Rich Past, Bright Future

Did you know that instruction in Poultry Science at the Pennsylvania State College began in 1895? Other historical information, such as the key individuals who shaped our past and the story of our department's evolution, can be found at http://poultry.cas.psu.edu/history.htm. We've come a long way in 108 years, and although it is important to be cognizant of the past, it is equally important to be looking towards the future, which I believe looks very bright. Our unit co-sponsors the two largest undergraduate majors in the College, Animal Sciences (ANSC) and Animal Bioscience, which account for ~30% of all ag students. In addition, there are now more poultry-oriented students at University Park than ever before—a result of a highly successful, energized recruiting program. The award-winning Poultry Science Club has 25 active members, and we envision the establishment of a Poultry Science minor in the near future. In order to help support these outstanding students, several new poultry scholarships have been established and available funds have grown by ~60% since 2000. Four large 'foundation' ANSC courses (Growth and Development, Animal Nutrition, Animal Breeding, and Comparative Physiology) are now taught by our faculty and, as a result, our unit is among the College leaders in student credit hours generated per teaching FTE. Our faculty continues to publish in outstanding professional journals while garnering more external funding to support their research programs. Our extension programs are nationally recognized and expanding regionally. As one of only seven Poultry Science Departments in the U.S. and the only one north of the Mason-Dixon Line, stakeholders and colleagues in industry, government, and other academic institutions are increasingly looking to us for leadership. Thus, despite these precarious budgetary times, we are thriving, and that is why I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Robert G. Elkin, Ph.D.
Professor and Head

Awards and Recognition

Leach Named Fellow of the Poultry Science Association

Dr. Roland M. Leach, Jr., the Walther H. Ott Professor in Avian Biology, was named a fellow of the Poultry Science Association at the 91st Annual Meeting in Newark, DE, August 11-14, 2002. The title of Fellow is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a member of the Association.

Dr. Leach is a native of New England and a graduate of the Wilton Academy (Wilton, ME). His interest in Poultry Science was initiated at seven years of age, when his grandfather gave him a gift of Rhode Island Reds to start an egg route. He received a B.S. in Poultry Husbandry from the University of Maine in 1954 and an M.S. in Poultry Nutrition from Purdue University in 1956 under the direction of C. W. Carrick. Four years later, he received a Ph.D. in Poultry Nutrition from Cornell University under the co-mentorship of L. C. Norris and M. L. Scott. From 1959-1968, Dr. Leach was employed as a Research Chemist at the U.S. Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory in Ithaca, NY, while also holding appointments as an Assistant Professor (1960-1966) and Associate Professor (1966-1968) of Poultry Science at Cornell. In 1968, he joined the faculty of the Department of Poultry Science at Penn State as an Associate Professor and was promoted to the rank of Professor in 1973. In January 2000, Dr. Leach joined an elite group of Penn State faculty members when he was named a Distinguished Professor of Poultry Science. Seven months later, he had to relinquish that title in order to be
named as the first Walther H. Ott Professor in Avian Biology. The Ott Endowed Professorship was established to support the teaching, research, and outreach activities of an internationally recognized faculty member in the Penn State Department of Poultry Science.

Dr. Leach is a worldwide leader in the field of trace element metabolism in general and avian skeletal biology in particular, having identified, characterized, and named a major skeletal disease of poultry known as tibial dyschondroplasia (TD). TD costs the poultry industry millions of dollars annually, and Dr. Leach’s research has contributed greatly to our understanding of the biochemical and molecular mechanisms underlying this complex anomaly. While the precise cause of TD remains elusive, Dr. Leach has gained considerable insight into the disease and is widely sought after for advice on management practices that minimize financial losses. Dr. Leach's research has also provided valuable information on the pathophysiology of a number of other connective tissue and skeletal disorders while advancing knowledge with regard to the process of normal bone growth. He has also made major contributions to our understanding of avian eggshell structure and strength. He is the recipient of two research awards: The American Feed Manufacturers Award (1980), from the Poultry Science Association, and the Gamma Sigma Delta Research Award (1983), in which he was honored by his colleagues at Penn State.

Throughout his distinguished career, Professor Leach also has been deeply committed to both undergraduate and graduate education. He is an active member of three Interdepartmental Graduate Faculties, has been Major Professor to 34 graduate students (8 Ph.D. and 26 M.S.), and has served on 61 other graduate committees. He taught the primary, required course in Animal Nutrition in the College of Agricultural Sciences from 1969-2001 and has taught portions of an undergraduate comparative physiology course, a graduate nutrition course, and a graduate veterinary science course that pertain to skeletal nutrition and metabolism. Over 3,000 students in the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences, Health and Human Development, and Science attended his undergraduate courses.

Dr. Roland Leach (center) with two of his former students, Drs. Bill Saylor (left) and Mike Lilburn (right) at the 2002 Poultry Science Association Awards Banquet. Saylor, an Associate Professor at the University of Delaware, is Past President of the Poultry Science Association. Lilburn, a Professor at The Ohio State University, was the recipient of the National Turkey Federation Research Award.

