

5-2018

AVS Corner, May 2018

Farzana Ferdous (Advisor)
Clemson University

Emily Alexander
Clemson University

Caitlin Mathews
Clemson University

Megan Tamakloe
Clemson University

Meghan Courey
Clemson University

Follow this and additional works at: https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/avs_corner



Part of the [Animal Sciences Commons](#), and the [Veterinary Medicine Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Ferdous (Advisor), Farzana; Alexander, Emily; Mathews, Caitlin; Tamakloe, Megan; and Courey, Meghan, "AVS Corner, May 2018" (2018). *AVS Corner*. 9.
https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/avs_corner/9

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TigerPrints. It has been accepted for inclusion in AVS Corner by an authorized administrator of TigerPrints. For more information, please contact kokeefe@clemson.edu.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- LNA
- Alumni Spotlights
- Clemson Extension
- Club Updates
- Faculty Spotlight
- New Faces

LITTLE NORTH AMERICAN EXHIBITION

-EMILY ALEXANDER, MEGHAN COUREY AND MEGAN TAMAKLOE

Perhaps one of the most interesting and in-depth exploratory courses offered within the Animal and Veterinary Sciences program at Clemson University is the Little North American Exhibition Class, coined “LNA.” This class allows students to work with live animals, with the end goal of training them for a competition in showmanship.

In LNA, students get hands-on experience, where they can apply classroom knowledge to form real-life experiences with livestock animals. Students are divided into six various sections based on animal species. These sections include Poultry, Equine, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, and Swine. In their respective sections, students are led by teaching assistants (TAs), who guide them in the proper care and showmanship of their animal. This class requires intensive focus, a lot of responsibility, and integration with classroom knowledge and hands-on experience. Students are to meet at their respective farm, not only for a designated regular lab time, but also various times outside of lab throughout the week.

Jordan Metzger, a former LNA student and current LNA teaching assistant for the beef section, raves about this class and its countless benefits. Metzger appreciates and “loved how it was so different than any of (her) other classes.” She loved it so much that she decided to be a TA for the past two years, where she gets to witness students “figuring everything out in their own way.” This course shows students the ins and outs of showmanship, with hands on experience.

Students love this class just as much as the TA’s do. Megan Tamakloe participated in LNA two years ago, with a focus on Swine. Megan states, “Swine LNA provided me with an experience in animal showmanship I wouldn’t otherwise get.” Many students go into this course with no prior experience, which is completely fine. Megan explains how she had never worked on a farm in any capacity prior to LNA; but being on the farms at least twice a week, mucking stalls or tending to her pig, gave her a new appreciation for animal agriculture. The class is hard work, but is never short of being rewarding and enriching.

Richelle Miller Kleman, a lecturer in our department, plays a big role within the LNA courses. She oversees the beef, swine, and sheep sections of LNA, as well as supervises the student run executive board. Mrs. Kleman believes that the variety of courses offered within LNA are helpful in developing team building skills, effective communication, time management, and provides numerous opportunities to improve leadership skills. Her favorite part of LNA is being able to work with students and collaborating with the executive board and hearing all of their ideas.



Jordan Knox is showing a dairy cow at the Spring 2018 LNA Exhibition.

WELCOME TO THE 9TH EDITION OF THE AVS CORNER!



Greetings! Wow, time really does fly when you enjoy your career choice! January of this year marked my 5th year as Chair of the Animal and Veterinary Sciences Department. During these first five years, the department has seen several personnel changes through retirements and career changes. In February of this year, Ms. Kathy Still retired and we were fortunate to be able to recruit Mr. Jason Allen to fill the position (Student Services Manager) vacated by Kathy. The department has continued to recruit for a Meat and Poultry Processing Lecturer/Meats Lab Manager. Unfortunately, this latter search effort has not been successful in recruiting a new employee. However, we remain optimistic and will continue our efforts to fill this important position for the department. The department is also recruiting for an Animal Nutritionist and/or GI Microbiome Assistant Professor. This search is going well, and we hope to have a faculty member in place by August. Recently, the department was awarded two new tenure track faculty positions for which we hope to start searches in the near future. During the coming summer months, three more individuals plan to retire, including: Dr. Tom Scott, Professor, Dr. Peter Skewes, Professor and Ms. Kathy

Boggs, Fiscal Analyst. Finding individuals to fill the shoes of these individuals will be difficult, to say the least, as each has been a passionate, collegial and professional member of our department for many years. Please keep an eye out for more information concerning these positions in future editions of the AVS Corner. If you know individuals interested in faculty or staff positions with the department, send them our way.

In this edition of the AVS Corner, you will find articles about our Little North American event, club updates, stakeholder and alumni spotlights, new faces of the department, and a faculty spotlight of Dr. Susan Duckett. In addition, our AVS Ambassadors are requesting your help with career and networking opportunities for AVS students; if you can provide assistance here, I would greatly appreciate it. Although our students are aware there are many opportunities available in the field of animal agriculture, many of them could use mentors and/or career advice from former graduates that are now living in the real world outside of academia. Also, we are looking into how we might deliver the AVS Corner in a unique and timelier electronic method (perhaps as an app). Please let me know your thoughts concerning moving away from a paper copy of the AVS Corner. I do not plan to completely forgo the paper copy, but there is a need to cut the cost of publishing the AVS Corner or to find sponsorship for its publication. I sincerely hope you are enjoying this publication. Our students and faculty advisor put a lot of time and effort into making this publication as informative and interesting as possible. Please let us know if you have suggestions for improvement. May God bless each and every one of you. Take care and drop in for a visit when you have time.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Strickland". The signature is fluid and cursive.



