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Animal Science Newsletters

Department of Animal Science

Winter 2020

Animal Science Department News

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Animal Science Department News

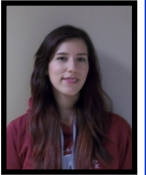
Dates of Interest:

May 4-8: Final Exams

May 9: Commencement

Welcome New Visiting Researcher:

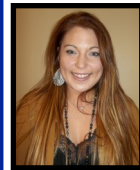
Natalie Acosta Castellanos (Bogotá, Colombia) received her B.S. in Animal Science (March, 2016) and M.S. in Food Science and Technology (April, 2019) both from the National University of Colombia.



Welcome New Graduate Students:



Lacey Quail (White, SD) received her B.S. in Animal Science in 2016 from South Dakota State University. She received her M.S. in Physiology of Reproduction at Texas A&M University in 2018. She is pursuing a Ph.D. with **Dr. George Perry** in Reproductive Physiology.



Analicia Swanson (Elmore, MN) received her B.S. in Animal Sciences and Industry from Kansas State in 2019. She is working on her M.S. degree in Swine Nutrition with **Dr. Crystal Levesque**.

Swine Day:

On November 5, the third annual SDState Swine Day took place at McCrory Gardens with nearly 100 people in attendance!

Dr. Megan Niederwerder from the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine was the keynote speaker. Dr. Angela Pillatzki provided an update on the SDSU Animal Disease Re-

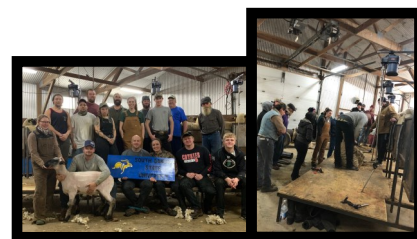
search and Diagnostic Lab project. **Dr. Bob Thaler**, professor and SDSU Extension Swine Specialist, spoke about the National Pork Board program and Operation Main Street, which allows student volunteers to share the pork industry's story of innovation, quality and stewardship from SDSU. Our faculty shared completed and ongoing research occurring at the swine facilities while graduate students presented posters on their research projects.



Sheep Shearing School:

The SD Sheep Shearing School was held December 11-13 at the SDSU Sheep Unit. **Dr. Jeff Held** reported that participants attended from SD, MN, NE, CO and WA. Topics covered included professional shearing techniques, equipment maintenance and repair, and wool handling and preparation. SD Extension has partnered with the SD Sheep Growers Association for more than 25 years to offer this nationally recognized shearer

program facilitated by the American Sheep Industry Association – Wool Council to serve the needs of the U.S. sheep industry.



Holiday Celebrations:



The annual holiday potluck party was held December 13 in the Cow/Calf Education and Research Facility. The event was organized by the Social Committee consisting of **Terese Van Ravenswaay, Drs. Julie Walker, Crystal Levesque, Kyle Grubbs and Ryan Samuel**. Following the meal, Santa and his Elf distributed gifts for the children. The evening concluded with a gift exchange.

Faculty, staff and graduate students enjoyed the Animal Science holiday party held the afternoon of December 19 in the Wahlstrom Room. Special guests were retired members of the department: **Betty Knutson, Marlys Vander Wal, Carol Kleinjan, and Lowell Slyter**.

Artificial Insemination School:

Two artificial insemination (AI) schools held this winter at the SDSU Beef Breeding Unit in Brookings included participants from SD, MN, NE and OH. The first school was held December 19-21; the second was offered January 19-21. Topics covered in classroom sessions included cow anatomy, equipment handling, synchronization protocols/emerging AI technologies and reproductive management/nutrition considerations. Instructive hands-on sessions were held each day. The course was taught by **Drs. George Perry and Julie Walker**, Extension Field Specialists **Robin Salverson and Olivia Amundson** and graduate students **Jerica Rich, Kaitlin Epperson, Saulo Menegatti Zoca, Taylor Andrews, Adalaide Kline, and Lacey Quail**.

Lamb Bonanza:



The 28th annual Lamb Bonanza was held on January 4 at Frost Arena on the SDSU campus during the SDSU vs Western Illinois double header basketball games. The popular lamb products, smoked lamb sandwiches and lamb meatballs were served to more than 750 basketball fans by Animal Science staff and members of the SD Sheep Growers' Association. Six lamb pelts were auctioned during halftime with proceeds supporting undergraduate scholarships in the Departments of Animal Science and Athletics. The pelt auction average was \$1,400, a near record for this long standing scholarship program! Thanks to all who supported the event including the successful pelt auction bidders: Dick and Shally Rogen (Brandon, SD); Greg and Jane Ode (Brandon, SD); **Julie Walker** (Brookings, SD); Theresa and **Kyle Grubbs** (Brookings, SD); **Rosie** and Jerry Nold Family (Brookings, SD); and Carlyle Halverson (Brookings, SD). The Lamb Bonanza undergraduate Animal Science scholarship program has awarded up to \$5,000 dollars annually in past years. Special thanks to all the SD Sheep Growers Association volunteers and our current and retired staff who assisted with the event: **Drs. Lowell Slyter, Julie Walker, Drs. Joe and Bev Cassady and family, Dr. Cody Wright, Heidi Carroll, Karolynn Marsan family, LeAnn Hall, Ann Kolthoff, Natalie Howard and Terese Van Ravenswaay**. Special thanks to **Adam Rhody, Meat Laboratory Manager, and the Animal Science Graduate Student Association** for their contributions to lamb product cooking and preparation.

