



# The Feathered Connection

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## Welcome !

Welcome to the summer 2011 issue of the Feathered Connection. I hope this finds all our friends and family members happy and in good health.

The weather is not the only thing hot around College Station, things at the Poultry Science Department have been keeping pace with the temperature. In this issue of the Feathered Connection you will find information about the inaugural Willie F. Krueger Memorial Poultry Judging Contest. This event serves to honor the memory of an individual that had a significant impact on thousands of young people throughout the state as well as many many students of the Department. I know you will appreciate knowing that this event has been established for this purpose. The un-rivaled success of the TAMU Poultry Judging team continues as the team won two more national championships – bringing the current run to 11 championships out of the last 12 contests. Research projects within the department continue to produce significant findings for the industry and consumers, the level of sponsored research in the department has steadily increased over the past several years. National awards garnered by our faculty and students confirm the value and importance of the work conducted by Departmental faculty staff and students. The Extension faculty accomplish an amazing amount of high impact programs with a relatively small group. The effectiveness of the efforts of Dr. Craig Coufal were recently recognized by the Poultry Science Association – see the full details in the subsequent article.

Support for undergraduate students is fundamental to having a healthy and viable department. We greatly appreciate the support provided by the Harold Ford Foundation and the numerous scholarships supported by individuals, firms and groups such as the Texas Allied Poultry Association. Check the following pages and see how this support has assisted several students. For most students these scholarships make all the difference in covering the costs of their education.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the upcoming Poultry Science Weekend – October 28-29 and stay tuned for information about our spring 2012 weekend gathering.

As always, everyone at the Department stands ready to help our alumni and friends in any way that we can – don't hesitate to contact us if we can be assistance to you in any way.

Gig Em!

John Carey  
Professor and Department Head



**POSC**  
**Weekend**  
**2011**  
**October 28-29**

## ***The W. F. Krueger Memorial Judging Contest***

The inaugural *W. F. Krueger Memorial Judging Contest* was held at the TAMU Poultry Science farm on March 26, 2011. There were 404 registrants from all areas of Texas. Trophies, plaques, watches, and buckles were awarded to the top individuals and top teams.

The *W. F. Krueger Memorial Judging Contest* was established to honor the memory of Dr. W. F. Krueger<sup>43</sup>. Dr. Krueger was a faculty member of the Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M University from 1953 to 2006, serving as department head from 1972 to 1982. Beginning in 1983, he focused on developing nationally recognized collegiate and high school poultry judging programs. His teams won many national collegiate and FFA poultry judging championships. Dr. Krueger dedicated his life to the instruction, education, and leadership development of the youth of Texas.

Your participation will ensure that this contest continues to honor one of the giants in poultry education. To take a supporting role in the *W. F. Krueger Memorial Judging Contest*, please contact Patrick A. Williams at 979-845-4740 or [p-Williams@tamu.edu](mailto:p-Williams@tamu.edu)



Mrs. Krueger and Family

## ***Poultry Judging Team Wins 2010 National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest***

The Texas A&M University Poultry Judging Team traveled to Fayetteville, AR from October 31st to November 3rd to compete in the National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest hosted by the University of Arkansas. Teams from across the nation competed in the two day competition. The contest concluded with Texas A&M winning its ninth national championship in the last ten competitions dating back to April 2006. The team won both divisions in the contest, Breed Selection and Carcass Quality and Egg Production and Quality. The team consisted of Julie Zapalac (High Individual Overall, 1st Place – Breed Selection and Carcass Quality Division, and 3rd Place – Egg Production and Quality), Christopher Clay (2nd Place Overall, 2nd - Breed Selection and Carcass Quality Division, and 5th Place – Egg Production and Quality), Jake Pieniazek (3rd Place Overall, High Individual – Egg Production and Quality, and 4th Breed Selection and Carcass Quality), and Amy O’Quinn (9th Place Overall and 6th Place – Breed Selection and Carcass Quality). Kyle Sells was the alternate on the team. With Julie Zapalac winning High Individual for the contest, this marks the eighth contest in a row that this honor has been won by a Texas Aggie. The team is coached by Dr. Jason Lee. Congratulations to the Team!!!!



