Department of Animal Science

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Department Head’s Notes

I have served as department head for the Department of Animal Science for one year, and in the words of my former mentor, “I love my job.” A few words about myself for those who may not know me: 1) I’m an Okie raised on a beef, wheat and cotton farm; 2) I attended Oklahoma State, Clemson and then West Virginia as a postdoc in the area of reproduction; 3) I have been at Tennessee since 1994; and 4) I love playing chess. Why I included that last statement will be obvious by the end of my “bullet” for the newsletter.

Regarding the newsletter, Jessy Harris Shanks has been the “power ball” behind getting this completed since we lost Emily Tipton to greener pastures. Our plans will be to distribute two newsletters a year that will reach you during the holidays (Thanksgiving and Fourth of July). The reasons we chose these dates are 1) to update our alumni and friends of the department on ongoing events and 2) to recruit the best students into the department. Leave this newsletter on the coffee table or in the game room, so your children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren will read about our department and want to be a UT Animal Science alumnus just like you!

What is happening in the department is a topic of conversation that I have covered at our alumni gatherings across the state this year. By the time you read this, we will have held alumni gatherings in Murfreesboro, Nashville, Springfield, Paris, Jackson, Knoxville, Greeneville and Crossville. I plan on starting the rotation again next year and hope that more of you will attend each time I come to your town or to one close by. In

(continued on page 2)
these meetings, I discuss how our student numbers have continued to grow (more than 400+); student demographics hold steady (more than 70 percent+female, urban and high ACT scores); and faculty numbers have continued to decrease, putting more and more pressure on my faculty and staff to perform at a higher level with less time available. However, we do have a budget-neutral plan (a term that our deans like to hear) to grow and to replace each of the faculty who have left or retired.

As you’ll see in this newsletter, we have hired a dairy research/Extension faculty member, Peter Krawzcel, who is off and running with his activities. We also have hired a much needed youth livestock specialist, Claudia Meeks Baney, who is already working with Drs. Neel and McIntosh on 4-H livestock activities for this fall and next year. We have lost Dr. Naima Moussa-Moustaid to Texas Tech this fall for a great opportunity for her professional growth and will be losing Drs. Kelly Robbins and Fred Hopkins to retirement by the end of the year. It is hard saying those two names since Dr. Robbins was the department head who hired me and spent numerous hours at a beef meeting in Asheville, N.C., recruiting me for the job. However, Dr. Hopkins is why I’m here. He called and asked me to apply. I asked, “Why come to Tennessee? Who was there to work with?” He answered, “Me.” I filled out my paperwork the next day and applied. He has served as my unofficial mentor and sounding board ever since I arrived and will be impossible to replace.

Where are we going in the short- and long-term? First, the newly renovated Brehm Animal Science Building should be ready for us to move into at the first of the year (yes, 2013, for those nonbelievers). It has been a long, long wait, but the faculty, staff and students are ready. We will have actually graduated one class that never set foot into Brehm or the arena during their time in the department. If all goes according to plan, we will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the Friday evening before B and B Roundup the first Saturday in March. We also have the All-East Collegiate Livestock Judging contest in April, so we still have a lot to do to be ready. Other short-term needs include faculty replacements (open positions will include two ruminant nutritionists, a reproductive physiologist, dairy animal health, dairy Extension associate, Extension veterinarian and beef Extension specialist). These are not new positions but ones that have been opened due to advancement, retirements and departures … and are greatly needed to meet our clientele requests in research, teaching and Extension. Recognize that when I arrived in 1994, we had 32 faculty members. Now, we have 19 with higher expectations.

Our long-term plans continue to grow in increasing student and faculty numbers; recruiting the brightest students — especially those raised on a farm who have been going elsewhere — and assisting them in their career development (communication skills is the number one area we focus on, since I’ve never seen a student hired who can’t speak); and working with our producers to strengthen their marketing advantage in the Southeast through Extension and research activities. Please notice that I referred to the students’ “career development” instead of collegiate advising, because I believe that is what we are doing here in the UT Department of Animal Science for our students — career development. To do this, we need your help with offering internship opportunities within your businesses or farms, forwarding comments and suggestions to us regarding the needs of the students or your future employees, and continuing to fund scholarships for top-performing students.

