Department of Animal Sciences
Quarterly Newsletter
Fall 2015
Upchurch Update
# Content

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Brian Anderson is the recipient of the 2015 Employee of the Year Awards.

All 2015 faculty and staff award winners receive cash awards and will be presented plaques during the College/AAES awards ceremony, set for Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 3 p.m. in the Auburn Alumni Center

Dr. Christy Bratcher is 1 out of 19 faculty members in the College of Agriculture who collectively obtained almost $10.6 million in extramural research grants and contracts in fiscal year 2014-15. Dr. Bratcher is a Dean’s Grantsmanship Award recipient. Grantsmanship Awards are presented each year to faculty members in the college who receive $300,000 or more in external funding in the fiscal year.

Dr. Christy Bratcher is also the award recipient winner of 2015 Project Team Faculty Award.
Dr. Carolyn Huntington grew up in the suburbs of St. Louis where her parents had grounds in Ozark, Missouri, which is where Huntington sparked a love for both animals and agriculture.

Huntington earned her B.S. in animal science and M.S. in nutritional science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in 1998-2000 and earning her Ph.D. from the University of Missouri – Columbia, in 2004. Huntington started her humble beginnings as a chemist at the University of Missouri Research Reactor in Columbia. She eventually moved to the south to serve as undergraduate coordinator at Mississippi State University.

Her master's thesis focused on zinc deficiency in rats and its impact on food appetite and brain catecholamines. Dr. Huntington's dissertation research involved radiolabeling organic and inorganic sources of zinc to study their uptake by the digestive tract of weanling pigs.

Huntington has many accomplishments from receiving the 2011 Mississippi State University Faculty Irvin Atly Jefcoat Excellence in Advising Award, 2011 National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Outstanding Advising Award in the Faculty Advising category, and the Lower Division Teaching Award while teaching at Mississippi State University.

Huntington joined the Auburn University Department of Animal Sciences as lecturer and undergraduate coordinator in January 2015.

When Huntington is not working hard to aid her students, she finds joy in pastimes such as running half marathons and crocheting. Huntington sells her crocheted projects and all monetary proceeds goes to scholarships.
Honoring Mrs. **Carole Hodge**
Retiring after 36 years of service to the
Auburn University Department of Animal Sciences

**About Carole**

Carole started her career with Auburn in the School of Human Sciences on February 1980. In 1981, she transferred to the College of Agriculture Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences, which is now the Department of Animal Sciences. Her positions included: Typist, Office Assistant, and currently Administrative Assistant II. When entering the Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences the department head was Dr. Dave Topel. Carole has been under the leadership of five department heads, since Topel, and is currently under the leadership of Dr. Wayne Greene. Carole plans to retire on December 31, 2015.

Carole, was born and raised in Auburn, AL by way of Loachapoka! She is married to Lee Hodge and they have one daughter, Brittany Hodge.

**After Retirement**

“I plan on catching up on doctor visits, travel, spending time with family and friends, and gaining more weight not that I need to, but that comes with retiring!”

---

Honoring **Dr. Stephen Schmidt**
Retiring after 40 years of service to the
Auburn University Department of Animal Sciences

**About Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt started his career with Auburn University in the School of Animal & Dairy Sciences (Now Animal Sciences) on January 1, 1976. He has taught Introductory Animal Science, Animal Nutrition, and Beef Production. He has served as an academic advisor to undergraduate students and as a mentor to both M.S. and Ph.D. students within the Animal Sciences Department.

Dr. Schmidt’s research projects includes: fescue toxicity, urea treatment of high-moisture milo, supplementation strategies for cattle grazing cool-season forages, forage systems for grass-fed beef, and post-weaning management of crossbred calves.

Dr. Schmidt’s teaching awards includes: Teacher Fellow, National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, Auburn University College of Agriculture Award for Teaching Excellence, Award for Excellence in Advising, and Block & Bridle Club Outstanding Teacher.

Dr. Schmidt is currently serving as the chairman of the examination board for the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientist (ARPAS)

Dr. Schmidt grew up on a cattle ranch in Idaho. He received his B.S. from University of Idaho and his M.S. & Ph.D. from University of Wisconsin. Dr. Schmidt is married to Dr. Margaret Craig-Schmidt who recently retired from the College of Human Sciences where she taught biochemistry to the dietetic students. They have two daughters, Rebecca and Kimberly, and two grandsons.

**After Retirement**

“Margaret and I plan to remain in Auburn, do some traveling to places we’ve always wanted to visit and also re-visit familiar places in Idaho and Montana that still feel like home; and spend time with our grand kids.”
Selected Publications


INVITED REVIEW: Evolution of meat animal growth research during the past 50 years: Adipose and muscle stem cells. 

