A message from Interim Chair, David Kerr

Dear colleagues, alums, students, and friends,

I’ll begin with a great big congratulation to our recent graduates. It was a lovely day in Burlington for the 2015 commencement ceremony, and I much enjoyed handing out Bachelor of Science degrees to 69 ASCI majors. The university-wide, morning ceremony included a commencement address by Nina Totenberg, the NPR legal affairs correspondent. This was followed at the afternoon CALS ceremony by a heart felt, inspirational address given by CALS alum Kathy Giusti, the founder of the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation. I’m looking forward to hearing of great things from our most recent alums. And, as they leave UVM for new adventures, we prepare to welcome our largest incoming class of 86 ASCI majors.

I noticed today that the walls are up and the first roof trusses ready to be installed on the new dairy teaching and research facility. This is great progress since our ground-breaking ceremony on April 15th. We are on track to move the CREAM herd to the new facility in September. This renovation shows a major commitment by the College and University to maintaining the agricultural mission of Vermont’s Land-Grant College.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of our newsletter. We enjoy keeping you up to date with ASCI news, and look forward to hearing of your news, too. You can send an e-mail to me, or to our editor, Marcia.Purvis@uvm.edu.

And, if you are in the neighborhood on Sunday, June 14th, consider joining us for the Humane Society of Chittenden County’s “Walk for the Animals”.

Have a great summer, and enjoy your animals,
David

Smith’s team lands $7.4 million USDA NIFA CAP grant

Dr. Julie Smith is leading a project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA) to reduce the impact of catastrophic disease outbreaks within the U.S. livestock industry. The anticipated award total of $7.4 million over five years is the largest grant award in the history of UVM’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The project team at UVM, including researchers from five other institutions, is pursuing a multi-disciplinary approach to human behavior change.

Through research-based messaging strategies, educational programs, web modules and other initiatives, the team intends to motivate change designed to protect food-producing livestock from new, emerging or foreign diseases and pests.

The team met for the project kick-off meeting outside of Chicago in April and is keen to get started. Assisting the team as grant project coordinator, Eileen Kristiansen will soon be on board in the office adjacent to Dr. Smith in Terrill Building.
Honors Day Awards presented April 17th

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: Ashley S. Hudson
Presenter: Dr. Julie Smith

George H. Walker Award
Awarded annually by faculty vote to members of the graduating class of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences majoring in Animal and Veterinary Sciences, who exhibit conspicuous merit in the studies pertaining to Dairy Science, especially in those courses relating to the production and/or processing of market milk, and who furthermore exhibit high character and noble traits of leadership.
Recipients: Ashley S. Hudson
Sarah L. Zeger
Rachel A. Lundsted
Presenter: Dr. Norman Purdie

Animal and Veterinary Sciences Faculty Award
In recognition of scholastic performance, outstanding achievements in undergraduate research, or service to the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.
Recipient: Benjamin P. Daggett
Presenter: Dr. David Kerr

The Brett Klein Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is presented to CREAM Student Herd Advisors for summer 2014, fall 2014 and spring 2015 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, for their excellence in teaching and advising the CREAMers, and for passing on the CREAM tradition!
Recipients: Summer ‘14:
Julia G. Balionis
Katherine E. Boucher
Victoria E. Gerald
Joe W. Marchell
Fall ‘14:
Samantha L. Cox
Sarah L. Zeger
Spring ‘15:
Sarah J. Lawson
Carolyne D. Ricardo
Presenter: Dr. Norman Purdie

Brian Hawley Scholarship Award
This award, in memory of Brian D. Hawley, an Animal Science graduate of UVM, is given to a deserving Vermont junior or senior in the Animal and Veterinary Sciences Department.
Recipient: Sean C. Blouin
Presenter: Dr. Norman Purdie

Animal and Veterinary Sciences Faculty Award
In recognition of scholastic performance, outstanding achievements in undergraduate research, or service to the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.
Recipient: Benjamin P. Daggett
Presenter: Dr. David Kerr

Donald J. Balch Award
This award is presented annually to students making the greatest contribution to the equine or companion animal activities of the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.
Recipients: Samantha L. D’Amico
Emma E. Hurley
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: Rachel A. Lundsted
Presenter: Dr. Jenny Wilkinson
Dr. Betsy Greene
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. David Kerr

Recipients:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seniors:</th>
<th>Juniors:</th>
<th>Sophomores:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin P. Daggett</td>
<td>Muriel W. Enders</td>
<td>Jennifer L. Dickinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandy L. Erdei</td>
<td>Sara R. Friedman</td>
<td>Delaney N. Douglas</td>
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<td>Sara J. Forsythe</td>
<td>Melissa A. McCole</td>
<td>Nida M. Janulaitis</td>
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<td>Emma E. Hurley</td>
<td>Lexie N. Merguerian</td>
<td>Brooke Madnick</td>
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<td>Samantha L. Monck</td>
<td>Stephanie C. Morancy</td>
<td>Taylor M. Schoonover</td>
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<td>Laurel K. Saldinger</td>
<td>Alice V. Symington</td>
<td>Sarah N. Scott</td>
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<td>Sarah L. Zeger</td>
<td>Ben B. Wesley</td>
<td>Jen Jen A. Yu</td>
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Distinguished Undergraduate Research

The Distinguished Undergraduate Research Program of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences recognizes students who, in addition to pursuing their regular course of study, conduct original research. 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. It is with pleasure and pride that the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences honors the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences students who participated in this program.

Recipients and Projects:

Mentor: Julie M. Smith, PhD

Samantha L. D’Amico — “Staphylococci Phenotypes and Genotypes are Associated With Different Sources on a Dairy Farm”  
Mentor: John W. Barlow, PhD

Mentor: John W. Barlow, PhD

Emily E. Egolf — “Delineating The Effects of Pasture Diversity on The Fatty Acid Composition of Bovine Milk”  
Mentor: Jana Kraft, PhD

Mandy L. Erdi — “Diversity of Staphylococci Isolated From Flies on Dairy Farms in Vermont:”  
Mentor: Jon W. Barlow, PhD

Joseph W. Marchell — “Staphylococcus Aureus Strains With Antibacterial Activity against Coagulase-Negative Staphylococci Isolated from Vermont Dairy Farms”  
Mentor: John W. Barlow, PhD

Samantha L. Monck — “Reliability of Whole Blood as a Means for Monitoring LPS Response in Bovines: A Comparison to the Use of Fibroblasts and Blood Monocytes”  
Mentor: David E. Kerr, PhD

Susannah M. Stephenson — “Duration of Adenovirus and Foot and Mouth Disease Virus Neutralization Following Vaccination in Cattle”  
Mentor: John W. Barlow, PhD
2015 CALS Commencement

The University of Vermont’s 214th Commencement Ceremony was held on Sunday, May 17th at 8:20 am on the University Green. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ (CALS) 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-nine Animal and Veterinary Sciences majors received their Bachelor of Science degrees.

