A message from the Chair

Dear colleagues and friends, another academic year has come to an end and a new group of animal science graduates will prepare for a future of opportunities. On behalf of our faculty, staff and graduate students, we wish our new graduates (see pages 4 & 5) all the best as they take on the world.

In Departmental news, congratulations to Dr. Jenny Wilkinson for receiving the University’s Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award (see story below); to Dr. Jana Kraft for her tenure-track reappointment; to Dr. Julie Smith for her promotion to Extension Associate Professor; to Dr. Lyn Carew for receiving the Sinclair Cup Award (see page 6); to Dr. Betsy Greene for receiving the 2013 American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) Equine Science Award (see page 14); to Dr. John Barlow and his colleagues for receiving a UVM REACH grant; to Ben Green for his receiving this year’s Graduate Teaching Assistant of the Year Award (see page 17); and to our Animal Science students who won top awards at Honor’s Day (see pages 2 & 3).

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our dedicated Faculty, Staff, and Graduate Students for their continued hard work and significant contributions to Animal Science, CALS, and UVM.

Have a great summer, stay safe, and I look forward to seeing you at the end of August when we will welcome our returning students and a new group of first year students into Animal Science.

To all of our readers, thank you for your support and I wish you and your families all the best for a safe and fun-filled summer.

Please follow us on Facebook (UVM Animal Science) and Twitter (uvmasci).

Kind regards,
André Wright, PhD

2013 Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient

The Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Awards recognize faculty for excellent instruction. They memorialize Robert H. and Ruth M. Kroepsch and her parents, Walter C. and Mary L. Maurice. Robert H. Kroepsch served as Registrar and Dean of Administration at UVM from 1946-56. His wife, Ruth, graduated from UVM in 1938 and her father, Walter Maurice, graduated from UVM in 1909. All four of them were teachers.

Winners are selected for their excellence in instruction (including learning experiences outside the traditional classroom); their capacity to animate students and engage them in the pursuit of knowledge and understanding; their innovation in teaching methods and/or curriculum development; their demonstrated commitment to cultural diversity; their ability to motivate and challenge students and for evidence of excellent advising.

ASCI Lecturer, Dr. Jenny Wilkinson, is among this year’s recipients. Dr. Wilkinson, who holds a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Cornell University, is an expert in equine science. She teaches courses on basic equitation; horse health and disease; and advanced equine instructing techniques, among other topics.
Honors Day Awards presented April 19th

Elmer Towne Award
Presented annually by the Vermont Dairy Industry Association to a student whose work in the field of Dairy Science shows the greatest promise for providing the quality leadership exemplified by Elmer E. Towne in his life of service to the Dairy Industry.
Recipient: Melissa E. Woolpert
Presenter: Dr. Julie Smith

Donald J. Balch Award
This award is presented annually to the student or students making the greatest contribution to the equine or companion animal activities of the Department of Animal Science.
Recipient: Shannon E. Emmons
Presenter: Dr. Jenny Wilkinson

Animal Science Faculty Award
In recognition of scholastic performance, outstanding achievements in undergraduate research, and service to the Department of Animal Science.
Recipient: Christopher R. Alling
Presenter: Dr. André-Denis Wright

George H. Walker Award
Awarded annually by faculty vote to a member of the graduating class of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, who have majored in Animal Science, who exhibit conspicuous merit in the studies pertaining to Dairy Science, and especially in those courses relating to the production and/or processing of market milk, and who furthermore exhibit high and noble traits of leadership and character.
Recipient: Noelle Schariest
Presenter: Dr. Betsy Greene

Triona Wilder Marno-Ferree Memorial Award
This award is presented to the student or students who possess a genuine love of horses and display the energy and enthusiasm shown by Triona for UVM Horse Barn activities.
Recipient: Kelsey L. Bentz
Presenter: Dr. Jenny Wilkinson

The Brett Klein Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is presented to CREAM Student Herd Advisors for fall 2012 and spring 2013 with a big thanks for their time and effort! The award is presented for their dedication, responsible leadership, and friendly attitude that Brett exemplified as a 1990 CREAMer as well as their excellence in teaching and advising the ‘12 ‘13 CREAMers and in passing on the CREAM tradition!
Recipients Fall ‘12:
Rebecca McBride
Eric D. Pratt
Andrea L. Rusilowicz

All Honors Day photos courtesy of Jane Kennedy O’Neil
Honors Day Awards—cont’d.

The Brett Klein Memorial Scholarship — (continued)

Recipients Spring ’13:
Dylan J. Devino
Danielle N. Semick

Presenter:
Dr. Norman Purdie

American Society of Animal Science Award

Presented annually to sophomores, juniors, and seniors whose academic record, scholastic efforts and character warrant recognition as the future leaders in the field of Animal Science. Presenter: Dr. André-Denis Wright

Recipients:

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<tr>
<th>Seniors:</th>
<th>Juniors:</th>
<th>Sophomores:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley M. Ackert</td>
<td>Kaitlin M. Benoit</td>
<td>Sarah E. Colando</td>
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<td>Christopher R. Alling</td>
<td>Evelyn A. Bulkeley</td>
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<td>Kaitlin E. Lee</td>
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<td>Rebecca McBride</td>
<td>Roberta L. Hemmer</td>
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<td>Noelle Schariest</td>
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<td>Gabrielle R. Tetschner</td>
<td>Samuel E. Scheu</td>
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<td>Kirsten A. Weberg</td>
<td>Sarina M. Selleck</td>
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Distinguished Undergraduate Research

