



# The Feathered Connection

Inside this issue:

Judging Team Wins 2008 National Championship	2
Judging Team Wins 2009 US-PEA National Championship	2
Dr. Lee Receives Teaching Award	2
Dr. Farnell Receives Ext Award	2
POSC Club Banquet 2009	3
Graduates Receive Diplomas	4
You Can Make A Difference!	4
Faculty, Staff & Student News	5
POSC Reunion 2009	6

## Welcome !

Howdy and welcome to the summer 2009 edition of the feathered connection. The accomplishments, awards and recognitions of a number of faculty and students are detailed throughout this newsletter. I am excited and proud of these individuals and teams and the outstanding recognition that they bring to the department. I know you join me in congratulating to each of them. Thanks to diligent recruiting efforts, we have hosted yet another successful Poultry Institute for Youth and our second Ag. Teacher's Institute. These programs along with countless hours of other supporting activities at judging contests and livestock shows has yielded the largest group of freshmen applications that the department has ever experienced. Our research programs continue to reach for broader impacts and constantly strive to seek new and applicable knowledge that serves the mission of the department. Research projects range from the most cutting-edge basic disciplines to adaptive efforts all with the goal of improving life in the poultry world. Our outreach and Extension programs continue to provide relevant and pertinent educational opportunities for their clientele and stay in close contact with a vast array of changing and complex issues related to poultry production, processing and consumption. I hope you enjoy this issue of the Feathered Connection and as always, if there is anything that the department can do for you – please do not hesitate to let us know.

Gig 'Em!

John Carey  
Professor and Department Head



## Dr. Krueger Honored by American Poultry Historical Society



The American Poultry Historical Society has honored Texas A&M Professor Emeritus W. F. Krueger, Ph.D, with the "Poultry Pioneer and Legend Award." The award honors individuals for who have made significant contributions to the poultry industry throughout their lifetime. Prior to his retirement, Krueger served on the faculty in the Department of Poultry Science, which is part of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He retired in 2006 after 53 years service. A professor of genetics and poultry management systems, he also coached the Texas A&M Poultry Judging team, leading it to nearly 20 national championships. The American Poultry Historical Society was founded in 1952 to preserve historical records and honor distinctive personal achievement in the poultry industry.



**POSC  
Weekend  
2009  
October 9-10**

## *TAMU Poultry Judging Team Wins 2008 National Championship*

The Texas A&M University Poultry Judging Team traveled to Fayetteville, AR from November 9th to 12th to compete in the National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest hosted by the University of Arkansas. Ten teams from across the nation competed in the two day competition. The contest concluded with Texas A&M winning its fifth national championship in the last six competitions dating back to April 2006. The team won the Production and Egg Quality Division and placed second in the Breeder and Carcass Quality division. The team consisted of Brian Zbikowski (High Individual Overall, High Individual - Production and Egg Quality Division and 4th Place - Breeder and Carcass Quality Division), Mallori Williams (2nd Place Overall and 2nd Place - Breeder and Carcass Quality Division), Jenna Moore (11th Place Overall and 4th Place - Production and Egg Quality Division), and Joshua Garcia (17th Place Overall and 3rd Place - Production and Egg Quality Division). Nathan Fuchs was the alternate on the team. With Brian Zbikowski winning High Individual for the contest, this marks the fourth contest in a row that this honor has been won by a Texas Aggie. The team is coached by Dr. Jason Lee. Congratulations to the Team!!!!



## *TAMU Poultry Judging Team Wins 2009 US Poultry and Egg Association National Championship*

The Texas A&M University Poultry Judging Team traveled to Baton Rouge, LA from April 1st to 4th to compete in the US Poultry and Egg Association National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest hosted by the Louisiana State University. Twelve teams from across the nation competed in the two day competition. The contest concluded with Texas A&M winning its sixth national championship in the last seven competitions dating back to April 2006. The team won the Egg Production Division and the Breeder Selection Division while placing second in the Market Products Division. The team consisted of Mallori Williams (High Individual Overall, 3rd Place – Breeder Selection Division, 3rd Place Egg Production Division, and 3rd Place Market Products Division), Nathan Fuchs (3rd Place Overall, 2nd Place Breeder Selection Division, 6th Place Egg Production Division), Brian Zbikowski (5th Place Overall, High Individual – Egg Production Division), Joshua Garcia (19th Place Overall and 6th Place – Egg Production Division). Kevin Ellis was the alternate on the team. With Mallori Williams winning High Individual for the contest, this marks the fifth contest in a row that this honor has been won by a Texas Aggie. The team is coached by Dr. Jason Lee. Congratulations to the Team!!!!