Barton, Katie Mary
Bishop, Samantha Jane
Burke, Meghan E.
Camerlengo, Maddie *
Cerrentani, Alexandra L.
Cleary, Emma Elisabeth *
Colando, Sarah E. *
Cosentino, Mia A.
Cox, Samantha L.
Daggett, Benjamin Paul
D’Amico, Samantha L.
Dana, Desmond Simonne
Davidson, Chelsea L.
Degelman, Amy Rose

Eckstrom, Korin Marie
Egolf, Emily Elizabeth A.
Eldredge, Michael R.
Erdei, Mandy Liang
Fisher, Tara Marie *
Forsythe, Sara Jane
Fritch, Jennie L.
Gerald, Victoria E.
Gilbreath, Brooke Sarah
Godbey, Savannah Ruth
Goucher, Taylor K.
Hardy, Sophie J.
Harris, Chelsea Olivia *
Hartwell, Shayna Lynn
Hayden, Katy C.
Herber, Matthew Thomas
Herring, Megan Mallory
Hudson, Ashley S.
Jimenez, Jasmine Jeanette
Kane, Natalie A. *
Kasprow, Meredith B.
Knott, Eugene Seng Min
Kotch, Jessica Anne *
Kovacs, Sarah G.
Lawson, Sarah Jane
LeBlanc, Kate Inza-Renee
Lundsted, Rachel A.
Marchell, Joe Wojcicki
Marchmont, Jackie *

Monck, Samantha Leigh
Nelson, Andrew Joseph
Nuzzo, Sean G.
Ortiz, Dana W. *
Paul, Jason A.
Powell, Olivia Grace
Provost, Alyssa A.
Razinger, Tami M.
Rogers, Lilly Irene
Rowley, Brendan Lawrence
Schraldi, Nicholas John
Sheehy, Rebecca Rose
Smith, AnnaJo
Stephens, Emily Kathleen *
Stephenson, Suzie M.
Sunshine, Julio *
Swasey, Megan Ashley
Sylvia, Anna Marie
Turner, Hillary Elizabeth
Vanreeth, Lilee May
Watkin, Kelsey Ruth *
Wheeler, Barbara Ann
White, Ethan R. *
Williams, Marquita Tenesia
Wisniewski, Nicholas Wright
Wright, Alexandria Marie

* December 2014 graduates

Congratulations to all of our 2015 graduates!

ASCI graduate Suzie Stephenson will be attending Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall.

Congratulations to ASCI graduate Sam Scheu who will be attending Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall.
Twelve Animal & Veterinary Sciences students will be attending the following veterinary schools in the fall:
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Iowa State University
- Oregon State
- Tufts University
- University of Florida
- University of Glasgow, Scotland
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of PEI, Canada
- University of Wisconsin
- Virginia-Maryland
- Washington State University

(L to R): Madeleine Hassett, Hillary Turner, Samantha Cox, and Victoria Gerald pose with Faculty Marshall, Dr. Betsy Greene, at the University ceremony line up.

(L to R): Zoe Hraska, Hillary Turner, Chelsea Radley, Victoria Gerald, Samantha Cox, Madeleine Hassett, and Sam D’amico, graduating University of Vermont students, stand near the front row of the commencement ceremony.
Where is Dr. Smith?

Dr. Julie Smith has been on the road in May. First stop: Kansas City for the Animal Agriculture Alliance Stakeholders Summit in Kansas City. She especially enjoyed the presentations by farmers opening their farms to the public in radically transparent ways. Brad Scott whose farm was featured on Undercover Boss and Leah Lentini of Fair Oaks Farm told their stories. One of the best speakers was Cameron Bruett of JBS who talked about sustainability (and diversity) in the beef industry. Dr. Smith highly recommends this meeting to those who are serious about telling their story. The Animal Ag Alliance is “a nonprofit organization that helps bridge the communication gap between farm and fork.” The annual Stakeholders Summit welcomes representatives from farms, ranches, food processors, restaurants, grocery stores, legislators, universities and government agencies; and provides them with accurate information and advice on using the latest tools (e.g., social media) to share agriculture’s story with others. Animal activism is a particular area of interest of the Alliance. This is immediately relevant to instructing undergraduates in Dr. Smith’s Animal Welfare class, and to supporting the dairy industry as the Extension Dairy Specialist in Vermont.

Dr. Smith had to cut short commencement activities to board a jet to Lexington, Kentucky. She took up Alltech’s invitation to attend Rebelation week and gain new perspectives on trends affecting the dairy industry. Over 3,000 people from around the world heard inspirational stories of leadership from Ret. General Colin Powell and motivating stories of innovation within agriculture. Dr. Smith even had a chance to try the Fairlife milk-based drink. Alltech’s story under Pearse Lyon’s leadership is awe-inspiring in its own right.

At the end of May, Dr. Smith attended the Mid-Atlantic Consortium Dairy Extension In-Service. This year’s “MAC conference” focused on dairy beef quality issues including antibiotic residues and animal welfare. Dr. Smith served on the planning committee and moderated a session. The conference has historically provided excellent information applicable to Extension programming and is an opportunity to network with animal scientists in the northeast. The topics of this year’s conference were applicable to Dr. Smith’s Extension and teaching responsibilities.

Dr. Smith heads to Orlando, Florida, in July for the Annual Joint Meetings of the American Dairy Science Association and American Society of Animal Scientists. She will take in sessions on the latest research and an Animal Science teaching symposium. Dr. Smith has been invited to present to the Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals Symposium. The Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals project group conducts research and outreach about Johne’s disease and bovine tuberculosis.

For fun

In June Dr. Smith returns to Ithaca, New York for her 13th, 21st, and 25th Cornell Reunions! This year undergraduate class activities prevail.

Vacation plans are shaping up for later this summer. Tune in next time!

