Message from the Chair

Hands-on learning experiences have been a central theme in our animal and food science undergraduate curricula for many years. In addition to hands-on learning in formal classes, students have benefited from off-campus internships for which we now have a database to help students find opportunities that are right for them.

In addition, many students participated in on-campus research experiences under the direction of our outstanding faculty. Some of you may remember the 10-week Science and Engineering Scholars program (now called the Summer Scholars program) as well as taking “research” during the fall or spring semesters. We still offer these valuable experiences that provide another perspective and often influence careers. So, this year’s ANFScratchings spotlights some of you who did research and what it meant to you. We would like to hear from more of you so we can relate your experiences to our current students. Please contact me (jgelb@udel.edu or phone 302-831-2524), I would love to hear from you.

I also want to let you know that the ANFS faculty have been thinking seriously about our next development idea. Many of you have supported the establishment of the UDairy Creamery. This popular destination on campus is not only a place for students and the public to enjoy ice cream, but also a “laboratory” for students to learn about the science and business of food production.

We think it is appropriate to initiate a development campaign to directly support ANFS undergraduate research and internships. During these economic times when it has become more challenging and difficult for faculty to secure federal grants, we are unfortunately unable to sometimes offer paid internships and provide summer stipends and research support to as many interested and deserving undergraduate researchers as we would like. So, I will be in touch with you soon with details in case you would like to help us in this campaign.

I thank those of you who have so generously contributed to ANFS. We can’t thank you enough for your support. Happy Holidays and all the best in 2013.

Jack Gelb, Jr.

Spotlight on undergraduate research: quotes from past and present students

“...I had a very narrow view of the career opportunities within the Animal Science field. Undergraduate research helped to open my eyes to the broader opportunities in the animal agriculture industry. My experience with undergraduate research inspired me to go to graduate school, which further increased my career opportunities beyond my original expectations.” Jill (Ladd) Anderson (Animal Science [AS], 2003), Assistant Professor, Dairy Science Department, South Dakota State University

“My undergraduate research in the area of dairy cattle health is the reason I decided to become a large animal veterinarian with a focus on dairy and equine medicine.” Sarah Mainardi (AS, 2009), University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine

Want to learn more about what we have been up to?
Visit us at http://ag.udel.edu/anfs

ANFS People, Groups and Events*

Spotlight on undergraduate research: quotes from past and present students

“When I started my undergraduate degree at the University of Delaware, I had a very narrow view of the career opportunities within the Animal Science field. Undergraduate research helped to open my eyes to the broader opportunities in the animal agriculture industry. My experience with undergraduate research inspired me to go to graduate school, which further increased my career opportunities beyond my original expectations.” Jill (Ladd) Anderson (Animal Science [AS], 2003), Assistant Professor, Dairy Science Department, South Dakota State University

“My undergraduate research in the area of dairy cattle health is the reason I decided to become a large animal veterinarian with a focus on dairy and equine medicine.” Sarah Mainardi (AS, 2009), University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine

* Giving to the Department of Animal and Food Sciences: If you wish to make a gift to the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, please visit: http://www.udel.edu/development/makeagift.htm. 100% of your gift will impact the program you wish to support. You may make your gift to the University, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or another program. If you desire to designate your gift specifically to our department, please be sure to complete the “Other designation - indicate a specific purpose below” section and input “Dept. of Animal and Food Sciences”. If you have any questions or require assistance when completing any of these forms, please contact Daniel Sarkissian, Director of Development - College of Agriculture and Natural Resources - at 302-831-4595 or djs@udel.edu.
“The research I have done has opened my eyes to what I would love to do after graduation.”  
**Krystal Shortlidge**, Sophomore, Animal and Food Sciences (ANFS) major

“My time in undergraduate research has been such a rewarding experience, I have learned many lab-based techniques and problem solving methods. These skills have assisted me not only in the lab, but have helped me to excel in many of my classes.” **Rachel Brown**, Senior, Food Science major

“After participating in the Science and Engineering Scholars Program for undergraduate research, I realized that I would rather pursue a career in consumer products and applications than continue performing research.” **Melissa Ehrlich**, Senior, Food Science major

“Having the amazing opportunity to participate in undergraduate research has given me the ability to approach my interests in a way that I never could have experienced in a classroom setting. Being encouraged to always be looking for new and interesting advancements in science and in my research has really fueled my passion for the field, and has given me countless opportunities to further my education here at UD.” **Lindsey Cook**, Senior, ANFS major