### *Dr. Jason Lee Receives Teaching Award at the 2009 Poultry Science Association Meeting*

Dr. Jason Lee received the PSA Early Achievement Award for Teaching at the Poultry Science Association Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina, July 20-23, 2009. This award recognizes the achievements in teaching by a PSA member in the early stages of their career. Congratulations!



### *Dr. Morgan Farnell Receives Award for Extension at the 2009 Poultry Science Association Meeting*

Dr. Morgan Farnell received the PSA Early Achievement Award for Extension at the 2009 Poultry Science Association Meeting held in Raleigh, North Carolina on July 20-23, 2009. This award recognizes the achievements in extension by a PSA member in the early stages of their career. Congratulations!

## *Poultry Science Club Banquet 2009*

The Poultry Science Club Banquet was held the evening of April 12, 2008 at the Memorial Student Center. Renee Woelfel was the key note speaker. Other activities included the awarding of scholarships to current and future students of the department, announcing the incoming Poultry Science Club Officers, and the incoming class of the Aggie Leadership Council. Carie Kaminski received the Quisenberry Award for the Outstanding Poultry Science Student for the 2008-2009 school year. The Outstanding Male and Female POSC Club Member of the year were awarded to Josh Kalich and Charlotte Salinas. Congratulations to Carie, Josh, Charlotte and all of the scholarship recipients. It has been a wonderful year for our undergraduate students and programs and we look forward to success in the future.

The 2009-2010 Scholarship Recipients are:

Jenna Moore - Leo & Edna Fuchs Endowed Scholarship  
 Charlotte Salinas - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment  
 Kevin Ellis - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment  
 Brian Zbikowski - W. F. and Ruth Krueger Scholarship  
 Cullen Beck - Hubbard Charitable Foundation  
 Justin Miller - Texas Broiler Council  
 Joshua Garcia - Pam S. Hargis Memorial Scholarship  
 Stephanie Iselt - Janet Lynn Greer Memorial Scholarship  
 Amanda Jordan - Thornberry Endowed Scholarship  
 Zane Dishman - Texas Broiler Council  
 Sarah Baker - Texas Broiler Council  
 Dustin Masters - Texas Broiler Council  
 Alexander Wood - Texas Broiler Council  
 Jennifer Gelner - Texas Broiler Council  
 Leslea Chance - Texas Broiler Council  
 Rocky Latham - Texas Broiler Council  
 Scott Quenstedt - Texas Broiler Council  
 Julie Zapalac - Texas Broiler Council  
 Russell Rhoden - R. W. Kazmeier Endowed Scholarship  
 Jesse Huth - R. E. Janes Scholarship  
 Cody Flores - Ray Price Endowed Scholarship  
 William Rooney - Henry & Jean Prochazka Scholarship



Nathan Fuchs - Delvin & Marye Barrett Scholarship  
 Kendra Vasbinder - Herb Chafin Scholarship Endowment  
 Calley Raynor - Texas Broiler Council  
 Meghan Lowe - Monroe Fuchs '56 Endowed Scholarship  
 Joseph Klein - Janet Lynn Greer Memorial Scholarship  
 Christy Wick - Thornberry Endowed Scholarship  
 Amy Vansa - Texas Broiler Council  
 Mallori Williams - W. F. and Ruth Krueger Scholarship  
 Lauren Pruski - Texas Broiler Council  
 Carolee Hinojosa - Texas Broiler Council  
 Jennifer Gerik - Texas Broiler Council  
 Christi Taylor - Texas Broiler Council  
 Elissa Emmons - Texas Broiler Council  
 Rachael Dziedzic - Texas Broiler Council  
 Michael Yeater - Texas Broiler Council  
 Sarah Stiehl - Texas Broiler Council  
 Katherine Perkins - Texas Broiler Council  
 Ashley Hill - C. R. Creger Endowed Scholarship  
 Kevin Perry - C. R. Creger Endowed Scholarship  
 Amy O'Quinn - Cecil B. Ryan Endowed Scholarship  
 Kelsey Firkins - Bob & Margaret Palm Endowed Scholarship  
 Jake Pieniazek - Cecil B. Ryan Endowed Scholarship

## *Graduates Receive Diplomas*

Poultry Science graduated fifteen in the December 2008 commencement ceremony. Pictured below are (front row, left to right) Mikaela Pichardo, Valerie Burciaga, Carissa Henkhaus, Leslie Vaculin, Patricia Viera, Chelsey Lange (back row, left to right) Kyle Williams, Garret Lee, Stephen Fuchs, Jacob Coppedge, Brent Jones, Allen Laughlin, Carla Schoenfeld. Also graduating but not pictured were Andrea Davis and Stacy Neill .



