

Animal Science Weekly

March 7, 2011

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Davey Griffin receives prestigious educator's award

COLLEGE STATION – Dr. Davey Griffin, associate professor and Extension meat specialist in the Department of Animal Science, has been selected to receive the North American Meat Processors Association's 2011 Harry L. Rudnick Educator's Award.

The NAMP Educator's Award is a prestigious and coveted honor given to a distinguished educator in the field of meat education. The award was established in 1969 to honor educators engaged in meat and animal sciences whose work has a definite benefit to the meat processing industry.

Griffin has been instrumental in the success of NAMP's Center of the Plate Training®, which he has assisted for nine years. He serves as a liaison between industry, commodity groups, medical and dietary professionals and USDA extension personnel to provide research, information, and technology.

His key program and interest areas include cutability and composition of carcasses associated with value-based marketing, current consumer issues concerning meat and meat products, youth development and cooperative research projects.

"Dr. Griffin contributes greatly to the ongoing education of meat industry professionals and students alike. NAMP appreciates his support of our programs and others, and congratulates him on this achievement," said NAMP President Bobby Hatoff of Allen Brothers in Chicago, IL.

Past Texas A&M educators who have won this prestigious award include Dr. Zerle Carpenter (1975), Dr. Gary Smith (1988), Dr. H. Russell Cross (1991), Dr. Jeff Savell (2003) and Dr. Kerri Harris (2005).



Planning for Hesby Atrium project continues

COLLEGE STATION – Planning for the Howard Hesby Student Atrium continues. Architex Studio is in the process of developing specific phases of the project so as to minimize disruptions and inconveniences during construction. Andrew Lechner, an architect with Engineering Design Services, is also working on a final design for the entry way and elevator area where the atrium name will be placed as well as recognize donors of the project.

Contributions are still needed to reach the campaign goal. If you are interested in donating to the Howard Hesby Student Atrium Fund, please visit <http://giving.tamu.edu/SupportHesbyAtrium>. If you are interested in ordering a copy of "Big Hands, Big Heart", please access an order form at <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/Hesby-Flyer5.pdf>.

If you have any questions regarding the atrium project, please contact Dr. H. Russell Cross at 979-845-1543 or <hrcross@tamu.edu> or Monica Delisa at 979-847-9314 or <m-delisa@tamu.edu> or go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/HesbyAtrium>.



Animal science faculty host judging contest for international HLSR visitors



RICHMOND -- Several faculty members from the Department of Animal Science hosted a cattle judging contest at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo International AgriSummit on March 3 in Richmond at the George Ranch.

Dr. Jason Cleere, associate professor and Extension beef cattle specialist; Dr. Chris Skaggs, professor and associate dean; and Paul Maulsby, Beef Center manager, (*pictured top, left*) hosted the contest and used cattle from the Beef Center. 350 international guests of the HLSR participated in the agrisummit. This judging contest is held each year for the visitors and the top 10 participants are recognized with a HLSR trophy.

Animal Science REPS, advisors greet hundreds of potential students



Left, Animal Science Aggie REPS Megan Webb, Katie Fritz, Henry Hilscher and Sydney Wilkinson talk with a classroom full of potential students interested in majoring in Animal Science.

COLLEGE STATION – Thousands of potential students and their parents descended upon College Station during AggieLand Saturday held February 19. Potential students spent the day touring the campus, dorms, libraries and computer labs, visiting the colleges and majors, and learning more about admission, financial aid and scholarships. Departments in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences including the Department of Animal Science welcomed potential students to the Kleberg Animal and Food Sciences Center. Each department had a chance to discuss the opportunities available in their department and at Texas A&M.

