

HIGHLIGHTS

A PUBLICATION FOR OUR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Spring 1999

Chair's Message:



Greetings from the Department of Animal Science! As we move through this last year of the 20th century and anticipate what lies ahead for the 21st, change seems inevitable. For example, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, in which the Department of Animal Science resides, is in the midst of recruiting a new dean. The department is working with the campus to replace our 80-year-old Swine Teaching, Research and

Outreach Facility (alias the Pig Barn) on whose site the campus will place another building. The department is participating in new courses and majors in Biotechnology and in Animal Biology (see details in this issue) to prepare today's students for tomorrow's challenges. But with change all around us, we are also working hard to keep some things the same, including the value that we as a department place on our missions to provide high-quality teaching, research and outreach in support of animal agriculture and the people of California.

In this issue of *Highlights*, you will read about some exceptional achievements of members of the Animal Science family.

Undergraduate students are featured for their outstanding academic performance as well as for their extracurricular activities. We honor our alumni who share their wisdom and experiences in career advising for our undergraduate students. We are rightfully proud of the recognition for effective outreach given to Animal Science Extension Specialists, and as State funds for research become more scarce, our faculty compete for extramural grant funds to support the department's research missions. Some of the faculty's recent successes are showcased in this issue. In addition, we honor the loyal service to the department and our clientele by staff members who recently received service awards. We hope that *Highlights* helps you to learn more about your department and to catch up on news about old friends. If we can be of help to you, I invite you to contact me (telephone: 530/752-1252; e-mail: gbanderson@ucdavis.edu). Best wishes for a productive 1999.

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Award for Outstanding Achievement Won by Animal Science Waste Management Specialist



Deanne Meyer, UC Davis-based Cooperative Extension Waste Management Specialist, has been named winner of the first annual Award for Outstanding Achievement presented by the grower-sponsored Friends of Agricultural Extension, a Central Valley support group for UC Cooperative Extension. Their area includes the nine counties from Stanislaus to Kern and the three coastal counties, Monterey, Santa

Cruz and San Benito.

Meyer received a \$5,000 prize at a special dinner ceremony on February 10 at a dinner held during the annual Tulare Farm Show. She was honored for her research and implementation of an environmental short course on waste management.

"This Award for Outstanding Achievement is designed to identify and bring broad recognition to educational programs devised by UCCE Farm Advisors and Specialist that represent the most significant contributions to production agriculture and the consuming public," said Bob Hines, Award Committee Chair.

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Award for 4-H Leadership

Dr. Francine Bradley, Poultry Specialist in the Department of Animal Science, received this year's 4-H Leadership Award, recognizing her contribution to statewide 4-H programs. The award was presented February 6 at the Avian Sciences Field Day held on the UC Davis campus.

"This award recognizes more than a statewide contribution to the 4-H poultry program," said Dan Desmond, State 4-H coordinator. "It recognizes Francine's mission as a scientist to improve the scientific literacy of California youth. Her activities range beyond 4-H, extending into high schools, other youth groups and junior colleges. Francine passes on to the next generation her excitement and passion for science."



Francine Bradley, left, pose with 4-H advisors and member whose poultry she purchased at a recent California State Fair.

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FLOYD D. CARROLL (1914-1998)



Floyd Dale Carroll, Animal Science Professor Emeritus, died December 7, 1998, in Davis. Dr. Carroll was born in Mount Clare, Nebraska, the ninth of 12 children. He grew up on the home farm where he was known as Sam (after his father) and graduated from high school in 1932. The following year he entered the University of Nebraska and majored in animal husbandry and meat science, receiving a bachelor's degree in 1937. His undergraduate activities included membership in the Livestock Judging Team, Farm House Fraternity, Reserve

Officers Training Corps, Pershing Rifles Honorary Military Organization as well as the honorary agricultural fraternity of Alpha Zeta and the Block and Bridle Club. He then enrolled in a master's degree program at the University of Maryland to receive training in the fields of meats and meat processing under the direction of the USDA. After finishing that degree in 1939, he came to UC Davis as a teaching assistant where he taught laboratory sections of biochemistry, livestock judging courses and supervised special research problems for advanced students. In 1942 he was called to active duty in World War II and served as an officer in the U.S. Army Air Force until 1945. While in the service, Floyd met Frances Whitman, a native Sacramentan whom he married in 1944.

In 1946, Carroll returned to Davis and continued graduate studies and research toward a Ph.D. in Nutrition which he received in 1948. He was advanced to the faculty rank of Instructor in 1949 and subsequently proceeded through the academic ranks to Professor in 1964. He retired in 1981. Floyd taught courses at all levels including biochemistry, physiology, meat science, nutrition and livestock production. He earned the respect of students and had the reputation of being well-prepared, accurate and thorough in presentation and concerned for the well-being of his students.