The Distinguished Undergraduate Research Program of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences recognizes students who conduct original research in addition to pursuing their regular course of study. This research is done under the immediate supervision of a faculty member. Undergraduate research is an introduction to the methods involved in the advancement of knowledge that is fundamental to the goals of a university. The following are the Animal Science students who participated in this program along with their project titles:

Hannah M. Lachance —“Bacterial Diversity in the Rumen of Impala from Pongola South Africa.”
Mentor: Dr. André-Denis Wright

Lyndsey R. Hayden — “The Link between Innate and Acquired Immune Responses to Intramammary Staphylococcus Aureus Infections.”
Mentor: Dr. David Kerr

Sean K. O’Neill— “Examining the Gut Microbiota of the American Black Bear (Ursus americanus).”
Mentor: Dr. André-Denis Wright

Rebecca McBride, Eric Pratt, Andrea Rusilowicz, Danielle Semick, and Dylan Devino are awarded the Brett Klein Memorial Scholarship; pictured with CREAM Academic Advisor, Dr. Norman Purdie.
2013 CALS Commencement

The University of Vermont’s 211th Commencement Ceremony was held on May 19th at 8:20 am on the University Green. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ Ceremonies were held later that day in the Multipurpose Facility at the Athletic Complex. A reception was held prior to the ceremony in Redstone Dining. Sixty-eight Animal Science majors received their Bachelor of Science degrees.

Congratulations ASCI graduating Class of 2013:

- Luvian Laraux Abell
- Ashley Marie Ackert
- Christopher Richard Alling
- Jamie Aloi*
- Tamara Lynn Beier
- Kelsey Lynne Bentz
- Richard Leo Brisson
- Caroline Hope Buckley
- Hannah Elisabeth Carbonneau
- Alexa Kauffman Cohen
- Jacqueline Marie Devito
- Christopher William Dietze
- Morgen Sabine Doane
- Emmalene Ann Duffy
- Christopher Lawrence Duncan*
- Shannon E. Dychton
- Shannon Mary Emmons
- Amanda Nicole Estevez*
- Cassidy Foster Francik
- Daniel Keith Golschneider
- Levi Wolf Gordon
- Alicia Mychal Gorman
- Phillip T. Griffin, Jr.
- Lyndsey Rose Hayden
- Nicholas Steele Hayes
- Gillian Amanda Henson
- Jake Emerson Hostnik
- Maura Cioffe Huddleston
- Evan Johnson
- Leanne D. Kane
- Laila L. Khayami
- Douglas Alexander Klein
- Lauren Mary Kolarik
- Sayoko Lisa Kubotera
- Hannah Marie Lachance*
- Kaili Marie LaRochelle
- Emily Elizabeth LeBlanc
- Kaitlin Elizabeth Lee
- Katrina C. Manker
- Rebecca McBride
- Catherine M. McDougald
- Robert Thomas McGarry
- Melanie Marie Milliard
- Molly Catherine Mills
- Zulefika J. Mofokeng
- Kathleen Catherine Murray
- Sean Kerin O’Neill
- Meagan Elizabeth Perley
- Kelly C. Phillips
- Eric D. Pratt
- Natalie Anne Pulido
- Rachel Morgan Rogoff*
- Melissa Lynne Rosen*
- Andrea Lynn Rusilowicz
- Noelle Schariest
- Emily Starr Schwartz*
- Sarina Mariene Selleck
- Samantha Danielle Soltou
- Aaron Joseph Spiritos
- Gabrielle Rose Tetschner
- Olivia Nicole Thompson
- Mia Antonia Tomasello*
- Katja Alma Vogel
- Tyler A. Wansley
- Peter John White
- Sara Kinsel Whitney
- Moriah Lenell Winch
- Melissa Elizabeth Woolpert

* December 2012 graduate

Drs. André-Denis Wright, Stephanie McKay, David Kerr, Betsy Greene, Lyndon Carew, Patricia Erickson, and Julie Smith share a congratulatory moment with ASCI Summa Cum Laude graduates, Gabrielle Tetschner, Sarina Selleck, and Rebecca McBride.
Eighteen Animal Science graduates will be attending the following veterinary schools in the fall:

- Cornell University
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Prince Edward Island, Canada
- Ross University, St. Kitts
- University of Florida
- Auburn University
- Kansas State University
- University of Glasgow, Scotland
- Tufts University
- Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
- Purdue University
- University of Minnesota

Commencement photos courtesy of Jane Kennedy O’Neil
Elmer Towne Award Presented to Melissa Woolpert

Julie Smith, President of the Vermont Dairy Industry Association, was pleased to present graduating senior Melissa Woolpert with the Elmer Towne award at Honors Day in April.

Melissa Woolpert, a California native, excelled in all things dairy while at UVM. She participated in the Cooperative for Real Education in Agricultural Management (CREAM) class; conducted research on mastitis-causing bacteria with Dr. John Barlow; instructed and coordinated a 4-H Veterinary Science program; and worked as assistant herds person at Conant’s Riverside Farm in Richmond. She and her teammates returned from the North American Inter-Collegiate Dairy Challenge in Fort Wayne, Indiana with a first place team certificate.

Melissa has her eye on graduate work studying the relationship between dairy nutrition, cow comfort, and facilities design and management. We wish Melissa the best as she continues to provide quality leadership in Dairy Science.