Wise Named First Recipient of College’s Staff Laureate Ambassador Award

Dirk F. Wise, Manager of the Penn State Poultry Educational and Research Center (PERC) and Affiliate Instructor in the Department of Poultry Science, was named as the first recipient of the College of Agricultural Sciences Staff Laureate Ambassador Award in 2002. This annual award honors a staff member or team who serves as a proactive liaison to external audiences by building relationships, sharing knowledge, and promoting the unit and the College of Agricultural Sciences. Dirk's primary job responsibilities entail the overall administration, maintenance, and sales operations of the PERC, a six-building, 50,000 square-foot facility that was built in 1994 at a cost of six million dollars. In addition, through his participation in a multitude of Department, College, and University events, he promotes the Penn State poultry program and the Animal Sciences undergraduate major. Locally, he leads numerous tours of the PERC for visitors and prospective students and their families, and has helped to foster diversity within the College through his active participation in various programs and institutes aimed at recruiting
underrepresented students. He also devotes a considerable amount of his personal time engaging students both within the classroom and beyond, through his duties as co-advisor of the Poultry Science Club and the Intercollegiate Poultry Judging Team, and as a co-instructor of ANSC 290W (Careers in Animal Agriculture).

Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Curriculum Receives Award

The entry "Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship (LPES) Curriculum" received a Blue Ribbon Award in the Educational Aids Competition at the 2002 annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) held in Chicago, IL. The ASAE presents these awards each year in recognition of "outstanding effort and achievement in the development of noteworthy educational aids". The ASAE Extension Committee managed the exhibits and judged the entries. **Paul H. Patterson**, a Penn State Associate Professor and Poultry Extension Specialist, was a member of the national team of over 30 experts from 15 land-grant universities, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the USDA Agricultural Research Service that prepared, peer reviewed, and pilot tested the LPES curriculum with assistance from MidWest Plan Service and guidance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) National Agricultural Compliance Center. The mission of the LPES Curriculum project ([www.lpes.org](http://www.lpes.org)) is "to deliver a national curriculum and supporting educational tools to U.S. livestock and poultry industry advisors, who in turn, will help producers acquire certification and/or achieve environmentally sustainable production systems. Producers will also benefit directly from the information and assessment tools that the curriculum provides."

The LPES Curriculum development effort was funded by a grant from the EPA's Ag Center with program oversight through the USDA.

Hann to be Honored as 2003 Outstanding Alumnus

**Paul I. Hann, Sr.**, has been selected as a 2003 Outstanding Alumnus of the College of Agricultural Sciences. He and the other Outstanding Alumni will be honored during a reception at the Nittany Lion Inn on October 24. Paul has spent his entire career in sales, management, and finance with Ralston Purina, Purina Mills (Purina's non-pet feed division), and Land O'Lakes (which recently purchased Purina Mills), since graduating from Penn State in 1962 with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Education.

A respected member and leader of the Pennsylvania Poultry Industry for over 25 years, Paul has served as a member and officer of numerous professional organizations and committees and was actively involved in facilitating the 1998 merger of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation with PennAg Industries Association, which resulted in the establishment of the PennAg Poultry Council. During the past decade, Paul has also established and maintained close ties to the Department of Poultry Science, through service on both its Industry Advisory Group and Egg Advisory Committee to Dr. Paul Patterson, as an industry representative during faculty searches, and as a co-founder and first President of the newly-established Poultry Science Affiliate Program Group. He was also a key player in helping to create the Pennsylvania Poultry Industry Research Check-Off Program in 1995; since that time, this successful Program, funded by voluntary contributions, has provided over $600,000 of support for applied poultry research conducted by investigators from throughout the College of Agricultural Sciences. Paul also has been an enthusiastic supporter of the University through membership in the Penn State Alumni Association for over three decades. Since he holds a B.S. degree in Agricultural Education, the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education will co-host Paul's visit, which will include attending classes and meeting with faculty, staff, students, and Dean Steele.
Departmental News of Note

Roush, Mashaly Retire

Dr. William B. Roush retired from Penn State in August 2002. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Science from Brigham Young University in 1972 and 1975, respectively. In 1979, he received his Ph.D. in Poultry Science from Oregon State University. Later that year, he joined the Penn State Department of Poultry Science as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1988.

Dr. Roush had an active research program that employed Operations Research and Management Science methods in order to optimize feed formulations and animal growth, predict disease susceptibility and egg prices, and control the environment in poultry houses. In 1997, he undertook a sabbatical leave as a Visiting Researcher at The Poultry Research Center, Beekbergen, The Netherlands. He has also been a Visiting Lecturer at several foreign institutions, including the South China Agricultural University (1982, 1984), the University of Cairo (1992), and the University of Menoufiya, Egypt (1992). Dr. Roush's outstanding skills in statistics, mathematics, and computer programming, combined with a background in poultry management and nutrition, has enabled him to serve as a Nutritional Consultant to firms such as Sprout-Bauer (Muncy, PA), The Brill Corporation (Norcross, GA), and OneTechnology, Inc. (Cambridge, MA).