Vermont Breakfast on the Farm scheduled for Saturday, August 22nd

Vermont’s first breakfast on the farm will be hosted by the Vanderweys of Nea Tocht (never thought) farm in Ferrisburgh, Vermont. Modeled after the Michigan program, attendees will enjoy a tasty breakfast then tour the farm. The Vanderweys have adopted a number of the latest technologies in the barn and in the fields. They have been milking with automatic milkers (“robots”) for four years and letting one robot push up feed and another scrape manure. A wind turbine went up earlier this year. Manure is injected using a drag line according to their nutrient management plan. Volunteers are being recruited for a number of education stations and other positions to make the experience educational and enjoyable for all. Contact Julie Smith, Louise Waterman, or Gail Lapierre if you would like to get involved. More info: vermontbreakfastonthefarm.com/
Kerr Lab News

Congratulations to Kerr lab undergraduate, Samantha Monck, who was awarded “Distinguished Undergraduate Research” for her project entitled “Reliability of whole blood as a means of monitoring LPS response in bovines: A comparison to the use of fibroblasts and blood monocytes.” Sam will be heading off in the fall to veterinary school at Colorado State University. A new research project that is being conducted by graduate student Filiz Korkmaz aims to determine if between-animal variation in pre-weaning growth rate of dairy calves is related to epigenetic regulation of their innate immune system. In other words, is poor growth rate the result of a being born with a poor immune system? The first stage of the experiment has documented that considerable variation exists in pre-weaning growth rate of heifer calves reared at Green Mountain Dairy. The next step will be a laboratory assessment of the ability of cells from the calves to respond to immune stimulation. Assisting with the project is recent ASCI graduate, Julio Sunshine, who is working as a part-time technician in the Kerr lab. Aimee Benjamin is writing up her last two papers, which will form the basis of her Ph.D. dissertation. She is certainly getting close to completion of her degree. And, David Kerr, Aimee, and Filiz will be giving presentations of their research data at the American Dairy Science meeting in Orlando, Florida in late July. After that, a bit of R & R before the fall semester begins.

Zhao Lab News

Congratulations to Shun Kitaoka for successfully defending his Ph.D. thesis on April 29th. Shun was sent to the Zhao Lab to study for a Ph.D. degree by Wakunaga Pharmaceutical Co. of Japan in 2011. During the past four years, Shun used C. elegans, a small worm, to develop a new model system to study the mechanism of insulin regulation of glucose uptake. Shun identified the glucose transporter and studied its regulation by insulin/IGF-like signaling in C. elegans. Because of many unique advantages of C. elegans as a model system, such as low cost and easy genetic manipulations, Shun’s work established a novel and powerful model system to help us to understand the mechanism underlying diabetes and to screen chemical compounds for diabetes drug development. Shun will be missed by us, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

While we say goodbye to Shun, we welcome Dr. Yuanshu Zhang to our lab. Dr. Zhang is a Professor in biochemistry at Nanjing Agricultural University of China. She came to our lab as a visiting scholar for six months. Dr. Zhang has active research programs in lactation biology and nutrition at her own university. While we hope it will be beneficial for her to stay in our lab, we also hope to learn from her during her stay.

It was our pleasure to host Dr. Chris Knight’s visit recently. Dr. Knight is currently a Professor of Production Animal Physiology at Copenhagen University. He is also the Chair of the EU COST Action in dairy animal health and welfare and Academic Co-coordinator of the EU Erasmus Mundus MSc education, Food of Life. Chris visited us on April 27th on one of his stops of his North American Tour. During his visit, Chris met many faculty members and had great conversations with graduate students in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. He also gave a seminar entitled “Dairy Animal Health and Welfare: the EU DairyCare Perspective” to the department. We hope Chris enjoyed his visit; we definitely did.

Dr. Zhao will once again spend a good part of his summer in China teaching and carrying out research collaborations at Zhejiang University and will be attending conferences. His collaboration with Zhejiang University has been very fruitful for both sides.

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

Congratulations to Emily Egolf (ASCI, Class of 2015) for successfully defending her Honors College thesis “Delineating the effects of pasture diversity on the fatty acid composition of bovine milk.” Emily has been accepted to veterinary school at Pennsylvania State University for fall admission. Also, congratulations to Hira Haq for receiving UVM’s Summer Research Award for her research project titled “Delineating the effects of a diet comprising of full-fat dairy on the human gut microbiome.”

On April 23rd, undergraduate and graduate students from our lab presented their research data at UVM’s Student Research Conference: Melissa Bainbridge (Ph.D. student) “Feeding rumen-protected echium oil increases the n-3 fatty acid content of milk fat;” Laura Cersosimo (Ph.D. student) “Lactation stage alters the rumen protozoal communities in three breeds of primiparous dairy cattle;” Emily Egolf (ASCI, Class of 2015) “Delineating the effects of pasture diversity on the fatty acid composition of bovine milk;” Hira Haq (Biochemistry, Class of 2015) “Analysis of the phospholipid makeup of study participants as a biomarker of the intake of bioactive fatty acids derived from whole-milk yogurt;” (Co-Advisor: Dr. Craig L. Kien), Frances Iannucci (Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, Class of 2015) “Deeper effects of climate change: the influence of cyanobacterial blooms on fish metabolism;” (Co-Advisor: Dr. Jason Stockwell); and Michael McLane (Biology, Class of 2016) “Bioactive plant lipids affect pancreatic beta cell physiology” (Co-Advisor: Dr. Thomas Jetton). Thank you all and good job!

The lab’s doctoral candidates, Melissa Bainbridge and Laura Cersosimo, both submitted two abstracts which have been accepted and scheduled for oral presentation and poster at the ADSA-ASAS-CSAS Joint Annual Meeting to be held in Orlando in July 2015, and applied for the competitive Northeast SARE Graduate Student Grant. Melissa published her first paper entitled “Lipid-encapsulated echium oil (Echium plantagineum) increases the content of stearidonic acid in plasma lipid fractions and milk fat of dairy cows.” in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.

Dr. Kraft and her colleagues, Drs. Mina Peshavaria and Thomas Jetton (College of Medicine, Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Division), presented preliminary research findings on “Dairy-derived bioactive fatty acids improve pancreatic ß-cell function” and “Plant-derived bioactive lipids impact glucose homeostasis and energy metabolism in mice” at the Experimental Biology conference in March 2015 in Boston, MA. Also in March, Drs. Jetton and Kraft received the Armin Grams Memorial Research Award from UVM’s Center on
Kraft Lab News—continued

Aging supporting a pilot research project that bridges the fields of human nutrition and diabetes with focus on the biology of the aging endocrine pancreas.