Beef 2020:

The SDSU Beef 2020 program was held January 7-9, 2020 in Brookings, SD. The program was attended by 32 beef industry personnel and producers from across South Dakota. Attendees participated in live cattle evaluation, beef grading and pricing examples, and carcass fabrication. They also engaged with a variety of speakers who presented on topics including: the influence of pre-harvest management on carcass traits, beef marketing, value-added factors, and beef eating quality. This long-standing program continues to provide current and future beef industry stakeholders with hands-on learning activities involving live cattle and carcasses to effectively develop an understanding of factors that create value differences among beef cattle. Beef 2020 is supported by the Beef Checkoff through the South Dakota Beef Industry Council and SDSU Extension.

SDSU 1st Annual Beef Day:

Over 80 people attended the 1st annual SDSU Beef Day on January 16. Beef producers and industry members learned about research and programming that faculty and Extension staff are conducting around the state and on-campus. Posters and summary presentations were shared. Thank you to all who made this event possible and participated in the discussions.



Dr. Jeff Held Retirement Reception:

Dr. Jeff Held retired after serving 30 years at South Dakota State University.

Dr. Held has served as a mentor to countless students, producers and industry associates through his role as an SDSU Extension Sheep Specialist and Professor. Congratulations on a successful and meaningful career and earning the title of Professor Emeritus of Animal Science! Many coworkers, friends and family attended the reception. Congratulations Jeff!



Pork Classic:

Pork Classic was held Saturday, February 8 at the SDSU vs Omaha double header basketball game. More than 500 people enjoyed a delicious BBQ pork loin sandwich meal, which included SDSU ice cream. Loins for the BBQ were donated by Smithfield Foods. Ten pork bundles, also donated by Smithfield Foods, were sold.

Approximately \$8,000 was raised to support Animal Science scholarships and programs. Special thanks to all staff and student volunteers and to **Drs. Jeff Clapper, Ryan Samuel** and **Bob Thaler** for organizing this event.



News at SDState:

Farm Credit Services of America has committed to establishing an endowed faculty position in swine production in the South Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.

The \$1.5 million gift will support the nation's first endowed position in swine production. The endowment was announced at South Dakota's 51st Annual Pork Congress January 15 in Sioux Falls.

"Pork production provides an excellent opportunity for young people to be able to return to the family farm. We have an impressive number of our SDSU graduates making a positive difference in an industry that offers them ful-

filling career opportunities. A gift such as the Farm Credit Services of America endowment helps us support the growing, dynamic pork industry in South Dakota into the future and continue making an impact on both our current and future students,” said John Killefer, South Dakota Corn Endowed Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.

The endowment will support faculty conducting research and SDSU Extension programs as well. The gift is a continuation of the legacy of the Swine Education and Research Facility built by producers and allied industry partners from the region.

South Dakota has seen recent significant growth in both sow and finishing pig numbers. As of December 2019, South Dakota ranks eighth in the nation for number of finishing pigs. Our swine program also attracts students from Minnesota and Iowa, who rank 3rd and 1st in the nation in swine production, respectively.



John Killefer, South Dakota Corn Endowed Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (left), is pictured with Craig McManus, who is representing Farm Credit Services of America.

Academic Quadrathlon:



Nineteen teams competed in the SDSU Academic Quadrathlon on February 19 and 20! The event consists of a lab practical (with reproduction, horse, beef, swine, sheep, poultry, meats and lab stations), a written exam, oral presentation and quiz bowl. The top two teams were tied after the lab practical and written portions, and stayed in a very tight competition to the end. The winning team of **Sam Keating** (Winterset, IA), **Logan Tesch** (Henderson, MN), **Madison Kovarna** (Merrill, IA) and **Duncan Poindexter** (Greensboro, NC) went on to compete in the

regional event in conjunction with the Midwest American Society of Animal Science meetings in Omaha and Lincoln on March 1 and 2. Competing against 12 other university teams from across the upper Midwest, SDSU's team placed 3rd in the written exam portion and tied for 3rd in the oral presentation portion!