During his career at Penn State, Dr. Roush taught ANTR 423 (Applied Feeding of Swine, Poultry, and Laboratory Animals), PTYSC 202 (Commercial Poultry Practice), PTYSC 405 (Poultry Production), PTYSC 410/ANSC 311 (Poultry Production and Management), and ANSC 411 (Advanced Poultry Management). He also taught several special topics graduate courses and guest lectured in several undergraduate courses. Dr. Roush directed or co-directed the research programs of six M.S. and two Ph.D. students and was the Poultry Science Undergraduate Major and Minor Advisor prior to the merger of the Poultry Technology & Management Major with the Dairy & Animal Science Major in 1999.

Bill and his wife Noreen have moved to Mississippi, where he accepted a position as a Research Poultry Scientist at the USDA/ARS Poultry Research Unit in Starkville.

Dr. Magdi M. Mashaly retired from Penn State in March 2003. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Production from Cairo University (Egypt) in 1964 and 1970, respectively. He then continued his studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he received an M.S. and Ph.D. in Poultry Physiology in 1973 and 1976, respectively. Following a two-year appointment as a Research Associate at Mississippi State University, Dr. Mashaly joined the Penn State Department of Poultry Science as an Assistant Professor in 1978. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1987.

Dr. Mashaly's research program centered upon the effects of stress on poultry reproductive performance and environment-endocrine-immune interactions in avians. In order to build upon his expertise in these areas, he undertook sabbatical leaves in the Department of Animal Production, Cairo University (Egypt) in 1989-90 and in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Wageningen Agricultural University (The Netherlands) in 1996-97.

Dr. Mashaly was an enthusiastic and accomplished teacher and taught and/or coordinated several courses, including PTYSC 202 (Commercial Poultry Practice), PTYSC 200/ANSC 211 (Introduction to Avian Biology), ANSC 423 (Comparative Physiology of Domestic Animals), and PHYSIO 572 (Animal Physiology). He also directed the research programs of 12 M.S. and 9 Ph.D. students.

Magdi and his wife Aleya have moved to Kuwait, where he accepted a position as a Senior Research Scientist in the Food Resources & Marine Sciences Division/Aridland Agriculture
& Greenery Department of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (Safat, Kuwait). He plans to remain involved in the Penn State-Cairo University Joint Undergraduate Program in Animal Sciences, which he helped to establish in 2002.

Staff Assistant, Research Technologists Join Department in 2002

Patti Burns, a Staff Assistant VI, joined the Poultry Science Department in October. She is a native of Warriors Mark, PA, and holds a B.S. in Bible from the Lancaster (PA) Bible College. At Penn State, she has held positions in Continuing Education and in the Departments of Agricultural Economics & Rural Sociology, Agricultural & Extension Education, Agricultural & Biological Engineering, Plant Pathology, and Agricultural Communications.

Jessica Dominick, a native of Freeport, PA, was appointed as a Senior Research Technologist in Dr. Guy Barbato's laboratory in October. Jessica received a B.S. in Biology from Penn State in May 2002. Prior to coming to Poultry Science, she was employed as a Quality Control and Assurance Laboratory Technician at Danone International Brands, Inc.

Kevin Hiester joined Dr. Ramesh Ramachandran's laboratory in August as a Research Technologist. Kevin is a native of Reading, PA, and has a B.S. in Biological Anthropology from Penn State. Prior to joining Poultry Science, Kevin was employed in the Department of Anthropology at Penn State. He has also held appointments in the Genetics Department at the University of Pennsylvania and at Apollon, Inc.

Glenn O. Bressler Memorial Award Established

The Glenn O. Bressler Memorial Award is the newest scholarship in the Department of Poultry Science. Dr. Glenn Bressler established the Award in September 2002. Unfortunately, Dr. Bressler subsequently passed away in March 2003 (see "In Memoriam" section of this newsletter). Although we had hoped to fully endow this award into a scholarship during Glenn's lifetime, we will have to honor him posthumously when this goal is achieved.

The purpose of the Bressler Award is to honor and recognize outstanding undergraduate students with a demonstrated interest in Poultry Science. Dr. Roger D. Estep, an M.S. student (1957) of Dr. Bressler's, conceived this idea during a visit to campus last summer. Roger was interested in contributing to a Poultry Science scholarship at Penn State and, after visiting with Dr. Bressler, decided to create a new fund in honor of his esteemed major professor. Dr. Herb Siegel, another former Bressler student (M.S., 1957; Ph.D. 1959), lab mate of Dr. Estep, and Penn State Poultry Science Department Head (1984-1991), subsequently volunteered to assist in the fund raising efforts. Other former students of Dr. Bressler also have responded to our request for support. In addition, contributions from many former colleagues and friends have been received. At press time, we are approximately $1,700 short of our goal to fully endow the Bressler Scholarship.