The Kraft lab is looking forward to an exciting summer of research. We will host Teyana Adams, an undergraduate student from Central State University, Ohio, for ten weeks investigating the seasonality in fatty acid content of Lake Champlain fish fillets as part of the NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (Interdisciplinary research on human impacts in the Lake Champlain ecosystem - May 31 to August 7). Laura, Melissa, and Dr. Kraft will travel to Orlando, Florida to attend the ADSA-ASAS-CSAS Joint Annual Meeting in mid-July. Other lab goals include conducting research in the field and lab as well as writing manuscripts.

Michael McLane presents his research on bioactive plant lipids.

Dr. Jana Kraft receives “Outstanding Faculty Advisor” award

Dr. Jana Kraft was awarded Outstanding Faculty Advisor from the Graduate Student Senate. This award is for a graduate advisor whose outstanding work ensures that their students get the support they need to be successful. Dr. Kraft was nominated by graduate students Melissa Bainbridge, Laura Cersosimo, and Trevor Gearhart for the incredible support she gives her students and her genuine concern for the well being and professional development of all of her students.

Dr. Kraft holds a B.S. in Nutritional Sciences and a Ph.D. in Nutritional Physiology/Lipid Biochemistry from the University of Jena in Germany. She has been an Assistant Professor in the department since August 2011.

Ph.D. student Melissa Bainbridge with Dr. Kraft.
McKay Lab News

Epigenetics data generated from both bovine and wildlife species have been presented at multiple venues this Spring. Fernando Betancourt and Sydney Friedman both presented posters at the University of Vermont Student Research Conference. Fernando’s poster was titled “Determining Patterns of Methylation in the AMPK Gene Family of Cattle with Extreme Measures of Feed Efficiency.” Sydney’s poster was titled “Investigating Global Methylation Levels in Vermont Bobcat.” Abstracts for both posters can be found at: http://www.uvm.edu/~uvmsrc/.

Hannah Lachance, our laboratory technician, attended the 71st Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in Newport, Rhode Island where she presented a poster titled “Genome-wide epigenetic survey of Vermont bobcat (Lynx rufus) and fisher (Martes pennanti).” The abstract for Hannah’s poster can be found at: http://neafwa.org/html/posters.shtml

This summer Dr. Stephanie McKay will be traveling to Milan, Italy where she has been invited to participate in the Veterinary and Animal Science Days at the University of Milan. Additional information can be found at the following website: http://users2.unimi.it/vas/index.php/vas-days-2015. Our additional plans for the summer include a substantial amount of both laboratory work and manuscript writing.

Visit the McKay Lab website: http://asci.uvm.edu/labs/mckay/

Dr. McKay highlighted in The Register blog

Dr. Stephanie McKay and her Ph.D. student, Bonnie Cantrell were highlighted in The American Simmental Association’s, The Register blog, “Investing in the Next Generation of Animal Breeders.” Written by Jackie Atkins, Ph.D. of the American Simmental Association and Sue Finley of The Midwest Herdsman, they stated: “Dr. Stephanie McKay from the University of Vermont aims to understand the role epigenetics play in cattle temperament. Epigenetics, the modification of expression of genes, can change based on environmental influences like nutrition. Little is known about the epigenetic control of temperament in cattle. Dr. McKay and her student, Bonnie Cantrell, are comparing epigenetic patterns in brain tissue from extremely docile vs. extremely wild Red Angus/Simmental crossed cattle to see if epigenetics plays a role in Temperament.”

Read the complete blog at: https://asasimmental.wordpress.com/2015/02/12/investing-in-the-next-generation-of-animal-breeders/
Greenwood Lab News

Summer research experiments are in full swing in the Greenwood lab. We are very fortunate that two of our undergraduate research students have been awarded prestigious summer scholarships to complete research projects this summer. **Sarah Zeger** was awarded a UVM Undergraduate Summer Research Award, and **Mallory Honan** was awarded the Gilman T. Dedrick Award (Research Internship in Diversified Agriculture). Sarah and Mallory are working together to complete a trial investigating the effect of feeding coffee grounds to dairy cattle on the milk proteome. This work is being completed as part of a larger project in collaboration with **Dr. Jana Kraft’s** lab.

Ph.D. student **Rink Tacoma** is also completing sample collection from a research trial being conducted at the University of New Hampshire by collaborator **Dr. Andre Brito’s** lab. Rink’s research will be focusing on the impact of nutritional manipulation on the bovine milk proteome. Rink will also be delivering an oral presentation outlining some of her previous work at the upcoming American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) Annual Meeting, her presentation is entitled “Characterization of the bovine milk proteome produced by Holstein and Jersey breeds of dairy cows.”

**Sabrina Greenwood** will be outlining work completed by two of her previous Honors students (**Aysha Morrow** and **Reuben Harland**) in the poster sessions at ADSA, the first poster is entitled “Dietary grape marc supplementation alters the milk protein and fatty acid profile produced by pasture-based dairy cattle” and the second is entitled “Dietary grape marc supplementation lowers urinary nitrogen excretion from pasture-based dairy cattle.” We hope to see you there!

Two ASCI faculty receive promotions

Two faculty members in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences were recently promoted. **Dr. David Kerr** was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. Dr. Kerr received his B.S. from McGill University and his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

**Dr. Jenny Wilkinson** was promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer. Dr. Wilkinson received her B.A. from the University of Virginia and her D.V.M. from Cornell University.
Building barns at UVM

The Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new CREAM (Cooperative for Real Education in Agricultural Management) barn was held on April 15th at UVM’s Miller Farm located at 500 Spear Street in South Burlington. The Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Tom Vogelmann, introduced Chuck Ross, Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, who spoke about the importance of a new facility for education and research at UVM, attracting students who represent the future of agriculture and the future of dairy in the state. Interim Chair of the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, David Kerr, spoke about what a great day it is for Animal and Veterinary Sciences to break ground on two new barns; the CREAM barn and a research barn. CREAM student, Eleni Casseri then spoke on how the farm has become a sanctuary from the stress of college classes and how she enjoys hugging a heifer when she gets to the farm. She stated, “CREAM is one of the most rewarding classes I have ever taken and ever will take, as I am learning by doing, and not just sitting in a lecture.” She went on to say how excited she is for the construction of a new barn. “Currently we milk up to 34 cows using four portable milkers. This design was innovative and new when the barn was originally built (50 years ago), but with a new barn, present and future CREAM classes will learn how the modern dairy industry works. As an extremely hands-on class that teaches how real-world agriculture and businesses work, it’s important that we are keeping up with learning relevant dairy practices in today’s ever-changing world.”