Dr. Lyndon Carew receives Sinclair Cup Award

Lyn Carew, Professor Emeritus of Animal Science and the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, received the Sinclair Cup Award at the Annual CALS Alumni and Friends Dinner held in May. The award, sponsored by retired UVM Dean Robert O. Sinclair, a distinguished UVM scholar himself, is given as a means of recognizing individuals who served the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) and/or UVM Extension with distinction as a member of the faculty or staff for a major portion of their professional career. People nominated for the award (1) have retired from full-time employment having completed a long record of service to CALS and/or UVM Extension; (2) have demonstrated professional advancement in their field/discipline of expertise; and (3) have achieved special recognition, awards and/or honors which reflect a noteworthy and exemplary career. Lyn retired in 2011 after 42 years of service to UVM and teaching more than 20,000 students. He would love to hear from former students, faculty, staff and friends.

ASCI seniors attend the CALS alumni and friends dinner. (In front) Hannah Lachance. (L to R) Shannon Emmons, Laila Khayami, Lyndsey Hayden, Molly Mills, Gillian Henson, Kathleen Murray, Alicia Gorman, Noelle Schariest and Sarina Selleck.
Smith Summer Plans: Webinars, Webpages, and Writing!

June is dairy webinar month. Julie Smith will be presenting a weekly series of webinars on agricultural emergency preparedness issues for local communities. Information is available at this website: http://blog.uvm.edu/jmsmith/community-preparedness-webinars/

July starts with a vacation and a trip to Indianapolis for the Joint Annual Meetings of the American Society of Animal Science and American Dairy Science Association. Julie will be presenting an abstract on Vermont dairy farmer perceptions regarding farm access control based on results of one aspect of the biosecurity project funded by Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grant no. 2010-85122-20613 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

August will find Julie plugging away at manuscripts, preparing web-based materials, and planning upcoming projects!

Working with Julie this summer will be Lauren Powell, returning to assist with development of online biosecurity materials, and Outreach Professional Louis Bedor III, continuing to contribute his mastery of multi-media technologies to enhance their online presence.

In September, Julie will be recognized as a Northeast regional communications finalist by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents for her set of fact sheets on Johne’s disease in cattle, co-authored by Animal Science graduate Rebecca Calder. The fact sheets are available upon request from Dr. Smith or by download from http://go.uvm.edu/1xuiw.

Doug Watkin retires after 25 years

A 1969 graduate of UVM with a B.S. in Animal and Dairy Science and Agricultural Economics, Doug Watkin was hired in 1988 as the farm’s herdsperson and staff advisor to the CREAM program. He was recognized for his years of service to the University of Vermont with a retirement party held on May 1, 2013 at the Miller Research Center. Hosted by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, faculty, staff, students, family and friends attended the BBQ to wish Doug well and to share stories of his time at UVM. Dean Tom Vogelmann spoke of Doug’s dedication to the care of the farm animals and his commitment to the education of the students. Associate Dean Josie Davis presented Doug with several dinner gift certificates to enjoy with his family.

Matthew Bodette, a 2001 graduate of the University of Maine, has been hired as the farm's new herdsperson to begin June 17th. Doug will assist Matthew and retire at the end of June.

FMD Symposium

In April the National Institute for Animal Agriculture hosted a very successful Foot-and-Mouth Disease Symposium chaired by Julie Smith. A white paper summary is in preparation and will be available on the NIAA website (http://www.animalagriculture.org) in the near future.
**Kraft Lab News**

It has been a very busy and efficacious semester for the Kraft Lab. **Jack O’Day** (ASCI, Class 2014) and **Danielle Semick** (Biology, Class 2013) successfully presented their research data at UVM’s Student Research Conference on April 28.

Congratulations to **Katie Ritchie** (ASCI, Class 2014) and **Pamela Bay** (ASCI, Class 2014) on each receiving an Undergraduate Research Endeavors Competitive Award (URECA!). Katie’s project on “Cyanobacteria blooms and essential fatty acid transfer through the food web of Lake Champlain” will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. **Jason Stockwell** (Director of the Rubenstein Ecosystem Science Laboratory). For her study, Katie will be spending the summer collecting fish at different locations of Lake Champlain and will analyze the fatty acid composition in various tissue sites in the lab. Pamela’s study entitled, “Plant-derived bioactive lipids impacting glucose homeostasis and pancreatic β-cell function”, in collaboration with Dr. **Tom Jetton** (Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, & Metabolism) started in April, and Pamela has already proven herself as an excellent handler of her study subjects (60 mice).

**Melissa Bainbridge** is happy to be back at UVM after spending seven weeks at Michigan State University (MSU) conducting her first research trial as a graduate student. Melissa enjoyed her time at MSU working with Dr. **Adam Lock** and his lab technician and UVM ASCI alum, **Courtney Preseault**. The goal of Melissa’s study is to evaluate the efficacy of feeding a rumen-protected plant oil on increasing the omega-3 fatty acids in milk and blood lipids of dairy cattle. Melissa is now busy processing and analyzing the samples in the lab.

It’s with mixed feelings to bid farewell to the lab members **Meagan Perley** and **Sarina Selleck** (both ASCI, Class 2013) who worked in the Kraft lab for two years. Meagan will be starting vet school in the fall at the University of Glasgow, UK, and Sarina is going to pursue her veterinary education at Tufts University in Boston, MA. The Kraft lab would like to thank Megan and Sarina for all their excellent help and support in the lab!

Dr. **Jana Kraft** finished her first journey in teaching her self-designed course “Animal products in human nutrition” at the Honors College. It was a fun and rewarding experience, and Dr. Kraft learned as much as her students did. This summer, Dr. Kraft will be starting her clinical research trial at UVM’s College of Medicine, in collaboration with Dr. **Lawrence Kien**, examining the effects of consuming a diet comprised of milk fat on metabolic health markers.