There is no question that the Poultry Science Department's future will depend, in large part, upon our ability to continue to attract and support undergraduate students interested in a career in Poultry Science. By recruiting a solid core of poultry-oriented students, our classes will be full; we will be able to supply the industry, government, and academia with outstanding, well-educated graduates; and the teaching support dollars will continue to flow into our program from the College of Agricultural Sciences. Moreover, despite the recent College budget rescissions and faculty and staff downsizing, we nevertheless feel that the future looks very promising. This optimism
is based upon the facts that our student recruiting efforts are going extremely well, our relationship with the poultry industry is as strong as it's ever been, and we have recently hired some outstanding new faculty and staff members. However, as our student population grows and the Penn State tuition continues to rise, the need for additional scholarship funds will likewise increase.

If you would like more information about the Bressler Memorial Award or would like to make a contribution, please contact Dr. Elkin at 814.865.3411 or via e-mail at relkin@psu.edu.

Record Attendance at 2003 Game Bird Conference

The 2003 Pennsylvania Game Breeders and Hunting Preserves Annual Meeting was held at the Days Inn Penn State in State College on February 23-25. A record 141 registrants, from 11 states and Canada, enjoyed an outstanding program covering a wide range of topics. Speakers from industry, government, and academia presented information on game bird management, nutrition, well-being and diseases, cover crops for shooting preserves, basics of a continental shoot, feed prices and the Farm Bill, estate planning for game bird operations, and other related topics. The banquet presentation on "Bobcats in Pennsylvania" by Matt LoVallo, Wildlife Biologist, Pennsylvania Game Commission was very well received, as was the Hands-On Diagnostic Session conducted by Drs. Eva Wallner-Pendleton, Dave Kradel, Eric Gingerich, and Paul Miller. Next year's meeting is scheduled for February 22-24, 2004 at the Days Inn Penn State. For additional information, please contact Dr. Mike Hulet (814.863.8934; e-mail: mrh4@psu.edu).

2003 PA Poultry Sales and Service Conference to be Held in September

The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel will be the venue for the 2003 Pennsylvania Poultry Sales and Service Conference. The conference date has been moved from its usual early April time slot to September 18-19 in order to accommodate the Department of Poultry Science's participation as a co-sponsor of two new regional meetings, the Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference (formerly the Maryland Nutrition Conference) and the North Atlantic Poultry Health and Management Conference (formerly the New Hampshire Poultry Health Conference). Both conferences have historically been held during the latter part of March, and we are working with the organizing committees to try to schedule the meetings a little farther apart. Information on these and other meetings can be found in our departmental poultry extension website (http://poultryextension.psu.edu).
Student News

Poultry Science Club Named Best in the Nation

The Penn State Poultry Science Club was recognized as the 2003 National Club of the Year by the United States Poultry and Egg Association (USPEA). The club also received the award for the "Best Scrapbook" for the fourth consecutive year. The awards were presented at the USPEA Poultry Science Club meeting held during the International Poultry Exposition in Atlanta, GA, January 22-24, 2003. Penn State's club was selected based on an application and a club activities review. The club previously has won several USPEA national awards.

The club processes and sells fresh and smoked turkeys at holidays to finance the members' annual trip to the International Poultry Exposition, the world's largest poultry trade show. It also donated turkeys to a local food bank, the United Way, a regional Boy Scouts council, and two local churches for the holiday season. The club raised money for the Penn State Dance Marathon, a cancer research and support charity that is the largest student-run fund-raiser in the nation.

Other accomplishments include volunteer activities in support of the PennAg Poultry Council, participation in the Lancaster County Poultry Progress Day, sponsoring an annual awards banquet (see related stories about the 2002 and 2003 banquets), and competitions with other student organizations. Congratulations to the club members as well as to the club's Co-Advisors Dirk Wise and Phil Clauer!

New Display Purchased with U.S. Poultry and Egg Association Ford Foundation Funds

A new display unit has been purchased for the purpose of promoting opportunities in Poultry Science, as well as the Animal Sciences Undergraduate Major, which is co-sponsored by the Department of Poultry Science. The display has been used at various student recruiting functions as well as at meetings such as the Lancaster County Poultry Association's Poultry Progress Day, held on March 6, 2003 (above).
Penn State Poultry Science Club Members Attend 2003 Poultry Progress Day in Lancaster

Eight Poultry Science Club members joined several Poultry Science faculty in attending the 2003 Lancaster County Poultry Progress Day program at the Farm and Home Center in Lancaster on March 6. Seated: Heather Gates. Standing, left to right: Jeremy Ranck, Nick Urbanek, Corey Bartholomew, Paul Hostetter, Kristy Eshbach, Matt Ventrella, and Joshua Ream.