(L to R): CREAM advisor Norm Purdie, CALS Dean Tom Vogelmann, former CREAM advisor Jim “Gilly” Gilmore, VT Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Ross, DEW President Donald Wells, and Dept. of Animal & Veterinary Sciences Interim Chair David Kerr break ground on the new barn.

CREAM students participate in the groundbreaking ceremonies. (L to R): Carolyne Ricardo, Audrey Minkin, Alyssa Mau, Hailey Macomber, Eleni Casseri, and Stephanie Morancy.

The foundation begins to take shape on Phase I of a three-phase, $10 million upgrade of the farm—May 4, 2015

As of June 10th, construction is well underway. The $2.55 million, 13,176 square foot teaching barn and milking parlor will accommodate an instructional herd of 50 cows and be completed in mid-September.

Photos courtesy of Jane Kennedy O’Neil
Former ASCI chair receives CALS Outstanding Alumni Award

Dr. Karen Plaut (’81), Former Chair of the Animal Science Department was recognized with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ (CALS) Outstanding Alumni Award at the CALS Alumni & Friends Dinner held on May 9, 2015.

Dr. Plaut joined the UVM Animal Science faculty in 1990, was successful in her teaching and research role, and accepted the Chair position in March of 2000. She has since served as Chair of Animal Science at Michigan State University (2005-2010), and is currently an Associate Dean of Research at Purdue University (2010-present).

Dr. Betsy Greene noted “it was amazing how easy it was to gather support letters from each and every place where Karen has served, regardless of the role...as a peer, a colleague, or a boss, Karen has been effective, supportive, and creative. She believes in the Land Grant University mission, and she believes in creating opportunities for her people.” Michigan State colleagues described Karen as one of the most energetic, thoughtful and intelligent people we have ever had the privilege of working with; while a Purdue faculty member highlighted Karen’s efforts to facilitate all faculty in accessing resources to more effectively do their work.

Dr. John Bramley, former ASCI Department Chair, CALS Dean, UVM Provost, and Acting President had the following accolades for Karen:

“Karen Plaut is simply one of the very best, most gifted, thorough, hardworking and talented researcher collaborators I ever had the privilege to work with....She has proved herself to be a talented and thoughtful administrator. She was a great advocate on behalf of the department and while she built effectively on the progress made, she was also innovative. It was a sad loss to UVM when she left, but almost inevitable that she would move to a larger stage that could provide her the greater opportunity and resources she warranted.”

VAAA Makes Special Presentation at CALS Alumni Banquet

Glenn Rogers, retired UVM Extension Professor and winner of the 2015 Sinclair Cup, was presented a pullover with the newly designed Vermont Association of Agricultural Agents (VAAA) logo in recognition for his state and national leadership (President, National Association of County Agricultural Agents, 2005) in Extension. Dr. Betsy Greene, past President of VAAA and former national Board member of the NACAA, presented the pullover on behalf of all VAAA members: “the boots on the ground” extension professionals who serve Vermont agricultural stakeholders and clientele with meaningful and impactful programming.
My internship at HSCC

There was no knowing what to expect when walking through those doors at the Humane Society of Chittenden County on my first day as the Medical Intern. However, with my main goals of obtaining skills in basic veterinary care and learning about the intricacies of a not-for-profit shelter environment, I can easily say that my experience at HSCC far exceeded my expected goals.

HSCC quickly gave me a sense of place. With the daily tasks of administering the scheduled boosters and oral medications, assisting with restraint and intake of animals and their necessary medical procedures like blood draws and urine collection, updating medical folders and computer records, and being responsible for the general upkeep and care of the med room and the animals in it, I felt a strong sense of purpose, and that for me was huge.

As an animal science student intending to go to veterinary school, my sights were often only set for admission into vet school, all together forgetting about the breadth of the animal science field itself and the many places this degree could take you. My future undergraduate degree went from being a minor detail in my path to a DVM, to a major accomplishment and gateway to a wide array of experiences.

Along with the usual responsibilities listed above, every day at the Humane Society is a surprise and a new learning experience. The staff feels like family and everybody helps and contributes to all aspects of the operation. Although the internship gave me indispensable skills and knowledge on animal medicine, restraint, and behavior, the complex inner workings of an animal shelter, and how to communicate effectively to co-workers and the public, it also taught me the importance of strong and supportive relationships among co-workers. Seeing animals find a home and the people find their new best friends is the end result of a lot of blood, sweat, and tears that go into an organization like HSCC and it takes very special people to make the gears turn. The staff at HSCC are some of the most caring, courageous, and determined people out there and the obstacles they are forced to face make it possible for second chances and I’ve had the experience of a lifetime being part of such an cohesive group of people. My few months at the Humane Society of Chittenden County not only prepared me for life in the world of Animal Science, but also for life in general.

For any student interested in learning vital veterinary procedures surrounded by amazing people in a very unique setting, the medical internship offered by HSCC every semester may be the thing for you. It will completely transform your scope of the field, teach you vital lessons in life, challenge your emotions, better your communication skills, and increase your awareness of all the hard work and resources needed to keep these animals alive and well while trying to find them a forever home. Not to forget, it will also challenge your self-control, as you may fall in love with many animals brought through the door. (My self control was defeated the day I brought home Bella).

The most important tip I can give future interns is you need to maintain a good balance of emotion. Although there are plenty of happy times at HSCC, it is also relatively common for limits to be pushed, and knowing how to maintain composure is essential. Another important tip is to talk to your co-workers. They will happily answer any questions, chat about life, or be a general support system and they do so in a way that makes it seem like you are talking to family. 100% recommend this internship to anybody looking for an experience of a lifetime.
My self-designed internship — sheep breeding

For students at UVM who are going into agriculture as a career, it can be difficult to find courses that provide technical skills which will be useful in the field (literally, in the field!). This 2015 spring semester, Fran Kinghorn helped me achieve internship credit and hands-on learning in sheep breeding, a course not offered at UVM. In order to scale up the lamb operation I work with in southern Vermont, and do it well, we need clear breeding goals and an intentional program for our flock, but I knew nothing about sheep breeding.

The animal breeding course offered in the ASCI department could be a great fit if I plan to work in a genetics lab or with artificial insemination, but I simply want to farm after graduation and know how to properly shepherd and breed our flock of sheep. Hence, my goals in this internship were to create a preliminary sheep-breeding program for our sheep at Someday Farm, establish a record-keeping system, and a holistic management plan for our sheep for the next five years.