Wool Judging Teams:

SDSU returned to Wool Judging competition this year, competing at the National Western Stock Show in January. Eight students competed and were accompanied by senior undergraduate **Addison Magill** as coach, along with **Dr. Rosie Nold**. SDSU entered two teams, who placed 8th and 11th Overall and 6th and 7th place in Reasons. Individually, **Jennifer Hurlbert** (Raymond, SD) placed 3rd (tied for 2nd) in Reasons, **Ryeleigh Laib** (Mercer, ND) placed 3rd (tied for 1st) in the Value-based class, and **Ty Schoelerman** (Everly, IA) and **Joslyn Hurlbert** (Raymond, SD) tied for 10th in Reasons. Other team members were **Grady Gullickson** (Flandreau, SD), **Dani Houghtaling** (Doland, SD), **Anna Poull** (Port Washington, WI), and **Malorie Schmoll** (Wausau, WI).



Sheep Unit Success at Watertown Winter Farm Show:



The Sheep Unit had two entries in the Watertown Winter Farm Show Sheep Show and Sale on February 15. One entry was the Reserve Champion Hampshire ewe.

Rodeo Team:

The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association made the decision to cancel the entire spring college rodeo season March 20th. The qualifications for the College National Finals were to be decided by the six rodeos that were held

last fall. On April 8th the decision to cancel the CNFR was also handed down to those that had qualified. SDSU Rodeo would have had eight team members representing the Jackrabbits at the CNFR in June at Casper, Wyoming. Jacey Hupp – Region Champion Goat Tier, Colton Struxness – Regional Champion Steer Wrestler, Scott Halverson – Reserve Champion Tie Down Roping, Allison Pauley - Reserve Champion Barrel Racer, Reed Arneson – Reserve Champion Saddle Bronc Riding, Shelby Spanel – 3rd place Goat Tying, Chaysen Boldt – 3rd place Team Roping, and Tori Jacobs – 5th place Goat Tying. The Women’s team were reserve region champions and the men’s team were 3rd. An online auction will take place soon for all of the donated items toward the Buckles and Bling Fundraiser that was cancelled over the weekend of the Jackrabbit Stampede. The SDSU Rodeo clothes ordered for the cancelled Jackrabbit Stampede will also be sold online by Facebook this summer. The team is looking forward to getting back to practices and rodeos this fall!

Congratulations :

Graduate student **Katelyn Zeamer** presented a seminar entitled *“Effects of a low allergenic soybean variety on gut permeability, digestibility and growth performance in pigs”* prior to her successful M.S. defense on November 8.

Graduate student **Kaitlin Epperson** presented a seminar entitled *“Optimization of reproductive success in beef cattle by implementation of estrus resynchronization, nutritional management, and evaluation of disease prevalence”* prior to her successful M.S. defense on November 20.

Graduate student **Jung Wook Lee** presented a seminar entitled *“Optimization of Canola Co-product Utilization in Swine”* prior to his successful Ph.D. defense on November 21.

Graduate student **Prakash Poudel** presented a seminar entitled *“Effects of commercial feed additives on the gut microbiota of food animals”* prior to his successful Ph.D. defense on November 26.

Graduate student **Jason Griffin** presented a seminar entitled *“Global gene expression and DNA methylation of the hypothalamus in feeder calves fed high concentrate finishing diet upon entering feedlot phase”* prior to his successful M.S. defense on December 18.

Graduate student **Vinay Bandrupalli** presented a seminar entitled *“Identification and genomic characterization of candidate starch and lactate utilizing bacteria from the rumen of beef cattle”* prior to his successful Ph.D. defense on January 14.

Dr. Cody Wright is a recipient of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Excellence in College and University Teaching Award for Food and Agricultural Sciences. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities presented the award to Dr. Wright November 10 in San Diego.

“The most rewarding part of being a professor is hands down the students. Getting to know them and helping them understand the key concepts and practices that will be beneficial in their careers energizes me. There is nothing better than having a student experience an a-ha moment,” Cody says.

Read the full story here: https://www.sdstate.edu/news/2019/11/sdsu-animal-science-professor-receives-usda-teaching-award?fbclid=IwAR3eR2DavEMRpHPq9jcTHjOZxMW_ycwsWnnVcrGYSRdC_iQEppXRiTbtuig

At the undergraduate poster competition at Midwest ASAS meetings in Omaha, NE, **Madison Kovarna** won first in her section. The title of the poster was “Factors associated with birthing interval and total farrowing duration in sows and gilts within a production setting.” **Madison** worked with **Dr. Crystal Levesque** and post-doctoral researcher, **Dr. Jorge Perez-Palencia** on research for this project. Congratulations **Madison**!





Ph.D. grad student **Samantha McKinney** and M.S. graduate student **Austin Egolf** were united in marriage in Brookings on December 21. The couple will be relocating to Kansas City, MO following completion of their studies.