MAY 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Little North American (1)
- Congratulations-Mr. Gary Burns (2)
- Clemson Ext-SCCA Annual Conference (3)
- Clubs and Organizations (4-5)
- Career/Networking Opportunity (6)
- Where are They Now? (6)
- Alumni Spotlights-Mrs. Brittany Miller (7)
- Alumni Spotlights-Dr. David Wicker (8)
- Faculty Spotlight-Dr. Susan Duckett (9)
- Did You Know? (10)
- New Faces (11)
- Farewell-Mrs. Kathy Still (11)
- Research Highlights (12-13)

AVS CORNER EDITORS

Emily Alexander, Farzana Ferdous (Advisor), and Caitlin Mathews (left to right, bottom row); Megan Tamakloe and Meghan Courey (left to right, top row)



Winners of LNA Exhibition 2018

Overall Winners

Grand Champion Showman: Emily Lynch (*Equine*)
Reserve Champion Showman: Jessica Blakely (*Swine*)
Champion Fundraiser: Aubrey Delk (*Dairy*)
Cory Watt Memorial Superior Stockman Award: Isabel Watchorn (*Sheep*)
Herdsmanship Award: Rachel Johnson (*Sheep*)

Top Species Showmen

Champion Swine Showman: Jessica Blakely
Reserve Swine Showman: Lauren Pope

Champion Sheep Showman: Isabel Watchorn
Reserve Sheep Showman: Haley Swett

Champion Dairy Showman: Aubrey Delk
Reserve Dairy Showman: Jordan Knox

Champion Equine Showman: Mallory Mitchell
Reserve Equine Showman: Emily Lynch

Champion Beef Showman: Caitlin Byrum
Reserve Beef Showman: Emma Faulkenberry

Champion Poultry Showman: Alexis Thompson
Reserve Poultry Showman: Hannah Maroun

LITTLE NORTH AMERICAN EXHIBITION CONT.

The main focus of LNA is the exhibition at the end of the semester. This is what the students work for, preparing both themselves and their animals for the showmanship competition. Each species section fundraises in order to cover the costs of the show. The goal of raising money is mainly accomplished by selling t-shirts, and this creates a bit of a competitive nature between species-based sections on who can raise the most money. T-shirts are not the only way the LNA students raise money. They also reach out via donor forms and sell treats to students on campus. A lot of time, hard work, and effort go into this class, and it all pays off at the show.



CONGRATULATIONS ON 36 YEARS OF SERVICE!

GARY BURNS

-MEGAN TAMAKLOE

The AVS Department gives a sad, but grateful farewell to Mr. Gary Burns upon his retirement after 36 years of service to Clemson University. Mr. Burns is a familiar face to any AVS student who frequents our Simpson Beef Cattle Farm. He grew up immersed in animal agriculture on a family farm in Robbins, North Carolina. There, he would get his first experiences in raising beef and dairy cows along with other livestock. He went on to receive his bachelors degree in Biology, with a minor in Chemistry, from Highpointe College in 1977.

After graduation, Mr. Burns came to Clemson to expand his knowledge, receiving his masters in Animal Science and Breeding under Dr. Carl Thompson. During that time, he worked an Assistantship and worked as the Herdsman of the Simpson Experiment Station. After completing his Masters Degree, Mr. Burns was employed as manager for Cyprus Woods Plantation in S.C. and then Sunbeam Farms in Cherryville, NC. He married Sarah Blessing (BS AVS, MS Ag Ed) and they returned to Clemson in 1983, where he served in the herdsman position. Eventually, he was hired as the Farm Manager for the Beef and Sheep Research Units. He was also instrumental in the day to day management of the Clemson Bull Test.

Mr. Burns has a deep love for agriculture and has been able to work with sheep and horses, along with beef cattle, throughout his career. His favorite research has been in animal reproduction and breeding for efficiency. He is listed as a contributing researcher on numerous AVS publications with Dr. John Spitzer, Dr. Carl Thompson and several other researchers throughout his career. He has also been involved in many leadership roles throughout the beef industry including S.C. Simmental Association, S.C. Gelbvieh Association, S.C. Junior Beef Round-Up Committee, and S.C. Cattleman's Association Board.

The highlight of his teaching experience at Clemson has been being able to work with both graduate and undergraduate students. Teaching young people and passing on his experience and knowledge of animal agriculture has been the most rewarding work to him. Mr. Burns had a major impact on the lives of countless AVS /agriculture students as he mentored them in part-time jobs at the experiment station, served as their lab instructor during AVS labs, and served as their coach on the Livestock Show Team and Little North American. His position as Manager of the Beef and Research Unit provided him the opportunity to work with both animals and students.