Soergel Repeat Winner of Charles Wabeck Memorial Scholarship

For the second year in a row, Anna K. Soergel, a 3rd semester Animal Sciences major from Wexford, PA, was named as the recipient of the Charles Wabeck Memorial Scholarship. The $500 award, which was matched by the Penn State Poultry Science Department in 2002, is sponsored by the Delmarva Poultry Fanciers Club and is open to undergraduate students from throughout the U.S. who have experience raising and exhibiting poultry. Candidates are evaluated based upon documented involvement in the fancy, a completed application form, a one-page essay, and official high school or college transcripts. The late Charles J. Wabeck was an Emeritus Professor and Poultry Extension Specialist at the University of Maryland, whose 30-year career centered on research in poultry processing and products, and extension assignments dealing with poultry processing and 4-H youth and development programs.

Gates Awarded Internship Scholarship

Heather M. Gates, an 8th-semester Animal Sciences major from Tyrone, PA, was recently awarded a 2002 Internship Scholarship from the Penn State Department of Poultry Science. The purpose of this annual scholarship program is to help promote internships and careers in the poultry industry. Heather, who is the current president of the Penn State Poultry Science Club, spent this past summer working as a caretaker at Bullbeggar Creek Waterfowl and Exotics in Withams, VA. Her primary job responsibility was to oversee the daily management of an extensive breeder collection of exotic birds, jungle fowl, and waterfowl. Through this experience, Ms. Gates gained a solid understanding of the many factors involved in maintaining a successful private aviary while heightening her awareness of aviculture. Heather's future career plans are to seek employment at a zoo or public aviary.

This scholarship program is intended to reward students for outstanding performance in an internship in a poultry-related field. Selection criteria are based on the individual's interest in and experience with poultry, performance during the internship, and character and leadership qualities. All undergraduate students at Penn State who have participated in a poultry-related internship within one year of the application deadline are eligible.

Menges and Boyer Were Featured Speakers at 2002 Poultry Science Club Banquet

The 12th Annual Penn State Poultry Science Club Awards Banquet was held on April 26, 2002 at the Ramada Inn, State College, PA. Following a social hour, introductions, and dinner, the attendees enjoyed an excellent presentation by Dave Boyer and John Menges, Complex Manager and Live Production Manager, respectively, from Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, New Oxford, PA. The speakers
discussed the history of the New Oxford facility, the turkey industry, live production and processing related careers, and the education and skills needed to enter the field. Award presentations and the announcement of new officers followed the presentation. Nicole Martz received the award for the highest overall grade point average, while Tracy Lindgren had the highest grade point average in the major. Josh Elliott was named the most active club member while Jason Peters received the award for the most active new club member. Officers for 2002-03 were Heather Gates (Tyrone, PA), President; Jason Peters (Manchester, PA), Vice President; Valerie Spangler (Mifflinburg, PA), Secretary-Treasurer, and Tiffany Rhodes (Southampton, PA), Ag Student Council Representative.

2003 Poultry Science Club Awards Banquet Set for May 2

The 13th Annual Penn State Poultry Science Club Awards Banquet will be held on May 2 at the Ramada Inn, State College. The evening will begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. The featured speaker will be Dr. Robert L. Owen, Hubbard ISA Corporate Director of Veterinary Services for the Americas. An awards ceremony recognizing Club members who have received scholarships, participated in internships, and have accomplished other noteworthy achievements is also planned. For further details, please contact Linda Houtz (tel: 814.865.3411; e-mail: llh1@psu.edu).

Another Outstanding Animal Sciences New Student Industry Tour Held in 2002

Each year, the Departments of Dairy & Animal Science (DAS) and Poultry Science co-sponsor an annual industry tour for new students in the Animal Sciences major. On August 29, 2002, a full busload of freshman and transfer students and several DAS and Poultry Science faculty and staff embarked on a day-long excursion to a variety of dairy, poultry, and livestock businesses across central Pennsylvania. As part of an innovative plan to introduce students to many different career opportunities within the animal sciences field, this activity also provides a chance for students to interact with faculty and staff away from the classroom. The 2002 tour included stops at Brubaker Farms (Mount Joy; dairy and poultry industries), Pleasant View Farms (Marietta; beef industry), Purina Mills LLC Service Center (Camp Hill; feed industry), and Reigle Heir Farm (Grantville; horse industry).

News for Alumni and Friends

Successful 2002 Alumni & Friends Reunion held on September 14

Approximately 120 students, staff, alumni, and friends attended the 3rd Annual Poultry Science Alumni and Friends Reunion on September 14, 2002. Following a social hour, there were brief welcomes by Dr. Elkin and Dr. Paul Wangsness, Senior Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. After an update on the new Poultry Science Affiliate Program Group by Paul Hann, an excellent dinner, featuring PSU barbequed chicken, was served. Many of the attendees then ventured across Park Avenue to join the crowd of over 110,000 fans who enjoyed one of the finest overall football games that Penn State has ever played (editor's opinion) as the Lions crushed the Nebraska Cornhuskers 40-7 in a nationally televised game. It was the Huskers worst loss in 12 years. Penn State held Nebraska to 252 yards rushing and only 76 yards passing while the Lions accumulated almost 500 yards of total offense.
2002 Poultry Science Alumni and Friends Reunion attendees enjoying the pre-game meal before the PSU-Nebraska game.