Dr. Carroll's research included muscle biology factors influencing

meat quality. His meat research in the 1970s contributed significantly to improved USDA beef grading standards. In 1976 Floyd established a sensory panel to evaluate differences in the eating characteristics of meat from double-muscled and normal-muscled cattle.

Floyd spent many months abroad assisting foreign investigators with their research programs. In 1955 he received a Fulbright grant to work at the University of Ceylon. In 1963 he worked at the University of Hawaii on the Western Regional Beef Cattle Improvement project of the USDA, contributing to research on nutrition and carcass evaluation. In addition, Floyd and Fran spent the 1967-68 academic year at the University of Chile as representatives of the University of California in the California-Chile cooperative program. A sabbatical leave in 1973 took Floyd to the CSIRO Meat Research Laboratory in Brisbane, Australia. Through these experiences, Floyd and Fran were ambassadors of international good will. Floyd will be remembered for his outreach programs and his service to foreign students, visiting scientists and livestock producers.

Gifts in memory of Dr. Carroll may be made to the Animal Husbandry Memorial Fund in support of department programs and student activities (checks payable to U.C. Regents - Animal Science). Send to the Department of Animal Science, c/o Gary Anderson, Chair, University of California, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616-8521.

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Animal Science Faculty Heavily Involved in New Campus Major

The Animal Biology major, with an initial enrollment of 44 students, was offered for the first time in the 1998-99 academic year. The Department of Animal Science has played a pivotal role in the formation of this major and continues to make a major contribution to teaching and advising. Faculty members Jim Murray and **Jim Millam** were members of the task force appointed by Associate Dean **Gary Moberg** to design and implement the new major.

The major recognizes the need at UC Davis for an area of study in whole animal biology that is not necessarily associated with traditional production, laboratory or domesticated animals. Emphasis is on the application of biological principals in solving societal problems associated with animals in agriculture, urban areas or natural environments. The major offers a great deal of flexibility to the student in choice of courses and areas of study.

Five Animal Science faculty members are involved in varying degrees in teaching the new set of courses that are part of the core curriculum. The department also provides laboratory space and animals and handles administration of the student advising. As the major grows it will probably increase enrollment in Animal Science courses.

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Animal Science Receives Grant Funds

Ernie Chang has received two California Sea Grants, one to study biotechnical techniques for improving crustacean growth, for \$243,858, and a second one, studies of the growth-stimulating potential of recombinant bovine growth hormone in the aquaculture of tilapia and shrimp for \$94,800.

Joy Mench received a grant from USDA-NRI for \$170,000 to study behavioral activity in broiler chickens and its effects on the incidence of skeletal problems.

Mary E. Delany was awarded \$5,000 from the UC Davis Academic Senate Faculty Research Grant Program to study avian telomere sequences. She also received a \$500 Teaching Grant Award from the Teaching Resources Center for purchase of equipment for her Avian Development and Genetics course.

Delany, Ralph Ernst and **Jim Thompson** (Dept. of Biological and Agricultural Engineering) won two grants to study the effects of CO₂ on developing turkey embryos, one for \$25,000 from the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association and one for \$3,000 from the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association.

Dennis Hedgecock won a USDA grant for \$230,000 to study the genetic and physiological bases of hybrid vigor in oysters and another from the California Department of Water Resources, for \$598,086, to study microsatellite DNA for managing and protecting endangered Central Valley Chinook salmon.

Anita M. Oberbauer, Tom Famula and **Bernie May** received \$40,764 to study the development of a genetic marker for idiopathic epilepsy in the Belgian Tervuren, from the American Kennel Club.

In addition to this grant on Belgian sheepdogs, **Bernie May** has garnered close to \$1,800,000 in nine other grants from a variety of state and federal wildlife management agencies, some with other principal investigators, all dealing with the genetics of various fish species, from salmon and trout to sturgeon and suckers. May's studies focus on the population structure of threatened and endangered species, linkage of molecular markers to traits of

interest in aquaculture species and the impact of toxicants on the gene pools of native fish. One, for example, is an award from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for which **Joe Cech** from Wildlife, Fisheries and Conservation Biology is the principal investigator and **Serge Doroshov**, **Gary Moberg** and **May** from Animal Science are co-investigators.