In the May 2009 undergraduate commencement ceremony, the Poultry Science dept. graduated thirteen . Pictured below are (front row L to R) Maria Salinas, Carie Kaminski, Jamie Hardin, Elissa Robertson, Ryan Hohensee, (middle row L to R) Mandy Ebrom, Tim Kuba, Kristy Woodring, and (back row L to R) David Rodriguez, Liberty Wofford, Josh Kalich, Steven Gottselig. Also graduating but not pictured was Dawn Schorre.

In the August 2009 undergraduate commencement ceremony, we had 4 students graduate. Pictured below are (from L to R) Josh Perkins, Megan Rychlik, Carrie Blain, Kathryn Mathews

Congratulations to all of our graduates on their achievement and we wish them all the best!



December 2008



May 2009



August 2009

## *You Can Make a Difference!!*

The Texas A&M Foundation has developed a convenient method for you to help the Poultry Science Department as we strive for excellence. You can now use your credit card to give gifts (\$25 to \$25,000) directly to our Poultry Science Enhancement Fund which is used to support the Poultry Science Center Enhancement Initiative, student recruiting, and research tools.

Just go to the website <https://givenow.tamu.edu> (no www in front) and click on the down arrow in the **Select a College or Program to Support** window, and click on **Poultry Science**. Then go to the **Select and Impact Area to Support** window and select **Department-Wide Impact**. Continue on to the **Select a Fund or Endowment** window and select the **Poultry Science Enhancement Fund**. Next, input the amount and type (one-time or reoccurring) of gift. A comment box is provided for you to leave any special instructions or comments you may have. Click the **Matching Gift Company** box to find out if your employer will match your donation – many companies have generously agreed to match charitable donations of their employees which magnifies your impact. Finally, input your personal and credit card information in Steps 2 and 3 to complete your secure online donation.



The Texas A&M Foundation will credit your gift to the Poultry Science Enhancement Fund and will mail you a receipt. You have our assurance that your gifts will be used efficiently. Your help will make a difference!

## Faculty, Staff and Student Notes:



- ◆ Mrs. Faye Dailey retired August 31, 2009 after 30 years of service in the Poultry Science Department. A retirement luncheon was held in her honor on August 31, 2009. We will miss Faye and we wish her all the best.
- ◆ Dr. Fred Thornberry was involved in a serious automobile accident in July, 2009. He is out of the hospital, in rehab and improving every day. Contact the department for the latest update on his progress.
- ◆ Dr. David Caldwell was elected to serve on the PSA Board of Directors for a three year term. The election took place during the annual Poultry Science Association meeting held July 20-23, 2009 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Congratulations!
- ◆ Radhika Kakani was the recipient of a Student Research Paper Certificate of Excellence at the recent Poultry Science Association meeting held in Raleigh, North Carolina, July 20-23, 2009. This certificate is presented in recognition of students who have presented high-quality research papers at the annual meeting. Radhika is advised by Dr. Chris Bailey and her presentation was entitled "Comparison of autoinducer-2 inhibition by saponin rich guar extracts and other commercial saponins." Congratulations!
- ◆ The Poultry Research Center was recognized as the February 2009 recipient of Environmental Health and Safety's (EHS's) Safe Laboratory of the Month award. The research facility, under the direction of Dr. David Caldwell, was selected because of the significant improvements made over the last year. EHS will be presenting Dr. Caldwell and his staff with a certificate recognizing their efforts. Congratulations!
- ◆ Dr. Pillai has acquired a new piece of equipment for his lab, the Faxitron X-ray cabinet system (with 10-110 kV output voltage). This equipment is part of the on-going research and development collaboration with Stellarray, Inc. This equipment provides a unique opportunity to study microbial inactivation at varying X-ray energies.
- ◆ Dr. Pillai hosted 2 Ph.D. students from the Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine in Japan for 1-month (Feb-March, 2009)
- ◆ Dr. Suresh Pillai has received several research grants. The first is a grant for \$230,000 from the State of Texas Emerging Technology Fund for a research project entitled Automated Pathogen Detection System for Drinking Water Analysis. Dr. Pillai is the Co-PI and will be collaborating with Smart Imaging Technologies. This project will focus on developing an automated microscopic method for determining the occurrence of *Giardia* spp. and *Cryptosporidium* spp. in drinking water and source water supplies.  
The second grant is for \$150,000 from the SBIR Program - Department of Homeland Security for a research project entitled Cold Cathode Radiation Sources for Sterilization. Dr. Pillai will be collaborating with Stellarray, Inc. This project will focus on determining E-Beam and X-ray irradiation doses for bacterial spores in biomedically relevant solutions and samples.  
The third grant is for \$74,725 from Ceniflores (Centro de Innovación de la Floricultura Colombiana) for a research project entitled Effectiveness of Irradiation as a Post-harvest Quarantine Treatment of Imported Cut-flowers. Dr. Pillai is the Co-PI and will be collaborating with Carlos Bogran (Entomology), Terri Starman (Horticulture) and Kevin Heinz (Entomology).  
The fourth grant is for \$ 119,700 from the Water Environment Research Foundation for a research project entitled. Developing Better Indicators for Pathogen Presence in Sewage Sludges. Dr. Pillai is the PI for this project. Congratulations!
- ◆ Congratulations to Dr. Huaijun Zhou for receiving a new grant in the amount of \$219,750 from the National Institutes of Health for a study entitled "Host Cell Proteins That Interact With *Cryptosporidium*." Dr. Guan Zhu of Veterinary Pathobiology is the PI and Dr. Huaijun Zhou is the Co-PI for this study.
- ◆ Dr. Blanca Lupiani, Assistant Professor, received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor effective September 1, 2008. Congratulations!
- ◆ Dharani Ajithdoss, Ph.D. student in Dr. Lupiani's laboratory, received the Richard B. Rimler Memorial Paper award for his presentation " Transactivation properties of Meq oncoproteins of Marek's disease virus strain, CVI988" at the 2008 American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP) meeting in New Orleans, LA.

