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AVS Corner, May 2016

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- ALUMNI AND STAKEHOLDER SPOTLIGHTS
- DID YOU KNOW?
- AND MUCH MORE!



Retired faculty member and poultry judge, Dr. Mickey Hall, stands with poultry LNA students Jacob Crotts and Kirsten Curry.

LNA 2016: ALL IN THE (CLEMSON) FAMILY

- EMILY COOK

On April 1st, the T. Ed Garrison Livestock Arena became a hub of activity. Students scurried around, grooming their animals, setting up decorations, and making every final preparation for the 2016 Little North American Livestock Exhibition. On the following day, their months of hard work finally paid off as students showed animals from five species (beef cattle, dairy cattle, equine, poultry, and swine), then faced off in a round-robin competition where the top 10 students show all 5 species. This year, the coveted title of Grand Champion went to Erika Jones, and the Reserve Champion was Corey Gaskins. The Corey Watt Stockman Award Scholarship was presented to Maxton Shaw for his outstanding performance on the stockman's quiz and judging contest, as well as his show score. In total, students raised over \$8,000 through fundraising efforts including sponsorships, penny wars, merchandise and even cake pop sales!

This annual event is a huge undertaking, and it truly is student operated from top to bottom. However, its success would not have been possible without the guidance of faculty member Richelle Miller, who this year oversaw the Livestock Exhibition Techniques course and the LNA Executive Board. This board is comprised of students who plan, organize, and oversee every aspect of LNA. They also work hand in hand with the teaching

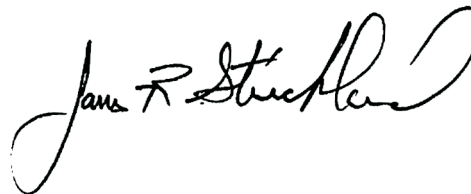
Notes From the Corner Office

Welcome to our 5th edition of the AVS Corner!

Our AVS Corner team has done it again. They have written another excellent edition of the AVS Corner, which includes a nice batch of stories starting with the cover story about this year's AVS Little North American. In addition, they have developed spotlights on 3 former AVS graduates, Dr. Christy Belcher, Dr. Gwynne Kinley, LTC (thank you for your service to our country) and Ms. Beth Crocker. These three ladies represent the breadth of what our students accomplish upon leaving Clemson University with their degrees. You will also find articles focused on two of our faculty, Ms. Richelle Miller and Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth, and their efforts on behalf of our students and stakeholders. Both of these faculty members are excellent teachers and role models for our students. I hope you have the chance to meet them in the future; I am quite certain you will find them as interesting and helpful as I and our AVS students do. You will also be introduced to Laine Chambers our most recent permanent hire. He works for Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth and manages the Histology Core Laboratory. Club updates and an Extension piece are also to be found in this edition, as well as a description of some exciting renovations at the PEC Building!

Genetics and Biochemistry and Biological Sciences, as they transition to the new College of Sciences. As we move forward with the reorganization there are still many unknowns, like how this change will impact AVS student access to coursework in the new College of Sciences and departmental resources. Regardless of these unknowns, I am confident that AVS will continue to excel in its mission. My confidence stems from the certainty that the department has the best faculty, staff, students and stakeholders and thus, cannot help but be successful. Please feel free to contact me (jrstric@clemson.edu) if you have ideas for or questions about our programs or if you have time and/or resources you believe might benefit the department's efforts.

I sincerely hope you enjoy this edition of the AVS Corner. And if you are ever in Clemson, come by and see us. I would certainly like to visit with you and brag on my faculty, staff and students. Thank you for your support and may God bless you, your families and your careers.



Jim Strickland
Department Chair, AVS

Three years ago this January, I came aboard as the new Chair of the department. In the ensuing three years the department has seen a number of changes. We have had faculty leave for retirement and other opportunities. In addition, we have seen a change in leadership from the President down to the College Dean's office and we are currently going through a reorganization that will culminate this July 1, 2016 with the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences saying goodbye to two departments,



MAY 2016

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AVS Corner editors:

Front row:

Kim Hill
Emily Cook
Hayley Boyd

Back row:

Jamison Lynch
Johanna Johnson (Advisor)
Alexandra Johnson
April Jeffcoat



CLEMSON
ANIMAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCES

assistants for each section of the course. These TAs have all previously competed in LNA and are enthusiastic about a particular species, so they pass on their knowledge of showing livestock to the new LNA students.

Because LNA is so near and dear to the heart of AVS, Ms. Miller and the Executive Board strived to include even more members of our Clemson family in this year's event. The judges for each species all had a close connection to the AVS Department. Former professor Dr. Mickey Hall lent her expertise for poultry, while Livestock Judging Team veteran Cole Ramsey stepped in as the swine judge. AVS grads Cameron Burns Shirley and Rose Tolson Jordan served as the beef cattle and dairy cattle judges, respectively, and current graduate student Bekah Strunk judged the equine class. Everyone involved in LNA was thrilled and grateful to have all of these members of our AVS family present to pass on their knowledge and passion for livestock to our newest group of competitors!

