Gerald Stokka Joins ANSC – Adapted from Greg Lardy with Ellen Crawford, NDSU Agriculture Communication, July 16, 2012

Gerald Stokka joined the department of Animal Sciences on June 27 in our new livestock stewardship position.

He will be working primarily with livestock producers on a variety of stewardship and animal welfare issues.

Prior to joining NDSU, Dr. Stokka spent 11 years as a member of the Pfizer Animal Health veterinary operations team in Cooperstown, North Dakota, and was recognized for his multifaceted expertise in beef cattle production medicine. He worked with feedlots and stocker and cow-calf operations throughout the Great Plains and participated in numerous agricultural projects abroad, including in the Ukraine, Brazil, South Africa, and Costa Rica. He also has held adjunct professor status in the Animal Sciences and Industry departments at Kansas State University and NDSU.

Before joining Pfizer Animal Health, Dr. Stokka was in private practice for seven years at the Cooperstown Veterinary Clinic. From 1992 to 1995, he was an assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Sciences at Kansas State University; he then became an associate professor and Kansas State’s Extension Service beef veterinarian.

Dr. Stokka earned a B.S. in animal science from NDSU, an M.S. in beef cattle production medicine from Kansas State, and his DVM from Iowa State University.

He has led more than 600 continuing education meetings for producers, consumers, and veterinarians across the country. He is also a former director and immediate past president of the Academy of Veterinary Consultants and a member of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, American Veterinary Medical Association, North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, American Society of Animal Science, North Dakota Stockmen’s Association, and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association.

Dr. Stokka’s office is in Hultz 172, his email is gerald.stokka@ndsu.edu, and his phone is 231-5082.
NDSU Vet Tech Program Names Co-Directors – Adapted from Ellen Crawford, NDSU Agriculture Communications, July 23, 2012

Teresa Sonsthagen and Stacey Ostby have been named co-directors of the Veterinary Technology Program in the department of Animal Sciences.

Both Teresa and Stacey are licensed veterinary technologists. This is the first co-director team since the program’s inception in 1976.

Ostby and Sonsthagen say this move is the first step in focusing the Veterinary Technology program on the future. With the division of duties, they feel they will be able to provide an excellent experience for students in the program and accomplish more as co-directors than they could as individuals. They also intend to continue the program’s tradition of providing students with hands-on experience in working with large and small animals while adding technology and expanding and updating the curriculum to prepare program graduates for a broach spectrum of career opportunities.

Teresa was in the program’s first graduating class and has taught in the program for more than 30 years. She has authored two textbooks and contributed to several textbook chapters on the subject of veterinary technology. Stacey is a 2002 graduate of the program. She worked as a veterinary technologist in a small animal practice in Grand Forks for seven years before starting her career in the Vet Tech program in 2009.

In 2001, Ostby, Sonsthagen, and the program’s teaching team received the National Team Teaching Award in Veterinary Technology which was sponsored by Proctor & Gamble. Also that year, Sonsthagen received the Excellence in Teaching Awards which was sponsored by Elsevier Publishing.

Joint Annual Meeting Highlights – Greg Lardy

Following is an update on the Animal Sciences department’s involvement in the 2012 Joint Annual Meeting of the American Dairy Science Association/American Society of Animal Science which was held in Phoenix, Arizona, July 16 through 18.

- Dr. David Buchanan was named Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science in the Teaching category. The awards program indicated Dr. Buchanan’s teaching career is striking for its diversity, innovation, and concern for students.

- Dr. Erika Berg presented an invited paper in the Horse Species Symposium entitled, “Research in equine-assisted activities and therapies.”
• Graduate student Ely Camacho tied for 3rd place in the Western Section ASAS Graduate Student Oral Presentation Competition with her paper, “Maternal diet restriction in beef cows alters fetal cardiovascular hemodynamics and fetal and placental development during early pregnancy.” L.E. Camacho, C.O. Lemley, K.C. Swanson, and K.A. Vonnahme

• Quynn Larson, Phil Steichen, Christen Jackson, and Megan Van Emon competed in the Western Section ASAS Graduate Student Oral Presentation competition.

• Nichole Chapel presented her undergraduate research and took third place overall in the American Society of Nutrition/ASAS/ADSA poster competition. This competition included M.S. and Ph.D. students. Her poster was entitled, “Influence of maternal nutrition and prenatal adenovirus-VEGF gene therapy on fetal visceral tissues and crypt cell proliferation at d 130 of gestation.” N.M. Chapel, R.D. Yunusova, R.P. Aitken, J.S. Milne, D.J. Carr, P.P. Borowicz, A.L. David, J.M. Wallace, and J.S. Caton.

• Faculty, students, and staff from NDSU Animal Sciences authored or co-authored 17 poster and 21 oral presentations during the meeting.

• Four poster presentations from NDSU co-authors were selected for the ASAS Presidential Picks recognition. This is something new to this years’ meeting and recognizes research that the ASAS President and President-Elect found particularly innovative. These posters included the following:


• Dr. Carrie Hammer and Dr. Chris Schauer (Hettinger Research Extension Center) chaired sessions at this years’ meeting.
• Dr. Kim Vonnahme continues her term on the ASAS Board as a Director-at-Large and Dr. Greg Lardy began his term as ASAS President-Elect on Wednesday, July 18.

• Larry Reynolds and Greg Lardy were invited speakers in the Western Section ASAS Graduate Student Lunch and Learn program discussing the role of international opportunities for students in animal sciences.

Faculty photos available at [http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ansc/people/faculty](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ansc/people/faculty).

**Julakorn Panatuk (Ake)**, a fourth-year Ph.D. student from the Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Khon Kaen University, Thailand, joined the department on July 20 as a visiting scholar. His thesis project there is entitled, “Meat Quality Improvement and Enhancing Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids of Meat from Brahman Beef Cattle with Vitamin A Restriction and Vegetative Oil Supplementation.” While he is at NDSU, Ake will be training with Dr. Eric Berg on meat quality measurement and fatty acid profile analysis.

Ake’s office is in Hultz 108 and his phone number is 231-7630.

Remember to turn in **vacation cards** before you go or as soon as you return.

If your vacation spans two pay periods, remember to do **two** leave cards.

Enjoy!