August 16, 2017

Congratulations!

Kim Vonnahme resigns faculty position

Not really a celebratory matter in our department as Kim is always a burst of sunshine in the office, but congrats are definitely in order for her on the job front! Kim resigned her faculty position in ANSC effective early August, 2017, and has taken a position with Zoetis. Kim joined the department as an Assistant Professor in 2004.
Announcements

Symposium held by AVTE

Members of the Veterinary Technology Program attended the Association of Veterinary Technology Educators (AVTE) Symposium August 2nd – 4th in Albuquerque, NM. The AVTE Symposium is offered every other year and is geared towards professional development, teaching strategies and networking. It is called a symposium because of the 34 offered lectures/workshops, 33 were delivered by the members of AVTE. Usually the only speaker hired is to provide a cutting edge keynote lecture or workshop. 374 Veterinary Technician Educators from across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico attended this two and half day event.

Dr. Lisa Christenson gave one of those 33 presentations entitled, “Minds On - Active Learning Strategies for Veterinary Technology Educators.” The presentation focused on sharing information and experiences taken from the past five years in the classroom and the Gateways ND program. Teresa’s note: I had many participants tell me that Lisa’s talk was “amazing and they gained so much from it!” This was only her second symposium so kudos to Dr. Lisa for representing NDSU so well!

“Teaching and Learning Towards Long Term Memory and Not Just for the Test” by Dr. Pete Bill, Purdue University was another talked about lecture. He shared with us the 4 stages of learning and how to help students who are struggling. He gave us many different ways to interject “memory makers” into our lectures. For example by saying something unexpected it triggers a “memory” later on when the student is thinking about the discussion as they are studying. Dr. Bill’s talks are always rooted firmly in data and research so it is very useful information.

The keynote lecture/workshop was on Team Based Learning. Dr. Holly Bender from Iowa State. She introduced use to Team Base Learning. She talked to us a bit about what Team Based Learning is and then
she moved us right into it by separating all 374 of us into groups! Each group was diversified by having the participants select their preference to spicy food! Then the groups number off by sevens that mixed people with differing opinions about spicy foods at each table. From there she had us work through a variety of exercises that included reading a short paragraph, answering questions about the paragraph and then talking about how we got our answers and come to a consensus which was then reported to the entire class. The next exercise utilized a word problem that we all discussed and then held up a card with either an A-B-C-D to indicate our group’s answer. She called on various tables to explain why they had picked the answer they did.

This generated a lot of discussion and critical thinking as the different opinions or considerations were presented. During the discussion one of the tables asked “what if we feel the question was written in a confusing manner?” Dr. Bender said that she gives the students 48 hours to rewrite and submit the question with the correct answer in order to earn back any points if lost. Kari is excited to utilize that nugget as well as formulating discussion material for anatomy lab. Stacey is planning to implement the utilization of additional group work in Clinical Techniques and Instruments in the form of assignments to complete prior to attending lecture, quiz based group work during lecture, then clearing up muddy points during lecture.

A third highlight for a number of us was the “Teaching Communication Skills – Keep it Real, Keep it Fun” by Becky Taylor, Olds College, Alberta. She shared with us how they teach real-world communication skills to their veterinary technician students. They start by teaching the keys to effective communication. Then each student has to set a goal for their session. Such as; reducing the number of ums by half or making sure to listen actively. The “clients” are given a scenario and the student is told only the reason for the visit. For example, cat vomiting for 2 days. The student is to conduct the intake interview utilizing the “I and Thou” training, as well as the history gathering training they previously received. The interview is watched by an instructor/coach and 4-5 peers. The clients are either other faculty from around the campus, family members of the program faculty or actually theater majors from the college. The coach can stop an interview if she feels the student is getting off track or the client is overboard but otherwise allows it to flow. After the interview the client and peers are asked to provide feedback to the student. The student and coach have debriefing and the student is asked to reflect on what she/he learned. Jordan is planning on implementing this into our Clinical Practicums course and this is what she got out of the lecture. “Communication is such a huge part of our job, however, trying to find ways to have the students “practice” this can be challenging at times. We can create different veterinary clinic scenarios and role play within small groups. Students would participate by either being a peer evaluator or acting as the working veterinary technician. This creates a “safe zone” for students to learn and make mistakes without having it be so stressful. “ After the session Teresa was visiting with a colleague from Yakima, Washington and she mentioned this communication training is available from WSU. She had written a grant to have them come to her community college to provide this training to their program and is now taking across their campus! This would be a marvelous way to bring “real world” client communication to our department as all of our students interact with the public and having this tool in their toolbox would be of great benefit.

Stacey summed up the Symposium by sharing this with us, “I take away many new ideas and refreshers on old methods alike from this symposium. I am always reminded how hard our job can be during these conferences, but leave refreshed by the new knowledge and ready to dedicate myself to another semester of student interactions and learning.” Teresa has also found this to be true in 36 years she has only missed 3 symposia. It gives you a boost seeing the friends you’ve made over the years and making new friends that have experienced the same things you do. They are all willing to share how to celebrate the triumphs, work through the tragedies and remain enthusiastic about teaching.

Teresa Sonsthagen retired off the board of directors as Secretary/Treasurer and was given a very nice plaque detailing the number of years she was active on the board. She served as a Director-at-Large in the 1990’s, and agreed to the President track in 2001. This is a 6 year commitment that includes putting together the 2003 Symposium which was in Madison, Wisconsin. At the end of her term as Past President in 2007 she was nominated and was elected to the Secretary/Treasurer’s position which she held until 2017. At the General Membership Meeting the Executive Board installed her as a lifetime member. This is an honor only
bestowed upon members “who have demonstrated lifelong, dedicated service to the improvement of the AVTE and/or the advancement of veterinary technician education.”

