



From Terry Etherton

Change

As many of you have likely heard, much organizational change is anticipated within the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State. With respect to the Department, we will merge with the Department of Poultry Science to create the new Department of Animal Science. In the College, there will be a change in the number of academic departments, from the current twelve to nine. As the result of the Board of Trustees approving the College reorganizational plan, an implementation timeline has been established. The new Department of Animal Science will begin operation on July 1, 2012.



You may wonder what this means for our teaching, research and extension programs. The transition to form the Department of Animal Science will be seamless. For many years, we have partnered closely with the Department of Poultry Science to operate and manage our undergraduate and graduate teaching programs. There have been numerous other collaborations between the two departments that position us superbly for the transition. I assure you that the undergraduate student clubs and judging teams that we sponsor as well as the many other activities we conduct will continue. As always, we will continue our pursuit of high excellence to maintain our stature as one of the elite animal science programs in the United States.

Since becoming Head of the Department of Dairy and Animal Science in 1998, I have participated in many strategic planning activities that have been designed to seek change in order to achieve greater benefits. I appreciate all the positive input that many of you have contributed throughout the process. I strongly believe that the change we are embarking on with respect to forming the new Department of Animal Science will be a very positive change for all of those we serve.

As always, if you have any questions as we move forward, please let me know. With this, I wish you all the very best for a happy and joyous holiday season!

Terry D. Etherton,
Department Head *and*
Distinguished Professor of Animal Nutrition

Undergraduate News

The department's externship program was the topic of a story on Penn State Live: <http://live.psu.edu/story/53798#nw69>

DBRC/Almquist Center Reunion

When Dr. John O. Almquist presided over the Dairy Breeding Research Center (DBRC) in the Department of Dairy and Animal Science at Penn State University, his research in the physiology of reproduction focusing on the biology of sperm revolutionized the dairy industry. Subsequently, the DBRC was named the Almquist Dairy Breeding Research Center to honor Dr. Almquist's contributions to reproductive biology.

Currently, the Center for Reproductive Biology and Health (CRBH) is a dynamic and visible Center that continues to build on the firm foundation begun when the DBRC was established in 1949. The CRBH has expanded its reach, conducting cutting-edge research in many areas of reproductive physiology, and leading the way in expanding a host of collaborative efforts with other Departments and Colleges within Penn State and with other research facilities.

To celebrate the legacy of DBRC and the continuing research of CRBH, a reunion of faculty, graduate and undergraduate students and others interested in the work of the Center was held Nov. 3-4 at Penn State. A tour of the research labs with presentations by graduate and postdoctoral students was part of the recognition and provided insight into the diversity of research currently being conducted by faculty and students in the CRBH.

Expanded Version of Hoofprints Online

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Coinciding with the recognition of **Clif Marshall**, Vice President of Production for Select Sires, as DAS Distinguished Dairy Alumnus, nearly 50 friends and colleagues participated over the two days of recognition.

Graduate student news

Heather Burley and **Chan Hee Lee** passed their comprehensive exams during the summer.

Two advisees of Jud Heinrichs, **Daryl Maulfair** and **Gustavo Lascano**, defended their Ph.D. dissertations in July. Daryl is now a dairy nutrition consultant for Red Dale Ag Service in Southeast PA; Gustavo is an assistant professor at Cal Poly.

Shannon Boone, advisee of Troy Ott, successfully completed the requirements for the Master of Science degree in June. Shannon joined the Pate lab as a research technician.

Sarah Gray, advisee of Burt Staniar, defended her M.S. thesis in June.

Lindsay Eurich, advisee of Chris Raines, defended her M.S. thesis in November. She has accepted a position with Tyson Foods.

Awards and honors

Jennifer (Flinchbaugh) Beidel, of Springfield, PA, was named Outstanding Recent Alumna by the College. The award honors alumni who have graduated in the last 10 years. Jennifer graduated in 2003 with a B.S. degree in Animal Sciences and graduated summa cum laude from the Penn State Dickinson School of Law in 2006. She is currently an attorney at Saul Ewing LLP.