Left: Dr. Eva Wallner-Pendleton, avian diagnostician and field investigator at the Animal Diagnostic Laboratory at University Park had a split allegiance (she came to PSU from the University of Nebraska). Right: Hae-In Kim, daughter of Dr. Woo-Kyun and Hee-Jin Kim, had no trouble deciding which team to root for.

2003 Poultry Science Alumni & Friends Reunion Set for September 27 (PSU vs. Minnesota Football Game)

The 4th Annual Poultry Science Alumni & Friends Reunion has been scheduled for September 27, 2003. The Nittany Lions will host the Minnesota Golden Gophers in an important Big Ten clash for both teams. We have reserved a block of 150 tickets and four rooms at the Motel 6 on North Atherton Street for anyone desiring overnight accommodations. As in years past, we plan to offer a pre-game meal, preceded by a brief program.

The goal of this event is to foster a greater involvement of alumni and friends in the workings of the department. The festivities will be held (rain or shine) in a large tent adjacent to the Agricultural Arena. As a recipient of this newsletter, you are already on our mailing list and will receive more information in early June. We hope that you will plan to join us!

Poultry Science Affiliate Program Group Launches Mentor Program

In an effort to launch its new Mentor Program, the Board of Directors of the Poultry Science Affiliate Program Group (APG) hosted a dinner in Lancaster on March 5, 2003 for five Penn State students, Poultry Science Club co-advisor Phil Clauer, and Department Head Bob Elkin. The goal of this activity was to foster interactions between APG members and PSU students, with the goal of matching interested students with an industry mentor whose expertise or job experience mirrors the student's career interests.

The purpose of the Poultry Science APG, which was established in 2002, is three-fold: 1) To stimulate the continued interest of all graduates, former students, and friends of the Department of Poultry Science; 2) To provide a means whereby alumni and friends may join together for the enhancement of the programs of the Department and the College of Agricultural Sciences; and 3) To act as an informal advisory board to the Poultry Science Department Head.

The six APG Board members are: Andy Bradford (Wenger's Feed Mill, Inc.), Paul Hann (Purina Mills, Inc.), Andy Long (Biomune Company), Gene Petit (Wenger's Feed Mill, Inc.), Rich Roenigk (York Ag Products, Inc.), and Jim Shirk (PennAg Industries Association). Officers are Paul Hann, President; Andy Long, Vice President; and Rich Roenigk, Secretary-Treasurer. They will serve for two years (until 2004) while the remaining Board members will serve until 2005. Anyone interested in joining the APG should contact Rich Roenigk (tel: 717.843.9937; e-mail: RRoenigk@aol.com).

APG Directors, spouses, and PSU students discuss mentoring opportunities at a March 5 dinner in Lancaster. Left to right: Rich Roenigk, Debbie Roenigk, Corey Bartholomew, Kristy Eshbach, Matt Ventrella, Andy Long, Peggy Hann, and Paul Hann.
In Memoriam

Dr. Kenneth Goodwin

Dr. Kenneth Goodwin, Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science, passed away on Sunday, October 13, 2002 at the age of 82. Born in New York State on September 30, 1920, he was the son of the late Herbert E. Goodwin and Jennie Beyer Goodwin. He graduated from Ossining High School in Ossining, New York and, after completing a 2-year technical course in poultry husbandry from the New York State Institute of Agriculture and Home Economics, Cobleskill, New York, he served for 34 months in the U.S. Army Air Force, 18 months of which were spent in the Southwest Pacific Theatre in World War II. Dr. Goodwin completed requirements for a B.S. at Cornell University in 1948, an M.S. in 1950, and a Ph.D. in Animal Genetics in 1952 under the direction of Dr. Randall Cole. In 1952, Dr. Goodwin accepted a position as Geneticist, Kimber Farms, Inc., Fremont, California. His major responsibility involved research and development in poultry genetics and related fields, especially pathology and the physiology of reproduction in the fowl. While with Kimber Farms, he was responsible for broiler breeding research, was a member of the Board of Directors of Kimber Farms, Inc., and a member of the Board of Directors of Kimberchicks, Inc.

In April 1964, he began employment as Geneticist with H&N, Inc., Kirkland, Washington. His duties included applied genetics research and public relations. In October 1966, Dr. Goodwin returned to the academic environment as Professor and Head, Department of Poultry Science, The Pennsylvania State University, and held this position until his retirement in June 1984. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he was also an active participant in the Department’s programs in Instruction and Extension. He taught an animal genetics course for Animal Science majors, Biology majors from the College of Science, and graduate students. His industry experience also made him a valued lecturer in the poultry production courses. Dr. Goodwin served on the advisory committees of approximately 15 M.S. and Ph.D. candidates and was an academic advisor to undergraduate Animal Science majors. He also was a consulting geneticist for Litman Poultry Company, Augusta, Maine.

