

Animal Science Weekly

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Shawn Ramsey named Assistant Head, Academic Programs

COLLEGE STATION – Dr. Shawn Ramsey, associate professor, has been named Assistant Head for Undergraduate Programs in the Department of Animal Science effective Sept. 1, 2011.

In this new role, Ramsey will assume responsibility for a myriad of tasks and initiatives involving the department's undergraduate program, and he will assist Dr. David Forrest, associate head for academic programs, with the overall direction of the teaching program. He will continue to provide leadership for the undergraduate advising office and continue to serve as one of the four academic advisors to the more than 800 students enrolled in the department.

"Providing our students with an excellent academic experience is a priority that will require additional time and constant oversight and management," said Dr. Russell Cross, interim head. "I am pleased to welcome Dr. Ramsey to this appointment as we move forward in our teaching program."

In addition to his advising responsibilities, Ramsey serves as one of the sheep and goat extension specialists for the state. He teaches an introductory animal science class, sheep and goat production, and the wool and mohair judging class. He serves as the coordinator of the TAMU Wool and Mohair Judging Team and the Breeding Sheep Show Team. He is the faculty coordinator for the Sheep and Goat Center and the Louis Pearce Pavilion.

Ramsey received a bachelor's degree in animal science from Texas A&M University and a master's and doctorate degrees in animal and range science from New Mexico State University.



HOWARD HESBY STUDENT ATRIUM

■ **Update** Construction on the Howard Hesby Student Atrium in the Kleberg Animal and Food Sciences Center is moving ahead. Updates to the elevator lobby area are underway and should be complete within a couple of weeks. This includes wood panel walls, a new ceiling, television monitors and lettering. Carpet, furniture, trees and all other pending projects should be completed by mid-October.

For additional information on the atrium project or to support the project, go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/hesby-atrium>.

■ **Mark your calendar** A dedication ceremony of the Howard Hesby Student Atrium has been scheduled for November 17, 2011 in the atrium. The event will begin at 1:30 p.m. More details on the dedication will be available soon. Read the *Animal Science Weekly* or visit the atrium website for updates.



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4th annual Korea-United States International Joint Symposium scheduled for Nov. 1-2

COLLEGE STATION – The 4th annual Korea-United States International Joint Symposium: Producing High Quality Beef for the Global Market will be held Nov. 1-2, 2011 in College Station.



The first day of the symposium will focus on topics related to the importance of producing high-quality beef for the United States, Asia and Latin America, as well as the use of

growth-promoting feed additives in the production of high-quality beef. The second day of the event will include a tour of 44 Farms in Cameron and discussion about the impact of byproducts (distiller's grains, cooking oils and glycerin) on carcass quality.

"The International Joint Symposium is designed to foster international trade of beef, with primary focus on high-quality beef," said Dr. Stephen Smith, professor in the Department of Animal Science and event organizer. "This program will bring together experts in this field from Korea, Japan, Brazil and the United States to address demand and production of high-quality beef in the U.S., Asia, and Central and South America."

The Korea-United States International Joint Symposium was developed through a mutual interest in

high-quality beef production between the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M, Texas AgriLife Research, and the National Institute of Animal Science (NIAS) of the Rural Development Administration, Republic of South Korea. The NIAS hosted the first and third symposia in 2005 and 2009, respectively, and Texas A&M University hosted the second international symposium in 2007.

Registration to attend the symposium is now open and can be made online or through the mail. Go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/symposium/registration.html> for registration details.

Cost to attend is \$150 if registered by October 21, 2011 and \$200 afterwards. There is no charge for Texas A&M University faculty and students.

For more information, go to <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/symposium>.

TAMU Meat Judging Team Reunion: Sept. 15-18, 2011

Registration Registration to attend the TAMU Meat Judging Team Reunion on Sept. 15-18, 2011 in College Station can be made online at https://secure.touchnet.com/C21490_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=37 or by mail. Registration deadline is September 9, 2011.