Small-intestinal or colonic microbiota as a potential amino acid source in animals. 
Auburn University Department of Animal Sciences welcomes the latest additions to the department!

Dr. Paul Dyce
Assistant Professor
Reproductive Developmental Biology

Dr. Carolyn Huntington
Lecturer & Undergraduate Program Officer

Dr. Fernando Biase
Associate Professor
Quantitative Genomics

Ms. Grey Parks
Lecturer
Equine Science Program

Mrs. Johnisha Holloway Harris
Administrative Support Specialist

Ms. April Colley
Student Services Coordinator
“The Collegiate Cattlemen & Cattlewomen promote and support the beef industry as well as the meat industry as a whole. Whether you come from a cattle background or not, we want you to come out and join us!”

Upcoming Events
- Holiday Sausage Sale
- Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show
- National Cattlemen’s Beef Convention

Club Meetings
- Time: 6:30pm
- When: 2nd and 4th Mondays
- Where: Lambert Powell Meats Lab

Catering
- Holiday Sausage Box Sales
- National Cattlemen's Beef Association Convention
- Alabama Cattlemen's Association Convention
- Reciprocal Meat Conference
Pre-vet Medical Association

Upcoming Events

Study Night

Study Night + Animal Food Drive for local shelters
Thursday, December 10th
Location & Time: TBD

Service Events

Coming Soon!!
For information follow link:
https://auburn.collegiatelink.net/organization/AUprevetclub

Club Meetings

When: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
    Time: 7:00 pm
    Where: Rouse 112
Our Objectives

- To promote a higher scholastic standard and a more complete understanding of Animal Science among student members.
- To promote animal agriculture through development of a program of activities that will supplement students’ study of the animal sciences in colleges and universities.
- To enhance the professionalism of students who will one day be leaders in the animal agriculture industry.
- To bring about a closer relationship among all students pursuing some phase of animal agriculture as a profession.
- Networking with industry leaders in Animal Agriculture to promote possible future employment.

Club Meetings
Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.
Upchurch 203

Upcoming Events
January 21st - Business Meeting - 7pm Upchurch 203
February 4th - Applying to Graduate School Panel - 7pm Ham Wilson
February 18th - Guest Speaker - 7pm Upchurch 203
March 3rd - Business Meeting - 7pm Upchurch 203
Horseman's Club

Club Meetings
2\textsuperscript{nd} & 4\textsuperscript{th} Tuesday of each month
Time: 7:00 pm
Where: Auburn University Horse Unit

Upcoming Events

TBD
For More Information
link:https://auburn.collegiatelink.net/organization/horsemansclub
The Equestrian team remains at the top during such a competitive season.

NCEA Ranking 5-1

For more information on Auburn’s Equestrian Team visit:
http://www.auburntigers.com/sports/w-equest
CURRENT POSITION
Operations Lead for Cargill Beef

CURRENT LOCATION
Wichita, Kansas

ABOUT BRETT
Brett obtained his BS in Agriculture, Animal Science & Dairy Science within the years 1979-1982. Brett has been in the beef processing industry for 33 years. His passion for the industry was sparked by guidance from his former professor and advisor, Dr. Dale Huffman. Brett's first job was as a quality control technician before becoming the assistant plant manager at a beef processing facility in Atlanta. He then became a shift foreman at a McDonald’s beef grinding facility.

Brett then moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where he took on a management position at a beef grinding plant. From there he designed and built a grinding plant for Burger King in Butler, Wisconsin, where he also served as the general manager. In 2008, Brett became the assistant vice president of operations for the Cargill Value Added Food Service division and was responsible for Cargill’s four ground beef patty locations across the United States and Canada. Two years later, Brett moved to his current position with Cargill where he is responsible for operating nine beef grinding facilities and is the expert on ground beef, finely textured beef and boneless trim finely textured.

AUBURN MEMORIES
Brett’s favorite memories at Auburn include playing intramural football, attending animal science labs, football games and making lifelong friends. Brett’s oldest daughter graduated from Auburn’s nursing school, and his youngest is currently a junior at the university. Today, he and his wife are football season ticket holders and plan to retire to Auburn.
Upcoming Events

The 2015 College/AAES Awards Ceremony
Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 3 pm
in the
Auburn Alumni Center
Carole Hodge to retire December 31, 2015
Stephen Schmidt to retire January 31, 2016
Animal Sciences Picnic: TBD
Spring Break Trip: March 12-19, 2016
For more Information Contact Dr. Greene at greenlw@auburn.edu

Birthdays for this Quarter

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<td>Brooklyne Wassel: December 23</td>
<td>Sarah Lino: January 30</td>
<td>Leigh Anne Bosman: February 16</td>
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Department of Animal Sciences at Auburn University