While Mr. Burns will miss working for the department, he says he will miss his students the most. He will continue to be involved in agriculture, now being able to spend more time on his own farm where he and Sarah raise purebred Simmental and Gelbvieh cattle. He is a devoted member of the Pendleton United Methodist Church and volunteers in several capacities there. Mr. Burns looks forward to spending time with his family, his son Dr. Matthew Burns (CU), daughter-in-law Dr. Ashley Burns (CU), grand-daughter Eleanor Grace (who just adores Gary), daughter Cameron Burns Shirley (CU, Ag Teacher at Commerce High School), and son-in law Matt (Shirley Show Cattle, Shirley Feed and Seed). The Burns are expecting their newest grandchild in August. Although he will be missed at the CU Beef and Sheep Units, it is for certain that Mr. Gary Burns will continue to have a positive role in SC Agriculture.



Mr. Burns and his son, Matt on the beef farm in Circa (1989)



Mr. Burns with family at retirement dinner at T. Ed Garrison Cattle Complex (from left to right: Matt Shirley, Cameron Shirley, Sarah Burns, Gary Burns, Matt Burns)

SOUTH CAROLINA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION ON CAMPUS IN LARGE NUMBERS

-DR. MATTHEW BURNS

On April 5th and 6th, 2018, the South Carolina Cattlemen's Association hosted their Annual Conference at the T. Ed. Garrison Livestock Arena. Over 350 producers and 55 industry vendors were in attendance for one of the biggest meetings in recent history. The Thursday meeting started with several presentations from Dr. Temple Grandin (renowned animal handling professional and Professor at Colorado State University). That evening, almost 200 cattle producers joined 300 other Clemson community members for Dr. Grandin's presentation at the Clemson University Hendrix Student Center. Friday consisted of two really great speakers from the Authors of Southern Forages, Dr. Don Ball and Dr. Garry Lacefield. Special thanks goes to the Clemson Students (pictured below) who served as SCCA Annual Meeting Interns. They were instrumental to the success of the program. Mr. Morris Warner, AVS Grad and Clemson Extension Agent, received the SCCA Educator of the Year Award.



FROM THE FIELD: CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

MINORITIES IN AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND RELATED SCIENCES

MANRRS has been able to hit the ground running this semester with new events and welcoming new members into the chapter. In February, MANRRS hosted a very successful Valentine's Fundraiser. We also had the pleasure of hearing several successful alumni speak to us and the college. Sylvia Staples of the US Forestry Service presented a multitude of job opportunities for students within and outside of CAFLS. Our very own Dr. Kirby Player gave an interactive presentation on personal branding for students breaking into the professional world in the age of social media. MANRRS became more social this year, hosting movie nights and 'Paint-A-Pot' to help our members unwind. We volunteered at Crossroads Animal Rescue to show support for our local community and wrapped up the semester with a hike in the Experimental Forest with the fitness club, Sistas on the Move. MANRRS will continue our momentum and continue to connect CAFLS students with all of the resources we can offer.

-MEGAN S. TAMAKLOE



PRE-VET CLUB

Clemson University's Pre-Vet club strives to get students prepared for professional and graduate schools, and their future careers in veterinary medicine. Weekly meetings consist of presentations from guest researchers, vet school recruiters, and veterinary-related businesses and jobs. We want to give members as many opportunities as possible to ask questions and network prior to vet school applications opening in May. This Spring, meetings consisted of speakers from various vet schools, the AVMA, Dr. Timmerman (a holistic veterinarian), our very own Associate Dean of CAFLS, Dr. Bertrand, Interim Dean of CAFLS Dr. Boosinger, Dr. Kapustin from the Greenville Zoo, and Doug Tindall, Coordinator of Student Recruitment for Missouri (in the picture above with club members). Members were able to attend the UGA open house to tour their vet school for our spring trip. We are excited that our first annual scrub fundraiser for members and the department was a huge success. We welcome new members interested in the field of animal science to join us in the Fall!

-KAY HIPPLER



SIGMA ALPHA

This semester has been exciting for Sigma Alpha! First, we got to initiate a new member into our sorority, and share our sisterhood with her. Our biggest sisterhood event this semester was a weekend trip to Boone, North Carolina where sisters got to enjoy the cold weather, visit the original Mast General Store, and try new places to eat. Additionally, this semester we were able to volunteer at an animal shelter and fundraise to collect money for an animal shelter. We raised money by raffling off two baskets- a dog and cat themed basket, including different bowls, beds, and even vouchers for a free yearly vet exam. We also raised enough money to send a girl to school in Africa through Heifer International. Sigma Alpha had a busy, but great semester. We can't wait to see what next semester brings!

-PEYTON VOIRIN

DAIRY SCIENCE CLUB

This Semester the Clemson University Dairy Science Club has been busy involved in numerous activities. Early in the semester Club members had the pleasure to travel to WVU to participate in the Southern Regional ADSA. The Club had a strong presence and came home with a 2nd Place Production Presentation, a 3rd Place Foods Presentation, a 2nd Place Scrapbook. In additions, Ben Chamberlin was selected as the 2nd Vice President of the Southern Regional ADSA. We also look forward to hosting the Southern Regional Conference next year!