## 2009 Poultry Science Weekend—October 9-10, 2009

It's almost time once again for the Poultry Science Weekend at Texas A&M. The event is scheduled for October 9-10, 2009 and the Aggies will be playing Oklahoma State. Please make plans now to join current and former students, the faculty and staff, retirees, and our industry friends as we celebrate Poultry Science at Texas A&M. Once again, festivities will include a skeet shoot on Friday afternoon, the POSC Steak Fry Friday evening, and a "Come and Go" chili tailgate on Saturday before the game. This year, we have moved the chili tailgate out to the Poultry Science Farm where there is plenty of parking available. Registration will be online again this year and will be up and available after September 1, 2009. Please visit <http://agrilifevents.tamu.edu/> to register. Please RSVP by October 8th. So mark your calendars to join us for some or all of the weekend. Hope to see you there!

### Schedule of Events

#### October 9 - Friday

**Skeet Tournament** - Gunsmoke Shooting Range, Snook

Lunch - \$5.00 per person

Skeet fee - \$25.00 per person - to be paid at the event, cash only.

Lunch starts at 12 noon, and shooting (50 rounds) starts promptly at 1 pm.  
Bring your guns and ammo and lets have some fun!

**Poultry Science Steak Fry** - College Station Central Park Pavilion

Dinner - \$15.00 per person, kids 12 and under are free.

Social hour starts at 6 pm

Dinner will be served at 7 pm

#### October 10 - Saturday

**"Come & Go" Chili Tail Gate** - Poultry Science Farm

Lunch - \$5.00 per person

Starts 3 hours before kickoff (currently scheduled for 2:30 pm)

#### For more information contact:

##### Skeet Shoot:

Jack McReynolds

979-260-9400

[mcreynolds@ars.usda.gov](mailto:mcreynolds@ars.usda.gov)

##### Steak Fry or Tailgate:

Sarah Robertson

979-845-1931

[srobertson@poultry.tamu.edu](mailto:srobertson@poultry.tamu.edu)



### Individual or

### Corporate Sponsors Needed!

For more information on sponsorships, please contact one of the following people:

David Caldwell

979-845-4288

[caldwell@poultry.tamu.edu](mailto:caldwell@poultry.tamu.edu)

Jason Lee

979-845-1931

[jlee@poultry.tamu.edu](mailto:jlee@poultry.tamu.edu)

Dale Hyatt

979-845-4367

[dhyatt@poultry.tamu.edu](mailto:dhyatt@poultry.tamu.edu)