Again, we are on the move in the department — maybe at a trot now, but I see a gallop coming soon. Please continue to support this department. Advice is always welcomed, and we hope you’ll stop in to see us in Brehm next year!

Dr. F. Neal Schrick
Professor and Department Head
Department of Animal Science Recognizes Faculty and Staff

We strive to recognize faculty and staff members who have been successful in the classroom and in the laboratory. Congratulations to those who received awards for the 2011-2012 academic year!

Dr. J. Lannett Edwards
2012 W.F. and Golda Moss Outstanding Teaching Award (more than 10 years of service)
2011 Gamma Sigma Delta Excellence in Teaching Award

Dr. Cheryl J. Kojima
2012 Buford E. Ellington Distinguished Faculty Award (more than 10 years of service)
2012 W.F. and Golda Moss Outstanding Teaching Award (more than 10 years of service)

David Roper
2012 CASNR Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award
2011 Buford E. Ellington Distinguished Faculty Award (less than 10 years of service)

Lydia Seibert
2011 American Association of Veterinary Immunologists Student Poster Award

Rendering of new animal science arena.
New Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Peter Krawczel was raised in College Park, Md., a suburban city bordering Washington, D.C. Growing up just outside of a large metropolitan area meant that Krawczel did not cultivate his interest in the animal sciences through involvement in a family farm. Rather, his interest was developed at a young age when he participated in programs offered by FONZ (Friends of the National Zoo). Attending a middle school with an emphasis on science and technology and then placement into the competitive science, math and engineering program at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, Md., confirmed further his attraction to animal sciences.

This linear path in childhood meandered a bit more in college. Krawczel began his studies in wildlife biology at Colorado State University, but he transferred to the University of Maryland, College Park, after his sophomore year. There, he completed his Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science and policy from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, with a focus on soil, land and water resources. The majority of his coursework involved the area of soil science.

This training led to a short-term position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Beltsville Agriculture Research Center following graduation. At BARC, he was employed as a seasonal research technician on the Farming Systems Project in the Sustainable Agricultural Systems Lab. This project investigated the long-term sustainability and impacts on soil quality of various conventional and organic crop rotations that were commonly implemented on farms in the mid-Atlantic region. After a successful summer collecting soil and plant samples and providing other technical support to the project, Krawczel transitioned from a temporary employee to a permanent employee. However, another major change was in store for him at the USDA. Shortly after becoming a permanent employee, Krawczel met his future wife, another research technician. This relationship resulted not only in marriage, but also in the start of graduate school.

With his future wife well on her way to a graduate position at Texas A&M University, Krawczel investigated his own opportunities at Texas A&M. His time at the USDA resulted in a passion for agricultural research while helping him realize that soil science was not the best fit. The move to a graduate program at Texas A&M brought the shift from a focus on plants and soils to studying aspects of animal production. He served as a graduate assistant, and later as a research assistant, on a variety of projects related to the transport of livestock. The goal of these projects was to investigate ways to reduce the negative effects of shipping livestock between production systems or to slaughter.

Krawczel took the opportunity to shift directions again when looking for a Ph.D. program. This shift resulted in his leaving the hot, long Texas summers behind and embracing the harsh, bitter winters that typify life in northern New York in order to study the effects of management on the welfare and productivity of dairy cows. Krawczel spent five years conducting his dissertation research in a program offered jointly by the William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute in Chazy, N.Y., and at the University of Vermont. During this time, he was involved in a wide variety of projects related to dairy production, ranging from small-scale undergraduate projects looking at housing to numerous nutrition trials to his own work on the behavioral responses to stocking density. During his Ph.D. program, he spent roughly five months working at the University of British Columbia’s Dairy Research and Education Centre on a project investigating the feeding
behaviors of fresh cows housed at different stocking densities. In 2010, Krawczel received his Ph.D. in animal, nutrition and food sciences from the University of Vermont.