In February, the club hosted the annual AVS Faculty and Graduate Student Breakfast and is looking forward to hosting its annual banquet in the spring. This was a great way to give back to the people who help us the most and award club members with our "Adrienne Bell Annual Scholarship" to recognize their hard work throughout the year. In addition, fundraising activities were conducted this semester with several of our members involved. Our show team competed in the University of Georgia Livestock show, Anderson Livestock Show and Clemson Spring Show at the end of the semester with several top awards. This has been a great semester to be involved with the Dairy Science Club and we invite you to visit us at <http://clemsondairyscienceclub.weebly.com/>

-BEN CHAMBERLAIN

FROM THE FIELD: CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

AVS AMBASSADORS

The AVS Ambassadors have had a great year with prospective student visits and the CAFLS tailgate this past fall. This spring we have been able to welcome accepted and prospective Clemson students at Spring Blitz. We enjoyed talking to the students and their families about what CALFS and AVS has to offer. We answered questions they had about the department and life as a Clemson student. We have also enjoyed looking towards the future of the ambassadors by hosting interviews for current AVS students. We have selected a great group of students for next year's ambassador group and we can't wait for you to meet them! Lastly, although we are saddened to say goodbye to one of our advisors, Ms. Kathy Still, we are very excited to welcome Mr. Jason Allen to the department as one of our new advisors.

-RILEY JONES



BLOCK AND BRIDLE

The Block & Bridle Club got off to a great start by gaining many wonderful new members this past Fall and by striving to improve the B&B Rodeo Arena and the Woodburn Barn. With the addition of a BBQ Chair, we were able to sell BBQ at some of the major home football games! We have enjoyed networking in the community by helping at the Foothills Heritage Fair Rodeo in September, working the Clemson Bull Test Sale in February, and more. On April 7th, we conducted our largest event of the year, Bulls and BBQ, which included great food, music and prizes! So far this year, our club has enjoyed time to fellowship together through many different social events such as a Halloween costume party, Circle M dinner, B&B formal, Valentine's Social, and B&B Mountain Weekend. Overall, we have loved sharing our passion for animals and agriculture with Clemson!

-KATIE TUTEN



CLEMSON COLLEGIATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Clemson Collegiate Horsemen's Association and its members have accomplished great strides this spring. In March we attended the 2018 American Collegiate Horsemen's Association National Convention in College Station, TX. We took tours of the R.O.C.K equine therapy center, Equicare, and spent an evening attending Rodeo Austin. We also heard from multiple speakers and demonstrators from different equine professions. We are excited for two club members who were elected to the national executive board during convention; Amy Kowalski (National President) and Carley Snyder (National Treasurer). CCHA also won the bid to host the ACHA 2019 National Convention next March in Charleston, SC! As CCHA prepares for another school year and the 2019 National Convention we will be expanding the club, providing members with more hands on activities, farm tours, guest speakers, and fun events. We will also be continuing our largest fundraiser, the Trotting Round the Tree Horse Show, December 1 - December 2, 2018! A big congratulations to our new executive board; Amy Kowalski (President), Carley Snyder (Vice President), Kate Fosberry (Treasurer), and Maeve Egan (Secretary).

-KATIE TUTEN

POULTRY SCIENCE CLUB

Recently, the Poultry Science Club (PSC) completed an incubation project. The club used a \$20 homemade incubator constructed by members of the club and successfully hatched two healthy chicks. During the process, members were able to observe the various stages of development of the chicks by candling. This Spring semester the Poultry Science Club held study socials for members and all CAFLS students. The club is currently working on a T-shirt fundraiser. The PSC was able to partner with MANRRS for our year-end celebration on Y-Beach with 'Paint-A-Potluck'.

-JOCEYLN MCGILL



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND NETWORKING FOR AVS GRADUATES

-RILEY JONES

Students of AVS know that networking is important. However, we are often not aware of whom we can turn to (other than our instructors and/or mentors) to get started with careers. Further, potential or new students are often not aware of the full spectrum of career opportunities available to them. The AVS Ambassadors are turning to you, our valued alumni, to help us create a network of individuals willing to share their knowledge about career opportunities related to animal and veterinary sciences. We would like to hear from you and what experiences, knowledge, and skills are needed for you to be successful. Additionally, we would like to find individuals that would be willing to help students gain experience toward their chosen career path (e.g., internships). Finally, we are interested in gathering information concerning your current careers that would provide us information for recruiting new students into animal and veterinary sciences. Many students, prospective and current, and parents ask the ambassadors and faculty questions about the types of career opportunities for AVS students, where our alumni go post graduation, and many more. Unfortunately, we do not always know these answers. If you would be willing to help us begin the process of increasing the networking capabilities of our current students, please use the contacts below and let Mr. Allen and/or Mrs. Miller know what you have been doing since graduating from Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

Jason Allen Student Services Manager ja6@clemsun.edu
Stacey Miller Administrative Assistant smille3@clemsun.edu

MADDIE CULBERTSON

Class of 2012 (BS) Pre-Vet Science

Dairy Specialist at Ceres Solutions Cooperative in Fremont, Michigan

LAURA K. POLLOCK

Class of 2009 (BS) Pre-Vet Science

Medical Director at Mt. Nittany

SUZANNE T. BOSTON

Class of 2010 (BS) Pre-Vet Science

Currently employed as Associate Veterinarian with Herschel Animal Clinic in Jacksonville, FL.

LOIUSA KOCH

Ph.D. (2017) Animal and Veterinary Sciences

Currently employed as Dairy and Equine Nutritionist with Agr-King, Inc in Fulton, IL.