Zelda and **Paul Schlobohm**, Ruminant Nutrition Center Livestock Manager are first-time grandparents! Born to Jerad and Courtney Schlobohm January 6, twin girls Josephine (4lbs 11 z) and Sutton (5lbs 5oz).



Dr. Richard Wahlstrom celebrated his 97th birthday on February 13. Several people attended the reception at Park Place Assisted Living.

A farewell reception was held February 25 for **Dr. Tofuko Woyengo**. He began teaching and conducting swine nutrition research in the Animal Science Department for the past five years. He will be relocating to Denmark but will be an Adjunct Assistant Professor for SDSU Animal Science.

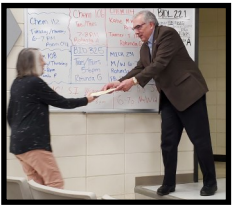


Dr. Woyengo & Dr. Cassidy

Dr. Michael Gonda was awarded the Excellence in Honors Engagement Award during a ceremony on February 27. **Dr. Gonda's** primary interaction with Honors students is through Honors contracts of his Livestock Breeding and Genetics course. He provides students with a unique experiential learning opportunity where he travels with these students to companies and government organizations in the animal breeding industry.



Dr. Bott-Knutson, Dean of Honors College & Dr. Gonda



Cheryl Beste was recognized at the Spring Civil Service meeting on March 11 for 48 years of service. Congratulations **Cheryl!**

Proud grandparents Karen & **Dr. Bob Thaler** introduce two grandsons!

Drake Hayes Steffen was born April 7 to Allyse and Mike Steffen weighing 6lbs 2oz and was 19.5 inches long. Big sister Charleigh and big brother Hunter welcome him home!



James Douglas Holt was born April 13 to Sarah and Dustin Holt weighing 7lbs 2oz and was 20 inches long. Big brother Brett welcomes him home!



Condolences:

We express our sympathy to **Dr. Julie Walker** and family on the loss of her sister, Shirley Walker Stinson from Coon Rapids, MN who passed away February 26.

Fall Graduation Candidates:

Bachelor of Science Degree

Animal Science Major

Mickelle Ahlers	Sioux Falls, SD
Malorie Anderson	Bryant, SD
Jonalyn Beastron	Pierre, SD
Cali Bergmann	Cottage Grove, MN
Caly Bornsen	Webster, SD
Kaitlynn Brouwer	Luverne, MN
Dorothea Clark	Delano, MN
Jordan Davelaar	Maurice, IA
Kate Dentlinger	Manning, IA
Maggie Edleman	Willow Lake, SD
Logan Ellingson	Stratford, SD
Brittany Harazin	Renville, MN
Trista Jasa	Manilla, IA
Elizabeth Mitzel	Tyndall, SD
Clay Newton	Echo, MN
Robert Orsten	Willmar, MN
Leah Polejewski	Taunton, MN
Maggie Post	Lakefield, MN
Marcus Rodriguez	Hartley, IA
Christian Rozeboom	Sioux Center, IA
Mary Sarah Sauber	Little Falls, MN
Whitley Sieverding	Humboldt, SD
Cole Sik	Canby, MN
Lauren Sokolowski	Wakonda, SD
Danielle Stoltz	Mt. Vernon, SD
Laura Tow	Fairmont, MN
Leslie Zubke	Watertown, SD



Master of Science Degree

Animal Science

Kaitlin Epperson	Columbia, MO
Reproductive Physiology	
Katelyn Zeamer	DePere, WI
Swine Nutrition	

Doctor of Philosophy Degree

Animal Science

Jung Wook Lee	Seoul, Korea
Swine Nutrition	
Prakash Poudel	Besishahar, Lamjung
Gut Microbiology	Nepal



Thank You

In the spring of 2017, the SDSU Feed Mill received a generous donation of a new triple roller mill from Lonestar Enterprises, Lennox, SD. This addition has provided the ability to process a variety of grains much more efficiently and accurately, providing an improved end product. It also replaced two machines more than forty years old, and in need of constant maintenance. Lonestar Enterprises has again offered to donate a self-



Triple roller mill,
donated in 2017



Self cleaning
gravity scalper,
donated-2020

cleaning gravity scalper to the SDSU Feed Mill. This powered unit will replace the existing scalper on the roller mill, which requires frequent manually cleaning when foreign material is present in the grain. The new mini scalper cleans at least 85% of the foreign material, such as corn cobs and stalks, leaving a much cleaner end product, and reduces down time of cleaning debris in the roller mill. The SDSU Feed Mill and the animal research units it serves would like to thank Lonestar Enterprises for their generosity and willingness to provide the SDSU Feed Mill with the ability to improve our research and production by utilizing their advanced grain processing department.

John Goebel, Manager
SDSU Feed Processing Research Unit



**SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Department of Animal Science

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