



The Feathered Connection

Welcome

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If you would like to honor Dr. Krueger with a donation to the W.F. And Ruth Krueger Endowed Scholarship Fund please make checks payable to TAMU Development Foundation with Krueger Fund in the memo line and send it to the Department. Call our office (979-845-1931) with any questions.

These are exciting yet reflective times in our Department. Dr. Krueger "Doc" announced he will finally retire on August 31, 2006 after 53 eventful years of meritorious service to this university. An accomplished professor, Department Head, beloved judging coach and teacher, he will be missed. Dr. James Zhu has also left, bringing to a total of five faculty who have recently left or retired from our department. See past issues or our website. We are already hard at work refilling all those positions as well as two new ones given us last year. This translates into a lot of new faces and activities (equivalent to about one third of the faculty). The first is Dr. Huaijun Zhou in functional genomics. It is my hope that these new arrivals will enhance the Department for years to come.

Another big event of the spring was the Championship performance of our judging team. Doc is going out on top!! Please read on for our other happenings and keep in touch! Gig'Em!

Alan Sams

Professor and Department Head

Dr. Krueger Announces His Retirement



After 53 years of dedicated and distinguished service to Texas A&M University and the Poultry Science Department, Dr. W. F. Krueger will retire on August 31, 2006. Dr. Krueger is the holder of the Elaina and Emanuel Glockzin Jr. Professorship in Poultry Science and has served as Professor and Department Head as well as teacher, researcher and industry consultant. He has coached many championship judging teams and individuals and taught many other young people about judging poultry and life in general. He is an expert in poultry genetics, embryology, and production and has taught judging, game birds, embryology, genetics, and agricultural education to name just a few of his courses. Dr. Krueger has been an important part of this Department and University and will be missed. His contributions have been many and will be felt for years

to come by Aggies, teachers, and young people across the state and nation. Although he is retiring, he will not be far away. This year's Poultry Science Weekend will be dedicated to Dr. W. F. and Ruth Krueger on the occasion of his retirement. We are inviting former students and industry friends to return to campus on October 13 and 14 to celebrate this momentous occasion. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Krueger and thanking him for his many years of service to Texas A&M Poultry Science. We are asking that donations be made to his endowed scholarship fund.

**POSC
Weekend
2006
October 13-14**



Doc entertaining a crowd



Doc with his
2006 Champion Team



What a biker!

TAMU Poultry Judging Teams Wins

The Texas A&M Poultry Judging Team won the 2006 US Poultry and Egg National Poultry Judging Contest this year that was held at LSU. The team won the Breeder and Market Divisions. Individuals that were on the team included Emilie Piercy (2nd overall), Dawna Winkler (3rd overall), Leslee Oden (4th overall), Miranda Smith, and Chelsey Lange (alternate). Individual awards included Dawna Winkler - 1st Breeder Division; Emilie Piercy - 2nd Production Division and 2nd Market Division; Miranda Smith - 3rd Market Division; Leslee Oden - 5th Market Division. Congratulations to Dr. Krueger, Jason, and the team. Great Job!!



Poultry Science Club Banquet 2006

The Poultry Science Club Banquet was held the evening of April, 8, 2006 at the Memorial Student Center. Activities included the awarding of scholarships to current and future students of the department, announcing the incoming Poultry Science Club Officers, and the incoming class of the Aggie Leadership Council. Presentations of academic honors were also made at the banquet. Neal Eckert received the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Achievement Award. Kerri Schneider received the Senior Merit Award at a reception earlier in the day. Ross Windham received the Quisenberry Award for the Outstanding Poultry Science Student for the 2005-2006 school year. Congratulations to Neal, Kerri, Ross and all of the scholarship recipients. It has been a wonderful year for our undergraduate students and programs and we look forward to success in the future.

Jacob Coppedge - Texas Broiler Council

Saxon Dittert - Leo & Edna Fuchs Endowed Scholarship

Amanda Ebrom - Texas Broiler Council

Brian Englehardt - Texas Broiler Council

Nathan Hejl - Henry & Jean Prochazka Scholarship

Carissa Henkhaus - Texas Broiler Council

Amanda Jordan - Cecil B. Ryan Endowed Scholarship

Jamie Kisel - R. E. Janes Scholarship

Anthony Klein - W. F. and Ruth Krueger Scholarship

Eryn Larrison - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment in Poultry