VANESSA M. BUSO

Class of 2013 (BS) Equine Business

Working as a Business Systems Analyst at MetLife in Cary, NC.

ELIZABETH BLANKENSHIP

Class of 2014 (BS) Pre-Vet Science

Epidemiologist at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA

TINA KIMMETT

Class of 2014 (BS), M.Sc. (2017) Animal and Veterinary Sciences

Currently a Planning and Exercise Coordinator for Animal Health Programs at Clemson Livestock Poultry Health.

WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE TOO!

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

<http://bit.ly/AVSAlumniSurvey>

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

BRITTNEY MILLER

-CAITLIN MATHEWS

Brittney Miller, now the owner of Manchester Farms, started her path in the poultry industry as a child. Her father was a quail farmer so she grew up tending to quails and began learning many valuable skills from her father from an early age. Mrs. Miller continued pursuing her interest in the poultry industry when she attended Clemson University and graduated with a degree in poultry science. This allowed her to learn the technical side of the poultry industry. As every Clemson student (former or current) knows, your experience at Clemson is always one to remember. Mrs. Miller describes her favorite times during her junior and senior years building friendships that will last a lifetime. She was able to complete a summer internship with Dr. Birrenkott at Clemson University that provided her with the foundation she needed to succeed on her own in the poultry industry.

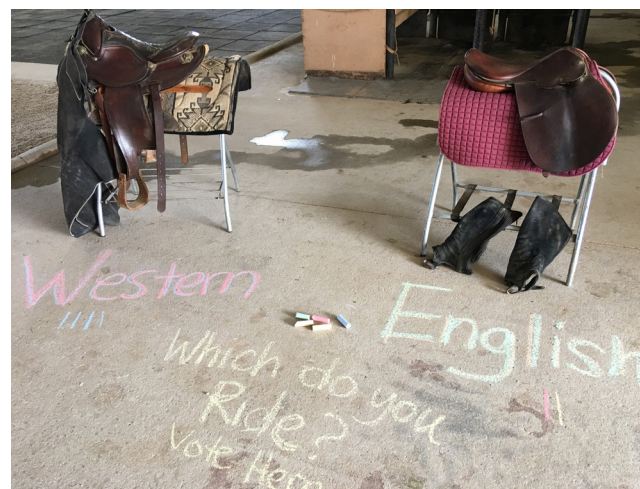


Mrs. Miller then moved out to Colorado with her husband and children to manage a private club, where she was able to work with many interesting people. She greatly enjoyed her time in Colorado whether it was camping and exploring the outdoors or working with wonderful people and learning about their stories. After eight years, Mrs. Miller and her husband decided to move back to South Carolina to be with her family and joined the family business at Manchester Farms.

As the current owner of Manchester Farms, Mrs. Miller is continuing to do what she loves but is still faced with some challenges. One of the main challenges she faces is finding co-workers who want to work in a highly competitive market. She stresses that it is hard to find the right people to work in the poultry industry as they must understand that they are responsible for the lives of the birds. However, Mrs. Miller believes that her two children will definitely continue the family interest in the poultry industry and may even become Clemson Tigers themselves one day.

In conclusion, Mrs. Miller had a few pieces of advice for those who are interested in pursuing a career in the poultry industry. She stresses that it is important to be able to celebrate the animal and to take care of it in a respectful and responsible manner. Mrs. Miller also believes that you should never lose hope as you could start your career out as a flock manager but can work your way to an executive position in the industry. For those interested in interning with Manchester Farms, she mentioned that they do offer summer internships and encourage students to send in their resumes.

EQUINE OPEN HOUSE



Some photos from the Equine Open House 2018.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

DR. DAVID WICKER

-CAITLIN MATTHEWS

Dr. David Wicker is currently the Vice President of Live Operations at Fieldale Farms. To get to this level, he had to work hard and remain persistent. Dr. Wicker started his training for this job during his time at Clemson, where he majored in poultry science and graduated with a doctorate in Nutrition. Dr. Wicker was raised on a farm and always knew that he wanted to go back into the farming industry, specifically the poultry industry. During his time at Clemson, he enjoyed the friendships he made through his professors, biochemistry labs, and P & A building labs and classes.

After graduating from Clemson, Dr. Wicker served in the Army as a Captain in the Medical Service Corps. Following his discharge from the Army, he began work as a Technical Service Nutritionist for a national antibiotic producer. While working with an antibiotic producer, he decided to become a production nutritionist and joined Nutrition and Feed Mills for Bayshore Foods, a broiler producer in Maryland. Following the sale of Bayshore Foods, he joined Degussa Corporation, a German manufacturer of amino acids, for 13 years. During these 13 years, Dr. Wicker travelled across the United States and North America conducting research with universities and advising poultry, swine, and dairy customers on animal nutrition. Desiring to return to production agriculture, he discovered that Fieldale Farms needed a nutritionist.

Dr. Wicker started out as a nutritionist at Fieldale Farms and advanced to being the current Vice President of Live Operations. As Vice President, his job is to raise healthy antibiotic free birds, that are fed an all vegetable diet. They raise 3 million broilers per week in cooperation with 400 family farms in Georgia and South Carolina and deliver 3 million birds per week to processing plants. Overseeing this many birds is not easy and the main challenges that Dr. Wicker faces are meeting customer expectations, both internal and external, 365 days a year. The Live Operations Group operates 7 days a week, 52 weeks of the year to produce premium Springer Mountain chickens for customers in the U.S. and 20 countries around the world.