John Graham Sr., who graduated with a degree in animal nutrition in 1953 after serving in the Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II, was named an Outstanding Alumnus of the College. He is a retired head cattle buyer for Swift & Co. and co-founder of First National Bank of Missouri in Lee's Summit. Graham has had a long career in public service and is currently chairman of the board at the Lee's Summit Housing Authority.

Dr. Joy Pate received the Distinguished Service Award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction in August. The award is given to an individual who has demonstrated unselfish service and leadership in advancing the discipline of reproductive biology.

Herds and flocks

Beef The production sale of 76 head of Penn State Angus cattle marking the 100th anniversary of the department's Angus herd was held at the Beef-Sheep Center on October 21. More than 200 people attended the sale; buyers were from six states. The sale grossed \$160,150, for an average price of \$2107 per head. Nearly half of the cattle were recently weaned heifer and bull calves, indicating the demand for cattle being produced in the breeding program at the farm led by Wendall Landis. The high selling lot was the Lot 1 heifer calf that sold for \$4,500 to McKean Brothers Angus Farm in Mercer-former students in the Department. No lot sold for less than \$1,300.

Horse The American Quarter Horse Association recognized the Pennsylvania State University with its Legacy award in October at its Breeder Recognition dinner at the Quarter Horse Hall of Fame and Museum in Amarillo, TX. The award honors those who have registered at least one foal for 50 consecutive years. Terry Etherton noted that the program began in 1955 when the American Quarter Horse became the breed of choice for departmental emphasis.

The herd usually includes three to five stallions and 12 to 20 mares, all used in teaching, research and extension programs. Undergraduate research programs using the herd currently emphasize nutrition, growth and development. Extension programs utilize the horses to reach both youth and adults in a variety of areas related to management, ownership, and handling of horses. Courses emphasize farm management, reproduction, marketing, training and nutrition.

In memoriam

Lila Conklin, staff assistant for undergraduate and graduate programs, passed away June 21 after an extended illness.

Andrew "Drew" Eilbacher, a recent Animal Sciences graduate, passed away July 2. Despite being diagnosed with a brain tumor during college, he embraced all the program had to offer.

Clair C. Engle, former faculty member, passed away in June at age 76.

Dr. Chris Raines, a faculty member in the department, died on December 18 of injuries sustained in a vehicle accident. He was 29 years old.

Judging teams

Dairy Cattle Judging Team The Dairy Cattle Judging Team earned third place overall at the 2010 National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest in Madison and at the All American Invitational in Harrisburg. Team members included **Philip Bachman, Sara Bechtel, Nathan Oleniacz, and Hannah Wentworth**. At the Harrisburg contest, Bechtel placed second overall and Bachman was seventh overall and second in oral reasons. At the national contest, team members Oleniacz, Bechtel, and Wentworth earned All-American honors. Another team consisting of **Dustin Gates, Rebecca Shaw, Ariel Taxdal, and Derek Wasson** placed sixth overall and fourth in oral reasons at the North American Livestock Expo's Dairy Judging Contest.

Horse The team placed in the top five in all divisions at the national Horse Judging Contest held at the All-American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio, on October 19.

In a very competitive Junior Collegiate team competition, Penn State placed 3rd in halter judging, 4th in performance judging, 4th in oral reasons, and 4th overall.

Livestock The team of **Courtney Cowden, Sarah Doyle, Kelli-Jo Lucas, and Courtney Smith** competed in four contests this fall: the Keystone International Livestock Exposition in Harrisburg, PA, Eastern National in MD, American Royal in Kansas City, MO, and the North American International in Louisville, KY. Ten universities were represented at KILE this year. Doyle finished 1st in beef, 5th in sheep, 8th in reasons, and 4th overall. At the Eastern National, Lucas was 2nd in swine and 9th in beef finishing 7th overall. Cowden was 6th in sheep, 8th in reasons, and 10th overall. Doyle was 5th in both beef and reasons. Smith was 8th in sheep. At the American Royal, team members competed against over 140 students. Cowden was 3rd high individual in sheep only 3 points from the top spot.