- CORTNEY CURTIS AND EMILY COOK



2016 WINNERS

<u>SWINE</u>	<u>DAIRY</u>
GRAND SHOWMAN: MAXTON SHAW	TONI FRANKEN
RESERVE SHOWMAN: BERNARD RUDDY	EMILY MATTONE
<u>POULTRY</u>	<u>EQUINE</u>
GRAND SHOWMAN: KIRSTEN CURRY	ERIKA STEELE
RESERVE SHOWMAN: JACOB CROTTIS	SARAH BOTKIN
<u>BEEF</u>	
GRAND SHOWMAN: ERIKA JONES	
RESERVE SHOWMAN: COREY GASKINS	
<u>HERDSMAN AWARDS:</u> MAGGIE JUSTICE, KATIE AMSLER, TORI MARTIN, ADDIE CARTER NAD MAXTON SHAW	
<u>SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS:</u> CAROLINE STROUD, TONI FRANKEN, TORI MARTIN, ADDIE CARTER AND MAXTON SHAW	



UNDERGRADUATE ANNOUNCEMENTS 2015-2016

CURRICULUM CHANGES: A NEW, FRESH AVS

The Animal and Veterinary Sciences Department saw a major change in the undergraduate curriculum this semester. In order to create flexibility for students and faculty, less specific classes will be required, enabling students to hone in on their specific career goals. For students personally, the new curriculum will open doors to allow micro-emphasis on areas of interest, and faculty will be able to teach classes further within their interests and expertise. Dr. Vernon explains that the goal is to offer new classes of interest to students. However, this will happen over time so that less preferred classes can be taken off the books to make room for new ones.

One particularly exciting addition to the undergraduate curriculum is the brand new Montana Summer Field Program, which will take place during the 2016 June summer minimester. A handful of AVS students will have the opportunity to travel to the 4000-acre High Meadows Ranch, located north of Billings, Montana, where they will take a team-taught course under the direction of AVS's own Drs. Gustavo Lascano and Tom Scott, as well as ecology experts Drs. David Jachowski and Patrick McMillan. Through their exposure to the animal science, wildlife, and ecological aspects of the area, students will better understand the demands, challenges, and pressures of ranching in the western U. S., while also enjoying the beautiful landscape of Montana.

The process of improving the AVS graduate curriculum is also underway. A committee of faculty led by Dr. Jeryl Jones has reviewed historical records and collected data from a variety of sources regarding funding, graduate student numbers, student interests, faculty interests, and challenges and opportunities within the department. Based on the information they gathered, the committee has developed short-term and long-term goals for the new program. In the future, additional committees will be formed to begin the implementation process. Overall, though, the AVS Department hopes to make the graduate program more welcoming and attractive to outside applicants, and to make our graduate students more marketable and successful in finding jobs.

-KIM HILL AND EMILY COOK

Faculty Spotlight: Richelle Miller

The Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences is privileged to have faculty who are not only influential and hard working, but who also enjoy working with students throughout their years at Clemson. Since 2012, the department has had the pleasure of having Richelle Miller as one of these faculty members.

Richelle Miller was born in Brandon, Florida. She attended University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, where she received her undergraduate degree in Food and Resource Economics. During her time there, she worked at the university swine farm and participated on several judging teams. This sparked a tremendous interest and love for swine, so she decided to continue her education at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota to obtain a masters degree in Animal Science.

When Richelle completed her studies at North Dakota State University, she searched for a career where she would enjoy her work and be successful. During this search she discovered a lecturer position at Clemson University, and the rest is history! She has taught a variety of AVS courses, including Introduction to Animal and Veterinary Sciences labs, Swine Techniques, Livestock Exhibition Techniques, Processing Techniques, Livestock Selection and Evaluation and Animal Products. She coaches as well as coordinates the Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Team, and also serves on the departmental scholarship committee.

In her spare time, Richelle and her fiancée, Eric, enjoy attending stock shows, helping younger family members with their 4H and FFA projects, and hiking. She also judges a significant number of livestock shows. We appreciate all Richelle has done and love having her as part of our department!

-ALEXANDRA JOHNSON AND JAMISON LYNCH



YOUR FUTURE.
HEAD ON. CLEMSON

ENHANCING THE AVS DEGREE: THINKING OUTSIDE THE CURRICULUM

RA LIFE SKILLS

AVS, like many other departments on campus, is always on the lookout for ways to enhance students' education. After their freshman year, Clemson students have the opportunity to serve as resident assistants (RAs) within on campus housing. In this role, students act as counselors, friends, authority figures, and mentors. They are required to work with fellow staff members in order to create a suitable living-learning environment for residents with different social identities, and they develop a number of skills, which enhance what they learn in their formal curriculum. AVS is proud that each year, a number of our students take on that challenging responsibility. Many of the skills developed while in the role can be applied later to internships, jobs, or in graduate or professional school.