Fieldale Farms is not like every other company in the poultry industry. Fieldale Farms is currently 12th in production size in the United States. This is an impressive number considering the whole company is located within 60 miles of Cornelia, GA. This means that the whole operation is within a 60 mile radius so if a problem were to occur, help is readily available. While other companies have their operations spread throughout many different states, Fieldale Farms is more compact which results in less problems to produce a premium chicken product.

Lastly, Dr. Wicker advises those who are interested in the poultry industry to take a great diversity of classes. Having different knowledge bases will allow you to think in unique ways when you are stuck in an industry problem. He also advises students to be open-minded and to take advantage of all of the amazing resources we have access to at Clemson. Dr. Wicker mentioned that Fieldale Farms does hire interns that have an inquisitive mind and a desire to work. If anyone is interested, contact John Wright, Vice President of Operations at Fieldale Farms Corporation.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

SUSAN DUCKETT

-MEGHAN COUREY

This semester, Dr. Susan Duckett is in our Faculty Spotlight. Dr. Duckett received her Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from Iowa State University. She furthered her education with a Masters Degree and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University. Dr. Duckett is a professor in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. She teaches numerous courses including Animal Growth and Development, Lipid Metabolism as well as upper level graduate courses.



Dr. Duckett's research team is one of the larger research labs within the AVS department. She has a team of four graduate students and roughly 15 undergraduates. Currently, there are several ongoing projects in her laboratory. They are studying the effects of how endophyte infected fescue alters fetal growth, postnatal growth, and lactation in sheep and cows. In addition, they are studying how ingestion of this toxin during different phases of gestation, will affect the performance of these animals in the long term. Interestingly enough, Dr. Duckett first became interested in this through observations made on her own farm. She was noticing, that occasionally, smaller lambs were born and wondered if the fescue they were getting during fetal growth was causing this. Tall fescue is a very common feed source for grazing animals in the southeast. Dr. Duckett wanted to find ways to counteract the negative effects of the endophyte toxins that are in this fescue. Her team has made a lot of progress in finding alternatives to prevent the negative outcomes of feeding tall fescue.

Her favorite thing about being a professor is the opportunity to engage young minds. She loves to see her students get excited about learning. Since being at Clemson, Dr. Duckett still loves her area of research and everyone involved in it. One of her favorite studies is the undergraduate advanced fetal fescue research she conducts. She loves having to babysit ewes with her team, even at crazy hours! She loves how willing her students are to get experiences she had growing up on a farm! She thinks Clemson has a lot of great facilities and people do not realize the amount of resources we have until they get here.

When Dr. Duckett is not at Clemson enriching young minds, she enjoys spending time with her kids Sam and Maria, and their pet cat named Tiger! She is also an avid reader so you can always find her with a book in her hand. She also can be found sewing and cooking in her spare time. We are very lucky to have her as part of our Clemson family!

"Clemson is a great place to work and has great resources for our agricultural research" -Susan Duckett.

NEWS!

Dr. Zheng Zhou has been named to receive the National Milk Producers Federation Richard M Hoyt Award by the American Dairy Science Association. Presentation of this award will be on Monday, June 25, 2018, during the ADSA Awards Program beginning at 7:00 pm at the Holiday Inn-World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee.



Dr. Gustavo Lascano received the National Scholars Program Award of Distinction. Our outstanding AVS National Scholar graduating senior, Ansley Sackett, presented the Award to her mentor. Every Spring semester, the National Scholars Program at Clemson University chooses faculty and staff to honor with this award. This recognition goes to individuals for their tireless commitment to the intellectual, professional and personal development of each graduating class of scholars.

The National Scholars Program is Clemson's most selective academic merit program. National Scholars receive a four-year merit scholarship that covers tuition and fees; an allowance for room and board; and a summer group study-abroad experience after freshman year; as well as a range of intellectual enrichment opportunities and dedicated mentoring.

More information about the National Scholar Program can be found at <https://www.clemson.edu/academics/programs/national-scholars/>



DID YOU KNOW?

It's lambing season at Clemson University!

Every Spring, Dr. Heather Dunn teaches a Small Ruminant Techniques course (AVS 2120/2121) during the lambing season at Clemson University. In this course, students gain practical application of goat and sheep biology and management as it relates to commercial production. Students spend many hours of the class on the farms as they get hands-on experience that includes: handling, lambing, crutching, ultrasound, physical exams, vaccinations, hoof trimming, and parasite control. After the lambs are born (around beginning of February), each student has to participate in watch shifts of 4 hours each. The times of these shifts are 4-8PM, 8PM-midnight, midnight-4AM.



NEWS!

Dr. Heather Dunn recently participated in Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's "Bioinformatics for cancer Genomics" course. There were 26 students from 8 different countries attending this course for a total of 60 instructional hours in 7 days. This training will directly benefit the cancer research conducted by Dr. Dunn. In addition, this will enable her to assist her collaborators with interpretations of data from next generation sequencing and analysis of large datasets for comparative studies of human and animal tumors. She will also be able to give AVS students additional support into interpretation of their genomic data without having to seek service from the University's central genomic facility in a more timely manner.