Animal Science graduate student participates in leadership exercise

COLLEGE STATION – Bryan Agado, master of science student in the physiology of reproduction section in the Department of Animal Science, and a team of three other graduate students participated in a mock congressional testimony exercise in January with the Hispanic Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment Fellowship Program directed by Dr. Manuel Piña. Bryan and team members Martia Ross, Poultry Science; Patrick Allen, Agriculture Education; and Jose Franco, Ecosystems Science and Management; presented their testimony to a panel of four judges. This activity exposes the students, as future leaders, to the governmental process of policy implementation and congressional testimony procedures. Bryan works under the mentorship of Drs. Ron Randel and Tom Welsh, both professors in the physiology of reproduction section, and Dr. Sara Lawhon, assistant professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

PREP members present information at symposium

COLLEGE STATION – Members of the physiology of reproduction section participated in the 2011 TAMU-CONACYT Collaborative Research Grant Program Symposium held on the campus of Texas A&M University on March 2, 2011. Bryan Agado, master of science student, and Dr. Salvador Romo, professor at Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, presented a talk entitled, “Adaptation of Biotechnologies for Reproduction of Cattle in the Tropics.” Bryan also presented a poster entitled, “The influence of the addition of heparin binding protein and tissue inhibitors of metalloproteinases-2 to sexed bovine semen on conception rate and pregnancy rate.” The collaborative team members are Dr. Tom Welsh, professor, in physiology of reproduction; Dr. Ron Randel, professor, Texas AgriLife Research in Overton and physiology of reproduction; Dr. Salvador Romo, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico; and Dr. Miguel Lammoglia, associate professor, Universidad Veracruzana. Drs. Romo and Lammoglia were students in the physiology of reproduction section in the early 1990s.

Recent publication

Hill, R.A., E.E. Connor, S.P. Poulos, T.H. Welsh, Jr., and N.K. Gabler. 2010. Growth and development symposium: fetal programming in animal agriculture. *Journal of Animal Science* 88:E38-39.

Upcoming events

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (March 9, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Marcel Amstalden will present "Emerging neuroendocrine pathways controlling the onset of puberty" starting at noon. Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. For more information, contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at tryon@tamu.edu.

Animal Science Graduate Student Association Coffee Break (March 11, 2011 - 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - All Animal Science faculty, staff and graduate students are invited to attend.

Livestock Judging Clinic (March 26, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, please contact Jake Franke at (979) 845-7616 or jjfranke@tamu.edu or go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/youth/judging-clinic-11.pdf>.

Spirit of Aggeland Sale (April 17, 2011 - TAMU Beef Center) - For more information, please contact Paul Maulsby at (979) 862-4736 or email beefcenter@tamu.edu. More information will be available soon.

2011 Mid-South Ruminant Nutrition Conference (April 20-21, 2011 - Grapevine, TX) - For more information, please go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/2011_Ruminant_Nutrition_Conf.pdf.

Children's Barnyard (April 27-29, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, please contact Kaitlyn Grimshaw at kaitlyn_grimshaw@neo.tamu.edu or go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/students/clubs/s&s/announcements/index.htm>.

Texas A&M Show Cattle Camp (June 10-12, 2011 & June 17-19, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, please contact Paul Maulsby at 979-862-4736 or email beefcenter@tamu.edu or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/beef/beef-center/camps/show-cattle-camp/index.htm>.

Texas A&M Livestock Judging Camp (May 27-29, 2011 & June 24-26, 2011) - For more information, please contact Jake Franke at (979) 845-7616 or visit http://animalscience.tamu.edu/workshops/youth-workshops/livestock_judging_camp.htm.

Texas A&M Horse Judging Camp (June 22-24, 2011 & July 6-8, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, please contact Dr. Clay Cavinder at (979) 845-7731 or email cac@tamu.edu or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/workshops/youth-workshops/tamu-horse-judging-camp.htm>.

Aggeland Lamb & Goat Camps (July 15-17, 2011 & July 22-24, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, please contact Dr. Shawn Ramsey, Katie Fritz or Kelsey Willberg at (979) 845-7616 or email aggelandlambandgoatcamp@gmail.com or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/sheep-goats/sheep-center/youth-camps/index.htm>.

Rosenthal Lecture Series (Sept. 15, 2011 - College Station) - Dr. Temple Grandin will be the speaker at the Rosenthal Lecture Series to be held at the Annenberg Conference Center at the George Bush Presidential Library. For more information, please contact Dr. Jeff Savell at jj-savell@tamu.edu.



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Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Courtney Coufal <cacoufal@tamu.edu>