Graduate Seminar – Sarah Wagner, Coordinator
There was no Graduate Seminar the week of March 13.

Speaker: Guangqiang (Derek) Jia, NDSU ANSC Graduate Student
Topic: Effects of Melatonin Supplementation and Maternal Nutrient Restriction on Vascularity in Ovine Intestine

Guangqiang Jia was born and raised on a farm located in Zhengding, Hebei, China, located about 163 miles southwest of Beijing. Derek attended the Agricultural University of Hebei where he received a B.S. degree in animal science in 2009. He attended South China Agriculture University in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, for three years where he majored in animal nutrition and his research area was effects of chronic heat stress on morphology of mucosa and nutrient transporters in the small intestine of AA broilers. Derek is studying under the direction of Dr. Larry Reynolds.

Speaker: Kyle McLean, NDSU ANSC Graduate Student and ANSC Research Specialist
Topic: A Potential Role of Endogenous Retroviral Elements for Initiation of Critical Events During the Establishment of Pregnancy

Date/Time: Thursday, March 24; 11:00 a.m.

Kyle McLean grew up in Miles City, MT. He received an A.S. degree from Eastern Wyoming College in Torrington, WY, in 2008 and a B.S. degree from Oklahoma State University in 2010. Kyle completed his M.S. from Oklahoma State University in 2013 with an emphasis on reproductive physiology. Kyle is working toward a Ph.D. in nutritional physiology under the direction of Dr. Joel Caton.

Friday Afternoon Club
There is no Friday Afternoon Club on March 18 or March 25 (university closed).
**Midwest Meetings Successes**

Congratulations to all of the following animal sciences faculty, staff, and students on their successes at the Midwest Meetings of the American Society of Animal Science Meetings held in Des Moines, IA, March 14-16.

Dr. Carl Dahlen received the Midwest ASAS/ADSA Outstanding Young Extension Specialist Award. As the recipient of the award he received $500 and the recognition plaque.

Casie Bass was named as one of the ASAS Young Scholars. This program recognizes outstanding Ph.D. graduates by giving them the opportunity to present their research in an invited presentation. Casie was advised by Drs. Dale Redmer and Anna Grazul-Bilska. She has been on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, since August 2015.

Laura Bachmeier brought home second place in the M.S. Oral Presentation Competition. Laura’s paper was titled “National retail benchmarking study: Effect of enhancement on pork quality.” Other authors included S.J. Moeller, C. Carr, J.M. Young, X. Sun, J.H. Liu, S.B. Schaunaman, and D.J. Newman.

Tracy Ellig, a senior majoring in animal science, presented the third place paper in the Undergraduate Oral Competition. She presented “Concentrations of progesterone, estrogen, and insulin in serum during early pregnancy in crossbred Angus beef heifers.” Co-authors were: K.J. McLean, C.R. Dahlen, P.P. Borowicz, L.P. Reynolds, and J.S. Caton.

Nathan Greseth, Jacob Schreffler, Logan Hulst, and Daniel Lengowski (L to R) represented NDSU in the Quadrathlon Team Competition. The team was advised by Dr. Kasey Carlin and Loren Baranko.

*(Photos 1-3 by Greg Lardy, photo 4 by Kasey Maddock Carlin.)*
New Graduate Course Offered
Lauren Hanna will offer ANSC 701, Writing and Communicating in the Animal Sciences, this upcoming fall semester. This graduate level course is open to M.S. and Ph.D. students. It will focus on helping students transition/gain skills in writing and communicating scientifically. Dr. Hanna will also be seeking collaboration with the English Department and Graduate Center for Writers for this course. It will be a writing intensive course with student-advisor/chair interactions highly encouraged, but its goal is to help graduate students to potentially produce a manuscript and presentation and practice with grant writing.