NEW FACES IN AVS

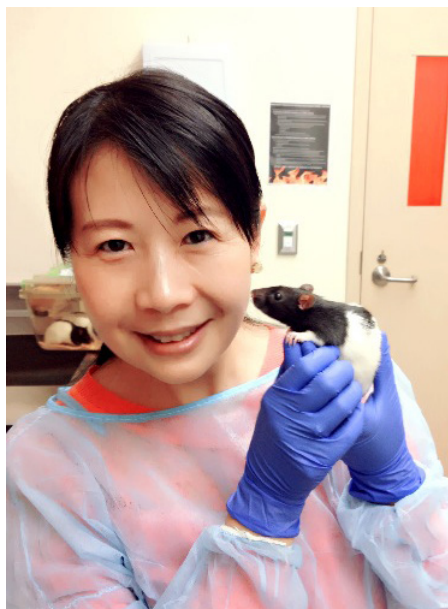
JASON ALLEN

Jason Allen is our new Student Services Manager for AVS. He graduated from Clemson in 2009 with a BA in Psychology and in 2011 with a masters in Educational Counseling with a Student Affairs concentration. Jason has been working at Clemson since 2012, first as an admissions counselor and then as an Academic Advisor in the College of Business. He is really excited to get to know a new group of students and he is looking forward to working with WAVS and the Student Ambassadors. Outside of work, Jason teaches percussion at Daniel High School and tries to attend as many Clemson sporting events as he can with his wife, Sarah.



JENNIFER CHEN

Jennifer Chen has joined the AVS Department this semester as a technician in Dr. Lascano's laboratory. Jennifer is originally from China, but she earned her Masters in Microbiology and Chemistry from Japan. She came to the United States looking to further her research and ultimately improve her English. She previously worked at The Ohio State University in the Department of Animal Sciences where she gained experience working on farms and collecting samples. Jennifer also worked as a lab technician at the University of California-Irvine for nine years doing basic research in molecular biology. When Jennifer is not in the lab, she loves to get outdoors and work in her garden. Jennifer and her husband have worked very hard to create a beautiful garden full of flowers, vegetables, and trees she has grown on her own. Jennifer is excited to be working with animals again, and we are glad to have her here!



A FOND FAREWELL...

KATHY STILL

-MEGAN TAMAKLOE

The department will dearly miss a friendly face as Mrs. Kathy Still moves on from her position as the AVS Student Services Manager to a comfortable retirement. Mrs. Still served as the faculty advisor for WAVS and AVS Ambassadors. Her work in the department has surely touched every AVS student. Mrs. Still was honored with the CAFLS Advisor of the year award in 2017, unsurprising to any student under her guidance. Being able to share the experience of academic success and achievement of AVS Students has been the most rewarding facet of her work. While she will miss her students and supportive colleagues the most, she looks forward to travelling with her husband, spending time with her grandchildren, and enjoying sunsets at Lake Keowee on a pontoon with family and friends.



"Thank you for the gift that each of you have given me by being you. Believe in yourself, anything is possible, keep striving for your goals!"-Kathy Still

AVS RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

A. Bradbery, J. Coverdale, K. Vernon, J. Leatherwood, C. Arnold, R. Dabareiner, M. Kahn, A. Millican, and T. Welsh. Evaluation of conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) supplementation on markers of joint inflammation and cartilage metabolism in young horses challenged with lipopolysaccharide. *J. Anim. Sci.* 2018 Jan 29. Doi: 10.1093/jas/skx076

Hynes C, Carnevale M, Lay J, Jones J. (2017) Anatomic atlas for the canine lumbosacral spine (2nd ed) Clemson University. <http://caninelsanatomy.sites.clemson.edu>

White, R.A., Nolan, S.P., and Nolan, M.P. (2017) Rodent Control in Poultry Operations In R.L. Owen (2nd ed), A practical Guide for Managing Risk in Poultry Production. Jacksonville, FL: American Association of Avian Pathologists, Inc.

Cook, E. K., M. E. Garcia-Ascolani, R. E. Ricks, S. K. Duckett, G. C. Lamb, N. DiLorenzo, and N. M. Long. The effect of frequency of supplementing rumen protected unsaturated fatty acids on blood serum fatty acid profiles in beef heifers and lactating cows. *J. Anim. Sci.* 2017 95:2977-2985

Taylor, R. K., C. T. LeMaster, K. S. Mangrum, R. E. Ricks, and N. M. Long. Effects of maternal nutrient restriction during early or mid-gestation without realimentation in the bovine effects on maternal physiology and fetal growth and development. *Animal* 2018 12, 312-321.

J. E. Tipton, R. E. Ricks, C. T. LeMaster, and N.M. Long. The effects of late gestation nutrient restriction of dams on heifer offspring intake, metabolites and hormones during an ad libitum feeding trial. *J. Anim. Physiol. Anim. Nutr. (Berl)* 2018 102, e877-e884.

López Valiente, S., S. Maresca, A.M. Rodríguez, R.A. Palladino, I.M. Lacau-Mengido, N.M. Long, and G. Quintans. Effect of protein restriction during late gestation on reproductive performance and milk yield in beef cows. *Professional Animal Scientist* 2018 In Press.

