Department of Animal Science, UC Davis

HIGHLIGHTS

A PUBLICATION FOR OUR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Winter/Spring 2003

Chair's Message, Gary B. Anderson, Chair

Hello from UC Davis. Another half-year has passed, and it's time for an update on activities from the Department of Animal Science. In most issues I use this space to crow about the accomplishments of our students, staff and faculty, such as the Notable Notes on the back page. Regretfully, my message this issue is less about celebration and more about the gloom of looming budget cuts. The Department of Animal Science faces the most bleak and potentially devastating budget since the early 1990s' slump that resulted in layoffs, early retirements and elimination of programs. Cuts imposed a decade ago were never fully recovered, and proposed new cuts threaten both departmental infrastructure (e.g., animal facilities used for teaching, research and outreach) and programs. During the current fiscal year, the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES), which supports departmental research and outreach, suffered a 10% budget cut. Another 10% cut is proposed for July 1 of this year, requiring the department to absorb a 20% cut in support for AES research and outreach. Cooperative Extension (CE), the University's outreach arm, was dealt a 5% midyear cut in January and faces a whopping 25% cut July 1 for a total 30% budget reduction.

The department's applied research and outreach programs cannot sustain these budget cuts without affecting how we serve our stakeholders throughout the state. Our AES and CE faculty to meeting the obligations of whatever funding sources are available, which is likely to mean an emphasis away from applied agricultural missions. Research conducted through the AES has produced the California Net Energy System, the California equation for determining energy content of hay, nutrient values for by-product feedstuffs, genetic improvement and manipulation as well as reproductive and biotechnologies for use in livestock and other domestic animals, behavioral endpoints for improving animal management and a host of other advances appropriately funded by the AES but for which other funding is largely unavailable. Our CE faculty have produced nationally recognized Quality Assurance Programs, helped to spawn new industries like aquaculture, provided public education on critical issues like the Exotic Newcastle Disease epidemic, developed programs on water and air quality for animal producers and generally served as liaison between the department and county-based CE staff and the public.

Without doubt, California faces a severe budgetary shortfall, and everyone shares responsibility for belt-tightening. But agricultural interests were disproportionately targeted in the early 1990s' UC budget cuts and were not the beneficiary of financial recovery enjoyed by the rest of UC later in the decade. Once again we find the AES and CE disproportionately carrying UC budget cuts. Our dean, Neal Van Alfen, said in a recent letter sent to stakeholders, "I welcome any assistance you can provide to get our message out so that informed decisions can be made in Sacramento." My message for Highlights readers is the same.

will be forced to divert their programs from traditional missions

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Former Chancellor Jim Meyer Dies

Chancelor Meyer walked away with Picnic Day milking contest honors for many years

Dr. James H. Meyer, professor emeritus of Animal Science and chancellor emeritus of the UC Davis campus, died on October 12, 2002, at age 80.

Jim, as he was known to many, grew up on a wheat and livestock farm in Idaho and obtained a B.S. degree in agriculture at the University of Idaho in 1947, following service from 1943 to 1946 as a first lieutenant in the US Marines. He then completed M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in animal nutrition at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and was appointed as Instructor in the then Animal Husbandry department at Davis in 1951. He quickly developed an active research program and a reputation as an excellent teacher. He was always interested in establishing general principles and in 1961 became one of the youngest scientists to receive the American Feed Manufacturers Award for Research in Animal Nutrition, the highest award in the field given by the American Society of Animal Science. He was cited for basic research studies ranging from fiber utilization by the rat to the influence of pelleting of ruminant diets on nutritional value. His method of evaluating alfalfa, one of California's most important agricultural crops, has been widely adopted. A 1959 paper by W. N. Garrett, J. H. Meyer and G. P. Lofgreen was the initial publication that led to a net energy system of feed evaluation. The paper made Science Citation Index's list of most frequently cited scientific publications.

Jim was appointed as department chair in 1960. He was responsible for initiating Dairy Day, Feeders' Day and other comparable programs to communicate the department's research results to potential users including producers and Farm Advisors. He also initiated events such as a senior dinner to improve communication with the department's students. His commitment to students was a feature of his administrative career over the following 24 years and into retirement.