Student clubs

Dairy Science The Dairy Science Club was named Outstanding Chapter for the fifth consecutive year at the American Dairy Science Association, and **Amy Yeiser** was elected President of the ADSA Student Affiliate Division for 2011-12. Penn State's quiz bowl team earned first place at the meetings; team members were **Philip Bachman, Stephen Bond, Daniel Hartzell, and Kolby McIntyre**. The club welcomed over 30 new members this fall. Major

events included managing the PA Junior Dairy Show and assisting with the Prospective Student Open House. The Nittany Lion Fall Classic sale in November achieved an average of \$2,449 on 82 lots. Spring activities will include the Spring Judging Contest on March 17, Spring Bargain Fling scheduled for March 24, and Dairy Expo to be held on Saturday, April 14. Dairy Days Cow Camp will be held May 18-20. The club earned first place in the inaugural *Holstein World College Video Contest* and wrapped up the semester with the holiday cheese sale.

Block and Bridle The annual Fall Welcome Back picnic was held September 1. More than 60 returning members welcomed about 50 new students to B&B. At the first meeting, Little B's picked an older member to be their Big B. Several members attended the CAS club fair and talked to prospective members.

October was a very busy month. Five club members assisted with the Eastern National Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest in Wyalusing, PA. The Club spent the weekend of October 8-9 serving the livestock industry, with over 20 members traveling to Harrisburg to help run the Livestock Judging Contest at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition.

A special event for the club was a gathering on Oct 13 with world-renowned author and researcher Dr. Temple Grandin. Dr. Grandin, while on campus for disabilities awareness week, met with Block & Bridle and Collegiate Farm Bureau members to discuss animal welfare and autism.

Club members helped with the Angus Sale at the beef barns on October 18. On October 19, members of 4-H and FFA clubs along with their families packed the Snider Agricultural Arena for the 8th Annual Penn State Block & Bridle Club Calf Sale. More than 20 quality steers and several heifers were consigned to the highly successful sale.

Alumni news

Stockmen's Club The club's annual business meeting will be held January 7, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, with social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Newsletters with information about the annual election will be mailed to members. We are seeking donations of items for a live auction to be held during the spring dinner dance on April 13, 2012 to benefit the PSSC Memorial Scholarship for Freshmen Students. Contact Luke Zerby at jzerby04@yahoo.com, or Jana Peters at jpeters@psu.edu.

DAS Alumni Tailgate Celebrates 5th Anniversary

The Dairymen's Club and Stockmen's Club hosted the fifth annual football tailgate on October 29 at the Snider Ag Arena prior to the PSU vs. Illinois game. Although the snow storm kept some folks at home, nearly 250 people made it to the event! Additions to the event this year were commemorative mini-footballs, door prizes and pumpkin painting for the children. Consider attending next year, which will be either the Ohio State or Indiana game on Oct. 27 or Nov. 17, respectively. The choice will be based on availability of game tickets, which is not known at this time.



Hoofprints

Edited by **Dr. Daniel Hagen**, Hoofprints brings alumni and friends of the Department of Dairy and Animal Science up to date on the recent notable activities of the faculty and staff in the department. Hoofprints is available online at das.psu.edu/hoofprints. You will also find at this location an archive of previous issues as well as a link to subscribe to the Hoofprints mailing list.

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Dairy Science Club

Dale Olver	863-3914
Chad Dechow	863-3659

Small and Exotic Animals Club (SEAC)

Nancy Dreschel	863-4197
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Collegiate Horsemen at Penn State (CHAPS)

KarenVines	865-3097
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Judging Team Coaches

<i>Dairy Cattle:</i> Dale Olver	863-3914
<i>Horse:</i> Brian Egan	863 3957
<i>Livestock:</i> Wendall Landis	863-0831

Facilities

Beef-Sheep Center

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Wendall Landis	863-0831
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Laurie Hubbard	865-5893
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<i>Dairy/Almquist Center:</i> Ginny Ishler	863-0835
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<i>Deer Center:</i> Don Wagner	865-8470
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<i>Horse Center:</i> Ed Jedrzejewski	863-0834
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<i>Meat Laboratory:</i> Glenn Myers	865-1787
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<i>Swine Center:</i> Mark Kreidler	865-5651
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Alumni Clubs

<i>Dairyman's Club:</i> Nicole Fearnley	570-623-2027
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<i>Stockmen's Club:</i> Jana Peters	863-4198
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