As counselors, RAs acquire the ability to console residents dealing with challenges and offer advice or make suggestions when appropriate. These skills can be applied within the veterinary or medical fields when clients or patients are distressed. The development of associated communication skills are critical life skills no matter where a student ends up after graduation.

Another important skill RAs acquire is the ability to balance friendships with their residents with their roles as authority figures. Creating productive interpersonal relationships allows for a sense of community to develop, while maintaining a formal structure ensures members are treated fairly and kept safe, while also getting their work done. Maintaining this balance is critical for anyone leading or owning a business, whether that be a veterinary practice, a pet food store, a farm or anything else. The best leaders develop positive relationships with fellow employees but also know when to be assertive when various tasks must be completed each day.

Lastly, RAs are frequently referred to as mentors for their residents. Many residents have a difficult time adjusting from high school to college, so RAs serve as role models. As future leaders, it is important to consider the impact one has on those around them, and how they can model good communication, integrity and work ethic to facilitate growth.

Having had the experience ourselves, we have found the experience heavily impacts our daily lives. We have grown as individuals, are proud of the skills we have developed, and think it is important to encourage other students to take advantage of the opportunity!

-HAYLEY BOYD AND APRIL JEFFCOAT



BACK TO THE FUTURE

In today's world, it seems as if we are always searching for the next big thing, the more high-tech the better. Yet sometimes we forget that whoever did it first sometimes did it better. In this case, that is exactly the assumption we are making, and it has the potential for huge advances in sustainability and food technology. Using solar energy as a means of drying food has been in practice since the 7th century B.C., and now we are returning to that idea in order to come up with a solution to the food waste problem in our world. It is cheap, effective, and sustainable.

Over the past year, I have been working with AVS faculty member Dr. Gustavo Lascano to develop a system that utilizes solar energy to convert supermarket waste into feed that can be used for livestock. To accomplish this, I have just finished building a solar oven based on a prototype developed by Appalachian State University. Our goal is to use this solar oven to dry any produce that grocery stores (or dining halls) can't use, whether it be due to small defects or lack of consumer appeal. This dried produce can then be turned over to a processing company who can grind and incorporate the dried fruits and vegetables into animal feeds, particularly for livestock. Although we are still in the initial stages, we have started drying various produce items and analyzing their nutrient content, enabling us to identify groups of produce that could go into feeds. Very little research has been done on this method for utilizing grocery waste for products such as animal feed, so while we have hypothesized about the results of nutrient testing, more work is needed before recommendations can be made. Our hope, however, is that the utilization of solar ovens on a commercial level will



benefit all parties involved. The farmers would be able to get inexpensive, local feeds, while the grocery stores would be able



to reduce waste and even initiate their own sustainability programs. If utilized across the country at large-scale operations, this project has the potential to make use of thousands of tons of produce on a daily basis which would otherwise be wasted, a win by anyone's standards.

-AVERY GOHO



From the Field: Clubs & Organizations

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY POULTRY SCIENCE CLUB

WINGING IT

The Poultry Science Club (PSC) experienced a busy and exciting semester. One of the most significant events for the PSC occurred in early January, when they attended the International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) in Atlanta, Georgia. This event brought together 1,250 exhibitors and 30,000 visitors. IPPE provided members of the PSC with the ability to apply for internships, interviews, and jobs within the poultry industry. Reena Lee was offered a position with Tyson in Monroe, NC, Alyssa Buschman was hired with Tyson in Robards, KY, and Addie Carter accepted an internship with Tyson in Wilkesboro, NC. Following the IPPE, the PSC participated in a number of service projects at the Morgan Poultry Center in Clemson, SC. The PSC also assisted in the Thornwell Project by reassembling the damaged feed mill at the Morgan Poultry Center. The PSC hopes to have the feed mill running by Fall 2016 in order to sell feed to the public. To celebrate the PSC achievements for Spring 2016, the club took a weekend camping trip to North Carolina. Club members are excited to see what the fall semester will bring!



-HAYLEY BOYD

SWINE CLUB

BRINGING HOME THE BACON

The Swine Club was revived this semester with a whole new approach under the guidance of Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth. The club got started with farm clean-up days, service project plans, and local farm tours. Mrs. Lindsay Davis, manager of Clemson's Starkey Swine Center, welcomed the Swine Club with open arms this semester and was excited to have more student interaction on the farm. The executive leaders of the club hope to increase members' awareness of current industry trends and operations, offer hands-on opportunities on the CU farm, and potentially start showing Clemson's pigs. Several local pasture pork farmers opened their farms to the new club, offering first-hand experience with raising pigs on a smaller scale farm. In the fall, the Swine Club hopes to begin to travel to events to enable members to broaden their understanding of pork production, network, and explore opportunities in the industry.