Kraft lab web site:  
http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/kraft/

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**Zhao Lab News**

Congratulations to **Shun Kitaoka** for successfully passing his comprehensive exams. Shun has also made great progress in his research project in *C. elegans* glucose transporters. His first manuscript is currently under review by PLOS One (a Peer-Reviewed, Open Access Journal) and he will present his study at the 19th International *C. elegans* Meeting at the University of California in Los Angeles in June.

Graduate student **Xi Qian** is also going to present his new research findings in transcriptional regulation of beta-casein gene expression and dairy pharming at the 2013 Gordon Conference of Mammary Gland Biology in Stowe, Vermont.

Dr. Zhao has accepted an invitation to become an Editorial Board Member of the *Journal of Nutrition* and chaired the Section of Molecular Endocrinology of BIT’s 3rd Annual World Congress of Endobolism in Xian, China in May. He will spend most of his summer in the Zhejiang University of China teaching a lactation physiology course. Dr. Zhao has been invited to give presentations in his mammary glucose transporter research at the 2013 European Association of Animal Production annual conference in Nantes, France in August and at the 13th World Congress of Animal Production in Beijing, China in October.

Zhao lab web site:  
http://www.uvm.edu/~fzhao/
Wright Lab News

The Wright lab remains busy. Doctoral candidate Sue Ishaq continues to cultivate novel bacteria from the moose rumen, and Ph.D. student Laura Cerossimo is hard at work getting her first animal trial underway with 24 heifers in their late trimester arriving at the Miller farm over the past few days. Research Assistant Rachel Smith is completing several on-going projects before she will join Dr. Jana Kraft’s lab full-time starting July 1. Rachel, thank you for everything, especially keeping things on track in the lab for 3.5 years and for all the data you have generated. You will be well missed in the lab.

Our undergraduate researchers, Sam Rosenbaum (ASCI, Class 2016), Emma Hurley (ASCI, Class 2016), Ken Wesley (ASCI, Class 2016), and Doug Reis (Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Class 2015) have made excellent progress and we welcome them back in the fall. Over the summer, Doug will be working with Sue, and we will welcome our newest undergraduate researcher, Alexa Kayhart (ASCI, Class 2016), who will be working with Laura.

We bid farewell to recent graduates Rebecca McBride (ASCI, Class 2013), Hannah Lachance (ASCI, Class 2013), and Sean O’Neill (ASCI, Class 2013). Also, congratulations to Sean O’Neill for receiving Distinguished Undergraduate Research (DUR) recognition for his work on the gut microbiome of the black bears, and to Post-Doctoral Associate Dr. Benoit St-Pierre for his recent publication on the “Metagenomic analysis of methanogen populations in three full-scale mesophilic anaerobic manure digesters operated on dairy farms in Vermont, USA” (see Bioresource Technology 138:277–284).

Have a safe summer everyone. To learn more about the Wright Lab, please visit our webpage: http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/wright/people.html

Kerr Lab News

The Kerr lab is gearing up for an active summer of research. Our efforts will focus on analysis of DNA from our collection of bovine skin cells that we have obtained from cows at Audet’s Blue Spruce Farm. This has been a great collaboration as it is helping us to identify differences between animals in their innate immune system. The long-term goals are to find DNA markers that can be used to select animals with naturally enhanced disease resistance.

The lab’s Ph.D. students, Ben Green and Aimee Benjamin, and summer student, Lyndsey Hayden, will be busy in the lab and with writing up their results for publication. Dr. Kerr will present some of this data at the International Veterinary Immunology Symposium in Milan, Italy in August. And, we’ll all find some time for R & R to enjoy the beautiful Vermont summer.

Kerr lab web site: http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/kerr/

Greenwood Lab News

With the summer getting in to full swing, so are experiments in the Greenwood lab. Ph.D. student Rink Tacoma is preparing to complete two experiments this summer. Rink is currently growing some of her treatments out at the University of Vermont Horticultural Farm with the help of Dr. Sid Bosworth (Dept. of Plant and Soil Science) and is also working on method development at the Proteomics Facility on campus.

Sabrina is co-author on a recent Journal of Dairy Science publication detailing work completed in New Zealand by MSc student Kristina Mandok under the supervision of DairyNZ’s, Dr. John Roche. Kristina examined the metabolisable energy intake and requirements of pasture-based dry dairy cows. Sabrina will also be talking about rumen function and metabolism at the Dairy Nutrition and Management Short-course organized by Cornell University faculty and Miner Institute staff to be held at the Miner Institute in Chazy, NY on June 3 - 6, 2013.
**McKay Lab News**

We are happy to report that the McKay lab is up and running. Thanks to the recent hire of Hannah Lachance, the lab is safety certified and we are looking forward to a summer of hands-on epigenetics lab work. Hannah is a recent UVM Animal Science graduate and will be with the McKay lab for the duration of the summer. Our summer plans also include travel for both Dr. Stephanie McKay and graduate student, Kelcie DeClue. Dr. McKay will be attending the Gordon Research Conference on Epigenetics in Smithfield, Rhode Island and Kelcie will be attending the 54th Annual Short Course on Medical and Experimental Mammalian Genetics at Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine. Additionally, Dr. McKay and Kelcie recently traveled to North Platte, Nebraska, home of Buffalo Bill Cody, to docility phenotype 64 Red Angus x Simmental steers. Phenotypes from these animals, as well as tissue resources to be collected in July, will be utilized in Kelcie’s Ph.D. work on behavioral epigenetics. Finally, our summer plans entail the identification and collection of tissue, hair or blood samples from animals indigenous to Vermont.