(Thanks for the awesome write up, Vet Tech team!)

Symposium held by ASN and ASAS

Larry Reynolds was one of the invited speakers at a American Society for Nutrition - American Society of Animal Science joint symposium entitled “The Role of Animal Sourced Foods in Ensuring Food Security and National Security.”

Follow the link below for additional information.

ASN / ASAS Symposium

Society for the Study of Reproduction meets

Anna Grazul-Bilska attended the 50th annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction in Washington, DC. She was co-author of three presentations.


Brad Johnson joins faculty

Brad Johnson is joining the ANSC faculty as a lecturer and livestock evaluation team coach. Brad earned his BS from the University of Nebraska and his MS from Purdue University. Brad's most recent position was as an animal science instructor at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky.

Brad's first day was August 14.

Student Happenings

Carnivore Catering
Carnivore Catering has a new Facebook page! Make sure you "like" them so you can stay up-to-date on all of the deliciousness that they have going on!

Carnivore Catering Facebook Page

Defense Seminars

Ananda Fontoura

Biological evaluation of the associations between animal size, feeding behavior, blood metabolites and feed efficiency in beef cattle

(August 11, 2017)

Upcoming Events

NDSU Veterinary Technicians Alumni Reunion
October 6, 2017
The North Dakota State University Veterinary Technology Program would like to invite all program graduates and their families for an evening of dining, laughing, and reminiscing! No matter where life has taken you, we all started as Veterinary Technicians/Technologists attending this Program and we would LOVE to hear your story! Please share this invitation with all Veterinary Technologists you know and we will post official invitations including RSVP's closer to the day of the event. **This event is being held the same weekend as the NDVTA Annual CE Conference held in Fargo, so come for the CE, get the BONUS of our PARTY!!

Cocktails at 5:00 PM, Meal at 6:00 PM followed by Family Friendly Entertainment. **

Dr. Fiona Buchanan
University of Saskatchewan

Dr. Fiona Buchanan will be speaking on the topic of "Feeding Fusarium-Damaged Grain to Insect Larvae as a Strategy to Use and Generate a Safe Protein Source for Animal Feed" on Tuesday, August 22, 2017. The event begins at 10:00 am in Hultz Hall 104.

Fiona grew up on a sheep farm in New Zealand. She attended the University of Otago where she obtained a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in microbiology (biocontrol of mosquitoes), and a Ph.D. in biochemistry (sheep molecular genetics). Her post-doctoral fellowship was at the Freshwater Institute, Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Winnipeg, Canada where she studied beluga whale stock identification. In 1995 she was hired as an assistant professor in beef cattle molecular genetics at the University of Saskatchewan. She is currently a full professor on sabbatical after serving a six-month stint as acting head of department.
NDSU College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources is hosting an ice cream social Wednesday, August 23 in the Memorial Union Ballroom. Students are invited to make a sundae, visit with fellow classmates, and meet faculty, staff, and administration. The event begins at 6 pm.

You're Invited to The Dairyland Initiative Workshops
September 27, 28 & 29 in Milwaukee, WI

Daily schedule and program details can be viewed in the attached brochure. Online registration is now open at https://apps.vetmed.wisc.edu/cereg/; see the brochure for registration by phone or fax. Up to 27.3 veterinary continuing education credits are available for this program from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine.

**Wednesday & Thursday morning, Sept. 27 & 28: Youngstock Facility Design**
This interactive, one-and-a-half-day workshop, will combine lectures, discussion, and case-based group exercises to create facilities that maximize calf health and improve labor efficiency. Drs. Ken Nordlund and Terri Ollivett will cover key aspects of youngstock facility design such as feeding management strategies, individual vs. group housing, group sizing, ventilation, and pen layout. After the workshop, participants will have the knowledge necessary to tackle various building projects and to provide housing solutions that maximize animal well-being, health, and performance.

**Thursday afternoon, Sept. 28: Positive Pressure Tube Ventilation Design for Calf Barns**
On Thursday afternoon, Dr. Ken Nordlund and The Dairyland Initiative team will lead participants through hands-on exercises to learn how to use the Positive Pressure Tube Calculator (PPTC) to design positive pressure tube ventilation (PPTV) systems for calf barns. Participants will leave this workshop with field-ready skills to improve respiratory health in calf barns. Trainees will be listed on The Dairyland Initiative website as trained consultants in positive pressure tube design. Following the workshop, trainees will have the opportunity to become a Dairyland Initiative Certified Consultant in PPTV design for youngstock housing. Participants must bring a computer that has Microsoft Office installed. Attendance at the Youngstock Facility Design Workshop is not required to register for this workshop.

**Friday, Sept. 29: Ventilating Adult Cow Facilities**
We are still struggling to come to a consensus when it comes to how to ventilate a dairy barn. Should we use natural, cross, tunnel, hybrid, or positive pressure delivery systems? Drs. Nigel Cook and Mario Mondaca will
combine lectures, discussion, and case-based group exercises to share the latest information in dairy barn ventilation systems to help with the decision-making process. Participants will leave the workshop with the ability to design and troubleshoot existing ventilation systems in order to provide clients with solutions that optimize animal well-being, performance, and health.

Program questions may be directed to:
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Registration, transportation & accommodation questions may be directed to:
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