## ***Poultry Judging Team Wins 2011 USPEA National Championship***

The Texas A&M University Poultry Judging Team traveled to Baton Rouge, LA from April 6th to 9th to compete in the US Poultry and Egg Association National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest hosted by Louisiana State University. Ten teams from across the nation competed in the two day competition. The contest concluded with Texas A&M winning its tenth national championship in the last eleven competitions dating back to April 2006. The team won all three divisions including Market Products, Egg Production, and the Breeder Selection Divisions. The team consisted of Christopher Clay (High Individual Overall, 1st Place – Production Division, 5th Place Breeder Division, and 5th Place Market Products Division), Jake Pieniazek (2nd Place Overall, 2nd Place Production Division, 3rd Place Breeder Division), Amy O’Quinn (3rd Place Overall, 2nd Place Market Product Division), Kyle Sells (6th Place Overall and 3rd Place – Market Products Division). Ashley Hill was the alternate on the team. With Christopher Clay winning High Individual for the contest, this marks the ninth contest in a row that this honor has been won by a Texas Aggie. The team is coached by Dr. Jason Lee. Congratulations to the Team!!!!



## ***Texas Allied Poultry Association Awards Scholarships***

Twenty two Poultry Science students were selected as recipients of 2010-2011 scholarships from the Texas Allied Poultry Association (TAPA). TAPA companies and their representatives work hard all year long to raise these funds at events like auctions, raffles, golf tournaments, fishing tournaments, and skeet shoots. We (and the students) greatly appreciate their efforts. This year, a total of \$18,500 was awarded and the recipients are:

Charlotte Salinas - K. E. Jacob Scholarship

Elissa Emmons - General TAPA Scholarship

Stephanie Iselt - General TAPA Scholarship

Sarah Baker - General TAPA Scholarship

Joseph Klein - General TAPA Scholarship

Amy Vanza - General TAPA Scholarship

Ashley Whitsett - General TAPA Scholarship

Anthony Lopez - General TAPA Scholarship

Seth Suehs - General TAPA Scholarship

Sarah Steilh - General TAPA Scholarship

John Hoffman - Jimmy Singleton Scholarship

Justin Miller - General TAPA Scholarship

Kendra Vasbinder - General TAPA Scholarship

Kevin Ellis - General TAPA Scholarship

Joshua Garcia - General TAPA Scholarship

Francisco Alvarez - General TAPA Scholarship

Michael Yeater - General TAPA Scholarship

Paige Pesi - General TAPA Scholarship

Jayden Holt - General TAPA Scholarship

Calley Raynor - General TAPA Scholarship



### ***Dr. Huaijun Zhou Receives PSA Early Achievement Award for Research***

Dr. Huaijun Zhou received the PSA Early Achievement Award for Research at the 2011 Poultry Science Association Meeting held in St. Louis, Missouri on July 16-19, 2011. This award is given to recognize the achievement of PSA members in the early stages of their careers in poultry research. Congratulations!



### ***Dr. Craig Coufal Receives PSA Early Achievement Award for Extension***

Dr. Craig Coufal received the PSA Early Achievement Award for Extension at the 2011 Poultry Science Association Meeting held in St. Louis, Missouri on July 16-19, 2011. This award recognizes the achievements in extension by a PSA member in the early stages of their career. Congratulations!

## ***Department Receives Funds from the US Poultry & Egg Association - Harold E. Ford Foundation***

The Poultry Science Department recently received a contribution toward its educational programs from the US Poultry and Egg Association's Harold E. Ford Foundation. Mr. John Henry Holloway of Pilgrim's Pride presented the check to Dr. John Carey as Mr. James Grimm from the Texas Poultry Federation looked on. These funds are used for scholarships, recruiting, and in many activities to support the student programs in the Department.