Agenda Thursday, Sept. 15: Rosenthal Lecture Series featuring Temple Grandin. This event will begin at 7 p.m. in the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

Friday, Sept. 16: Come & Go Social with silent auction will begin at 7 p.m. at the G. Rollie White Visitor's Center located at the O.D. Butler Jr. Animal Science Complex.

Saturday, Sept. 17: Open House from 10-noon at the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center; **An overview of the judging team program** including Meat Judging Team introductions and recognition of former teams will be held from noon to 1 p.m.; **Prime Rib Sandwich lunch** will begin at 1 p.m.; **Tailgating** for the evening football game will begin at 2 p.m. in front of Rosenthal; **TAMU vs. University of Idaho football game** begins at 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.12thmanfoundation.com/ticket-center/football/meat-judging.aspx>. The tickets are \$50 each with a \$5 handling charge.

Sunday, Sept. 18: Dr. G.C. Smith Scholarship Golf Tournament begins at 8 a.m. at the Briarcrest Country Club. Registration for the golf tournament can be made online at https://secure.touchnet.com/C21490_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=37 or by mail.

Hotel A hotel block has been arranged at the Super 8 on Texas Avenue. Call 979-846-8860 and ask for group name - TAMU Meat Judging Team; event - Reunion

Website Go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/newsandevents/news_meat_judging_team_reunion.htm for more information and to access a printable copy of the reunion registration form and the golf tournament entry form, and a complete agenda. For more information, contact Davey Griffin at <dgriff@tamu.edu> or call 979-845-3935.





Holub selected Fish Camp Namesake

COLLEGE STATION – Dr. Glenn Holub, instructional assistant professor, *pictured bottom front*, was selected as a Fish Camp Namesake this August. Fish Camp welcomes the freshman class to Texas A&M each year with the purpose of giving them the opportunity to have fun, make friends, and learn more about life at Texas A&M. Fish Camp is divided into seven sessions and within each session there are six camps. Each camp is named after an individual that has contributed to Texas A&M in a positive way. Being selected as a Fish Camp Namesake is an honor because namesakes have the opportunity to interact with and impact not only 24 upperclassmen counselors, but also up to 150 freshmen in their camp.

Longtime AgriLife fiber researcher at San Angelo retires

SAN ANGELO – Dr. Chris Lupton, project leader for animal fiber research at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center and head of the recently named Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Laboratory at San Angelo, retired effective Aug. 31.

Lupton also worked as a professor in the animal nutrition section in the Department of Animal Science.

“Dr. Lupton has been an integral part of this center and a leader in wool and mohair research for many years,” said Dr. John Walker, Texas AgriLife Research resident director of research at San Angelo.

“He is a strong advocate of the sheep and goat industry not only in West Texas, but on the national level as well.”

Prior to accepting his current AgriLife Research appointment, Lupton served seven years as head of chemical processing laboratories with Texas Tech University’s Textile Research Center at Lubbock. He started with the textile center in 1974 as a postdoctoral research fellow and moved up the ranks to research associate and then to assistant head in 1975 before assuming the leadership role in 1977.

When he began his current position with AgriLife Research, he became responsible for planning and conducting a research program which included work with wool, mohair,



cashmere, alpaca and other animal fibers.

He was tasked with providing information to increase profitability in animal fiber production through improved objective measurements, preparation, selection, feeding and management of sheep, Angora and cashmere goats, and alpacas by improving fiber quantity, quality and value, Walker said.

Lupton’s research efforts included support for sheep and goat performance testing programs, developing and evaluating new techniques for faster, less expensive ways to measure fleece and fiber characteristics, reducing wool and mohair fleece contami-

nation, reducing kemp and improving the marketing of animal fibers.

Lupton has headed the Bill Sims Wool and Mohair Research Laboratory located on the center grounds since the lab’s opening in 1985. The research laboratory equipment was moved to San Angelo after a U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service laboratory closed in Albany, California 1983.

The lab is the last such research lab operating full-time in the nation. Walker said Lupton was instrumental in having the facility renamed for retired Sen. Bill Sims last year. Sims is a longtime West Texas sheep and goat industry leader and past executive secretary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers’ Association.

Lupton’s work will be continued by Faron Pfeiffer, his longtime AgriLife Research associate.

