

June 26, 2007

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Dr. Mark Wise will be stepping down as Head of the Department of Animal and Range Sciences on June 30, 2007. He has accepted a position with the newly established Southwest Center for Health, Food Safety and Biosecurity on campus, but his primary appointment will remain within the department.

Faculty have asked Dr. Tim Ross, assistant department head, to serve as acting department head. A search committee will be established and applications for an in-house interim department head will be accepted until August 1. Once an interim candidate is selected, that individual will serve a reasonable time in that capacity at which time the department will determine if the interim head shall serve in a permanent position.

PUBLICATIONS

Recent departmental publications include:

“Influence of exogenous triiodothyronine (T₃) on fecal shedding of *Escherichia coli* O157 in cattle,” Tom Edrington, Todd Callaway, **Dennis Hallford**, Robin Anderson, and David Nisbet. *Microbial Ecology* 53:664-665.

“Herbicidal control of locoweed,” **Kirk McDaniel**, Tracey Sterling, and **Shanna Ivey**, In: *Poisonous Plants: Global Research and Solutions* (K. E. Panter, T. L. Wierenga, and J. A. Pfister). CABI Publishing, Wallingford, Oxon, UK.

TRAVELS

Sam Fernald attended the RGB1 meeting in South Padre Island, Texas on May 13-16.

Mark Petersen, Travis Mulliniks, and Mike Horvath attended the WRCC-110 meeting in Miles City, Montana on May 20-24.

Tim Ross traveled to Corvallis, Oregon on May 30-June 6 to attend the WERA-39 sheep meeting and the Veterinary Medicine Advisory Council meeting.

Attending the W-112 regional research project meeting in Fort Collins, Colorado on June 3-6 were Dennis Hallford, Dean Hawkins, and Kim Kane.

Jason Turner and Shanna Hardin attended the Equine Science Society Symposium in Hunt Valley, Maryland on June 5-8. Shanna placed 2nd in the undergraduate student research competition for her paper, “Effect of dietary capsaicin on

immune function and health of horses.”

Milt Thomas was in San Luis Obispo, California on June 15-17 for the West Coast Brangus Breeders meeting. He will attend the WERA-1 (Beef Cattle Breeding) conference in Honolulu, Hawaii on June 26-July 2.

Kelly Allred and Robert Strahan will be participating at the Botany and Plant Biology Conference on July 5-12 in Chicago, Illinois.

The American Society of Animal Science meetings will be held July 9-12 in San Antonio, Texas. Those attending are Dennis Hallford, Jason Turner, Milt Thomas, Pablo Luna, and Ashley Garrett.

WSASAS

The Western Section, American Society of Animal Science meeting was held June 19-22 in Moscow, Idaho. Attending the conference were Clint Löest, Sergio Soto-Navarro, Dennis Hallford, Dean Hawkins, Tim Ross, Shanna Ivey, Clay Mathis, Manny Encinias and graduate students, Raed Halalsheh, Dustin Yates, Garrett Gilliam, Beau Schilling, Travis Mulliniks, Mike Horvath, Justin Waggoner, Alfonso Islas, Ely Camacho, and Jillian Benavidez.

Papers and posters presented were: (*denotes presenter):

“Reproductive performance in early postpartum Rambouillet ewes and prepubertal ewe lambs treated with intravaginal progesterone,” Jillian Benavidez*, Peggy Hendricks, Rachel Knight, Leslie Abercrombie, and Dennis Hallford (competition)

“Nitric oxide and polyamine response to prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ in the early and mid-stage ovine corpus luteum,” Beau Schilling* Kim Kane, Lane Dixon, Reyna Speckmann, and Dean Hawkins (competition)

“Influence of slice baling alfalfa hay on digestive function of steers consuming a feedlot finishing diet,” F. Loya-Olguin*, Manny Encinias, Derek Walker, Nathan Elam, L. Avendaño-Reyes, and Sergio Soto-Navarro

“Effects of bacterial endotoxin and dietary protein on serum hormones and plasma amino acids in growing steers,” Justin Waggoner*, Clint Löest, Jason Turner, Clay Mathis, Kim Kane, Liang Chen, Dennis Hallford and Mark Petersen

“Impacts of supplemental glucogenic precursors and cow age on postpartum range cow performance,” Rachel Endecott*, Shad Cox, and Mark Petersen

“Use of methylglyoxal as a tool in predicting ruminal nitrogen status,” Mike Horvath*, Shad Cox, Mark Petersen, and Shanna Lodge-Ivey (poster)

“Effects of conjugated tannins on forage ensiling and in vitro ruminal fermentation,” Raed

Halalsheh*, Hilary Sullivan, Tim Ross, and Mark Petersen (poster)

“Prevalence of *Salmonella* and *E. coli* O157:H7 in large herd dairies in southwestern United States and northern Mexico,” Cruz Martinez, Tom Edrington, Jack Thomas, Tim Ross*, Sergio Soto-Navarro, Reid Redden, Brandon Herron, and Dustin Yates

“Low-input pasture backgrounding system is more profitable through harvest than high-input drylot system,” Clay Mathis*, Shad Cox, Mark Petersen, Clint Löest, Rachel Endecott, and Manny Encinias (**APPLIED SCIENCE AWARD**)

“Effects of supplementation of Tasco-EX on infertility in young male goats experiencing heat stress,” **Dustin Yates***, Mike Salisbury, and H. Anderson

“Serum thyroxine, triiodothyronine and IGF-1 correlate with postweaning growth and carcass traits in lambs,” C. A. Ayala, J. D. Estrada, G. A. Lara, F. A. Rodriguez-Almeida, J. A. Ramirez-Godinez, **Dennis Hallford**, and G. N. Aguilar (poster)

“Utilization of corn gluten meal by heifers as a self-fed supplement,” Travis Mulliniks, Shad Cox, Jason Sawyer, R. Worley, and Mark Petersen (poster)

“Effects of tallow supplementation to steers grazing wheat pastures on grazing and feedlot finishing performance,” Alfonso

Islas*, Todd Edwards, and Sergio Soto-Navarro (poster)

NEUMANN COMPETITION

Three students participated in the 23rd annual A. L. Neumann Scientific Paper Competition for Animal Science Graduate Students on June 12. Beau Schilling, a master’s student working with Dean Hawkins, was first with his paper “Nitric oxide and polyamine response to prostaglandin F_{2α} in the early and mid-stage ovine corpus luteum.” Others participating were Jillian Benavidez (“Reproductive performance in early postpartum Rambouillet ewes and prepubertal ewe lambs treated with intravaginal progesterone”) and Ashley Garrett (“Promoter region of the bovine growth hormone receptor (GHR) gene: Resequencing SNP detection, and association with performance traits in Brangus bulls”).

ETC.

Milt Thomas has been elected as a Director-at-Large of the American Society of Animal Science for a three-year term.

Richard Dunlap, animal science graduate, has been hired as senior research associate at the Corona Range Livestock Research Center, filling the position formerly held by Mike Rubio. His brother, Luther, began as Ag Agent in Coleman County, Texas on June 1.