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Service Awards

A recent ice cream social feted those staff employees who have earned service awards for their longevity working for the department. Foremost among them were **Mary Horton** and **Bob Scadden**, who both received 35-year pins. When they both came on board, **Jim Meyer** was the chair of the Department of Animal Husbandry, there were live pigs and cows living in the Silo instead of Carl's Jr. and Taco Bell and everyone was proud of the newly built dairy facility.

Also honored were **Betty Adams**, **Jack Henderson**, **Lil Sibley** and **Sandra Weisker**, all receiving 15- year pins, and Reid Borgwardt and Alice Moyer, who have been with the department ten years.



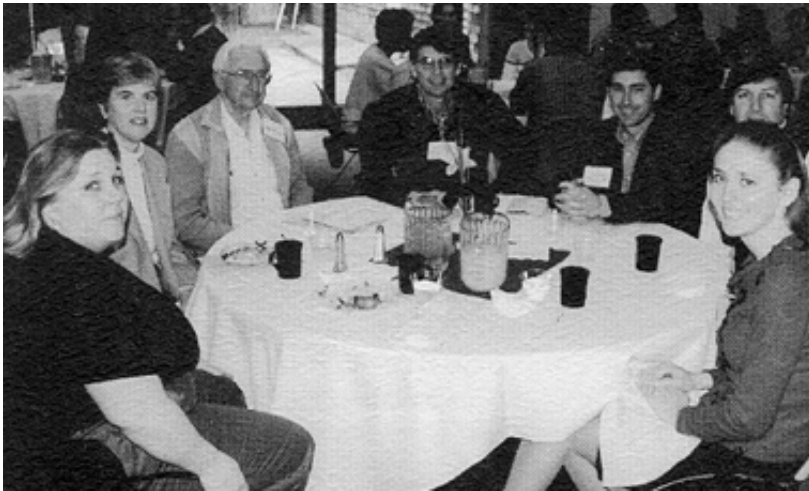
Chair Gary Anderson presents 35-year certificates to Bob Scadden and Mary Horton.

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Alumni and Students Attend 1999 Breakfast and Career Symposium



Clockwise from bottom left: Mary Biesiadecki (BS '89; MAM '95, DVM '96), Dean Barbara Schneeman, Roy Sharp (BS '50), Ian Garnett (faculty), Pat Blacklock (BS '95; MAM '97), Tom Famula (faculty), Diane Dereszynski (senior and peer advisor).



Ria de Grassi speaking with Jennifer Lane (senior)



L-R: Katie Aschenbach (senior) and Cymantha Beall (BS '85)



Clockwise from bottom left: Jennifer Ng (junior and peer advisor), Barbara Reed (BS '83, MS '87), Joan Rowe (BS '78, DVM '80, MPVM '83, PhD '90), Ria de Grassi (BS '83, MS '87), Eric Bradford (emeritus faculty and former chair), Bill Garrett (emeritus faculty and former chair).

Twenty-three alumni spanning the class of '50 to the class of '98 returned to campus February 20 for the second annual Career Symposium. The Career Symposium is an opportunity for alumni to share their career experiences with students majoring in Animal Science, Animal Science and Management or Avian Sciences. As a way of thanking the participating alumni and to provide an opportunity for renewal of friendships, the department hosted a breakfast preceding the student program which included Animal Science faculty as well.

Undergraduate participation increased from 30 in the first event, last year, to 81 this year. The symposium allows the undergraduates, through the panel discussion and informal conversations, to explore career opportunities, get some tips on career preparation and hear the occasional war story. This year's panelists were **Kimberly Adams** ('94), **Leslie Field** ('83), **Melissa Garrod-Van Laningham** ('96), **Berta Lim** ('93), **Joan Rowe** (DVM '80) and **Roy Sharp** ('50).

Ria de Grassi (BS '83, MS '87) served as moderator of the panel. Ria also played an active role in creating and coordinating this

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Showtime!

Livestock Judging Team



1998 UC Davis Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Team. Team members (L-R) Frank Martine (Etna), Christina Zanoline (Healdsburg), Paula Demoulder (Montague), T'Nay Kawcak (angels Camp), Kristi Arcularius (Bishop).

The UC Davis Livestock Judging Team was the highest placing team west of the Rocky Mountains at the 89th National Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest, held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky, on November 16, 1998. There were 37 four-year institutions competing.

At the Western Fall Classic in Medford, Oregon, last fall, The team won the award for High Team Overall as well as placing at the top in both beef judging and oral reasons of the eight colleges that participated. **Kristi Arcularius** and **Paula Demoulder** led the way garnering first and second high individuals overall.

The Aggies came in fourth overall at the Cow Palace in one of the largest contests in recent history, with 14 senior college teams participating.