**Barlow Lab News**

We just seem to be catching up from a busy spring semester and we are transitioning into a busy summer. We say good-bye and many thanks to Chris Alling and Sarina Selleck, who both graduated in May and are off to veterinary school at Florida and Tufts, respectively. Chris also successfully defended his honors thesis project, “Evaluating sampling and DNA extraction techniques for culture-independent analysis of bovine mammary gland normal flora.”

Sam Hart, who has worked with us for 4 years, also graduated in May and successfully defended his undergraduate honors thesis “Differential MHC Class I Allelic Expression between Tissues in Dairy Cattle.” Sam will be working in the lab through the summer.

Also, congratulations to Gabe Peck-Frame who successfully defended his high school graduate grand challenge project on *Staphylococcus aureus* strain typing; after graduating from Champlain Valley Union, Gabe will be a pre-med student at Tulane University in the fall.

This summer our work will focus on our studies of bovine major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I allelic diversity, and *Staphylococcus* epidemiology on Vermont farms that make artisan cheeses. We started the field work for the artisan cheese project and have completed milk, cow skin, and environmental sampling from three of five farms. We are also continuing our collaborative studies with the Kraft lab and Heather Darby, examining milk quality and management practices on organic dairy farms. Plus, we will be starting our UVM-REACH project on biodiversity and cattle well-being. With all these studies, we will be processing a lot of bacteriology samples during the next few months and, fortunately, we have plenty of help in the lab this summer. Students working with us this summer include: Amanda Carmellini, Mandy Erdei, Chantal Girard, and Hagan Dolley, plus post-bacs Sam Hart and Laura Budd, and a visiting grad student Maxime Gastineau, from the Ecole de Biologie Industrielle, Cergy, France. Graduate students Mital Pandya and Robert Mugabi continue to make progress, and we are all well managed by lab manager Amanda Ochoa.

Barlow website: [http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/barlow/](http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/barlow/)
News from the UVM Morgan Horse Farm

The 25th Equine Reproduction Workshop sponsored by the UVM Morgan Horse Farm, Middlebury Large Animal Clinic and Miner Institute was once again successful. Fifteen of the 20 attendees were students from UVM and Vermont Technical College. Drs. Donald Hunt, May O'Donovan and Molly Witters all donated their time and expertise. Thanks also to Katie Ballard and the crew from Miner Institute, UVM MHF staff, and the Middlebury Inn for hosting the lecture portion of the event.

One of the many pleasures of spring on UVM’s Morgan Farm is the arrival of our foals. We have seen four of the expected foals so far this spring. True to form, we have two fillies and two colts so far; proving the general average of half males and half females. We have not selected the 2013 Raffle Foal yet, but you may view this horse, once chosen, on our web site: http://www.uvm.edu/morgan/?Page=raffle13.html

Congratulations to former Morgan Horse Farm ‘apprentice’ Bonnie Sogoloff for being named 2013 CALS Outstanding Alumni.

Please join us for our Annual Vermont Day, Open House. This summer it falls on Wednesday, August 14th from 10 am to 2 pm. Come enjoy the beauty of our State Animal and learn about its versatility. Free to all.

Submitted by UVM MHF Staff

UVM Undergrad Beth Kennett prepares to breed a mare during the 25th Annual Equine Reproduction Workshop held at the UVM Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge.

UVM Oneida (2006 mare) with new filly in early May. This young foal is the first offspring of the stallion pictured to the right, UVM Rembrandt.

UVM Rembrandt (2009 stallion) with new owner Bruce Wheeler of Wells River, VT, warming up for the Horsin’ Around demonstration at the 2013 Everything Equine held at Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, VT.

UVM Oneida (2006 mare) with new filly in early May. This young foal is the first offspring of the stallion pictured to the right, UVM Rembrandt.

Former Department Professor and Morgan Horse Farm Director, Dr. Donald Balch, Champion Gelding UVM Helmsman, and Bonnie Hershede (Sogoloff) in this 1963 photo by Paul Quinn (UVM MHF Archives)

Former UVM Alumni Family the Sogoloffs ‘today.’ Keely (1992), Bonnie (1966) and Hayes (1966) Sogoloff at a recent event.

2013 colt and son of 2005 mare, UVM Nightingale, tries out his legs in the UVM MHF’s outdoor arena.
2013 Everything Equine: A Decade of Equine Education!

We were very excited to have the 2013 theme revolve around Equine Education as Everything Equine celebrated its tenth year. The headliner was Dan James, an Australian cowboy who has demonstrated his training prowess by winning the national 2012 Road to the Horse Competition. This contest challenges trainers to take horses without any experience and train them in three days. He and his intern, Donal Hancock, gave the audience great demonstrations on how to work with their own horses to become more flexible, more responsive, and to help the owners become better partners with their horse. Additionally, we had excellent seminars and demonstrations on feeding, management, health, safety, and updates from Vermont’s equine industry, presented by experts, professionals, veterinarians, and industry members. Feedback on content and quality was excellent; however, we are still summarizing all of the evaluations! To see this year’s program schedule and other activities and articles, go to: http://issuu.com/hypmagazine1/docs/ee_2013#

Kelsey Watkin (ASCI, Class 14) earned credits as a student intern for the 2013 Everything Equine event. During her internship, she had the opportunity and challenges of dealing with everything from helping Dr. Greene to organize and arrange all aspects of the thirty-plus demonstrations and presentations, to helping with horse housing and regulation information, to authoring an article on an emerging disease, and more. Kelsey made the following observation in her reflection paper: “My biggest take away and life lesson I learned from this internship was with regard to my nerves about trying new things. Before this internship I had never: written a popular press article, been interviewed on TV, participated in the organization of a regional event, given a 30 minute presentation, and of course, been lifted in the air by two handsome Australian cowboys! I learned that I need to push my nerves aside and focus on the task at hand”. Dr. Greene organized an eventful and exciting Horsin’ Around on Saturday Night on behalf of UVM Extension and Vermont Farm Bureau. Where else could you go to see Bagpipers, a UVM student drill team, a Lusitano being ridden by a pirate, UVM Morgans on display, fairies riding Icelandic horses, and one man riding two horses using nothing but his feet! The proceeds will support equine activities conducted or sponsored by Chittenden County Farm Bureau. Past activities have included the Chittenden County Horse Farm of
Distinction, partnership in the “Mutual Respect May Save a Life PSA” with UVM Extension and Vermont Horse Council, and more.