My three “teachers” in this internship have been Chet Parsons (retired UVM Extension Livestock Specialist and Poll-Dorset producer at Parsons Farm), Joe Emenheiser (current UVM Extension Livestock Specialist, Suffolk sheep breeder, and ex-professor of animal breeding at VA-Tech), and Kathy Boyden (of Kindhorn Farm, producer of Registered pure Icelandic Sheep).

Throughout the semester my work consisted of: farm and office visits with each of the mentors; attending the Vermont Grazing Association Annual Conference and the NOFA-VT Winter Conference (workshops on sheep production); working with Kathy on three separate occasions, helping with copper, cobalt and selenium boluses and injections, CD/T vaccinations, and shearing. Alongside the internship, I also was helping to manage our sheep at Someday Farm, especially around lambing.

Having access to three very different perspectives on sheep breeding have been the most beneficial pieces for my short curriculum on sheep breeding. From Kathy I have learned how to organically manage registered purebred breeding stock of a heritage breed – her system relies on top quality nutrition as preventative health care. Proper nutrition provides maximum performance and positive environmental effects to the flock’s existing genes, helping her breeding stock’s fertility increase and lamb growth optimal, for example. Chet’s operation is also a purebred flock of Poll Dorset sheep which he has been selecting for good mothering, high quality meat production on pasture, and disease resistant and resilient genes for 30 years. To some extent, Chet lets natural selection take its course on his flock and does minimal micromanaging of his genetics. Chet’s flock is mostly closed, except for buying in new rams every two years to maintain genetic diversity of his flock.

Joe has a larger view of the national and international sheep breeding industry, and animal genetics. These overarching concepts clarify my goals for our flock. We are going to be producing primarily for the meat market, therefore it will make the most financial sense to start as commercial producers buying in terminal crossed lambs for meat, and slowly incorporating purebred breeding stock into our system. Our long-term goal is to be able to produce crossbred lambs from our own breeding stock’s terminal crosses.

Seeing and working on other operations has contributed the most to the development of my own objectives for our flock at Someday Farm. Sometimes it feels like the more you learn, the less you know, and I have come to realize how much more complex the animal breeding world is now that I have begun to delve into it. However, I also feel more focused and prepared for our own breeding program in producing the best grass-fed lamb in all of Vermont! I would encourage UVM to offer a course in applied animal breeding, or for self-motivated ASCI students to pursue internships through the hundreds of willing agricultural mentors in the state of Vermont.
Everything Equine and Canine

The twelfth annual Everything Equine and Canine event provided Vermonters and beyond an excellent array of educational demonstrations and seminars for both horses and canines. Our headliner was a renowned expert in equine cognitive learning and behavior, Dr. Andrew McLean, coming from Australia to share his knowledge. He worked with Morgans from Miner Institute and Thoroughbreds from After the Track in Hinesburg, VT to show great strategies to address training challenges head on with horses in hand and under saddle.

The first day involved “dealing with problems” such as horses shying, not listening to the handler/rider, difficulty loading into the trailer, and any other issues which arose in the arena. It is so much more useful for an audience to see how professionals work with horses and handlers when “things are not going right,” and it takes courage for the handlers/riders to be put into that situation in front of a crowd. Many demonstrations show the methods of the expert clinicians, but the horse/handler combinations are very experienced in public settings, so the audience doesn’t see how to handle situations when things aren’t working. Hats off to Karen Lassell and Ginny Iverson and their people for bringing in their “inexperienced” horses to allow us to put Andrew’s methods to the test in a public venue. Everyone present learned something to take home and apply to their own equine situation, but it was amazing to see how the horses responded and had improved during their demonstrations on the second day.

The statewide water quality issues and impact on the equine industry were covered in a few different presentations including “Water Quality Issues Affecting All Horse Owners” (Laura DiPietro, VT Agency of Ag) and “Q & A and Updates on Vermont Equine Issues Affecting You (Dr. Betsy Greene). Dr. Karin Bump came from Cazenovia College to share her expertise in “Tips for Addressing Potential Equine Neglect/Abuse Situations,” and “College Options for Horse Crazy High Schoolers.” There were nutritional, veterinary, health, welfare, and many more topics covered for both horse and canine at this very successful weekend. If you want to see a list of the seminars and demonstrations presented as well as other articles and activities, go to http://issuu.com/4legsandatail/docs/everythingequine_canine.

Submitted by Dr. Betsy Greene

This event has been such an effective way to bring professionals and educators with special talents, skills, and abilities together to work with stakeholders and clientele. The consumer trade show and the educational seminars and demonstrations complement each other and provide UVM Equine Extension a great chance to get important information in front of a larger audience, thus maximizing impact opportunities. Champlain Valley Exposition, Guys Farm and Yard, Horseworks, Show Me the Biscuit, and many more have been key participants in this excellent collaboration of industry and education.

Dr. Andrew McLean demonstrates positive methods for horse behavior problem solving.

Dr. Andrew McLean discusses recognizing and responding to equine behavior cues.

Kids meet one of the disc dogs and trainer Ashley Porter from Show Me the Biscuit.
Horsin’ Around on Saturday Night

UVM Equine Extension and Chittenden County Farm Bureau paired up once again to produce the Horsin’ Around on Saturday Night evening “edu-tainment” show at the Everything Equine and Canine event. The goal of the evening performance is to showcase local breeds, disciplines, sports, and activities of both equine and canine species, as well as provide an enjoyable outing for the audience. Half of the net proceeds go to Chittenden County Farm Bureau to support Vermont equine programs and projects throughout the state. This activity has underwritten the Farm Bureau Horse Farm of Distinction award program since its inception.

This year we had an excellent jumping demonstration by our 2015 Horse Farm of Distinction winner, John Bourgoin and his student Allison Henson. They demonstrated a speedy version of preparing the horse and rider for cross country jumping challenges by setting up trickier “questions” for the horse and rider. The audience enjoyed watching as the horse and rider negotiated higher and odd shaped fences with tighter turns.

Corporal Dave Dewey and Canine Officer Tazor gave several demonstrations of the different trainings and activities of the canine unit. From “bad guy apprehension” to recall when he surrenders, Dave and Tazor impressed the audience with the different skills and training needed to perform their job. We had a bit of fun during the jump setup period when Tazor alerted to drugs in a 2014 Everything Equine yellow lunch bag, which had been planted near a jump stand in the arena. Dr. Greene “happened” to be near the jump when Tazor found the drugs and Corporal Dewey pulled 3-4 bags of marijuana out, and it didn’t help that Mary Fay (UVM 4-H) was in the audience yelling “she’s guilty!”