His time at the Miner Institute prepared him to assume the role of the dairy research and Extension specialist at the University of Tennessee. His research program at UT operates under the following premise: Dairy management practices that accommodate behavioral needs are critical in maintaining the welfare of dairy cows and have the potential to increase the long-term sustainability of farms. This conclusion is due to increasing evidence that suggests a relationship exists between aspects of management (such as stocking density, stall design and bedding quality) that impact a cow’s comfort and her productivity. With this approach to dairy cow management, Krawczel strives to establish a research emphasis to advance the understanding of this dynamic and then promote management decisions that improve dairy cow welfare, including the consideration of economic viability at the farm level. To this end, Krawczel’s focus is on 1) the effect of a dairy cow’s, calf’s or heifer’s physical environment on her ability to meet her behavioral needs; 2) understanding the relationship among behavior, milk yield and milk quality; and 3) establishing animal-based methods to assess the welfare of dairy cows. This focus on applied research questions complements his goals on the Extension side. Within this aspect of this program, his general focus is on maintaining the sustainability of the dairy industry in Tennessee. The major efforts to support this include demonstrating the connection between milk quality and cow comfort and the effects of calf management on their long-term health and productivity.

New Staff Spotlight

Claudia Meeks Baney earned her B.S. in agriculture education, communications and leadership from the University of Kentucky, where she was a member of the university’s equestrian team and livestock judging team and was an active member in the Block and Bridle Club. She received her M.S. in career, technical and leadership education with an emphasis in youth development. Baney’s research focused on participation and retention trends between 4-H livestock and non-livestock youth. Prior to joining the staff at the University of Tennessee, she worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency and the U.S. Hunter Jumper Association.

Baney grew up on a small tobacco farm in central Kentucky. As the daughter of a former standardbred trainer, horses were always part of her childhood. She was on the back of a horse before she could even walk, and at a young age she began showing in the hunter/jumper and Western disciplines. Baney was very active in the Kentucky 4-H Horse program, participating in numerous educational events and judging contests and riding competitions.

While in high school, Baney was approached by her vocational agriculture teacher to show market goats. She purchased her first market wethers that year and embarked on a lifelong adventure. Soon after, she purchased full-blood boer goats and began raising market and breeding does for other 4-H and Future Farmers of America youth to purchase and show. Over the years, Baney had a very successful show career that included winning the Reserve Champion Market Goat at the Kentucky State Fair and being awarded the Kentucky Overall Goat Exhibitor. More recently, Baney has served as a 4-H livestock volunteer leader and has given numerous clinics on exhibiting, judging and raising boer goats. She still finds time to judge a number of meat goat shows and thoroughly enjoys working with youth on their project animals.
CASNR Reaches $1 million and Counting – Animal Science Gets Its Fair Share!

In the 1912-1913 academic year, the University of Tennessee College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (then the College of Agriculture) awarded the first scholarships designated specifically for agriculture. These four-year $300 scholarships established by one donor no doubt made a huge impact on the lives of the three recipients and their families. Back then, just as today, the college was ahead of other units of the university in making a difference in students’ ability to pursue an education despite financial constraints. The three scholarships totaled $900, which was an astronomical amount, considering that only 14 total scholarships were awarded by the entire university that year.

Fast forward 90 years to the 2002-2003 academic year and CASNR, through the college itself and its various departments, demonstrated its continued commitment to helping further the educational aspirations of its students by awarding a total of $772,058 from 96 funds to 387 students.

In the 2010-2011 academic year, CASNR reached the $1 million milestone in scholarship awards. A total of 173 funds generated sufficient income for us to award $1,012,850 to 493 students. This amount represented 693 scholarship awards, since some students received multiple awards, and is a substantial increase from the three awarded in 1912! While a number of individuals worked together to make these awards possible, the accounting specialist who works with the scholarship program, Leann McElhaney, deserves high praise.

Awards for the 2011-2012 academic year totaled $954,317. Of that amount, the Department of Animal Science’s share was $448,600, or 47 percent, of the total. The total number of awards made to animal science students was 315 (some students received multiple awards), which was 45 percent of the CASNR total. Students in the Department of Animal Science received $71,000 specifically from departmental funds, most of which ($48,000) was awarded for superior academic performance.