The UVM Drill Team “horsed around” on Saturday Night with a mash up of many of the recent favorite viral YouTube hits. Led by Co-Captains Kaitlin Russell on Three Dee Zi, (Nursing, Class 2013) and Samantha D’Amico on Twisty (ASCI, Class 2015), then Madie Hassett on Mosey Along (Plant Biology, Class 2015) and Katie Barton on Ladybug (ASCI, Class 2015), with Meridith Chamberlain on Whippoorwill M’Lady (Zoology, Class 2014) and Shannon Emmons on Greta (ASCI, Class 2013). Faculty Advisor: Dr. Betsy Greene

Congratulations to Horse Barn Cooperative member and Drill Team co-captain Kaitlin Russell who earned a Second place in the Everything Equine Extreme Trail Competition!

As always, this event is successful because of the involvement of so many friends and UVMers from the past and present. I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the folks that contribute in so many different ways. Thank you to intern Kelsey Watkin (ASCI, Class 2014), Marcia Purvis, Amanda Ochoa, Jane O’Neill, Fran Kinghorn. Dr. Pat Erickson (ASCI department), Ashlie Hirtle, Jesse Tony (UVM alums), Dr. Josie Trott (former UVM faculty), Louise Waterman (VT. Agency of Agriculture), Drill Team and Demonstration riders/handlers: Shannon Emmons, Kaitlin Russell, Samantha D’Amico, Meridith Chamberlain, Scarlett Stone, Katie Barton, Emily Rule, Kelsey Bentz, Katie Ballard and Karen Lassell (Miner Institute), and EQUUS volunteers: Tam Beier, Annie Kaufman, Jeff Hammersmith, Shayna Hartwell, Madeline Hasslett, Beth Kennet, Eugene Knoch, Lauren Powell, and Olivia Thompson.
Greene to attend national meetings

Dr. Betsy Greene has a very busy travel schedule with five national meetings from May to September.

She starts with an oral presentation “Will a large scale equine educational event and consumer trade show lose its ‘shine’ over time?” at the Equine Science Society Symposium in Ruidoso, NM in May. Next up, Hawaii University International Conference on Education and Technology in Honolulu, HI, where she will present “Anatomy of a Contaminated Compost Case Study and a Land Grant University Still Functioning as Intended.”

In early July it is off to Indianapolis, IN to the American Society of Animal Science Society Annual Conference to receive the ASAS/ESS Equine Science Award, which provides national recognition for Dr. Greene’s programs and work in teaching, extension, and service.

In late July she will be helping her colleagues at Delaware to host the International Society of Equitation Sciences (ISES) Annual Meetings, and she and another colleague from Purdue will spearhead an ISES impact/outcomes assessment at the meeting.

In August, she will attend Ag Progress Days at Penn State in State College, PA where she will present “Herbicide Residues in Hay, Horse Feeds, Manure, and Compost” as well as participate in the annual NE-1041 Meetings (hosted at UVM last year).

Finally, the Galaxy IV meetings are being held in September in Pittsburgh, PA. At this meeting, the “Mutual Respect May Save a Life: Share the Road Public Service Announcement” will be awarded the top national prize for best video presentation in the Communications Awards presented by the National Association of County Agents Association.

National Award Winner:
Public Service Announcement: Mutual Respect May Save a Life: Share the Road

As rural landscapes throughout the United States become less open due to population growth, horseback riders and automobiles are more likely to cross paths on the road, with a high risk of a bad outcome. Many drivers are not aware of how unpredictable and skittish a horse may become when frightened or excited.

The objectives of the Share the Road Public Service Announcement (PSA) were to: 1. inform motorists about safe procedures when encountering horseback riders on the road, 2. remind horseback riders to ride safely and communicate with motorists, 3. provide free access for any television station (nationally), and 4. distribute the video widely through many Social Media avenues. UVM Extension, Vermont Horse Council, and Vermont Farm Bureau partnered to create the 30-second PSA television spot; it was filmed/edited by UVM Extension’s Across the Fence show. Local and national versions were recorded to allow use beyond Vermont. Folks from at least 9 states (WA, UT, IA, MI, KY, NH, VT, RI, and DE) have requested that this spot be sent to their television stations to air. Also, the video has recently been uploaded on eXHorses YouTube site (http://youtu.be/WNii-UbA_Bg) and received almost 13,000 views in less than 3 months.
Dairy Challenge: An Exciting Opportunity
Submitted by Kaitlin Benoit, Morgen Doane, Andrew Whitney, Melissa Woolpert

There are many learning and career opportunities embedded in the three-day North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge which we recently attended in Fort Wayne, IN. Among these opportunities – networking with other students and industry professionals; evaluating an operating dairy farm; and learning to communicate, problem solve and work collaboratively with peers. We traveled from Chazy, NY where we participate in Miner Institute’s Advanced Dairy Management (ADM) program through the University of Vermont, where we are all animal science undergraduates.

