TRAVELS

Laurie Abbott gave an invited talk on “The future of rangeland education (US Perspective) to the Texas Section of the Society for Range Management at their Binational Symposium on Borderland Conservation: Two Countries, One Cause on October 7 in Marfa, Texas.

Amy Ganguli met with Deputy Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Butch Blazer, and other USFS/RMRS employees in Albuquerque on October 16.

Francesca Melgar, animal science undergraduate and Margaret Garcia, animal science Master’s student working with Eric Scholljegerdes, attended the 2014 Latinos in Agriculture Leaders Conference in Grapevine, Texas on October 17-19.

Shanna Ivey, Katelin Marchetti and Allison Salazar, Master’s students in animal science working with Dr. Ivey, attended the American Society of Microbiology Conference in San Antonio, Texas on October 18-21.

Eric Scholljegerdes and Shad Cox traveled to Kingsville, Texas on October 22-26 to attend the Conference on Ag Sustainability at the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management.

TOP 5

The NMSU Animal Science graduate program has been ranked Number 5 in the nation by graduateprograms.com. The department received a score of 8.83 out of 10 (10 being the highest) as voted on by graduate student ratings and reviews. Fifteen ranking categories are assigned to each graduate program and include topics such as academic competitiveness, career support, financial aid, and quality of network. Complete standings can be found at http://www.graduateprograms.com/top-animal-science-colleges/.

C4C GRANT

Ryan Ashley received funding from the Cowboys for Cancer Research Foundation for his proposal titled “Understanding the role of membrane progesterone receptor alpha signaling in breast cancer.” The overall goal of this project is to advance understanding of the influence of membrane progesterone receptors on breast cancer biology.

URC FAIR

Animal and Range Sciences faculty and students participating in
the University Research Council Fair on October 3 were Dr. Amanda Ashley (“Therapeutic targets for doxorubicin resistant breast cancer”); Colleen Buck (“Effects of ad libitum supplement containing increasing levels of microalgae, *Scenedesmus sp.*, on site and extent of digestion in beef heifers consuming a forage-based diet,” M.S. student working with Dr. Eric Scholljegerdes); and Brandon Smythe (“Behavioral responses of cattle under naturally-occurring population of horn flies (Diptera:Musciidae)” and “Query-driven database of registered pesticides for management of animal ectoparasites in New Mexico”, Ph.D. student working with Dr. Mark Wise).

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS**

The 2014 Distinguished Alumnus from the Department of Animal and Range Sciences is Mr. Pete Gnatkowski who currently owns and manages Hall-Gnatkowski, Inc. in Carrizozo, NM. Pete received his BS degree in Animal Science in 1972 and a Master of Arts in AG EXT ED in 2004. He began his long career of service to NMSU, the Cooperative Extension Service, and the citizens of New Mexico in 1975 as the Otero County 4-H Agent. At the time of his retirement in 2012, Pete had been the Agriculture/4-H Agent in Lincoln County since 1999. He and his wife Sarah and their children continue to operate a successful cattle and sheep ranch north of Carrizozo. Highlights of his service include: Superintendent of the New Mexico State Fair Wool & Mohair Show and President of the New Mexico Wool Grower Association. His efforts have been recognized by numerous notable awards including: Corriente Cowbells Cattleman of the Year, NMSU Meritorious Service Award, National Association of County Agricultural Agents Distinguished Service Award, the New Mexico Wool Growers Association Sheepman of the Year Award, and perhaps most importantly the Canyon Cowbells Father of the Year Award. Pete has had a remarkable career and we are delighted to have him as our Distinguished Alumnus for 2014. A reception honoring Pete will be held on Friday, November 7 at 10:00 am in Knox Hall 201.

**ETC.**

The Smokin’ ANRS team comprised of Nick Petersen, Dr. Eric Scholljegerdes, Dr. Tim Ross, Brian Samson, and Dr. Clint Löest, took first place honors at the Rootin’ Tootin’ Rib Cook-Off at the Mesilla Valley Maze on October 5.

Sympathy is expressed to the family of Earl Ray, former meat science professor in the Animal and Range Sciences department from 1961 to 1995, on his death in Santa Fe on October 16.

Congratulations to Megan Coleson on her acceptance to the Ph.D. graduate program at Mississippi State University in the Department of Animal and Dairy Science.
Daylight Saving Time Ends
Be sure to set clocks
BACK ONE HOUR
Before going to bed on Saturday,
November 1, 2014.