-KIM HILL

CLEMSON COLLEGIATE HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Since the last edition of the AVS Corner, CCHA hosted their December horse show at the T. Ed Garrison Arena, which was a great success. Throughout the spring, club members attended farm tours and meetings with several exciting speakers. CCHA also traveled to Oklahoma for the American Collegiate Horseman's Association national convention. This was a fantastic networking opportunity for the club members, who were able to tour a variety of large horse farms and meet many professionals from the industry. Now, the club is hard at work again planning their next horse show, which will take place in August.

-COURTNEY LEE



ALL ABOUT THE AMBASSADORS

The AVS Ambassadors dedicate each spring to welcoming newly accepted students and their families to the department. This semester was no exception. The Ambassadors put in hours of hard work at Destination Clemson, an annual event in which the AVS Ambassadors speak with prospective students about their experiences with academics, clubs, research, study abroad, and the multitude of other opportunities that the AVS Department offers. Many of our AVS students cite this event as a major factor in why they chose Clemson, so we are extremely proud that our Ambassadors serve as such a positive face for AVS!

-EMILY COOK

From the Field: Clubs & Organizations

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

LIVESTOCK JUDGING: NEW YEAR, NEW TEAM

Clemson University Livestock Judging Team has some new faces for 2016. Coach Richelle Miller recruited five new members for the Spring 2016-Fall 2016 year and began training their eyes and speaking skills immediately for the contests that awaited them. The new members include Dorian Green, Harris Jordan, Hope Morris, James Scott, and Lauren Scott. Coach Miller only had two months to prepare the team members before their first competition on March 14 at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest in Texas. It was not long before the team was traveling again to West Lafayette, Indiana, on April 7-10 for the All East Livestock Judging Contest. The team had a great semester and is looking forward to traveling and competing more in the fall.

-APRIL JEFFCOAT



BLOCK & BRIDLE

TAKING THE BULL BY THE HORNS

The Block and Bridle Club continued with another industry-filled semester. Members participated in several exciting events, including Clemson's Bull Test Sale, the annual Bulls and BBQ fundraiser, and the yearly Barrel Race. Many representatives from agricultural industries visited to speak about their careers and to give helpful advice to club members. The club's main goal for the semester was to move forward with plans to restore the rodeo arena and the historic Woodburn Barn to create a functional equine boarding

facility for student use. The annual Bulls & BBQ fundraiser was moved to Denver Downs to accommodate a larger crowd and to extend the reach of Clemson University Block and Bridle into the greater community. The Barrel Race also took a step up and was held at Double J Arena in Pendleton, SC. Next semester, Block and Bridle hopes to have an even more involved semester to continue developing professionals in the field of agriculture.

-KIM HILL



PRE-VETERINARY CLUB

SPEAKERS AND SUTURES

The Pre-Vet Club hosted a number of enthusiastic guest speakers throughout the spring. Club members learned about enticing new opportunities for Clemson students at the University of Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine in Scotland, and their eyes were opened to a unique career option by emergency preparedness veterinarian Dr. Charlotte Krugler. In addition to these and other fascinating presentations, club members gained hands-on experience through a suture workshop conducted by Aiken veterinarian Dr. Charlie Timmerman, as well as a radiology workshop led by Pre-Vet's very own advisor and radiology expert Dr. Jeryl Jones. The club ended the semester on an exciting note with a trip to Zoo Atlanta, which included behind-the-scenes access catered to the students' veterinary interests!

-EMILY COOK



DAIRY SCIENCE CLUB

MOO-VING RIGHT ALONG

The CU Dairy Science Club (DSC) has had an exciting semester. The club started off the semester by providing a breakfast for AVS faculty, which was intended to help faculty get to know the DSC and also to give back to AVS. February concluded with a trip to Athens, Georgia, where the UGA Dairy Science Club hosted the annual American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) Student Affiliate Division Southern Regional meeting. Students competed in the dairy quiz bowl, presented papers on topics in production and dairy foods, and presented a scrapbook detailing the DSC adventures. Cortney Curtis won first place in dairy production and Lauren Scott won third place in dairy foods. The DSC also placed third in the quizbowl and first in scrapbook! March began with the annual Clemson University Spring Dairy Show where students showed their Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, and Brown Swiss heifers at the T. Ed. Garrison Arena. The spring semester, which also included farm tours at local dairy operations, guest speakers, and a booth at LNA, concluded with a banquet in April to commemorate the outgoing officers and induct the newly elected DSC officers who will lead the club next year.