We recognize that the ability of some students to complete their education is driven in large part by their ability to pay for that education. Without the scholarships they receive, some students could not obtain their degree. Therefore, we strive to grow these scholarship funds with the assistance of the staff of the UTIA Office of Development and through the rigorous and thorough evaluation of each submitted application, making awards to the most deserving students based on academic progress, financial need and donor specifications.

I encourage all returning animal science students to complete and submit an application by the Feb. 1 deadline in order to be eligible for any available scholarship.

Dr. Mike Smith
Professor and Chair of the CASNR Scholarship Committee
Intern Spotlight

TWHBEA Internship
Margaret LaFlamme
Summer 2012

Many students in the Department of Animal Science participate in summer internships in order to gain experience in their chosen fields. This spotlight is brought to you by Margaret LaFlamme, a sophomore who is majoring in animal science with a concentration in pre-veterinary medicine. She had a very busy summer with the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeder's and Exhibitor's Association!

Over the summer, I worked full-time as an intern at the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association headquarters in Lewisburg, Tenn. In my time there, I helped out in each of the various departments of the association, which range from marketing and publishing to technology and administrative to registry and membership. By working in each branch of the TWHBEA, I was able to get a taste of how each functions on an individual basis and, ultimately, understand how they coordinate to build an efficient whole. Because I worked with each of the various divisions of the TWHBEA over the course of the summer, I was assigned a wide array of tasks; I also monitored many of the aspects of the industry that I did not work with directly.

In registry, I strove primarily to organize and update the association's record system. Aside from my daily tasks of issuing registration certificates and filing transfers of ownership and DNA test results, I discussed, along with the staff, the potential to increase the accuracy of the colors of registered horses as recorded in system. For the marketing department, I helped execute programs such as “GO Geldings” and “Motivated Mares,” which promote the Tennessee walking horse by providing rewards as an incentive for trail riding mares and geldings registered with the TWHBEA. Additionally, I worked for the Voice of the Tennessee Walking Horse magazine at the TWHBEA. The last branch of the TWHBEA that I explored was the technology branch, mostly by shadowing Rickey Clardy, the director of technology. Finally, just before my departure, as one of my final assignments, I worked with all the departments to coordinate and run the annual National Futurity and World Versatility shows in Murfreesboro all weekend from Thursday, July 19, to Sunday, July 22. I worked in center ring with the announcer, setting up technology and taking and recording entries for the shows.

My internship at the TWHBEA was a priceless learning experience. I realized, first and foremost, just how much goes into the behind-the-scenes preparation and maintenance of the Tennessee walking horse registry and the industry as a whole. It’s very multifaceted, and although this isn’t always easy to see from the outside, working within the association certainly exposed me to the truth that much underlies what is readily visible; there is much more involved in maintaining the industry than people acknowledge. Beyond all that, I gained experience working full-time in my internship, and I learned the value of working as a team; the friendly but driven atmosphere of the TWHBEA taught me to make focused work both enjoyable and efficient. I also learned about how to cope with industry turmoil and pressure and how to use this to fuel determination to ameliorate the breed and those associated with it. As the TWHBEA staff was flooded with accusatory and often offensive and even threatening emails following the release of the video of Jackie McConnell’s abuse of the Tennessee walking horse in May, I learned how to remain professional in all situations. Finally, immersed in the industry I love, I realized the value of networking and building connections with others in your field.
FALL 2012 CLUB UPDATES

Poultry Club

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<td>President:</td>
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<td>Breanna Scott</td>
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<td>Vice President:</td>
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<td>DeAnna Ingle</td>
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<td>Secretary:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Rouse</td>
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<td>Treasurer:</td>
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<td>Jack Liu</td>
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The 2011-2012 year has been yet another successful one for the UT Poultry Club. The club has continued fundraising by providing UT students, faculty and staff with our renowned chicken sandwich meals. We have conducted two successful meals, one of which was catered to the CASNR Career Fair. With the money raised, we were able to host our second annual Daniel Ponder Eggstravaganza, which featured a variety of delicious dishes to go along with a chicken sandwich, followed by various egg-related games. Also with these funds, the club has donated two flocks of chickens via Heifer International to aid in its efforts to end world hunger by providing families with a food source. This philanthropy is very near and dear to the hearts of our club members, and we are fortunate to have a great network of alumni from corporations that support our club in its endeavors to give back.