Dr. Goodwin was the author or co-author of 22 refereed journal articles and numerous popular articles. He was a member of The Pennsylvania State University Senate from 1969 to 1974 and served on numerous University and College of Agriculture committees.

In 1984, he received the Pennsylvania Wildlife Conservation Award, which is the highest award presented by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. He served twice on the Executive Committee of the Poultry Science Association (1965 to 1967 and 1980 to 1982), was an Associate Editor of Poultry Science for 9 years, and was a member of the Nominating Committee and the Professional Development Committee. He was named a Fellow of the Poultry Science Association in 1985. Dr. Goodwin also served as Program Chairman for the National Poultry Breeders’ Roundtable and was a member of the Board of Directors of the World’s Poultry Science Association. In addition to his membership in the Poultry Science Association, Dr. Goodwin was a member of the World’s Poultry Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, Genetics Society of America, American Genetics Association, American Institute of Biological Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science (Fellow), Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Dr. Goodwin also was active in the international aspects of poultry science. In 1975, while serving as a consultant to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, he spent two months in Bangalore, India, teaching a course in poultry genetics. In December 1980,
he went to Guangzhou (Canton), China, to establish a joint research program in poultry between Penn State and the South China Agricultural College. A year later, Dr. Goodwin returned to Guangzhou to consult on the breeding research project at the South China Agricultural College and to give a series of seminars on Animal Genetics. He also traveled to Senegal, Uganda, Kenya, and the Dominican Republic for Volunteers Overseas Cooperative Assistance between 1989 and 1995.

Kenneth Goodwin was married to Mary Winshurst in 1947. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Martha, who lives in Reston, VA.

Dr. Glenn O. Bressler

Dr. Glenn O. Bressler, Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science, passed away on Monday, March 10, 2003, at the age of 89. Born in Hegins, Pennsylvania on February 13, 1914, he was a son of the late J. Claude and Mary Otto Bressler. Dr. Bressler graduated from Hegins Township High School in 1931 and subsequently earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agricultural Education from Penn State in 1935 and 1940, respectively. He taught Vocational Agriculture at Lower Paxton Township High School (1935-37) and at Hollidaysburg High School (1937-1945), where he started a new department. In addition to his daily teaching program, he taught defense training in farm-machinery repair and was chairman of the Blair County Victory Garden and master of the Scotch Valley Grange. In 1945, he joined the staff of the Poultry Husbandry Department at Penn State as an instructor specializing in poultry farm management. He received his Ph.D. Degree in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University in 1949 while on a year's leave of absence from Penn State.

Dr. Bressler was promoted to Assistant Professor of Poultry Husbandry in 1949 and to Professor of Poultry Husbandry in 1951. In 1963, when the Department of Poultry Husbandry was renamed the Department of Poultry Science, Dr. Bressler's title was changed to Professor of Poultry Science. Upon his retirement in 1975, Dr. Bressler was granted the title of Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science.

A pioneer in bringing automation and controlled environment to the poultry housing industry, Dr. Bressler and his associates developed and built the first solar poultry house and designed and used the first mechanical poultry feeder. He also developed a mechanical manure pit cleaner and manure drying system, a plastic rollaway nest and mechanical egg gathering system, an open grid plastic floor that replaced poultry litter, and a sloping floor system for high-density housing of laying hens and broiler breeders. Through these innovative designs of poultry housing and equipment, the environment was greatly improved both for the chickens and the caretakers, while house capacities were greatly increased such that four times as many laying hens and twice as many broiler breeders could be housed as compared to conventional commercial operations of that time. As a result, investment costs per laying hen or broiler breeder were greatly reduced and labor costs were substantially lowered. Dr. Bressler's research drew worldwide attention and attracted visitors from 33 states and 15 countries. Many of these innovations have been adapted in today's highly automated, efficient, and environmentally-controlled commercial poultry houses throughout the United States and the world.

The author of more than 100 papers and articles in the field of poultry management, Dr. Bressler was widely sought as a speaker and presented lectures to university and industry groups in 37 states, Canada, England, and Russia. He served as acting head of the Department of Poultry Science in 1966 and was a member of the University Senate for two years. He was a member of the Poultry Science Association, the World's Poultry Science Association, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, and three honorary societies – Alpha Tau Alpha, Sigma Xi, and Gamma Sigma Delta. He served as president of the latter. Glenn also was a member of the
Pennsylvania Vocational Association and served as vice president.

Dr. Bressler taught a general course in Poultry Husbandry and an advanced Poultry Management course. He directed the programs of 11 M.S. and 5 Ph.D. students, many of who have made major impacts in the Poultry Science field. Two of his former students also served as Head of the Poultry Science Department at Penn State.

Dr. Bressler advised the Poultry Science Club, was an egg judge at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, and served as program chairman for a number of industry conferences. He was a consultant to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and several industrial firms. In 1971, he received the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation's "Allied Industry Man of the Year" in recognition of his research contributions. In 1995, he received the distinguished teacher award from the Hollidaysburg High School Alumni Association. He was a member of the Hollidaysburg and State College Kiwanis Clubs, spanning a period of 63 years, and served as the latter's president in 1965. He was a member of the Juniata Lodge Number 282 in Hollidaysburg.

