrop presented a seminar entitled “The influence of preovulatory estradiol on uterine transcriptomics and proteomics around maternal recognition of pregnancy in beef cattle” prior to her successful Ph.D. defense June 6. Emma is doing research at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

Graduate student Amy Abrams presented a seminar July 19 prior to her successful Ph.D. defense entitled “Integration of Molecular Techniques for the Investigation of Bovine Respiratory Disease”. Amy will teach at Berry College in Mount Berry, GA this fall.

Graduate student Erin (Radke) Little presented a seminar entitled "Performance differences in two groups of commercial pigs following experimental infection of PRRS virus 174" prior to her successful M.S. defense July 25. Erin works for Pipestone System.
Travel Notes:

Dr. Crystal Levesque attended Future of Biomedical, Agricultural and Biological Systems Research and participated in research priority and collaborative opportunities between NIH and USDA NIFA.

Dr. Ryan Samuel attended NCERA 219 June 3-4 as the Secretary/President Elect committee focusing on applied swine management issues.

Warren Rusche attended the National Extension Technology Conference in Morgantown, WV June 24-27 to present information regarding implementation of the SDSU Extension website.

American Meat Science Association

Adam Rhody, Austin Egolf, Samantha McKinney, Jessica Janssen, Lydia Hite, Erin Gubbels, Chris Fehrman, Dr. Kyle Grubbs, Dr. Amanda Blair, and Dr. Keith Underwood attended the Reciprocal Meats Conference in Fort Collins, CO June 21-28. Presentations were given by Jessica "Influence of Postmortem Aging and Storage Conditions on Tenderness of Grain and Grass Finished Bison Striploin Steaks"; Lydia "Influence of Post-Harvest Circulatory Rinse on Tenderness and Objective Color of Cow Striploin Steaks"; Chris "Impact of Two Levels of Low Voltage Electrical Stimulation on Beef Quality" and Erin “Effects of Low-Stress Weaning on Calf Growth Performance and Carcass Characteristics.” Five undergraduate students competed in quiz bowl and iron chef competitions.


Dr. Keith Underwood, Dr. Kyle Grubbs and Christina Fehrman taught food science education for middle school and high school students at University on the Prairie in Lamberton, MN July 15-17.

ASAS/CSAS Annual Meeting and Trade Show—July 8-12—Austin, TX:
Dr. Zach Smith, Dr. George Perry, Amy Abrams, Kevin Jerez Bogota, Jung Wook Lee, HeeSeong Kim, Jinsu Hong, Dathan Smerchek and Cienna Boss attended the meeting and trade show. Graduate student Dathan presented a poster entitled “Effects of wheat straw bedding usage on hide tag scores during winter and spring in finishing feedlot cattle fed in eastern South Dakota” and oral presentation entitled “Effects of wheat straw bedding usage on hide tag scores during winter and spring in finishing feedlot cattle fed in eastern South Dakota”. Dr. Perry presented “Effect of trace mineral source on heifer reproductive performance”. Amy Abrams presented “Do Classroom Assessment Techniques Improve Student Learning in an Introduction to Animal Science Laboratory Course?”

Graduate students Jessica Janssen and Anlly Fresno Rueda attended the National Bison Association Conference in Bismarck, ND July 7-10.
A big THANK YOU to South Dakota Pork Producers Council, Wilson Trailer and First Dakota National Bank for donating a new livestock trailer to the SDSU Swine Education and Research Facility. We appreciate your commitment to educating the students and your support of this department.

Beef Bowl BBQ
Saturday, September 21, 2019
3:30pm - 5:30pm
Meal - $8.00
Includes BBQ sandwich, chips, beans and SDSU ice cream
Game starts at 6:00pm—SDSU vs Southern Utah

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