The goal of Dairy Challenge is to incorporate a higher-learning atmosphere with practical application to help prepare students for careers in the dairy industry. Four-person teams analyze data from a local farm, speak with the farm owners and then develop recommendations for nutrition, reproduction, milking procedures, animal health, housing, and financial management. The 2013 event attracted 128 college students from 32 dairy programs across the U.S. and Canada. Our team returned with a first-place award: we out-competed seven other teams in our evaluation of the same farm near Fort Wayne. Our excitement was hard to contain on the plane ride back.

We are proud of our accomplishment, and certainly it feels great to win, but it is important to note that Dairy Challenge is worthwhile because it offers so much more than the chance to win an award. It provides hundreds of students with the opportunity to network with professionals and students who will be our future bosses, colleagues, clients, and friends. It allows an opportunity to see dairy operations in a different part of the country. It teaches many new skills, most notably how to communicate with your fellow team members. This is an important skill because it helps you learn how to deal with differences of opinion. These skills will make us better employees and managers.

Dairy Challenge opened our eyes to the vast number of talented young people who want to pursue a career in the dairy industry – this was incredibly inspiring and motivating. We returned home with a stronger sense of how we can realize our goals and become leaders in tomorrow’s dairy industry.

We also gained a level of confidence in ourselves and our teammates that is hard to match. Teams must work together to identify areas of the farm management that need improvement and how to achieve that improvement. We worked together to create a PowerPoint to present our findings, and then we delivered our presentation to a panel of judges. The process leading up to the presentation included plenty of stress, anxiety, disagreements, and even some yelling back and forth. Tensions were definitely high as we fought through it and worked as a team to put together our presentation.

We didn’t expect to win an award at the Dairy Challenge competition, but we arrived in Fort Wayne well prepared. We received an incredible amount of support from industry professionals and the staff at Miner Institute which allowed us to be successful at the Dairy Challenge. The ADM program and our incredibly supportive Dairy Challenge Coach, Wanda Emerich, have taught us how to objectively evaluate a dairy farm business and to think critically. These skills will continue to allow us to be successful.
Cooperative for Real Education in Agricultural Management

Well, it’s been quite a semester so far! We officially took over the barn January 14th and have been going like crazy ever since! Calves have been born, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) inspection has passed, and only two milkers have been busted! Not bad for some newbie farmers.

We’ve been extremely fortunate this spring and have taken our partnership with Cabot/Agri-Mark to a whole new level. CREAM has been sending milk to them for years, but this year is proving to be something even better. Rachel Freund (Class 2014) has spearheaded the outreach with Cabot and they have graciously provided us with cheese samples to hand out on campus. It’s been an awesome way to do a little promotion for CREAM and Cabot. It seems like the entire campus has come by to say hi to our calves and taste the World’s Best Cheddar.

25th Anniversary of CREAM!

We hope you’ll consider joining us for celebrations during homecoming weekend, October 4-6, 2013. We are planning some great events that will bring back generations of CREAMers to rekindle their love for the CREAM herd and program.

Visit our website: http://asci.uvm.edu/cream

Like us on Facebook: UVM CREAM

2013 New Achiever Alumni Award

Dr. Thomas Vogelmann, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, presented Dr. Emma H. Wall with the 2013 New Achiever Alumni Award. This award recognizes and honors individuals who earned an undergraduate or graduate degree in the last 15 years from a program currently or formerly affiliated with CALS.

Emma received her B.S. in Animal Science from UVM in 2001, her Master’s Degree in 2004 and her Ph.D. in 2008. She is currently a post-doctoral associate in immunobiology in the Department of Medicine.
ASCI alumna helps to improve milk quality  Submitted by Jessica Scillieri Smith, DVM

Freshman orientation in June 2002 was the first time I stepped foot into the state of Vermont. I had decided to attend UVM, sight unseen, after 18 years as a Los Angeles native, but at the time, I did not know it was a decision that was going to change my life. I had never spent a lot of time in New England, much less experienced an entire Vermont winter, and yet within the first few weeks of my freshman year, I knew it was the place I was meant to be. I entered UVM as an Animal Science major with the intention of attending veterinary school after graduation. Wanting to expand my horizons, I quickly learned about the CREAM program and applied. I was only one of two freshman that were part of the CREAM 2003 group, but it quickly altered my road to veterinary medicine by steering me away from a small animal career. I just loved cows – the CREAM cows were almost like big Golden Retrievers – and I also loved working with dairy farmers. As an outlet for my enthusiasm for Vermont and UVM, I also became an AdvoCat, assisting the Undergraduate Admissions Office by leading campus tours and facilitating informational panels. I also quickly changed the focus of my research by moving from Dr. Karen Plaut’s lab to work with Dr. Julie Smith on studying the effect of lactoferrin on small intestinal development in calves. When not on campus, I worked at several dairy farms milking cows, including Shelburne Farms and Carpenter Farm. I also volunteered my time back to the program that changed my life – working with CREAM as a financial advisor with the 2004 group and working with Dr. James Gilmore (Gilly) on establishing a CREAM alumni organization.

Since leaving UVM in 2005, I went to Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in Massachusetts. I worked with the large animal ambulatory faculty on my palpating skills and flushing cows. I returned to Vermont in the summers to help the Shelburne Explorers at the Addison County Fair with their Brown Swiss heifers. After graduating, I moved to Canton, NY to work as a mixed animal veterinarian for the Canton Animal Clinic. After almost four years, meeting and marrying a dairy farmer, I left private practice to join Cornell’s Quality Milk Production Services as the director for their Canton mastitis laboratory. I am now working with dairy farmers directly to help improve milk quality in Northern New York. I am looking forward to returning to my interest in research and discovering the joys of teaching!