Dr. Bressler was an avid fisherman and hunter and he enjoyed nature, athletic events, music, and travel. He was a member of the chorus at Everglades Community Church in Everglade City, FL, and was a longtime member of the State College Presbyterian Church, where he served as a deacon and elder.

In 1944, he married Verna Fye of Johnstown, PA, who died in 1999. He is survived by two daughters, Janet Zettle of Huntington, WV and Jean Blazey of Osprey, FL, two granddaughters, and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial scholarship has been established in Dr. Bressler's honor in the Department of Poultry Science to recognize outstanding achievement by undergraduate students who have a demonstrated interest in Poultry Science and are enrolled or planning to enroll in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State. An accompanying article on the Bressler Memorial Scholarship appears on page 5 of this newsletter.

Jay W. Irwin

Jay W. Irwin, Director Emeritus of the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension, passed away on Tuesday, July 30, 2002 in Savannah, GA at the age of 76.

Jay was born in Bellwood, Pennsylvania. He was the son of the late Fred M. and Easty Miller Irwin. He grew up on a 127-acre dairy farm in Blair County and was a graduate of Bellwood Antis High School. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and served aboard the USS Bonefish in the South Pacific. He also was a member of Red Rose Chapter of Submarine Veterans of World War II.

Irwin earned a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from Penn State in 1949. Later that year, he started his career as a G.I. agricultural instructor with the Blair County School District. In 1950-51, he was a management trainee at the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative Association in Ebensburg. During the next 15 years, Jay managed Farm Bureau Cooperatives in Indiana, Venango, and Westmoreland counties. From 1966-67 he was the unit manager of Agway, Inc. in Greensburg.

Jay began his extension career in Lancaster County in 1967 as an assistant county agent. The following year he was promoted to associate county agent. In 1976 he was promoted to county agent. Five years later, Jay then took the helm as Director of Lancaster County Cooperative Extension, serving from 1981 until his retirement in 1991. Although he assisted a wide variety of agricultural industries, Irwin was closest to the poultry sector and provided training in all aspects of production. According to Leon Ressler, the current Lancaster County Cooperative Extension Director, Jay's leadership was especially critical when the region was struck with a disastrous avian influenza (AI) outbreak in 1983-84. When the disease was first diagnosed in 1983, Jay went to work to help the county's 700 producers slow the spread of the disease, urging -- and teaching -- producers to improve sanitation procedures while providing...
educational programs on AI diagnosis and eradication. When the disease reached epidemic proportions in the fall of 1983, Lancaster County was placed under quarantine and the state and federal AI task force arrived to enforce the quarantine and to depopulate infected flocks. Jay served as a critical liaison between the task force and the local community. More than 16 million chickens were eventually depopulated and hundreds of thousands died at an estimated cost to the industry of $100 million. In recognition of his important role in helping the federal task force combat the 1983-84 AI epidemic, the USDA bestowed upon Jay the Distinguished Service Award in 1985.

In addition to his USDA Distinguished Service Award, Jay received the 1970 Master Educator Award for Extension Services personnel at Penn State for his outstanding teaching and leadership in the area of business. During that same year, he was also cited as one of the ten regional winners of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Career Award. The NACAA later bestowed upon him its Distinguished Service Award in 1987.

Other awards received by Irwin included the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation Broiler Industryman of the Year (1982), the Agricultural Communicator Award from the Atlantic Dairy Cooperative (1987), and the George C. Delp Award (1992), which is presented to the Lancaster County resident who was the most influential person in the agricultural industry. In 1989, Lancaster County farmers named Jay the person who performed the most distinguished service to the county's agriculture.

Irwin traveled to Zimbabwe and Swaziland in 1989 as part of a new Extension Service program. Two years later, Jay served as a member of the first team of USDA-sponsored extension agents sent to Poland to help rebuild the country's agricultural education programs.

Jay served as a director of the Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Agents and wrote a weekly column, "Now Is The Time" in Lancaster Farming. The Jay Irwin Lancaster County Poultry Association Scholarship in the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences is named in his honor.

He was married for 54 years to Betty Wilson Irwin. Surviving in addition to his wife are five daughters, Easty A., married to Arthur Law of Oceanside, CA; Linda L., married to James Pontz of Lebanon, PA; Jaylene K., married to Steve Manuel of State College, PA; Suzanne M., married to Jesus Gomez-Terron of Salamanca, Spain; and Ruthann L., married to Eric True of Maytown, PA; 11 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter; and a brother, Harry, married Mary Ann Irwin of Bellwood. Jay was preceded in death by a son, Jay M., and a brother, Frank.

(Adapted from articles published in the Lancaster, PA Intelligencer Journal on August 1, 2002 and Lancaster Farming on August 10, 2002.)
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If you have any comments about this issue of PS Update, or suggestions for future issues, please contact Dr. Elkin at the above address.

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