“Undergraduate research was invaluable to me because I acquired practical skills and knowledge that I now use in veterinary school. Had I not chosen to do research, I would have missed the great hands-on experience that it offers. Because of my involvement with Dr. Gressley’s research team, I believe I have a deeper understanding of how laboratory tests contribute to veterinary medicine.” **Ava Nowak** (Pre-Veterinary Medicine and Animal Bioscience [PVMAB], 2011), Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine

“Undergraduate research has given me a closer look at my major and most of all it has given my classes a much higher worth by showing how all the information I learn is actually applied.” **Cooper Asay**, Senior, PVMAB major

“Doing undergraduate research with Dr Gressley taught me how to take knowledge learned from classes and apply it in practical situations. Understanding how to put theory into practice has been an invaluable skill in grad school in order to think critically and solve problems.” **Jasmine Macies** (PVMAB, 2012), Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

“Working in Dr. Chen’s lab not only demonstrated the work load required in graduate school, which I hope to be undertaking soon, but also highlighted the need for autonomy and elevated thought processing that my current job demands.” **Ethan Beswick** (Dean’s Scholar, 2011)

“Undergraduate research opened an entire set of new career possibilities for me. The experiences, training, and networking opportunities I gained during my undergraduate research have proved invaluable throughout my career and taught me a variety of skills such as project management and multitasking that are transferable across many fields.” **Christy Edwards** (AS, 2001), US FDA, Center for Veterinary Medicine

“Through research I learned how to think critically, persevere, and communicate more effectively. My undergrad research experience allowed me to obtain an internship which led to a graduate research position at the University of Tennessee. I use the skills that I first learned doing undergrad research every day in graduate school and I am thankful to be well prepared to face my day to day challenges!” **Christa Kurman** (ANFS, 2012)

“Participating in undergraduate research was a valuable experience for me. It was rewarding to be able to learn something new and follow my senior thesis from start to finish as well as contribute to the scientific community.” **Brittany Hengst** (PVMAB, 2010) University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine

“Undergraduate research opened my eyes to the impact science can have on society and gave me a desire to pursue this field in my future career. As a veterinary student at OSU I will be starting a research project in the spring and I would have never had this opportunity if it were not for my research exposure at the University of Delaware.” **Noelle Diana** (PVMAB, 2012) College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University

ANFS added around 50 internships to the internship database in 2012 and we are looking to add even more in 2013. Would you be interested in sponsoring an undergraduate intern? If so, please contact Ms. Laura Nemec at nemeclm@udel.edu.
undergraduate and graduate students to the Expo. Atlanta, GA in January 2013. The ANFS Department will be taking 11 participating in the US Poultry Foundation's College Student Career used to promote a program to increase the number of students total of 81 students attended the seminars. The seminars were also CANR Cooperative Extension, Cobb vice, the Jones Hamilton Co., Perdue Farms, Mountaire Farms, Services. The series of four seminars included speakers from Del- with funding provided by the US Poultry Foundation and UD Career Students also met with current students and alumni and asked ques- tions about studying at UD and career options.

After serving as Dean of UD’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for ten years, Robin Morgan returned to the ANFS faculty September 1, 2012. Dr. Morgan will be on sabbatical for the 2012-2013 year. Dr. Morgan is very excited about the work her lab is doing now and planning for the future, and she is especially looking forward to teaching and advising students. “Serving the college as dean was a highlight of my career, but I definitely missed the day-to-day interactions with students and the privilege of working closely with young people as they think through the possibilities for their futures.”

We are saddened to report that John Dohms who retired from our Department in 2009 is still missing. He was last seen walking towards White Clay Creek State Park in Newark, DE in September of this year. Dr. Dohms joined our Department in 1977 and is fondly remembered by his students for his passion for teaching and research. Students loved his courses as they were challenging and provided learning experiences invaluable for their future careers.

Weixuan Fu, PhD student, received the 2012 American Dairy Goat Association award and is co-editing a new book, Milk and Dairy Products in Human Nutrition.

Kirsten Hirneisen, FS Ph.D., 2012, place 2nd in the John C. Ayers Graduate Student Research Paper Competition of the Institute of Food Technologists, Food Microbiology Division. Kirsten also received the W. J. Benton Graduate Student Award, an award presented annually to a Ph.D. student in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources who has “...excelled in research and has an outstanding record of academic accomplishments and service to their profession.” Megan Caputo, ANSC MS 2012, published five articles in 2012 and received the Best Student Presentation award at the 2011 Northeastern Conference on Avian Diseases.