Particularly, the Poultry Club would like to thank Tyson Foods Inc. for its continued support by donating the chicken breasts that are used in our meals. In addition to campus-related activities, a majority of club members were given the opportunity to represent the University of Tennessee at the International Poultry Expo, sponsored by the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, in Atlanta, Ga. The expo’s objective is to provide knowledge of job opportunities in the poultry industry and allows students to interview with numerous corporations, such as Aviagen, Koch Foods, Perdue, Pilgrim’s Pride and Tyson Foods Inc., in hopes of securing employment or an internship. Attending the expo is by far the most important facet of being a member of the club. Finally, the members of the club would like to express the utmost gratitude to Dr. Mike Smith for all of his time and energy spent in providing guidance for the club. None of the club’s success would be possible without his assistance.
Tennessee Pre-Veterinary Association

Officers

President: Lauren Caylor
President-elect: Liz DeVoe
Vice President: Valencia Guein
Secretary: Jessica Baxter
Treasurer: Adrienne Myers
Historian: Laura Bailey
Social Chair: Ashley Carter

The Pre-Vet Association is for all students interested in the field of veterinary medicine. Throughout the year, we usually have programs about the many aspects of veterinary medicine including small animal, large animal, and exotic animal medicine. We have toured the UT Vet School and received a behind the scenes look at the Knoxville Zoo. Association members will also have the opportunity to learn about vet school from faculty and students at UT College of Veterinary Medicine, as well as participate in the many FUN activities planned for the course of the year.

Tennessee Collegiate Horsemen's Association

Officers

President: Laura Bailey
Vice President: Maria Botsko
Secretary: Caroline Sosebee
Treasurer: Erin Rogers
Senior Representative: Kauren Caylor
Junior Representative: Anna Rose Hutcheson
Sophomore Representatives: Jessica Baxter and Kailyn Rohde

The Tennessee Collegiate Horsemen's Association has had a fantastic year full of service, leadership and education opportunities for horse enthusiasts at UT. We are an organization open to individuals from all majors who are interested in learning about horses or just being around people who share that common interest. The club volunteered at Horse Haven of Tennessee in the fall by providing a grooming day for horses undergoing rehabilitation. In the spring, we volunteered with the Tennessee 4-H Horse Project by helping at the Eastern Region and State 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology contests in Knoxville and Cookeville by moderating quiz bowl rounds, public speaking and demonstrations, and manning team stations. We also volunteered at the Eastern Region Horse Judging contest in Harriman. The club hosted the president and executive director of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitor's Association, Marty Irby and Ron Thomas, respectively, in January. TWHBEA has started an internship program and also spoke about the importance of the breed to the state and the horse industry as a whole. For social events, the club went trail riding in the Smokies in the fall, had a holiday party, and had a bonfire in the spring. To help raise money to fund future trips and activities, a very successful T-shirt fundraiser was held in the fall. Before spring finals, a year-end trip to Kentucky was planned with visits to Kesmarc, Keeneland and thoroughbred farms included. Membership increased exponentially this year, and we are confident that this organization will continue to grow and thrive in years to come.
Block and Bridle Club

Officers

President: Magen Shedden
Vice President: Meredith Mayfield
Secretary: Hannah Wright
Treasurer: Alyssa Clements
Reporter: Katherine Parker
Meals Chairs: Kinley Reed, Lockard Cassity
New Members: Anna Mitchell, Lockard Cassity
Event Setup: Ethan Gossett, Emily Tuttle
Activities Chairs: Adrian Myers, Sarah Hargrove
T-shirt Chairs: Alexis Burnham, Tori Ysidro

There are high expectations for the Block and Bridle (B and B) Club this semester. The newly elected officers are enthusiastic and motivated to raise the bar. The club unanimously decided to enact some old traditions that have been stagnant. For instance, the club is going to start having new member meetings before the regularly scheduled meetings. The intended purpose of this is to build morale and friendship amongst the new members. Likewise, the club is bringing the Saddles vs. Sirloins Showdown back. This event is not only going to include a flag football game, but it also will serve as a community service project. A ticket to the showdown will be a canned food item; after the game is over and all the cans are collected, they will be donated to Second Harvest. In addition, the B and B Club is going to implement new forms of community service; some ideas that have been proposed are writing letters to soldiers, serving food in a local homeless shelter, and conducting campus cleanup and maintenance efforts.