Ben Green GTA of the year

Benjamin Green, has been chosen by the Graduate College as this year’s Graduate Teaching Assistant of the year. Ben is a Ph.D. candidate in his fourth year of study in Dr. David Kerr’s lab. He has been a teaching assistant for ASCI 141 (Comparative Anatomy and Physiology), ASCI 110 (Animal Nutrition, Metabolism & Feeding), and ASCI 215 (Physiology of Reproduction). His teaching evaluations have always been outstanding and a testament to his compassion and devotion to teaching. Dr. André-Denis Wright says of Ben, “He is a role model, a terrific team member, and an outstanding teacher.”
Course held at Rosamond Gifford Zoo

ASCI 298, Dr. Pat Erickson’s “You to the Zoo” course, had a very successful trip to the Rosamond Gifford Zoo this summer. This year, Dr. Erickson and teaching assistant Heather Urie (UVM, Class 2012) took eight students from across campus to work behind the scenes with a huge variety of animals from tigers to vampire bats and elephants to poison dart frogs. Experiences included: monitoring feeding, preparing diets, helping with exhibit cleaning, observing elephant sperm collection, observing training sessions, and preparing enrichment items for the zoo residents, to name a few. Students also enjoyed lectures from the curator, the elephant keepers, the education and outreach director and the zoo veterinarian. In addition, students were allowed to attend a working session that engaged experts from across the country to envision the next 25 years at the zoo. This fall, students from the class will present their work to ASCI 171 “Zoo’s Exotics and Endangered Species.” Please consider joining us!

What students had to say about the experience: semi-paraphrased:

“What really awed me, of course, were the tigers. Although you see them in the exhibit, you really aren’t prepared for how massive and powerful they are until you are only a foot away, with only one bar in between. I am not going to lie, they were a little scary!”

“Today I got to stand behind the scenes with a keeper and watch the elephant demo. It was incredible. I also gave Siri (elephant) some water from a hose right into her mouth. It was really, really cool”

“Later, we took two alpacas out for a walk, which was really funny to see. They took a while to get on the leash because they are not used to their new enclosure. Once we got to the top of the hill and we could see almost all of the city, even the alpacas seemed breathless. They calmed down and just looked out over the city with us.”

Across the Fence

Across the Fence is the longest running daily farm and home television program in the country, airing Monday-Friday, 12:10—12:30 on WCAX TV Channel 3. Department of Animal Science Professor and UVM Extension Equine Specialist, Dr. Betsy Greene, appeared on the following episodes, which are also available online:

- Horse Safety: On the Farm and on the Road — 5/29/13
- Equine Education: Tips for Training and Riding — 5/6/13
- A Preview to “Everything Equine 2013” — 4/22/13
- UVM Extension Equine Specialist Betsy Greene Highlights the 2013 “Horsin’ Around” Event—an Equine Variety Show — 4/19/13

WCAX host, Judy Simpson, discusses equine education with Dr. Betsy Greene.

Submitted by Dr. Pat Erickson
**Recent ASCI Publications**


VDIA and VFD Fall Conference to be held in September

The Fall Conference of the Vermont Dairy Industry Association (VDIA) and Vermont Feed Dealers (VFD) is being held September 10 and 11 at the Stoweflake in Stowe, Vt. Michele Payn-Knoper will be the featured speaker Tuesday afternoon and Trent Loos will provide the evening banquet keynote and be featured on Wednesday’s program. Michele and Trent are both highly motivational and entertaining advocates. The first 60 to register for the VDIA program will receive a free copy of Michele’s recent book, “No More Food Fights.” Registration through VDIA includes both program days and the evening banquet for $135. Like “Vermont Dairy Industry Association” on Facebook!

Join our team, *Animal Science Walks for Animals* on Sunday, June 9th at 10 am at Battery Park in Burlington as we “Walk for the Animals” to raise money for the Humane Society of Chittenden County. ASCI faculty, staff, students, alumni and their dogs will be carrying the Animal Science banner and will gather for a group photo. At 10:30 am State Representative Jim McCullough presents on Vermont’s new official State Dog! ALL are welcome to participate by registering or making a donation at: [http://www.firstgiving.com/hscc](http://www.firstgiving.com/hscc)

Calendar of Events

**2013**

**June**

Jun. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2013. Foal Days at Morgan Horse Farm Weybridge, VT

Jun. 9, 2013. HSCC 19th Annual Walk for the Animals

**July**

Jul. 4, 2013. Independence Day

Jul. 8-12, 2013. ADSA-ASAS 2013 Joint Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN

**August**

Aug. 26, 2013. First Day of Classes

**September**

Sep. 2, 2013. Labor Day Holiday

Sep. 23, 2013. American Dairy Science Association 26th Discover Conference, Naperville, IL

**October**

Oct. 4-6, 2013. Homecoming & Family Weekend

Oct. 28, 2013. UVM Horse Barn Coop Halloween Barn

Oct. 31, 2013. Morgan Horse Farm Raffle Drawing

**November**

Nov. 25-29, 2013. Thanksgiving Recess

**December**

Dec. 4, 2013. Last Day of Classes

Dec. 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 2013. Exam Days

Dec. 24 & 25, 2013. Christmas Holiday

Dec. 31, 2013. New Year’s Holiday

**2014**

**January**

Jan. 1, 2014. New Year’s Holiday


Jan. 20, 2014. Martin Luther King Holiday