Casey Spencer, PVMAB Senior, and Weixuan Fu, PhD student, in Dr. Abasht’s lab, won awards to attend the Plant and Animal Genome meeting in San Diego, CA. Jessica Applebaum, PVMAB Junior, sponsored by Ms. Laura Nemec, won an Honors Enrichment Award to take part in a Volunteers for Intercultural and Definitive Adventures program in a veterinary clinic in Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

News from Students and their Organizations
The Animal Science Club had an exciting 2012! The NESA livestock judging & quiz bowl team traveled to the University of New...
Hampshire and placed 10th in the quiz bowl. We ran a booth at the Newark Community Day and visited the Cowtown Rodeo. Junior Angela Guagliione organized a panel of first-year Penn Vet students (UD alumni!) who shared their experiences, advice, and answered many questions! Dean Rieger, CANR’s new dean, spoke and answered many questions from club members about topics from new courses, class scheduling, UD farm preservation, and hands-on laboratory expansion. In the spring semester we hope to organize another Artificial Insemination clinic, a trip to the Maryland Zoo, and a visit to Kilby Cream! For more updates on the Animal Science Club, check our website (http://udel.edu/stu-org/anasci/index.html), Facebook page, or email club president Nina Lee (nlee@udel.edu).

The Food Science Club assisted with a campus-wide canned food drive, “Blue Hens Can”, and collected 3 tons of canned goods for the Food Bank of Delaware. We also harvested 180 lbs of sweet potatoes in our community garden that ended up in 98 sweet potato pies for the Food Bank of Delaware to give out for the Thanksgiving holiday. We went apple picking at Milburn Orchards, had a mini Thanksgiving potluck feast and went to the local IFT Suppliers Night.

We would like to thank the following individuals who have supported our Department through generous donations in 2012

Gary E. and Terri Adams
Jill L. Anderson ’03
Kathleen M. Ciasullo ’11
Blair I. Cormnan
Robert M. Dyer, V.M.D. – ANFS Faculty
Christina C. Edwards ’01
Mary Kvetkas Faldasz ’86
Brooke A. Fenamore
Robert and Barbara Forney, V.M.D. ’78M
Jack Gelb, Jr. (ANFS Faculty) ’74 ’76M and Rebecca F. Gelb ’76 ’96M

Stuart M. Grant, Esq. and Suzanne B. Grant
Janise L. Gray ’11
Lesa G. Griffiths – ANFS Faculty
Susanne P. Isaacs ’49
Deovy and Rosemary P. Jaico
Tracy L. Jaico ’08
Christian P. Kane and Mrs.
Maureen Hermes-Kane ’85
William N. and Linda S. King
Suzanne M. King ’07

Joseph V. and Sherly J. Kurian ’96M
Ryan J. ’09 and Sarah P. Lawrence ’09
Daniel P. Moore, M.D. ’84
Paul N. 58 and Gail D. Ottenheimer
Mark Parcells ’84 ’94PhD – ANFS Faculty
Alfred L. Dinneri and Candice L. Hoffman
Greg A. Rennier
Michael J. ’93 and Denise R. Rohr ’92
Lynn N. Rudman
Deborah C. Russell ’72
Paul H. (ANFS Faculty) and Diane L.
Sammelwitz ’53

Mrs. Nancy L. Shaffer-End ’80
David P. Shapiro, D.V.M.
Adrienne Shearer ’89 ’96M
Raymond R. and Maureen T. Stankiewicz
Michelle F. Styles ’80M
Mr. David E. Swanson and Dr. Katherine J. Swanson ’75
Mrs. Sharon L. Swartout ’94
Stephen F. Sylvia ’90
Kenneth C. ’80 and Elizabeth K. Whitney

The University of Delaware is committed to assuring equal opportunity to all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran or handicapped status, or sexual orientation in its educational programs, activities, admissions or employment practices as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes. Inquiries concerning Section 504 compliance and information regarding campus accessibility should be referred to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, 831-4643, located at 413 Academy Street. Inquiries concerning Title VII and Title IX should be referred to the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Affirmative Action, 831-8735, located at 124 Hullihen Hall.