As usual, the club participated in Ag Day on Nov. 3, which was held in conjunction with UT’s homecoming activities. The club prepared meals for the event as a fundraising opportunity. Additionally, club members are beginning to prepare for the annual Rocky Top Classic Cattle Show, which will be held on Dec. 1. The club established a goal to increase the number of entries this year. However, the activities that the members seem most anxious about are the agricultural awareness events. For example, the club has teamed up with the Certified Angus Beef Association to raise agricultural awareness. This event entails grilling CAB steaks at every home football game and giving them to the public during tailgating events. This opportunity not only gives members a chance to network with CAB personnel, but also allows the club to talk about agriculture with potential consumers. Another agricultural awareness affair is WTF: Where’s the Food, Without the Farmer; it will be held at the main campus of the University of Tennessee.

Overall, it will be a good and invigorating year for the Block and Bridle Club. The current officers and members are eager and ambitious not only about the club but, more importantly, about the field of agriculture. Mark your calendars for the Rocky Top Classic Cattle Show on Dec. 1, and the B and B Roundup, which will be held on the first Saturday in March 2013.
FALL 2012 TEAM UPDATES

Inaugural Cattle Show Team

This fall marks the second semester of the newly formed Animal Science Cattle Show Team. The initial group of students began meeting last spring and was responsible for training, grooming and exhibiting the cattle at the East Tennessee Angus Show and Sale and at the Agribition Show and Sale. Building on that success, the newest group of students began caring for the show string this fall. The students are responsible for helping train the cattle as well as exhibit them in shows. The show string currently consists of two heifers and a bull, with the newest set of weaned heifers going on feed in late August. Currently, team members are working to halter break these heifers and prepare them for possibly attending the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., and for the spring show and sale season. The team has already exhibited at a couple of county fairs and will show the cattle at North American as well. The show team is a combined effort between the Department of Animal Science and the East Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center. The center raises and owns the cattle and provides students with the opportunity to work with the cattle as a part of their undergraduate education. Currently, the team has a bull that has been very successful in the show ring. He was raised by the center and is owned in partnership with Darrell Murray. The bull was champion at the Appalachian State Fair, the Jefferson County Fair and the Tennessee Valley Fair and was division champion at the Tennessee State Fair. Show team members include Sarah Hargrove, Casey Langley and Hannah Wright. Brandon Beavers and David Roper oversee the team.
2012 Senior Livestock Judging Team

The 2012 Senior Livestock Judging Team began its fall judging season during the week prior to classes starting with a trip to Indiana in preparation for the fall contests. The team has been working hard since that time and competed in their first contests on Sept. 21-22 in Kansas. The team will travel to the Keystone International in Pennsylvania, the American Royal in Kansas and the North American in Kentucky. The senior team is hoping to build on a successful spring season in which the team competed in five contests across the nation. Last spring the team was recognized in some fashion as a top 10 team or individual at four of the five contests. Spring highlights include the following:

- Fifth in Continental Cattle and sixth overall at the Dixie National Cattle Contest
  - Chris Mackey and Sara Orr — top 10 individuals in Continental/English

- Fourth overall team at the NCBA Cattle Judging Contest
  - Chris Mackey — top 10 reasons and first high overall

- Second at the UT Block and Bridle Roundup

- Tied 10th in Hogs at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
  - Chris Mackey — sixth in Hogs

- Fifth overall evaluation at the All East Livestock Judging Contest
  - Sixth overall at the All East Contest

The 2012 Senior Livestock Team members are Alyssa Clements, Emily Tuttle, Meredith Mayfield, Sara Orr, Alex Rich and Chris Mackey. Please wish the team luck for the fall and look for updated results in future newsletters.
2012 Marks Third Year for Sheep Show Team Internship