## *Poultry Science Club Banquet 2011*

The Poultry Science Club Banquet was held the evening of April 16, 2011 at the Hilton. J. C. Essler was the key note speaker. Other activities included the awarding of scholarships to current and future students of the department, announcing incoming Poultry Science Club Officers, and the incoming class of the Aggie Leadership Council. Charlotte Salinas received the Quisenberry Award for the Outstanding Poultry Science Student for the 2010-2011 school year. The Outstanding POSC Club Member of the year was awarded to Scott Winkler. Congratulations to all award and scholarship recipients!

The 2010-2011 Scholarship Recipients are:



2010-2011 Scholarship Recipients

Jake Pieniasek - Leo & Edna Fuchs Endowed Scholarship

John Hoffman - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment

Calley Raynor - Pam S. Hargis Memorial Scholarship

Jacob Price - Janet Lynn Greer Memorial Scholarship

Nathan Fuchs - Delvin & Marye Barrett Scholarship

Christopher Clay - W. F. and Ruth Krueger Scholarship

Allison Moore - Henry & Jean Prochazka Scholarship

Francisco Alvarez - Thornberry Endowed Scholarship

Robert Smith - R. E. Janes Scholarship

Russell Rhoden - Texas Broiler Council

Kailee Hart - Texas Broiler Council

Sarah Baker - Texas Broiler Council

Blaire Kisel - Texas Broiler Council

Jennifer Gelner - Texas Broiler Council

Cody Flores - Texas Broiler Council

Paige Pesl - Hubbard Charitable Foundation

Matthew Quattrini - Texas Broiler Council

Jordan Dajani - Texas Broiler Council

Timothy Broderick - Bob & Margaret Palm Endowed Scholarship

Kevin Perry - Monroe Fuchs '56 Endowed Scholarship

Amy Vansa - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment

Cody Bartos - Delvin & Marye Barrett Scholarship

Jesse Huth - Janet Lynn Greer Memorial Scholarship

Joni Howard - W. F. and Ruth Krueger Scholarship

Lisa West - R. W. Kazmeier Endowed Scholarship

Sheena Popham - Texas Broiler Council

Matthew March - Texas Broiler Council

Kathleen Callison - Thornberry Endowed Scholarship

Amy Oquinn - Texas Broiler Council

Kelsey Firkins - Texas Broiler Council

Sarah Stiehl - Texas Broiler Council

Joshua Woelfel - Texas Broiler Council

Elissa Emmons - Texas Broiler Council

Alexander Hirschberg - Texas Broiler Council

Kevin Ellis - Hubbard Charitable Foundation

Ashley Hill - Texas Broiler Council

Amy Orth - Cecil B. Ryan Endowed Scholarship

Brian Clay - C. R. Creger Endowed Scholarship



## *Graduates Receive Diplomas*

Poultry Science graduated seventeen in the December 2010 commencement ceremony. Those receiving their bachelors degrees included: Justin Bright, Justin Evans, Carolee Hinojosa, Travis Kirkham, Jamie Kisel, Sean McCarver, Bryan Phillips, Ryan Sanchez, Christi Taylor, Matthew Whitlock, Richard Wolff and Julie Zapalac. Those receiving their Master of Science degrees included: Jacob Coppedge, Charles Hernandez, Matthew Hinkle, Sadie Horrocks, and Samantha Pohl.

Poultry Science graduated twenty three in the May 2011 commencement ceremony. Pictured are Front Row (L to R): Christina Bournias, Jayden Holt, Ashley Whitsett, Stephanie Iselt, Lauren Locke Middle Row (L to R): Cynthia Aguas, Flor Almanza, Charlotte Salinas, Gina Villarreal, Stephen Grigar, Josh Garcia, Kristen Schultze, Jonathan Mak Back Row (L to R): Kendra Vasbinder, Shannon Sams, Matthew Mooman, Seth Suehs, Alex Wood, Scott Quenstedt, Scott Winkler, Briana Pfeifer, Trent Smith. Also graduating with a Master of Science degree was Michelle Behl.



Congratulations to all of our graduates on their achievement and we wish them all the best!

