ANIMAL Sciences News
Week of April 12, 2015

Special Seminar – Chung Park

Speaker: Gary Williams, Regents Fellow, AgriLife Research Faulty Fellow, and Professor of Animal Reproduction, Texas A&M University

Title: Nutritional Programming of Puberty in Heifers: Neuroendocrine Basis and Managerial Strategies

Date/Time: Friday, April 17, 2015; 3:00 p.m.

Location: Hultz 104

Dr. Gary Williams received B.S. and M.S. degrees in animal science from New Mexico State University in 1972 and 1975, respectively, and a Ph.D. in animal physiology from the University of Arizona in 1978.

Dr. Williams was a faculty member in the Department of Animal Sciences at NDSU from 1978-1982. He is a professor of Animal Reproduction at Texas A&M and scientist-in-charge at Beeville Station, a diplomate of the American College of Animal Physiology, editor-in-chief of Domestic Animal Endocrinology, a Regents Fellow, and an AgriLife Research Faulty Fellow.

Dr. Williams has served as a mentor for more than 40 M.S., Ph.D., and postdoctoral trainees, has lectured nationally and internationally (85 invited presentations), and authored or coauthored over 300 publications. He has received numerous awards, including a Monsanto Animal Physiology and Endocrinology Award from the American Society of Animal Science. He is renowned for his research in neuroendocrinology and reproduction (beef and mare).

In Memoriam – Gordon McLean – Greg Lardy

The department was saddened to learn that long-time supporter and friend, Gordon McLean, 82, from Gilby, ND, passed away on Thursday, March 19. Gordie served for 27 years on the North Dakota Livestock Development Foundation board and was an ardent supporter of the Animal Sciences Department. Gordie’s complete obituary is available at http://www.inforum.com/obituaries/3720524-edward-gordon-mclean.
**Friday Afternoon Club** – Kendall Swanson, Coordinator

**Presenter:** Larry Reynolds

**Topic:** What is the question? Mistaking the type of question being considered is the most common error in data analysis.

Paper by Jeffrey T. Leek and Roger D. Peng (sent out on email previously)

**Date/Time:** Friday, April 17, 2015; 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Hultz 104

Dr. Gary Williams will also attend Friday Afternoon Club, so we could continue the discussion from his seminar or discuss anything else of interest as well. Dr. Williams has significant experience in reproduction and nutrition research and it will be great to have his input and to be a part of FAC.

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**Beef It Up Fun Run**

**BEEF IT UP FUN RUN**

**Saturday April 18**

**NDSU Ag Week**

Celebrating NDSU’s Roots
collegiate cattlewomen
Wirt is Meat Lab Tech
Spencer Wirt began his position as a meat lab research technician on Monday, April 13. His phone number is 231-8107, his email is spencer.a.wirt@ndsu.edu.

“My name is Spencer Wirt. I grew up on a cattle ranch near Kintyre, ND. I graduated from Napoleon High School and went on to attend NDSU. While at NDSU, I was on the Meats Judging Team, was involved with Saddle & Sirloin, and was a student employee at the NDSU Meats Lab. I received my undergraduate degree in May of 2014 in animal science with an emphasis in meat science. The past year, I have been managing at a small inspected meat processing facility located in Bowdon, ND. I enjoy hunting, working with cattle, training horses, and being a butcher! I am very happy to be back at NDSU and to have the opportunity to work with a great group of people.”

Gamma Sigma Delta Initiation – Greg Lardy
The NDSU chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the national honor society of agriculture, held its initiation ceremony on Tuesday, April 14. Justin Bartholomay and Lauren Ciernia, both animal science majors, were initiated. Justin also was awarded the Distinguished Undergraduate Student in Agriculture award.

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Gamma Sigma Delta Pledge
In recognition of my responsibilities as a member of the Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, I pledge myself to utilize my abilities in maintaining the esteem, upholding the honor, and advancing agriculture related sciences and technology. I recognize that my adherence to the highest ethical and moral standards is essential to our food and agricultural industry and to society.
Avenue to Scientific Discovery – Casie Bass

Twelve graduate and undergraduate students volunteered to work at the Animal Sciences Department booth at the first annual Avenues to Scientific Discovery held April 9 at the Memorial Union. The event was hosted by graduate students from several NDSU departments, with the purpose of meeting and talking with local high school students regarding careers and research in scientific fields. The Animal Sciences students demonstrated meat grading and selection, talked about proper nutrition in ruminants, and discussed the differences between sow and pre-pubertal gilt tracts. The volunteers spoke with over 200 individuals throughout the day.
Jobs Newsletter Created – Greg Lardy
Starting April 14, students and job seeking alumni will notice some changes in the way the department communicates about jobs, scholarships, and internships, as well as information about classes, advising, and other academic issues. In the past, numerous emails were sent from faculty and staff about these issues every week. Going forward, this information will be consolidated into a twice weekly newsletter which will be edited by Loren Baranko, our new instructor in Animal Sciences. This is an effort to cut down on some of the email clutter and to help students and job seekers access the information in an easier manner. The position openings in the newsletter will be posted on the department’s Web page and on the jobs board in Hultz Hall.

Minten to Join NDSU Extension Service – Mike Hanson, NW District Extension Director
Megan Minten has accepted the Griggs County Extension Agent/ANR position. She will begin her new role on May 1, 2015.

Megan is a native of New York Mills, MN. She was a 4-H and FFA member while growing up in East Otter Tail County.

She has a Bachelor of Science in animal science from NDSU and a Master of Science in physiology of reproduction from Texas A&M University. While a student at NDSU, she was a member of Ceres Women’s Fraternity, College of Agriculture Student Activities Council, and the Bison Dairy Club.

Megan worked as a graduate research assistant at Texas A&M University and Washington State University. She has been the histology & bioassay laboratory coordinator with the Animal Science Department since November 2014.

Saturday, May 2
Shepperd Arena
Hosted by NDSU Livestock Sales and Marketing class students
For more information, see the NDSU College of Agriculture Facebook page
April 17
Last day for initial submission of Disquisition for May graduation

2015 NDSU Spring Judging Contest

When: May 1st 9:00 am
Where: Shepperd Arena
What: There will be a LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, and MEATS judging contest
Who: ALL NDSU student are eligible to participate (if you have competed in one of the three at the collegiate level you may not judge in that specific contest)

Awards: 1st Place = $75  2nd Place = $50  3rd Place = $25
FOR EACH DIVISION

Contact Justin Crosswhite with questions
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This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, contact Holly Erdmann, Animal Sciences News editor at (701) 231-7513. NDSU is an EO/AA employer.