The Animal Science Sheep Show Team internship gives students the opportunity to provide the daily care and management of both the departmental teaching flock and the market hog teaching herd. In addition, team members have the opportunity to exhibit the purebred Hampshire show flock at several county fairs and at the National Hampshire Show in Louisville, Ky., during the North American Livestock Show and Exposition. The teaching flock currently consists of 15 purebred Hampshires and 11 commercial ewes/market lambs. The team members will exhibit seven head as the show flock. Thus far, they have had a fairly successful show season, including a champion ram, reserve champion ewe and several class winners at numerous shows in Tennessee. The 2012 team members are animal science undergraduate students Karli Booher, Kinley Reed, Maria Rogers and Ethan Gossett.

UT Equestrian Team Update

The 2011-2012 season was an exciting time for the University of Tennessee Equestrian Team. In August, the team's membership increased to 82, up from 25 the previous year. Hunt seat team members competed throughout the year at shows hosted by Sewanee: The University of the South, Maryville College, Middle Tennessee State University and Murray State University. Western team members competed at Maryville College, Murray State University, Tennessee Technological University and Middle Tennessee State University. Other schools competing in Zone 5, Region 1, last year included Vanderbilt University, Western Kentucky University, Mississippi College, University of Central Arkansas and Mississippi State University. The UT team finished out the year ranked fifth overall in the regional Hunt seat team standings and fourth overall in the regional Western team standings. UTET President Kim King ('12, Food Science and Technology) placed seventh in Individual Advanced Western Horsemanship at the 2012 Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Horse Show. King was the first rider in UTET history to qualify for nationals! The team's growth and success were featured in news stories shown on Knoxville television stations WATE and WBIR prior to King's trip to nationals.

This year promises to be even more thrilling for the team. The 2012-2013 UTET has more than 90 members on the lesson schedule. The year's action started on Sept. 29-30, with a Hunt seat show hosted by Sewanee: The University of the South. Both the Hunt seat and Western teams were in Knoxville on Oct. 26-28, when Maryville College hosted a combined show. The UTET is coached by Michele Whitlow-Thompson of New Market, Tenn., and is advised by Grey Parks of the UT Department of Animal Science. To keep up with the team's news and activities, visit our website at http://universityoftennesseequestrianteam.blogspot.com.

(continued on page 14)
UTET members pictured with adviser Grey Parks (in alphabetical order): Ashley Allen, Jessica Andreas, Elysia Arnold, Laura Bailey, Alexis Burnham, Cassie Carter, LaKensie Crawford, Morgan Cripps, Alyssa Dozier, Nora Dunkirk, Laura Galloway, Colby Hansen, Maggie Hanson, Katie Harrill, Lauren Hoy, Mary Hurley, Jessie Kern, Ariel Leach, Jamie Madere, Harley Matthews, Caitlin McCord, Rachel McCormick, Hannah McDonald, Ali McQueen, Leila Owen, Gabrielle Palladino, Kate Rumsey, Evie Rush, Melissa Slayton, Sarah Templeton, Sarah Witherspoon, Kathleen Wilson, Bethany Worsham and Dana Zeitlin.

Department of Animal Science Faculty

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</tbody>
</table>
### 2013 Animal Science Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association Convention</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Murfreesboro, Tenn.</td>
<td>Jan. 17-19</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Junior Hog Show</td>
<td>Tennessee Livestock Center Murfreesboro, Tenn.</td>
<td>Jan. 22-23</td>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Senior Bull Test Sale</td>
<td>Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Horse Bowl/Hippology</td>
<td>Hyder-Burks Pavilion Cookeville, Tenn.</td>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Junior Bull Test Sale</td>
<td>Middle Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knoxville Spring Junior Cattle Exposition</td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Fairgrounds Knoxville, Tenn.</td>
<td>April 18-19</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Dairy Quiz Bowl</td>
<td>Nashville, Tenn.</td>
<td>May 31</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>State 4-H Sheep Conference</td>
<td>Cookeville, Tenn.</td>
<td>May 31-June 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-H Livestock and Meats Judging Contest</td>
<td>Murfreesboro, Tenn.</td>
<td>June 4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>