## *Poultry Science Weekend 2011*

It's almost time once again for the Poultry Science Weekend at Texas A&M. The event is scheduled for October 28-29, 2011 and the Aggies will be playing Missouri. 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, the festivities will include a skeet shoot on Friday afternoon, the POSC Steak Fry on Friday evening, and a "Come and Go" tailgate on Saturday before the game.

This year, the Poultry Science Weekend Tailgate will be held in conjunction with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Centennial Tailgate on the grounds of the new Agriculture and Life Sciences Building located on John Kimbrough Blvd on the west campus.



Registration will be online again this year and will be up and available after September 1, 2011. Please visit [https://secure.touchnet.com/c21490\\_ustores/web/](https://secure.touchnet.com/c21490_ustores/web/) and select the "Dept. of Poultry Science." Please RSVP by October 26th. So mark your calendars to join us for some or all of the weekend. Hope you see you there!

### *Individuals and Corporate Sponsors Needed!*

For more information on sponsorships, please contact one of the following people:

David Caldwell  
979-845-4288  
caldwell@poultry.tamu.edu

Jason Lee  
979-845-1931  
jlee@poultry.tamu.edu

Dale Hyatt  
979-845-4367  
dhyatt@poultry.tamu.edu

## *Faculty, Staff and Student Notes:*

◆ The National Poultry and Food Distributors Association has selected Stephanie Iselt as one of the winners of the National Poultry and Food Distributors Association College Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to a college junior or senior who is enrolled as a full time student in a U.S. institution and is pursuing a poultry or related agricultural, ag business degree. Congratulations!

◆ Steven Gottselig won a graduate student award at the International Poultry Science Forum (IPSF) for his presentation entitled "Optimization of eggshell disinfection using ultraviolet light and hydrogen peroxide". The IPSF is the annual scientific meeting of the Southern Poultry Science Society held each January in Atlanta, GA just prior to the International Poultry Exposition. Steven's advisor is Dr. Craig Coufal. Congratulations!

◆ Dr. Huaijun Zhou has been awarded two National Institute of Food and Agriculture/USDA grants. The first grant is in the amount of \$17,000.00 for a project titled "Poultry Workshop: Plant and Animal Genome XVIII Conference." Dr. Zhou is the PI and Dr. Sue Lamont from Iowa State is a co-PI. The second grant is in the amount of \$749,891.00 for a project titled "System Biology Analysis and Modeling of Complex "OMIC" Data: A Service Center Approach." Dr. Zhou is the PI and Dr. Ken Drake from Seralogix is co-PI. Congratulations!

◆ Ying Wang, a Ph.D. student in Dr. Zhou's laboratory, was awarded the Neal A. Jorgensen Genome Travel Grant at 2011 Plant and Animal Genome Conferences at San Diego for her presentation entitled "Identification of Differentially Expressed microRNAs Associated with Avian Influenza Virus Infection in Two Genetically Distinct Chicken Lines" Congratulations!



## *You Can Make a Difference!!*

The Texas A&M Foundation has developed a convenient method for you to help the Poultry Science Department as we strive for excellence. You can now use your credit card to give gifts (\$25 to \$25,000) directly to our Poultry Science Enhancement Fund which is used to support the Poultry Science Center Enhancement Initiative, student recruiting, and research tools.



Just go to the website <https://givenow.tamu.edu> (no www in front) and click on the down arrow in the **Select a College or Program to Support** window, and click on **Poultry Science**. Then go to the **Select and Impact Area to Support** window and select **Department-Wide Impact**. Continue on to the **Select a Fund or Endowment** window and select the **Poultry Science Enhancement Fund**. Next, input the amount and type (one-time or reoccurring) of gift. A comment box is provided for you to leave any special instructions or comments you may have. Click the **Matching Gift Company** box to find out if your employer will match your donation – many companies have generously agreed to match charitable donations of their employees which magnifies your impact. Finally, input your personal and credit card information in Steps 2 and 3 to complete your secure online donation.



The Texas A&M Foundation will credit your gift to the Poultry Science Enhancement Fund and will mail you a receipt. You have our assurance that your gifts will be used efficiently. Your help will make a difference!