The versatility of the Vermont State Animal was demonstrated with a riding demonstration from the UVM Morgan Horse Farm and a driving demonstration with 17 year old 4-H member Katie Mayer and her horse ShangriLa. Other demonstrations included dog obedience, Frisbee, agility, and equine trick training, western events, and children showing off their skills while working with horses from the Center for America’s Horse.

Canine Officer Tazor and Corporal Dave Dewey demonstrate a drug search with Betsy Greene.

A group of Mastiffs prepare for their version of the Kentucky Derby with jockeys attached to their backs.

The grand finale was a Vermont version of the upcoming Kentucky Derby using giant Mastiff puppies with little jockeys strapped on their backs. As the race began, mayhem ensued when a fan (breeder Pam Bartlett) ran onto the track and disrupted the race. Fortunately, Corporal Dewey was onsite and helped restore order and detain the fan. Everyone enjoyed the show, and the proceeds will be put to good use funding equine related programs and projects in Vermont.

Allison Henson on her Irish Sporthorse mare Jesea.

Submitted by Dr. Betsy Greene
Ivana Iguana: Reptiles and more!

Ivana Iguana is a special little place in the Old North End. It’s not a large pet store, and it’s definitely not a petting zoo where people can enter and handle animals. It’s a purple house on LaFountain Street with a pretty awesome secret: It has housed a caiman, turtles, tortoises, snakes, iguanas, water dragons, and probably any other species of reptile or amphibian you can think of.

JoAnn Nichols, the owner of this purple house, is my supervisor. She has worked with exotics and wildlife for 15 to 20 years, and she also works with the animal community of Chittenden County. She catches feral cats and brings them to shelters, she works with the Humane Society of Chittenden County, and she’s the Animal Control Officer of South Burlington. Not only is her experience immense regarding animals, but she has a plethora of connections within the animal community. This makes her a valuable resource for getting started within the animal community, and an incredible resource for learning about animals ranging from a raccoon out in daylight to a shrew digging into someone’s home.

As an intern I spent a lot of time working with exotics, such as an iguana, a green water dragon, a tortoise, a snapping turtle, a box turtle, and a soft shell. Each animal has its own requirements for a healthy life, ranging from needing a certain temperature and humidity to maintain a healthy metabolism to needing a bit more hands on time, such as feeding with tongs or putting on a shell strengthener. Every enclosure needed to be cleaned and every animal had to be fed with fruits and salad leaves or green worms, earthworms, or pinkies. I’ve learned more about reptiles and how to work with them, as well as the amount of work that needs to be put into taking care of these exotic animals. They’re not cats or dogs; they can’t be touched and handled all of the time. They require a clean environment and their body language can be entirely different from normal domestic pets. I’ve learned more about reading their body language and keeping a close eye on their behavior, activity level, and even the color of their scales.

For anyone interested in this internship, get ready for a lot of new experiences! Keep an open mind to random calls or other activities throughout the day, and ask questions! The more you ask, the more you will get out of the time you spend with reptiles! Even if an animal isn’t there, JoAnn has a huge collection of books, and you have the option and opportunity to add to the animals’ enclosures, so come with a creative and open mind to any possibility. JoAnn is an amazing person, and every day there’s something new, so have fun, and take advantage of every experience!

Learn more about internships and career opportunities: http://asci.uvm.edu/intern/
Or email our Internship Coordinator, Fran Kinghorn: fran.kinghorn@uvm.edu
Pre-Vet Club has been very busy this year. It has been our goal to increase member involvement and provide more activities to increase our understanding of the profession we are hoping to enter. We also had a chance to take a few minutes away from our rigorous course work and have some fun.

We began the school year with a trip to the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine to attend the 2014 WAZE (Wildlife Aquatics Zoo Exotics) Symposium. This was a fantastic opportunity to hear from experts in the field about topics ranging from fish anesthesia to how whale snot could save the belugas. Some of us also had the chance to participate in wet labs, and learned about anatomy through comparative necropsies of wild birds. While at the event we chatted with some UVM alumni who are currently first year vet students, and also received a tour of the vet college campus.

Throughout the year we have had the honor of hearing from several guest speakers in the veterinary field and beyond. A few of these included the ever-popular Corporal Redmond and his canine officer Kaiser. We also heard from Dr. Wilcke about one heath, Dr. Joe Klopfenstein about large animal medicine and the future of the veterinary profession, and Dr. Kinney about fractures in small animal medicine. Many of our students also led meetings talking about everything from their internships to interesting case studies.

This spring has been a whirlwind of events as well. After a quick weekend in Ithaca, New York to visit the Cornell Veterinary School open house, we were busy preparing for two very successful suture labs taught by Dr. Joel English and our very own Dr. Ruth Blauwiekel. Students had the chance to practice their suture skills while fixing lacerations on bananas, chicken meat, and pig skin.

We ended the year by putting on a very successful Vet Sci program for some 4-H students. This was an opportunity for us to share what we have learned in our classes and other veterinary endeavors with 4-H students. The program began with a mink dissection where we taught the students an overview of general anatomy. The next day we taught them about muscle action in a chicken wing, suturing, and vaccination. We ended the program with a day at the Miller Farm with several different animal stations. At the end we gave the students some insight on ways they can get involved with animals and also what it is like to be a pre-vet student. Thank you to all the UVM students who helped make this event so successful, we look forward to running it again next year.

We are excited that the summer is finally here. Good luck to those applying to veterinary school, we hope that pre-vet club activities have helped you in some way in preparing for this somewhat daunting task. To our graduating seniors attending vet school this fall, best of luck and we expect to hear from you next year. For all returning students, we look forward to seeing you next year on Monday nights at 6pm, and are excited for the new opportunities that the year will bring.
The UVM Morgan Horse Farm was approached by the Burlington Free Press to produce an article for the weekly VT History column. The farm’s article was published on June 5, 2015 both online and in print, and featured many archival photos of the US Morgan Horse Farm when the property was run by the Department of Agriculture. The photo above is of visitors admiring one of the Government Morgans in 1934.

The criteria for selecting the raffle foal is as follows: the animal is an exceptional example of the UVM Morgan Horse Farm product, was born early in the season to maximize promotion, and its dam is well suited to the public process. This year’s raffle colt is **UVM X-Finity** (UVM Abington x GLB Infinity). Tickets may be purchased at the Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge or by calling 802-388-2011.

