Graduate Seminar – Chung Park, Coordinator

Speakers: Eric P. Berg, Professor
Department of Animal Sciences

Topic: Eating Like a Pig – Investigations
Using the Pig Biomedical Model

Date/Time: Friday, February 28; 2:00 p.m.

Location: Hultz Hall 104

Professor Eric Berg obtained two Bachelor of Science degrees (Animal & Range Science and Agriculture Education) from NDSU (1988), an M.S. degree from NDSU (1991), and a Ph.D. from Purdue University (1996). He then took a post-doctoral fellowship at Texas A&M University where his research was a collaborative effort between TAMU and the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Imaging at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. He was on the faculty at the University of Missouri – Columbia from 1998 to 2006. He returned to NDSU in the fall of 2006. Dr. Berg’s current research focus involves using swine as a biomedical model for humans with regard to the role of meat in a healthy low-glycemic diet.

Jodie Haring is Latest SPAM Award Recipient

In a ceremony on Friday, February 21, Wanda Keller passed on the department’s SPAM (Spirit Pep and Motivation) award to Jodie Haring, molecular biology laboratory coordinator. In her speech, Wanda recognized Jodie for her hard work revitalizing the reproductive physiology lab space. She said, “Jodie had a vision for repurposing the space when she joined us, and she stuck with it. Change is always challenging, but Jodie persevered.” Thus Wanda’s contention that the P in SPAM should stand for perseverance in Jodie’s case. She noted that Jodie’s efforts have resulted in the lab space being more efficient and user friendly.

Jodie is now charged with the task of naming the next SPAM recipient in the department.
**Hunt Team Success at Regionals** – Mattia Gunkelman, Coach  
(*photo by Mattia Gunkelman*)

Four members of the NDSU Hunt Seat Equestrian Team competed at the regional competition held in Stillwater, MN, on February 15. NDSU was represented by (L to R) Deann Berntson, Sarah Bridge, Kaylin Scarberry, and Sydney Larson.

Team members placed as follows:
Berntson – 2nd in novice flat  
Scarberry – 2nd in intermediate flat  
Bridge – 4th in intermediate flat, 2nd in intermediate over fences

Berntson, Scarberry, and Bridge are now eligible to compete in the zone competition which will be in Madison, WI, on April 13.

**Christine Nodsle Wins National Scholarship** – National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA)  
(*photo from NAVTA*)

Christine Nodsle, (pictured with Julie Legred, CVT, and Kara Burns, CVT) a senior in the NDSU Veterinary Technology program, is one of two recipients of the Western Veterinary Conference (WVC) Student Scholarships. The other winner was Kelsey Guenther from the Veterinary Tech Institute in Indianapolis, IN.

The scholarship is offered through a partnership between WVC and NAVTA. Students must submit an application and a professional essay which are reviewed by the past presidents of WVC who select the recipients of the scholarship.

The scholarship entailed $1,000 toward tuition, plus registration to WVC, airfare, hotel accommodations, and a plaque.

Congratulations Chrissy!
Wool Judging Returns to NDSU – Alison Crane, Coach

(photocourtesy of Alison Crane)

This past fall, North Dakota State University had its first Wool Judging Team in close to 30 years. Dr. Reid Redden and graduate student Alison Crane (left in the photo) served as the coaches. Team members were Michelle Craig and Justin Bartholomay.

The team began meeting in October and continued throughout the semester and into January.

They attended the NDSU Sheep Shearing and Wool Classing School in November. Thanks to the North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association and the Hettinger Research Extension Center, members of the team received level one wool classing certification at the school.

This year, the team attended two contests. At the Center of the Nation Invitational contest in Belle Fourche, SD, Justin placed 1st and Michelle placed 8th. In the National Western Stock Show in Denver, CO, Michelle placed 3rd in the hand spinning contest, while Justin placed 8th in the individuals. With only two members, NDSU competed in the alternates division. Michelle was 5th in placings and Justin was 6th. Overall, Justin placed 7th and Michelle placed 12th.

Plans are being made for the 2014-2015 season. For more information, contact Reid Redden (reid.redden@ndsu.edu) or Alison Crane (Alison.crane@ndsu.edu).

Welcoming to the world . . .

Owen Tucker Twedt

8 pounds, 4 ounces; 21.5 inches
Born 2/24/14 at Altru Hospital in Grand Forks, ND

Proud parents are Sarah and Seth Twedt and the proud grandparents are Joel and Kristina Caton.
**Vet Tech Program Working with Circle of Friends** – Veterinary Technology Newsletter, January/February 2014

In January 2014, the NDSU Veterinary Technology Program began working with the Circle of Friends Humane Society (CFHS) in Grand Forks, ND, for procurement of “canine educators.” At this time, the program has 11 dogs from the CFHS rescue group. Dogs will be rotated into the program and back out to the rescue for adoption on a four-week basis.

The mission of CFHS is to shelter and care for lost and unwanted animals, to place animals into humane environments, and to implement programs that increase everyone’s awareness of their own responsibilities to all animals. They feel that we are all entrusted to protect those unable to care for themselves – human and non-human alike. In January, the rescue had more than 40 dogs in their facility and more in foster care homes. It is hoped that the relationship the program forges with them will not only benefit our students, but benefit the mission of their rescue. The web site for Circle of Friends is [http://www.gfpets.com/](http://www.gfpets.com/).

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**GET YOUR REGISTERED HEIFER RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY!**

**Drawing is March 12!**
Cost – $20 per ticket or $100 for 6 tickets

Tickets are available from Holly in Hultz 102

A $1,200 cash prize is available if you cannot take the heifer.

The raffle benefits livestock judging teams at NDSU. We appreciate your support!

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**Friday Afternoon Club** – Kendall Swanson
Friday, February 28, at 3:00 p.m., in Hultz 104

Dr. Kim Vonnahme will review the following paper: Translocator protein/peripheral benzodiazepine receptor is not required for steroid hormone biosynthesis.

The paper is attached to the newsletter. Please read the paper and attend on Friday if you are interested in participating in the discussion.