-ERIN SOLE



THE SISTERS OF SIGMA ALPHA

SIGMA ALPHA: INDIVIDUALLY UNIQUE, TOGETHER COMPLETE

This spring, the sisters of the Tau Chapter of Sigma Alpha Sorority worked hard to thoroughly demonstrate their four pillars: scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service, on campus and within the community. Twice a month, the sisters volunteered at local schools to teach agricultural education courses. Through their annual stud auction, they raised over \$1,000 for Heifer International. This is a non-profit organization that distributes animals and provides agricultural training to help eradicate poverty and hunger. The sisters of Sigma Alpha also empowered women in agriculture by sharing one another's research with fellow sisters, planting flowers during craft nights, touring the Happy Cow Creamery, and learning about the importance of local agriculture. They welcomed seven new sisters into the sisterhood with open arms and strengthened friendships through their annual Mountain Weekend Retreat.

--AMBER WATKINS



WAVS

CATCH THE WAVS TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The WAVS community was heavily involved in service and academics during the spring semester. Members of WAVS assisted in a number of service projects such as volunteering at Crossroads Animal Hospital's adoption event, as well as writing Valentine's Day cards for Greenville Health System's Children's Hospital. WAVS also completed a number of tutoring hours each week to ensure that coursework was comprehended. In order to bond and de-stress from the rigor of their coursework, WAVS community members painted mugs at Glazed Pottery as a group. Mugs were painted as everything from pigs to cherry blossoms and more. Towards the end of the spring semester, the members of WAVS also attended a professional dress event. Guest speakers Dr. Johnson, Dr. Wilmoth, and Mrs. Kathy Still discussed the importance of a professional appearance and attitude for success when applying to graduate, veterinary and other professional schools as well as future jobs. We are excited to see where the WAVS community of 2015-2016 goes from here and look forward to having many of them serve as mentors for the new class this fall!

-HAYLEY BOYD



AVS Stakeholder Spotlight

AVS STAKEHOLDER SPOTLIGHT: BETH CROCKER

Anne Beth Crocker found herself in a tricky situation after receiving her Animal and Veterinary Sciences degree here at Clemson University. Her career choice was originally vet school, but that did not work out. Beth started interning with multiple agricultural chemical companies and interacting with farmers, pulling soil samples, scouting for pests, and repairing certain machinery. During this experience, one farmer suggested that a good way to contribute to agriculture was to be a lawyer that works for farmers. Following this advice, she applied to Drake University to obtain a Law degree with one of the premier agricultural law professors in the country, Neil Hamilton. While in law school, she took as many courses as she could in Agricultural Law, Legislation, and Intellectual Property. After graduation, Ms. Crocker went on to obtain her Masters in Law (LL.M) at the University of Arkansas. Then, she held multiple positions before beginning her job here at Clemson University as Associate General Counsel.

Ms. Crocker's AVS education strengthened her understanding of the animal agriculture industry, and has allowed her to address the needs of clients in this area in an efficient and effective manner. The demanding AVS curriculum also instilled in her valuable study habits that thoroughly prepared her for the rigorous demands of her continued education in the legal field.

Photo credit: Mark Atwater

Ms. Crocker expressed that if students do not get into vet school, there are many other career opportunities to look into. She emphasized the importance and prevalence of lawyers in the animal industry, especially in the veterinary field, where there are business management and liability issues such as bites and injuries in clinics, non-payments by clients, animal practice claims, and many other problems that can arise in running a veterinary and/or related animal agriculture practice.

We can all take a page from Ms. Crocker's book and push ourselves to expand our horizons, to have multiple game plans, and to welcome the unexpected. Like Ms. Crocker, we may find great success in places we never before considered! Ms. Crocker's unique perspective and insight has been invaluable to the Stakeholder Advisory Board, especially in the formation of the board's bylaws. We are very grateful for her service to the AVS Department!

-APRIL JEFFCOAT & JAMISON LYNCH



Exciting Addition for Students in Extension!

Clemson Cooperative Extension serves as a public outreach service to help bridge the gap between researchers and producers, but many students and community members don't know much about it. To help with this, a team of Extension faculty (including Dr. Matthew Burns, Adjunct to AVS Department) and student interns (including Raleigh Dawson and Jillian Milopoulos, AVS Students) have been working on starting up a new student run extension office right here in P & A. The student office will be located just down the hall from the AVS classrooms in the former agricultural communications office. The idea behind this new student run office is to inform students and adults about what extension is and how it can benefit them. The office will also aim to teach student interns valuable skills and show them what a career in extension is like on a day to day basis. Students working in the office will act as ambassadors for Extension by hosting outreach programs to teach other students, faculty, and staff what Extension does. Activities around the office will range from taking soil samples, assisting with writing fact sheets, weed identification, helping with livestock issues, planning local outreach programs, and more. This will teach students critical thinking skills as they try to answer questions by utilizing their own undergraduate knowledge, paired with textbook information and other specialists on campus. We are aiming to have an intern for each division of extension: 4-H Youth Development, Agribusiness, Agronomy, Food & Nutrition, Forestry & Wildlife, Horticulture, Livestock & Forages, and Water Resources. The new Campus Extension Office should be up and running by this summer!