Casey Pucket (Lusby, MD) is riding UVM Devana (UVM Tennyson x UVM Wintry). UVM Devana spent the spring semester at the UVM Barn on Spear Street to be used in their lesson program.

The 2015 Equine Reproduction Workshop was a success. More than twenty participants experienced the in-depth education of equine reproduction management techniques.
Another successful year in the UVM Horse Barn has come to a close. The UVM Dressage Team’s integration into the horse barn this year was a huge success. The team members brought lots of energy and enthusiasm into a thriving and active horse barn. Our annual spring event, the Easter Egg Hunt, attracted hundreds of young kids and their families, once again bringing UVM and the local community together. As we say goodbye to ASCI graduates Katie Barton (Coop 2011-2015), Sam D’Amico (Coop 2011-2015), Rachel Lundsted (Coop 2014-2015), and Kayla Silver (Coop 2014-2015), we look forward to welcoming new students and horses next fall.

Visit the Horse Barn Coop website: http://asci.uvm.edu/horsebarn/

Equus TA Rachel Lunsted teaches the parts of the horse to interested Equus students: Sarah Zeger, Jennie Fritch, Chelsea Radley, Tory Gerald and Adam Miller. Dr. Jen Dulin helps Kate LeBlanc feel for the distal intertarsal joint in the horse’s lower hock, a common area for osteoarthritis and joint injection. Dr. Jenny Wilkinson’s Lameness in Horses course gives students hands-on experience diagnosing and treating different causes of musculoskeletal injury. Dr. Randy Frantz ultrasounds Teddy’s left front suspensory ligament, a chronic issue for one of UVM’s longest running ASCI horses. Students in Dr. Jenny Wilkinson’s Lameness in Horses course, including Megan Herring, Sarah Lawson, and Sammi Bishop, observe this common diagnostic technique.
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 and Veterinary Sciences Professor and UVM Extension Equine Specialist, Dr. Betsy Greene, appeared on the following episodes, which are also available online:

- Human-Elephant Learning Programs (and Andrew McLean, HELP Foundation) — 5/4/15
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VF0pMKU-3sI#action=share
- A Unique Approach to Classical Horse Training (and Andrew McLean, Australian Equine Behavior Center) — 4/30/15
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0T61Nu5rCU#action=share
- A Preview of the 12th Annual Everything Equine and Canine — 4/20/15
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFjkFLhEfAY#action=share
- Upcoming Equine Events: Horsin’ Around and Extreme Trail Competition (and Doug Smith, Vermont Horse Council) — 4/17/15
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbvKPcbJeqk#action=share
- Miner Institute and the University of Vermont: Collaborating in Animal Science Education (along with Karen Lassal and Kristen Anderson of the Miner Institute) — 5/28/15
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9_4H8ho7Gs

WCAX host Judy Simpson discusses the 12th Annual Everything Equine and Canine event with Dr. Betsy Greene and her Jack Russell Terrier, Greta.

Dr. Greene’s meetings and presentations

Equine Science Society Meeting in St. Petersburg, FL (May, 2015)


Pulec, K.E., K.P. Anderson, C. Skelly, C.M. Brady, B.J. McIntosh, G.A. Shelle, A. Griffin, and E.A. Greene. 2015. “Effectiveness of eXtension online webinars as educational tools for current horse industry issues.

International Society of Equitation Sciences Annual Meeting in British Columbia, Canada (August, 2015)


Waste to Worth Conference in Seattle, WA (March, 2015)


Recent Peer-reviewed ASCI Publications


Pellegrini and Kitaoka pass defenses

On March 19th doctoral candidate Suzanne Ishaq Pellegrini defended her Ph.D. dissertation, “A comparative analysis of the moose rumen microbiota and the pursuit of improving fibrolytic systems.” Sue’s dissertation provides some novel data on microorganisms found in the moose rumen, including the isolation of some novel bacterial species characterized genetically and phenotypically. The fibrolytic activity of these organisms was a key phenotype of interest in her research.

A Justin Morrill Honors Scholar, Dr. Pellegrini received her B.S. in Animal Science with a minor in Nutrition and Food Sciences from UVM in 2007. Before pursuing her Ph.D., she worked as a technician at a local small animal hospital for three years. She has accepted a post-doctoral position at Montana State University working in the lab of Dr. Carl Yeoman on bioinformatics analysis for microbiome projects.

Shun Kitaoka successfully defended his dissertation, “Facilitative glucose transporter and its regulations by insulin/IFG-like signaling in Caenorhabditis elegans” on April 29th. Dr. Kitaoka received his B.S. in Biology and his M.S. in Biological Science at Okayama University. He was a research scientist at BioResearch Laboratory, BioBusiness Development at Wakunaga Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. before pursuing his Ph.D. in Dr. Feng-Qi Zhao’s lab. He will be returning to Japan to continue his scientific research at Wakunaga Pharmeceutical Co., Ltd.

Aimee Benjamin receives graduate teaching award

ASCI graduate student Aimee Benjamin received the 2015 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Graduate Teaching Award. The purpose of the NACTA Graduate Student Teaching award is to recognize and award graduate students who excel as teachers in the agricultural disciplines. Tom Vogelmann, CALS Dean, presented the award to Aimee saying, “Aimee has been chosen as this year’s winner, and even though there were many highly deserving graduate students who were nominated, Aimee rose to the top!”

Congratulations to Aimee on this well-deserved award.
Please Support UVM Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences

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https://alumni.uvm.edu/foundation/giving/online/

Please specify Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences in the “Other” category.

Calender of Events

2015

June
Jun. 18-19, 2015. The 21st annual Boston Bacterial Meeting (BBM2014) will take place at the Harvard University Science Center.

July
Jul. 3, 2015. Fourth of July Holiday
Jul. 12-16, 2015. The 2015 Joint Annual Meetings of the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) and the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) will be held in Orlando, FL

August
Aug. 31, 2015. First Day of Classes

September
Sep. 7, 2015. Labor Day Holiday
Sep. 22-23, 2015. Vermont Dairy Industry Association and Vermont Feed Dealers Fall Conference in Stowe, VT

October
Oct. 9-11, 2015. UVM Homecoming & Family Weekend, Horse Barn and CREAM Open House at UVM Farm
Oct. 26, 2015. UVM Horse Barn Co-op Halloween Barn
Oct. 31, 2015. Morgan Horse Farm Raffle Drawing

November
Nov. 23-27, 2015. Thanksgiving Recess

December
Dec. 9, 2015. Last Day of Classes
Dec. 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 2015. Exam Days