

CURRICULUM VITAE

Donald E. Conner, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs

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PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL VISION

To leverage my skills and experiences to advance and position agriculture and related sciences to address, in a long-term manner, existing and emerging technological and societal challenges in New Mexico and beyond.

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of Georgia, Athens; Food Science (Food Microbiology)	1987
M.S.	University of Georgia, Athens; Food Science (Food Microbiology)	1983
B.S.E.H.	University of Georgia, Athens; Environmental Health Science	1980

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, Professor	College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM	2019 – present
Department Head and Professor	Dept. of Poultry Science, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.	2002 – 2019
Professor	Dept. of Poultry Science, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.	1998 – 2019
Associate Professor	Dept. of Poultry Science, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.	1994 – 1998
Assistant Professor	Dept. of Poultry Science, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.	1989 – 1994
Research Microbiologist	National Food Processors Association, Washington, D.C.	1989
Project Microbiologist	National Food Processors Association, Washington, D.C.	1987 – 1989
Graduate Research Assistant	Dept. of Food Science, University of Georgia, Athens, Griffin.	1981 – 1986

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Associate Dean and Director	College of ACES, New Mexico State University	2019 – present
Department Head	Department of Poultry Science, Auburn University	2002 – 2019
Interim Department Head	Department of Poultry Science, Auburn University	2001
Interim Director	Poultry Products Safety & Quality Prog., Auburn University	1999 – 2001
Graduate Program Officer	Department of Poultry Science, Auburn University	1994 – 1999

HONORS AND AWARDS

Emeritus Professor	Department of Poultry Science, Auburn University	2019 – present
Fellow	Food Systems Leadership Institute, Cohort 9	2013 – 2015
Executive Board	Food Bank of East Alabama, Auburn, AL	2005 – 2019
Chair	Food Safety Advisory Council, United Egg Producers	2010 – present
Food Safety Expert	Center for Food Integrity	2010 – present
Food Safety “Champion”	Poultry Science Association	2006. – 2010
Delegate	AL Commissioner of Agriculture trade delegation to Cuba	2015
Honorary Degree	Alabama FFA	2005

SELECTED TEACHING AND ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Served as departmental Graduate Program Officer
- Led 6 Ph. D. and 8 M.S. students to degree completion
- Successfully merged food science faculty and academic program from College of Human Science into Department of Poultry Science and College of Agriculture.

- Obtained institutional and state approval for BS degree in Food Science.
- Developed new and appropriately targeted student-learning and program outcomes, as well as corresponding assessment criteria for 10 degree tracks.
- Increased gender, ethnic and discipline diversity among departmental faculty.
- Established and expanded active undergraduate recruitment, retention and placement program.
- Implemented ePortfolio development project and support for undergraduate students
- Executed MOU's for 2+2 "Poultry Science Pathway" programs with three community colleges.
- Managed and allocated \$120-\$140k annually in undergraduate scholarships from endowments, foundations, and other sources. Four new scholarship endowments and several other annual scholarships, fellowships and other means of student recognitions established.
- Coordinated and led externally reviews of Department.
 - USDA-CSREES.
 - Auburn University Academic Program Review.
 - Accreditation (SACS) site visits.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Microbiological food safety; food and feed mycology; factors affecting transmission, growth and pathogenesis of food borne *Salmonella*, *Listeria*, *E. coli* O157:H7, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium botulinum*, etc.

SELECTED RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Oversaw planning, construction, and occupancy of new \$20+M state-of-the-art Poultry Science Building.
- Envisioned, planned and now building new \$34M Charles C. Miller Jr. Poultry Research and Education Center (*aka* farm), a major funding partnership between university, industry, and private donors.
 - Poultry & Animal Nutrition Center and Feed Mill, 2012. \$7.1M (primarily private funding).
 - Two animal care & use facilities and a technology test facility, 2016. \$2.5M (private funding).
 - Education & Administration Building, 2018. \$2.5M (single gift funded this building).
 - Pilot Processing Plant, 2019 est., \$6.9M (private + university funding).
 - 13 Remaining facilities + support costs, 2019-2021 est. ~\$15M (private + university funding).
- Planned, designed and constructing new BSL2 avian disease research facility, 2019. \$2.9M.
- Gained AAALAC accreditation and reaccreditation for the department's animal care and use facilities.

PUBLICATION SUMMARY

Book Chapters	5	Refereed Journal Articles	54
Conference Proceedings	34	Non-refereed Articles	18
Invited Presentations	48		

SELECTED INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Executed MOU between Auburn University College of Agriculture and Management Center Innsbruck, Austria to facilitate collaboration and exchange between institutions. 2018
- Part of delegation to Yangzhou and Qingdao Agricultural University in China to establish student exchange program. From 2018 – 2019, six visiting students have been hosted in the department. 2017
- Established student scholar/intern exchange program between Department of Poultry Science and Zamarano University, Honduras. 2016
- Member of Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture Delegation to Cuba to re-establish export of Alabama poultry into Cuba. Met with Cuban government officials in veterinary medicine, trade and policy. 2015
- Led the College's delegation to the 8th Mini Summit on Food Safety, Taiwan Ocean University. 2015
- Established inaugural Poultry/Food Science study abroad program in Italy. 2014
- Attended World Poultry Congress in Salvador, Brazil, and presented WPC 2020 bid for WPSA-USA. 2012
- Executed MOU with University of Bologna, Italy. 2009
- Participated in Alabama National Guard Security Cooperation trip to Romania, 2006