Maresca, S., S.O. Lopez Valiente, A. M. Rodriguez, N. M. Long, E. Pavan and G. Quintans. Effect of protein restriction of bovine dams during late gestation on offspring postnatal growth, glucose - insulin metabolism and IGF-1 concentration. *Livestock Science* 2018 In Press

INVITED SEMINARS

Lascano G.J. Insights in Nutrition Programs for the Developing Ruminant .Updates in publishing and peer review. Latin American Society for Animal Science. Guayaquil, Ecuador. May. 27-30, 2018.

Jones J. Updates in publishing and peer review. Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. Phoenix, AZ. Oct. 20, 2017.

Jones J. The Editor's role in the review process. 14th Annual Meeting of the International Association of Veterinary Editors; Chicago, IL; Sept. 9, 2017.

PRESENTATIONS

Hynes C, Carnevale M, Jones J, Lay J. Useability and Educability of a Web-Based Anatomic Atlas of the Canine Lumbosacral Spine. Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Veterinary Radiology, Phoenix, AZ, Oct. 22, 2017.

Williams B, H Dunn, F Ferdous, et al. A Bioinformatics approach to the Development of a Swine Model for Investigation of Human Cancer Initiation and Metastasis. Mammary Gland Development and Breast Cancer from Systems Biology to Single Cell Burqa, LU, Italy. (Accepted for May 2018)

Klopp, R.N., T. M. Hill, F. X. Suarez-Mena, R. L. Schlotterbeck, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Effects of feeding different amounts of milk replacer on growth performance in Holstein calves to 2 months of age using different weaning transition strategies. American Dairy Science Association Annual Conference (ADSA) Knoxville

Klopp, R.N., T. M. Hill, F. X. Suarez-Mena, R. L. Schlotterbeck, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Effects of feeding different amounts of milk replacer on growth performance in 2- to 4-month-old Holstein calves using different weaning transition strategies. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville

Klopp, R.N., T. M. Hill, F. X. Suarez-Mena, R. L. Schlotterbeck, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Effects of feeding different amounts of milk replacer on nutrient digestibility in Holstein calves to 2 months of age using different weaning transition strategies. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville

Klopp, R.N., T. M. Hill, F. X. Suarez-Mena, R. L. Schlotterbeck, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Effects of feeding different amounts of milk replacer on nutrient digestibility in 2- to 4-month-old Holstein calves using different weaning transition strategies. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville

Suarez-Mena, F.X., T. S. Dennis, T. M. Hill, W. Hu, J. D. Quigley, R. L. Schlotterbeck1, R. N. Klopp, G. J. Lascano, and L. E. Hulbert.. 2018. Effect of milk replacer feeding program on calf performance and digestion. ADSA Knoxville.

Suarez-Mena, F.X., T. S. Dennis, T. M. Hill, W. Hu, J. D. Quigley, R. L. Schlotterbeck1, R. N. Klopp, G. J. Lascano, and L. E. Hulbert.. 2018. Effect of previous milk replacer feeding program on calf performance and digestion from 2 to 4 mo of age. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville.

Jenkins, T.C., K. Murphy, S. J. Saunier, G. J. Lascano, and N. M. Long.. 2018. Crosslinking of protein capsules containing fish oil reduces their disintegration rate in ruminal contents but allows rapid fatty acid release in intestinal proteases. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville.

Presentations continued in the next page.....

WHATS GOING ON?

2018 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING AVS-RELATED EVENTS

MAY-JUNE

- May 10-11, Commencement
- June, Freshman Orientation
- June 7-10, Tigers Choice Equestrian Camp

JULY-AUGUST

- July, Freshman Orientation
- July 1, SC 4-H Horse Camp
- July 17-21, Tiger Talent Equestrian Camp
- August 10, Graduation

- Equine events
- Clemson AVS Department events
- General Events

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

PRESENTATIONS (Cont.)

Koch, L.E., B.M. Koch, R. N. Klopp, M. J. Oconitrillo, R. Hughes, M. Courey, A. Sackett, T. C. Jenkins, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Replacing dietary starch with a combination of sugar and soluble fiber in combination with soybean oil alters fermentation in continuous culture. ADSA Annual Conference Knoxville.

Koch, L.E., B.M. Koch, R. N. Klopp, S.M. Hussein, M. J. Oconitrillo, R. Hughes, M. Courey, A. Sackett, T. C. Jenkins, and G. J. Lascano. 2018. Replacing dietary starch with a combination of sugar and soluble fiber in combination with soybean oil alter lactating performance in Holstein dairy cows.. ADSA Annual Conference Knox

TELL US.....

DISTRIBUTION PREFERENCE!

We are considering some format changes for the AVS Corner. Please let us know if you prefer a paper format, an electronic format or something else. Please complete the survey at this website:

<http://bit.ly/MailingPref>



Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences
129 Poole Agricultural Building
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Clemson, SC
Permit 10

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.
Find us at: www.clemson.edu/avs

For general inquiries, please contact:

Jim Strickland
AVS Department Chair
jrstric@clemson.edu
(864) 656-3138

Stacey Miller
Administrative Assistant
smille3@clemson.edu
(864) 656-3428

Jason Allen
Student Service Program Manager & Freshman Advisor
ja6@clemson.edu
(864) 656-3162

For newsletter inquiries, please contact:
Farzana Ferdous
fferdou@clemson.edu