Lupton holds a bachelor of science degree and doctorate in textile chemistry from the University of Leeds, England. He has authored and co-authored numerous scientific journal articles based on his work at the center.

After retirement, Lupton and his wife Maggie, plan to remodel their home, spend more time with their family in the Austin area and travel throughout the U.S. and their native England.

Meat Science students presented Bob Ondrusek Scholarship at annual convention

SAN ANTONIO – Seven Texas A&M University meat science students received a Bob Ondrusek Memorial Scholarship given by the Southwest Meat Association Foundation, presented during the SMA Annual Convention held in San Antonio July 21-24, 2011. The SMA Foundation awarded approximately \$25,000 in Ondrusek Scholarships, the largest amount ever awarded. In addition, each recipient was given a travel stipend to assist with expenses. The students were recognized during the annual President's Dinner and Dance.

Those receiving scholarships from Texas A&M are, *front left*, Leslie Frenzel, Rachel Glascock, Jim Ondrusek, Bob Ondrusek's son and Vice-President of Columbia Packing Company, Ashley Haneklaus and Haley Grimes. *Back left*, Gatlan Gray, Russell McKeith and Amanda Smith.



Also at the convention, Jessica Steger, a senior animal science major, and Cody Labus, *right*, a meat science graduate student, were recognized as recipients of the SmiKids Scholarships, an award they each received in the spring during the Saddle and Sirloin Club Banquet.



2011 Texas A&M

Beef Cattle Short Course

COLLEGE STATION – The 57th annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course was held Aug. 1-3, 2011 in College Station and brought together nearly 1,500 beef cattle producers from across Texas as well as 20 states and three countries.

The annual three-day event is coordinated by Texas AgriLife Extension Beef and Livestock Specialists and hosted by the Department of Animal Science on the Texas A&M University campus.

This year's short course included a large trade show with 126 companies and industry groups participating and education presentations given by 69 speakers from the Department of Animal Science, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas AgriLife Research, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, other universities. Beef industry representatives spoke at 24 different Cattleman's College sessions.

A youth program was added this year and attracted 25 Texas junior high school students. During the General Session, the 2011 Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course was dedicated to Dr. Gary Smith for his service to the beef cattle industry, Texas agriculture, and the Texas A&M University System. Also at the general session, Dr. Temple Grandin of Colorado State University spoke on how to improve animal welfare with a practical approach.

The Texas Aggie Prime Rib Dinner was held Monday evening in the McFerrin Indoor Track Facility and included many special guests from the TAMU System and across the state. The prime rib was once again perfectly prepared and served by Dr. Davey Griffin and the Meat Science undergraduate and graduate students. The students served more than 1,550 guests in 23 minutes.

The 2012 Beef Cattle Short Course is scheduled for Aug. 6-8.



Faculty, students present research at ICoMST meeting in Belgium



Left, Dr. Jeff Savell, Lindsey Mehall, Ashley Haneklaus and Dr. Kerri Harris.

GHENT, BELGIUM – Meat Science faculty members Dr. Jeff Savell and Dr. Kerri Harris, along with graduate students Lindsey Mehall and Ashley Haneklaus, participated in the 57th annual International Congress of Meat Science and Technology in Ghent, Belgium, Aug. 7-12, 2011. This gathering is the preeminent conference for meat scientists from around the world, and this year's event spotlighted more than 450 invited and submitted presentations dealing with an array of topics of international interest.

The group from Texas A&M presented four posters featuring research in food safety and nutrition. These include:

Lemmons, J. L., L. M. Lucia, M. D. Hardin, J. W. Savell, and K. B. Harris. 2011. Efficacy of washing and/or trimming beef subprimals as a decontamination method for *Escherichia coli* O157:H7. Paper P218 in Proc. Int. Congr. Meat Sci. Technol., Ghent, Belgium.

Muras, T. M., K. B. Harris, L. N. Mehall, A. N. Haneklaus, M. D. Hardin, L. M. Lucia, and J. W. Savell. 2011. *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 and *Salmonella* Typhimurium penetration during vacuum tumbling and survivability during storage in marinated beef. Paper P248 in Proc. Int. Congr. Meat Sci. Technol., Ghent, Belgium.