Jenna Moore - R. W. Kazmeier Endowed Scholarship

Tyler Morrison - Texas Broiler Council

Leslee Oden - Hubbard Charitable Foundation

Kandace Perry - Monroe Fuchs '56 Endowed Scholarship

Emilie Piercy - Janet Lynn Greer Memorial Scholarship

Samantha Pohl - Bob & Margaret Palm Endowed Scholarship

Jonathan Preiss - Texas Broiler Council

Christopher Prewitt - C. R. Creger Endowed Scholarship

Douglas Psencik - Texas Broiler Council

Matthew Quattrini - Texas Broiler Council

Jessica Quinn - Delvin & Marye Barrett Scholarship

Adam Rhoades - Texas Broiler Council

Ryan Robinson - Texas Broiler Council

Sarah Skloss - Pam S. Hargis Memorial Scholarship

Miranda Smith - Texas Broiler Council

Christi Taylor - Texas Broiler Council

Lesley Vaculin - Texas Broiler Council

Anthony Viramontes - Texas Broiler Council

Dawna Winkler - Thornberry Endowed Scholarship



Dr. Zhou Joins Faculty

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Huaijun Zhou to our faculty. Dr. Zhou has a M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University and completed a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Guelph. His area of research interest is in the genomic control of bacterial infection of chicken intestine by food borne pathogenic bacteria like *Campylobacter*. His position is one of 440 new ones being added across campus as part of the Vision 2020 Faculty Reinvestment Program. Our Poultry Genomics Signature program seeks to make use of the chicken's genomic code which was just recently mapped. Dr. Zhou soon will be joined by his wife and son.

May 2006 Graduates Receive Degrees

Poultry Science graduated eighteen in the May 2006 undergraduate commencement ceremony. Pictured below are Kevin Jackson, Bryan Pawelek, Carlos May, Bradley Martin, Colin Kureska, Michael Camarata, Mike Augias, Courtney Van Fleet, John Gonzales, Daniel Pustejovsky, Kimberly Allwin, Sydni Lee, Stefanie Gonzales, Neal Eckert, and Ross Windham. Also graduating but not in the picture were Melissa Abshier and Travis White. Kerry Schneider graduated with a double major, Poultry Science and Food Science and Technology. Congratulations to all of our graduates on their achievement and we wish them all the best.



Spring Fling 2006

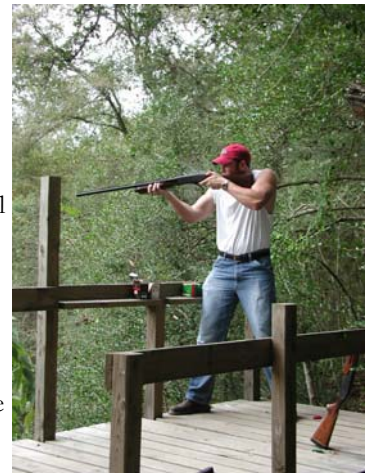
About 47 people turned out for the annual Spring Fling on Saturday, April 29. It was a beautiful afternoon for a picnic and Tiffany Park was a great setting for the event. Lunch was catered by Sloppy Joe's. After lunch, the students squared off against the faculty and staff in the annual softball challenge. It was a close game. With the loss of the faculty's ace pitcher Dr. Zhu, Dr. Zhou was recruited as pitcher into his first experience with baseball or softball. Dr. Zhou also hit the ball and got on base more times than Scott Stevens. The Faculty and Staff team put up a great fight but in the end, the student team won by a score of 11-10. The day was a wonderful time to get together, socialize, and have fun.



2006 Poultry Science Weekend—October 13-14



Its almost time once again for the Poultry Science Weekend at Texas A&M. This year's Poultry Science Weekend will be dedicated to Dr. W. F. and Ruth Krueger on the occasion of his retirement. The event is scheduled for October 13-14, 2006 and Missouri is the football opponent. Please make plans now to join current and former students, the faculty and staff, retirees, and our industry friends as we celebrate Poultry Science at Texas A&M. Once again, festivities will include a skeet shoot on Friday afternoon, the POSC Steak Fry and Dominos Tournament Friday evening, and a "Come and Go" chili tailgate on the front lawn of the Kleberg Center on Saturday before the game. We had huge attendance in 2006 at all the events. If interest exists, the slate of events could be greatly expanded. So Mark your calendars to join us for some or all of the weekend.



Individual or Corporate Sponsors Needed!