- RALEIGH DAWSON



Alumni Spotlight

DR. GWYNNE KINLEY

Dr. Gwynne Kinley came to Clemson from the suburbs of Maine. Although she had minimal large animal experience at the start of her undergraduate education, her classes in livestock health and nutrition, as well as her research experience under Drs. Birrenkott and Strickland, quickly fueled her desire to become a veterinarian. Dr. Kinley graduated from Clemson with a B.S. in Animal Industries (which is now Animal and Veterinary Sciences) in May 1991. She then received her DVM from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in 1995 and began her whirlwind career as a veterinarian. For over nine years, Dr. Kinley worked in private practice in Virginia, Massachusetts, and California, gaining experience in small, exotic, and emergency animal clinics.

However, coming from a family with a military background, she had a strong desire to serve her country, so in 2004, she joined the Army. Dr. Kinley was soon engaged in the multitude of opportunities that the Army offers for long-term health education and specialization. After initial basic training, she was assigned to be the Branch Chief of the Carlisle Barracks Branch Veterinary Treatment Facility in Pennsylvania. Dr. Kinley was then deployed to Africa, where she served as a Field Veterinary Officer. Soon after, she completed her residency in veterinary pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D. C. This prepared her for a position in research and development at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Maryland, where she worked as a pathologist studying endemic, infectious diseases. Dr. Kinley is now a Lieutenant Colonel and serves as Deputy Commander of a medical detachment in Fort Carson, Colorado, where she has the responsibility of providing veterinary support in response to chemical, biological, or radiological disasters. She also serves two additional roles as the wife of an Army strategist and the mother of three boys. We are extremely proud to call Dr. Kinley an AVS alumna, and we sincerely thank her for her service to our country!

- EMILY COOK



DR. CHRISTY BELCHER

Dr. Belcher is one of Clemson's finest! After graduating from Clemson with a degree in Animal and Veterinary Sciences, she continued on to attend veterinary school at Ross University in the Caribbean. With her professional degree, she took on multiple projects, internships, and even teaching opportunities all over the country, from Washington D.C. to Texas A&M. Dr. Belcher currently works within a private practice and also with the Greenville Zoo. She was recently involved in the birth of the zoo's newest addition, baby giraffe Tatu, born at 6:15am on February 2nd! Her favorite part about being an alumni is the family culture and always getting to come home for some Clemson football. Dr. Belcher regularly visits AVS classrooms and participates in a range of events with students, including offering a new summer internship. She cherishes her relationships with the professors she once had here as a student and continues to reach out to them whenever she can. Dr. Belcher's best piece of advice for AVS students is to "Never say never!" to any experiences, classes or opportunities.



-JAMISON LYNCH



Where Are They Now?

TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT OUR GRADUATES HAVE BEEN UP TO!

Dr. Terry Eades

Class of 1984 (B.S.)
Class of 1987 (M.S.)
Rural Veterinarian
Marlboro Veterinary Services
Blenheim, SC

Jessica Davis Simpson

Class of 2003 (B.S.) & 2005 (M.S.)
Anderson County 4-H
Extension Agent
Anderson, SC

Tina Parker

Class of 2005 (B.S.)
Agriculture/Animal Associate I
Godley-Snell Research Center
Clemson, SC

Jackie Porter

Class of 2015 (B.S.)
Veterinary Student
University of Illinois College of Veterinary
Medicine
Urbana, IL

Kelly McKinnell

Class of 2015 (B.S.)
Kentucky Equine Management Intern
Pin Oak Stud
Versailles, Kentucky

WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE, TOO!

We like to stay up to date on what all of our AVS graduates are doing. If you have an exciting new job, or if we haven't heard from you in a while, please take a minute to fill out our graduate survey! You may see yourself in our next AVS Corner! You can find it at this website:

https://qaz1.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8vNHMyfdruQGbw9

PEC Gets A FaceLift!

DID YOU KNOW? PEC BUILDING GETS A FACELIFT!

The PEC (Poultry and Environmental Center) has been an essential part of our AVS Department for several years. This building, which is located on Old Cherry Road, is not only a hub for selling the Clemson poultry farm's egg stock, but is also a classroom and lecture hall for many different AVS classes. These classes range from Animal Anatomy and Physiology to Animal Reproduction, Poultry Techniques and Animal Nutrition.

