

October
2015

“Tails” of Animal Sciences

Harvest. It seems like yesterday I looked out my window to discover Crop Sciences personnel planting the Morrow Plots. Recently, I watched the crew harvest this year’s corn crop. It’s a special time around here. The magnitude of grain harvest in central Illinois is staggering. I’ve never seen anything like it anywhere else. We literally provide food and feed for the world. In the Animal Sciences Business Office we also have a rich tradition of providing food for the hungry: Popcorn Wednesday and Donut Friday! Myra keeps the popper going all day long every Wednesday and a constant stream of faculty, staff, and students parade through 110 ASL to enjoy a snack. I’ve seen students lined up 20 deep to get a bag before their classes in ASL. Every Friday, Joe buys bagels and donuts for the troops. His generosity communicates a mission of service to the whole department and his kindness is contagious. Throughout the Animal Sciences Department we have dedicated staff with a service mentality. In our offices, labs, and farms, these dedicated employees play a critical role in our mission. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

In this month’s *Tails of Animal Sciences* we are beginning a new Spotlight feature. Every month we hope to spotlight a faculty, staff, or student member of the department. This month’s article is an interview with Kate McGeever (ANSC Grad Research Assistant) written by Rebecca Moll (Junior majoring in ANSC). Please share all of your notable departmental information with Jamie Evans so we can publish your interesting stories, accomplishments, and events in “*Tails*” of Animal Sciences.

Steve (and Spenser)



Animal Sciences Laboratory



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ILLINI EQUESTRIANS WESTERN SHOW TEAM

The Illini Equestrians Western Show Team competed at their first double show of the new season on October 3rd. The team had numerous individuals who rode their way into the ribbons. Molly McGhee won her Open division class in the morning and placed 3rd in the afternoon. In Novice division Hannah Raver placed 3rd and 5th while her teammate Dana Drinkall placed 2nd and 6th. Rachel Reeter rode to a 2nd place finish in the morning and 4th finish in the afternoon in Intermediate 2 division. Morgan Murray won the intermediate 2 division in the morning and took the red ribbon in the afternoon. In Intermediate 1 division Kayla Kauffman had a great ride in the morning, winning her class, and finished fifth in the afternoon. Those performances made her point up into the Intermediate 2 division for the next show. In the Walk-Trot division Cary Smith earned a 2nd and a 5th. The show was held in New Castle, IN hosted by Purdue University. The next horse show is November 7th in New Castle, IN hosted by Ball State University



STUDENT RECOGNITION

Martin Overholt, a student working with Professor Boler, successfully defended his M. S. thesis "Effects of pelleting swine diets on growth performance, carcass characteristics, gastrointestinal weight, and commercial bacon processing characteristics". We wish Martin success as he pursues a Ph. D. degree in our department.

Congratulations Martin!

Emily Arkfeld is the recipient of a Fall 2015 Dissertation Travel Completion award.

Congratulations to Emily and Dr. Boler for their outstanding and impactful research collaboration that is being recognized by the Graduate College.

Congratulations Emily!

FACULTY RECOGNITION

Roger Shanks was the recipient of the 2015 ADSA Award of Honor. The purpose of this award is to recognize unusually outstanding and consistent contributions to the welfare of the Association or distinguished service to the Association. Roger was presented with this award during the Joint Annual Meeting in Orlando Florida on July 14th. Congratulations!



GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This week I had the opportunity to speak with Kate McGeever. Kate has been a TA for both ANSC 298 and ANSC 222 in the past. Kate was originally a pre-med student at the University of New Hampshire. Similar to many Animal Sciences students interested in pursuing veterinary medicine, she knew she wanted to be a doctor since she was four. Later on, she realized that many parts of this profession terrified her and decided to start looking at different paths. After earning her BS degree, Kate worked for two years on a project related to cancer research. She found a love for this that led her to look into graduate schools. Kate quickly found her home working in Megan Dailey's lab. Her work relates to gastrointestinal abnormalities, specifically those in the small intestine. The small intestine regenerates completely every 3-5 days due to stem cells. Kate and her advisor are investigating how these cells responded to nutrients and the way this affects how they grow and divide. The research Kate is involved in can help in diseases such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome, obesity, and more. For Kate, her research has a personal connection, which drives her to work harder each and every day. Kate thinks that this personal connection is something all people should strive for because it pushes you harder.

Kate has a large amount of passion for her work and she also enjoys being a TA. She stresses that she loves when students come and ask questions, especially those not relating to school work. As Kate pointed out, the majority of TA's were undergraduates not long ago and have a large amount of knowledge relating to the education process overall that they would love to share. Kate wishes that students understood that undergrad is the only time that a person can participate in such a wide variety of activities like be a part of a horseback riding club as well as a juggling club. She believes all of these opportunities should be taken advantage of. She advises students to try and become involved in activities outside of their comfort zone, or niche, to help them grow as individuals. This idea has been further driven by her

mentor, Professor Dailey. Professor Dailey tells all of her graduate students to find a hobby outside of the lab and to take a day off every once in a while. This push to allow her students to grow in more ways than one has been incredibly inspiring for Kate.

In her free time, Kate is also President of the Animal Sciences Graduate Student Association. This association intends to try and bring graduate students together through lectures, guest speakers, and non-academic related activities such as intramural sports. As a graduate researcher, Kate states it is easier to get so focused and concentrated in your little bubble, but by working together collaborations can lead to an even better end project.

After her graduate degree is over, Kate is interested in pursuing academics as she feels that there is a large lack of female mentors and role models. Though the Animal Sciences department is full of females, there is a gap in the amount of female mentors. Kate feels that Professor Megan Dailey has been such a great mentor towards her, she hopes that she can provide this for other young women in science in the future.

Kate never expected to end up at University of Illinois but she cannot imagine being happier.

Written by Rebecca Moll, Junior majoring in Animal Sciences and minoring in Leadership Studies

FALL 2015 ACADEMIC DEADLINES

October 19

- Priority registration Time Tickets (earliest registration times) for Spring 2016 available on [Student Self-Service](#)
- POT B courses begin (non-traditional courses may begin earlier or later)

October 23

- Deadline to add UG POT B course
- Deadline to add GRAD POT B course via [Student Self-Service](#)
- Deadline for all students to drop POT B course for refund if reducing assessment range

October 30

- Deadline to withdraw from the University and receive the minimum 40% pro-rata refund

November 2

- Priority registration for Spring 2016 begins

November 6

- Deadline to add GRAD POT B course via Department Office

November 13

- Deadline to drop UG POT B course via [Student Self-Service](#) without grade of W
- Deadline to drop GRAD POT B course via [Student Self-Service](#)
- Deadline to elect credit/no credit or change credit/no credit to regular grade basis in UG POT B course
- Deadline to file intent to use Campus Grade Replacement option in UG POT B course
- Deadline to drop GRAD semester course without grade of W
- Deadline to elect credit/no credit or change credit/no credit to regular grade basis in GRAD semester course

- Last day for GRAD students to withdraw from term without grade of W

November 21–29

- Fall Break

November 23

- Spring 2016 open registration begins for all except non-degree students

December 4

- Deadline to drop GRAD POT B course without grade of W
- Deadline for GRAD to elect credit/no credit or change credit/no credit to regular grade basis for GRAD POT B course

December 9

- Last day of instruction

December 10

- Reading day (no classes, no final examinations)
- Last day for GRAD to add/drop POT B course without petitioning Graduate College
- Last day for GRAD to add/drop semester course without petitioning Graduate College

December 11–18 (excluding weekend)

- Final examination period

December TBA, noon

- Faculty deadline for reporting grades

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