For more information contact:

Skeet Shoot: Jack McReynolds— 979-260-9400 or mcreynolds@ffsru.tamu.edu

Dominos Tournament: Jason Lee— 979-845-1931 or jlee@poultry.tamu.edu

Steak Fry or Tailgate: Sarah Robertson—979-845-1931 or srobertson@poultry.tamu.edu

Sponsorships: Dr. Alan Sams—979-845-1931 or asams@poultry.tamu.edu



Faculty, Staff and Student Notes:

◆ Phelue N. Anderson, a graduate student in Dr. Caldwell's lab, was awarded two ribbons at the Texas A&M Student Research Week poster competition. His poster presentation entitled "The Use of Polymerase Chain Reaction to Detect Different Salmonella Serotypes" received the Lone Star Graduate Diversity Colloquium Choice Award and the International Education Week Choice Award. The poster was coauthored by M. E. Hume, J.A. Byrd and D. J. Caldwell.

◆ Scott Stevens, a graduate student in Dr. Caldwell's lab, won a second place award during the Texas A&M Student Research Week for his oral presentation entitled "Microbial Intervention Strategies for Salmonella and Campylobacter Reduction In Commercial Turkey Processing" .

◆ Jason Lee, a graduate student in Dr. Caldwell's lab, won a third place award during the Texas A&M Student Research Week for his oral presentation entitled "Effect of Dietary Protein Level on Performance Parameters during Live Oocyst Coccidial Vaccination and Subsequent Clinical Coccidial Challenge in Broilers."

◆ Dr. Reddy has been appointed to the Biosecurity Task Force of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists (ACVM) to assist local, state, and federal officials in prevention of, response to, and recovery from infectious diseases which threaten food security or public health.

◆ Kerri Schneider for receiving the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Senior Merit Award. This award recognizes distinguished academic achievement, department citizenship, university and/or community service, and personal accomplishments of students during their undergraduate program. It is the highest honor the College bestows on its students. Kerri graduated this spring with a double major in Poultry Science and Food Science.

◆ Dr Christopher Bailey has received a \$60,000 grant from the U.S - Egypt Joint Science and Technology Fund for a study entitled "Antibiotic Alternatives to Avoid the Risk of Bacterial Resistance on Human Health." The objective of this project is to evaluate various bioactive phytochemical extracts (primarily steroidal and triterpenoid saponins from drought tolerant plants) as alternatives to antibiotics which will be bactericidal, antiprotozoal, and will promote growth and feed efficiency without risk of increasing bacterial resistance.

◆ Dr. James Zhu has accepted a position in animal disease genetics at the Plum Island National Animal Disease Laboratory in New York.

◆ Nicolas Garcia and Sara Mittasch, undergrad students working in Dr. Suresh Pillai's lab, won awards at the 2006 Texas A&M Agriculture Conference Student Research Poster Competition. Nicholas won 1st place for his poster entitled "Electronic Pasteurization of Cantaloupe to Destroy Viruses." Sara won 2nd place for her poster entitled "Electron Beam Irradiation of Different Bacillus sp Spores in Aqueous Suspensions."



Former Student News & Notes (Keep in Touch!)

* Jayson and Debbie (Stanush) Bennett '99 welcomed a healthy baby boy, Brayden Lee, on August 24, 2005, weighing in at 7 lbs 11 oz and 19 ½ inches long. He and big brother Colton are doing great.

* Jaime and Cain Cavitt '99 are proud new parents of Leah Grace Cavitt. She was born May 10, 2006 at 3:53 p.m. weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz. and 20" in length.

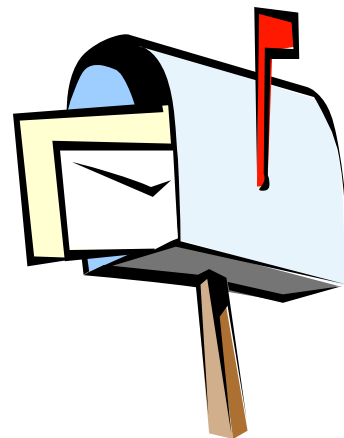
* Rebecca Starr Hardin Dittmar '03 has joined the Texas Cooperative Extension Service as an extension assistant in nutrition in College Station. Her office is located on the second floor of the Kleberg Center.

* Ray Prewitt '97 was recently named Division Manager of the new Waco Division of Sanderson Farms

* Randall Boehme '94 was recently promoted to the position of Breeder Hatchery Manager of the new Waco Production Division.

* Jordan Boyd '05 started management training at the Brazos Production division for Sanderson Farms.

* Holly Holloway Fannin '01 was promoted to Broiler Manager at the Brazos Production division for Sanderson Farms.



*Please send news & notes to srobertson@poultry.tamu.edu
or call 979-845-1931. We would love to hear from you!*