Unfortunately, the PEC caught fire during Dec. 2015, causing chaos during finals week. The fire began in an upright freezer, and after it was extinguished, much of the building was covered in smoke, ash and soot. The office and kitchen were some of the most damaged areas. While the fire caused a large amount of damage and frustration, it also provided an opportunity for new updates to the older building. One of the most exciting new additions is the brand-new kitchen! The new room will include an updated fridge, 27 feet of new countertop, a 1 foot by 2 foot sink, a faucet, a stove, and a brand new washer and dryer. To guarantee safety to the students, a fire-suppressor hood will be installed above the stove with an off-switch located near the door. And that's not all, folks! The bathrooms for the building are being renovated as well, and will be handicapped accessible. A shower and cubbies are also being added to allow for locker room usage.

Current updates and renovations are expected to be completed by the end of February, but the plans don't stop there! Future projects such as updating the classroom and labs are already being discussed. By the end of this semester the PEC building will have a brand new face to show the world, and will facilitate more education, learning, and fun!

- JAMISON LYNCH



New Faces/ News and Awards

Grads on the Go

MEET OUR NEW GRAD STUDENTS!

1. Jessica Britt

Degree Program: Ph.D.

Major Advisor: Susan Duckett

Undergraduate Institution: Lander University

Hometown: Taylors, SC

Research Focus: The impact of fescue toxicosis on reproduction and fetal development in sheep

"I chose Clemson because I wanted to work with and contribute to a university that has done so much to help the local agricultural community in my home state."



AVS News & Awards

- **Henry Trotter** was part of the shotgun team who won their second national championship
- **Thomas Scott** was one of twenty-seven fellows of the Food System Leadership Institute (FSLI) recognized for accomplishments in completing the FSLI executive leadership development program and for contributions they have made to individual organizations and the broader higher education/food systems
- **Susan K. Duckett** was awarded the "Advanced Graduate of Distinction" from Oklahoma State University, April 2, 2016
- **Heather Dunn** was chosen by the Clemson Libraries as the April Researcher of the Month

MEET LAINE CHAMBERS!

Although he is not technically a new face for AVS, Laine Chambers has recently taken a new role here! Laine is our Histology Core Technician and mainly provides services to department researchers. These services include preparing tissue samples into slides and helping them with any other materials they need. Laine is originally from Athens, Georgia, but currently enjoys the comforts of living in Clemson with his wife Keena, son Coleman and daughter Ashbee Grace.



Laine started his education while in the U.S. Military. He was a member of the Navy and became a combat medic. After his active duty, he worked at a hospital in Georgia, where he later became a mechanic. Laine found a passion within mechanics because of how challenging and interesting his work was. He continued his training in diesel mechanics and worked with Atlanta Freight Liner for three years. After meeting Dr. Green and Dr. Bodine of our AVS department, Laine visited Clemson when supplying equipment for a project. Shortly thereafter, he was offered a job as a Research Associate with ACREC (Animal Co-Products Research & Education Center). After 9 years of enjoyable work, he is taking on a new role.

Laine enjoys working for Clemson University. He absolutely loves the friends and family environment we have here. He appreciates how close everyone is in the department and Clemson University as a whole. Laine also has a wonderful sense of humor. When walking into his office, don't be surprised to see a large cardboard statue of Xena, the Warrior Princess, from the old TV show. The statue not only demonstrates his funny side, but also has sentimental value for it used to belong to his father-in-law, Dr. Bodine.

- JAMISON LYNCH

GRADUATE STUDENTS HOST CHILI COOK OFF FOR BODINE SCHOLARSHIP

THE ANIMAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCES GRAD STUDENT ASSOCIATION (AVSGSA) MEMBERS HAVE BEEN BUSY WITH RESEARCH AND TEACHING FOR MOST OF THIS SPRING SEMESTER, BUT WERE STILL ABLE TO PUT ON THEIR ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF. THERE WERE NINE ENTRIES IN TOTAL AND MORE THAN FIFTY HUNGRY TASTE-TESTERS. THE COMPETITION WAS TOUGH WITH SOME INTERESTING FLAVOR AND HEAT COMBINATIONS, BUT IN THE END THREE TOOK HOME A PRIZE. ALEC NELSON TOOK HOME JUDGE'S CHOICE HOT JALAPENO, COLE HALVERSON WON JUDGE'S CHOICE SWEET AND SASSY, AND TOMMY STILL WAS AWARDED THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD. IN TOTAL, THERE WAS OVER \$600 RAISED FOR THE ASHBY BODINE SCHOLARSHIP FUND! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THE COOK-OFF A SUCCESS!

- LOUISA BOWEN



Research in Progress: A PROMISING PIG PROJECT

In the spring of 2015, Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth and her team of students started a research project on placental efficiency in sows at Clemson's very own Starkey Swine Center. Previous research has investigated the factors impacting variation in placental size and efficiency. Dr. Wilmoth's current project looks specifically at genetic differences between high and low efficiency placentas, as well as the growth of the associated fetuses. To date, over twenty-five litters have been sampled by sev-



eral different groups of students under Dr. Wilmoth. In upcoming semesters, the focus will be on RNA-sequencing, and students will remain involved with research opportunities related to pig and sow management. Students will also have opportunities to give presentations on project outcomes and what they learned through the experience. Dr. Wilmoth plans to end the initial project data collection within the year, leaving further research opportunities available for students with the pigs that were born, the placentae recovered, and future farrowings.