The Cal Aggie Judging Team for 2000 looks very promising with ten junior team members actively participating in events this year. Our students and faculty would like to recognize and thank over 50 donors who regularly support the Animal Industries Student Leadership Program, more commonly known as the Cal Aggie Judging Program.

Sheep Show Team



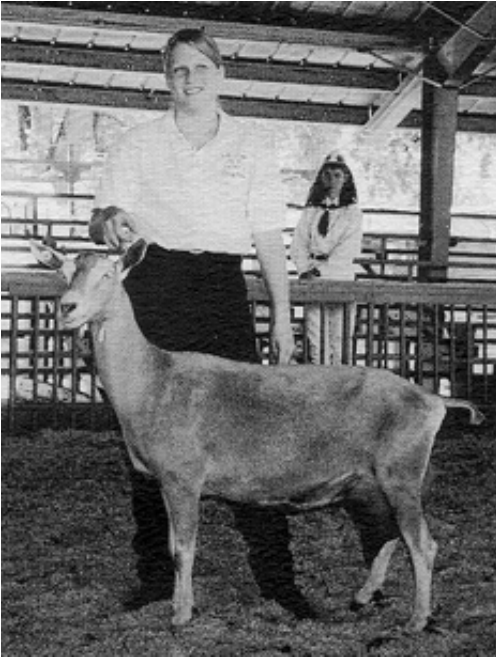
L-R: Rachel Bradley (Roseburg, OR), Cassie Reed (Sutter). Not shown: Brian Parker (Woodland) and Jean Miller (Yreka).

Four members of the Sheep Show Team participated in the Grand National Livestock Show at the Cow Palace the first weekend of November. **Cassie Reed's** ewe lamb, second in its class, is an excellent example of the high quality animals students are now working with in the Department's Sheep Program.

The team did well at the Great Western Collegiate show in Tulare on March 14th where five students, **Devon Jones, Jean Miller, Rachel Bradley, Cassie Reed** and **Darcie Machado** placed 2nd,

4th, 5th and 6th and 7th, respectively. A return to the Purple Circle Show, this year in Roseville, is planned for April 18; where our Cal Aggies have exhibited the Supreme Champion Ewe two of the last three years.

Dairy Goat Show Team



Nicole Gibson, Dairy Goat Show Team.

The UC Davis Dairy Goat Show Team, coached by **LaDonna Foley**, who manages the Animal Science dairy goat facility, has completed a successful showing season. At the Buck Extravaganza in Placerville last year, they took home 13 ribbons—five grand champions, four reserve champions and four best of breed. The Open Doe Show in Gridley resulted in one grand champion and one best of breed, and at the California State Fair in August the team received a second place for the doe with the best udder and fourth place for best herdsman.

The members of the team are **Nicole Gibson, Michelle Welsh, Jackie Corbiel** and **Dan Drake**.

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Notable Notes

Brigid McCrea, a senior majoring in Avian Sciences, received two awards at the annual meeting of the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association on February 23 in Palm Springs. McCrea received the Student Merit Award for the outstanding poultry science student at UC Davis, as well as an award for the best student paper presented. Her topic was "Trichomoniasis, prevention and control in the squab."

At the same meeting, three UC Davis students and a future student each received a \$2,000 scholarship: **Jennifer Near** and **Nora Elsalawy** are students in the department, and **Katherine Plumer**, a student in the College of Letters and Science, has a minor in Avian Sciences. **Natalie Thacker**, a student at Modesto Junior College, plans to enroll in Animal Science at UC Davis this fall.

Former Animal Science student **Jessica Wendler** received the 1998-99 Alexander Kutches Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000 offered by the California/Nevada Chapter of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists. She also received a \$1,500 award from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. Wendler is pursuing a career in veterinary medicine.

Ernie Chang, Professor of Animal Science and Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior at the UC Bodega Marine Laboratory, became interim director of the lab on January 1, 1999, while the campus searches for a permanent director. Chang, an aquaculturist, has been on the Animal Science faculty since 1978.

Department of Animal Science Extension Poultry Specialists **Ralph Ernst** and **John Voris** were presented special awards for outstanding service to the poultry industry at the annual convention of the California Poultry Industry Federation last September. They were recognized for their assistance in the development of poultry production and food safety programs for the California poultry, gamebird and squab producers.

Hog Barn to Be Relocated at Last

Students and faculty using the UC Davis swine facility for

instruction and research were pleased when they were informed by the campus administration that the swine housing will be relocated to a site near the present feedlot. The current swine facility, occupied since about 1919, has become a desired location on the central campus, will be the location for a replacement facility for the Walker Hall Annex.