Smith, A. M., K. B. Harris, A. N. Haneklaus, and J. W. Savell. 2011. Quality grade and degree of doneness effects on nutrient content of beef top loin steaks. Paper P134 in Proc. Int. Congr. Meat Sci. Technol., Ghent, Belgium.

West, S. E., K. B. Harris, A. N. Haneklaus, J. W. Savell, L. D. Thompson, J. C. Brooks, J. K. Pool, A. M. Luna, T. E. Engle, J. S. Schutz, K. E. Belk, and L. W. Douglass. 2011. Obtaining information for beef chuck cuts for a national nutrient database in the United States. Paper P135 in Proc. Int. Congr. Meat Sci. Technol., Ghent, Belgium.

Welcome NEW Students



The Department of Animal Science hosted a welcome party for incoming Animal Science freshmen and transfer students on August 26 at Pearce Pavilion. The students were welcomed by Animal Science faculty, staff and Aggie REPS. Food was provided by Fuddruckers. Many attending also enjoyed volleyball and washers.

Recent Publications

Haneklaus, A. N., J. M. Hodgen, R. J. Delmore, T. E. Lawrence, D. A. Yates, D. M. Allen, D. B. Griffin, and J. W. Savell. 2011. Effects of zilpaterol hydrochloride on retail yields of subprimals from beef and calf-fed Holstein steers. *J. Anim. Sci.* 89: 2867-2877.

Smith, A. M., K. B. Harris, A. N. Haneklaus, and J. W. Savell. 2011. Proximate composition and energy content of beef steaks as influenced by USDA quality grade and degree of doneness. *Meat Sci.* 89: 228-232.

McNeill, S. H., K. B. Harris, T. G. Field, and M. E. Van Elswyk. The evolution of lean beef: Identifying lean beef in today's U.S. marketplace. *Meat Sci.* (2011), doi: 10.1016/j.meatsci.2011.05.023.

Upcoming events ☆ Upcoming events ☆ Upcoming events

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (Sept. 9, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Chris Kerth, associate professor in the Department of Animal Science, will present "The Science of Meat Flavor." Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. with the program beginning at noon. Please RSVP to Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu> by Sept. 8 if you would like to have lunch.

College of Agriculture and Life Science Centennial Lecture Series (Sept. 14, 2011 - College Station) - Dr. Temple Grandin will present "Different Kinds of Minds Need to Work Together" at Rudder Auditorium at 7 p.m. This event is open to the public. There is no charge but tickets will be required, and can be obtained by contacting the Texas A&M University Box Office at (979) 845-1234 or <http://boxoffice.tamu.edu>.

Rosenthal Lecture Series (Sept. 15, 2011 - College Station) - Dr. Temple Grandin will present "Animal Welfare: A Practical Approach" at the 2011 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 <j-savell@tamu.edu> or go to <http://meat.tamu.edu/rls.html>.

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Centennial Lecture Series (Sept. 23, 2011 - College Station) - Dr. Craig Morris, Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Marketing Service, will present "How do Commodity Check-off Programs Function?" and "The Evolution of Beef Instrument Grading." The event will begin at 10 a.m. and will be held in the Agriculture and Life Sciences Building, Room 129. For more information, go to <http://agrilife.org/college100/events/commoditygrading/>.

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (Oct. 7, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Glenn Holub, instructional assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science, will present "Attitudes and Perceptions of Students in an Introductory Animal Science Class." Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. with the program beginning at noon. Please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu> with questions.

4th annual Korea-United States International Joint Symposium (Nov. 1-2, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/symposium/> or contact Dr. Stephen Smith at (979) 845-3939 or <sbsmith@tamu.edu>.

2011 Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest (Nov. 5, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, contact Jake Franke at <jfranke@tamu.edu> or call (979) 845-6059.

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (Dec. 2, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Barry Lambert, associate professor in the Department of Animal Science at Tarleton State University, will present "Southwest Regional Dairy Center Update." Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. with the program beginning at noon. Please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu> with questions.



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