-KIM HILL

AVS Research Highlights

AVS has been busy this year presenting research and publishing papers to disseminate important research findings! See something that looks interesting? Let us know! More information is available on the AVS website at clemson.edu/avs.

Scientific Publications

Duckett SK, Andrae JG, Bouton JH, Hoveland CS, and McCann MA. 2016. Subsequent Feedlot Performance and Carcass Quality of Steers that grazed Tall Fescue with Different Endophyte Types. *Forage & Grazinglands* DOI:10.2134/cftm2015.0133.

Gray MG, Lackey BR, Patrick EF, Gray SL, and Hurley SG. 2016. Multiple Integrated Complementary Healing Approaches: Energetics & Light for Bone. *Med Hypothesis*. 86: 18-29.

Lemos MVA, Chiaia HLJ, Berton MP, Feitosa FLB, Abougoud C, Pereira ASC, Albuquerque LG, Ferrinho AM, Mueller LF, Mazalli MR, Furlan JJM, Carneiro R, Gordo DM, Tounossi R, Espigolan R, Nunes de Oliveira H, Duckett SK, and Baldi F. 2016. Genome-wide association between single nucleotide polymorphisms with beef fatty acid profile in Nelor cattle using the single step procedure. *BMC Genomics* (In press).

Volpi Lagreca G, and Duckett SK. 2016. Supplementation of glycerol or fructose via drinking water to enhance marbling deposition and meat quality in finishing cattle. *J. Anim. Sci.* 94:858-868.

Presentations

Andrae J, and Duckett S. Feb 2016. Pasture to Plate-Forages and their Impact on carcass quality. Tennessee Cattlemen's Association.

Cook, EK, Ricks RE, Duckett SK, and Long NM. Feb 2016. How Frequency of Supplementation Containing Rumen Protected Fat Affects Serum Fatty Acid Profiles in Beef Heifers. ASAS Southern Section, San Antonio, TX.

Duckett S. Nov 2015. Lean Beef Production Systems for a Growing World, XXIV Congreso de la Asociacion Latinoamericana de Produccion Animal (ALPA) y XL Congreso de la Sociedad Chilena de Produccion Animal, Puerto Varas, Chile.

Duckett S. April 2016. Broaden your Horizons. Oklahoma State University Departmental Seminar.

Long NM, Long RE, and Lawrence SG. Feb 2016. The Use of a Mobile App in Teaching Beef Cattle Body Condition Scoring in Undergraduate Classes. ASAS Southern Section, San Antonio, TX.

Washburn JL, Taylor RK, and Long NM. Feb 2016. The Effects of Early or Mid-gestation Nutrient Restriction on Bovine Fetal Pancreatic Development. ASAS Southern Section, San Antonio, TX.

What's Going On!

2016 Calendar of Upcoming AVS-Related Events

MAY

- May 5
CAFLS Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament
- May 7
Spring Graduation

JUNE

- June 13-17
CU Equine Center Summer Day Camp
- June 13- July 15
AVS Orientations
- June 22
SC 4-H Horse Program Record Book Contest
- June 22
SC 4-H Horse Program Creative Contest
- June 22
SC 4-H Horse Program Public Speaking Contest

- June 22-25
SC State 4-H Horse Show

- June 30
SC 4-H Horse Program's Outstanding Club Award-
presented at SC 4-H Congress

JULY

- July 5-9
SC 4-H Horsemanship Camp
- July 11-15
Tiger Talent Equestrian Camp
- July 19-23
JAM ADSA - Salt Lake City, Utah
- July 26-31
Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship- Perry, GA

AUGUST

- August 9
CAFLS Turfgrass Field Day

- August 17
First Day of Classes

- August 17
Bash at the Barre

- August 24
AVS Welcome Back BBQ

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

- September 28
CAFLS Career Fair

- October 10
CAFLS Tailgate

- Equine Events
- Clemson AVS Department Events
- General Events

* More information and additional extension events listed at <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/livestock/events.html>





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RECONNECT!

Interested in reconnecting with the AVS department? Contact us, and we can talk about what form that might take. Perhaps you're interested in being a guest speaker for one of our classes, acting as a sponsor for a WAVS member or moving a pet project forward. If you saw something here that piqued your interest, let us know! Former club members, students and faculty — we would love to hear about what you're up to and where you are!

Be sure to visit the department website for more information, to join our mailing list (mailing or email addresses) and to suggest stories for future newsletters.

Find us at: clemson.edu/cafls/departments/animal_vet_science/

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