Jim was appointed dean of the College of Agriculture in 1963. He stimulated a thorough overhaul of the undergraduate curriculum, including establishing a new major—Agricultural Science and Management (now Animal Science and Management)—and other successful programs. During his tenure as dean, undergraduate enrollment in the college doubled. He was proud to be responsible for changing the name of the college to Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and for establishing the Academic Federation to provide a forum and voice for academic appointees who were not members of the Academic Senate.

Jim's 18 years as chancellor represented a period of remarkable campus growth and many notable achievements, including acquisition of the UC Medical Center in Sacramento, creation of the School of

Management, and construction of Recreation Hall without state funds. His record as chancellor has been extensively chronicled elsewhere.

When he retired as chancellor, Jim returned to the Animal Science Department and came to work daily until early in the last year of his life. A particular interest during this time was Land Grant universities, or to use his term, institutions of higher learning whose roots were in agriculture. He documented their history and achievements, assessed their current status and, most importantly, suggested changes they needed to make if they were to remain relevant in a rapidly changing society. He continually stressed the need for these institutions to serve and obtain support from a broader clientele than had been their tradition.

During this time Jim also made important contributions to the Animal Science Department. He was instrumental in getting approval for the department, with its large student enrollment, to have a special campaign within the campus Students First fundraising program. He chaired the departmental effort, which brought in more than $150,000 for support of undergraduate and graduate students. He followed up on a long-term interest by helping obtain approval of a professional Master's degree program, the Master of Agriculture and Management, and he chaired the committee that recruited the first director. He helped establish the Animal Science Development Board, whose members continue to provide valuable support for the department. His counsel was sought and given generously on many issues.

The Meyer family has asked that donations be made in Jim's memory to establish a student award. Checks should be made to the “UC Regents” and sent to the Department of Animal Science.

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Graham Gall and Mike Fry Move Onward

Professor **Graham A. E. Gall** retired from Animal Science in January 2003. He joined the department in September 1966 after completing degrees in Animal Science (B.Sc.) and Animal Breeding (M.Sc.) at the University of Alberta and in Animal Genetics (Ph.D.) at Purdue University. Early in his career, working in the area of biochemical genetics related to quantitative animal performance, Graham began his efforts on breed improvement problems with rainbow trout. This resulted in an association with the hatchery program of the California Department of Fish and Game that lasted for more than 20 years. In the mid-1970s, problems associated with the conservation of native trout species in California allowed Graham to return to an old interest of applying biochemical methods to understanding the genetic relationship among natural populations.

One of the highlights of his career was identifying and restoring native Golden Trout to parts of the Kern River Basin in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. In addition, he published extensively on breed improvement of fish for farming, including original and landmark work on the genetics of rainbow trout reproduction. He became nationally and internationally respected as an authority on fish genetics and worked in many countries of the world for various governmental and international organizations dealing with improving fish species for farming and the conservation of native fish species. He participated in trout, salmon and tilapia research projects in Chile, the Philippines and Israel. He was a founding officer of the International Association for Genetics in Aquaculture. Graham's teaching career included undergraduate courses in animal genetics, animal breeding, statistics and wildlife genetics, as well as graduate courses on the theory of quantitative genetics. For the last ten years of his career, he supervised the undergraduate teaching and student advising programs in Animal Science. In retirement, Graham plans to continue his hobby with personal computers and the Internet while enjoying extended travel with Betty, his wife of 42 years. He has three children, two daughters living with their families in the Sacramento area and a son living with his family in Maryland. These families include five grandchildren with whom he and Betty spend many joyful hours.

At the end of April **D. Michael Fry** retired from the faculty to accept a position as Senior Scientist with Stratus Consulting, a Boulder, Colorado, firm with a practice specializing in natural resources damage assessment, ecological monitoring and environmental restoration planning. Mike will continue to design and conduct studies of pollutant effects on wild birds, much the same as the studies he has done here on Exxon Valdez seabirds, Johnston Island tropicbirds, California seabirds impacted by DDT and chemical spills, and California Condor lead exposure.

Throughout his residence in Avian Sciences and later in Animal Science, Mike trained graduate students in ecology and worked with various UC Davis faculty.

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Department Reaches Out to Share Knowledge

As a Land Grant university, UC Davis is committed to three classic missions—teaching, research and outreach. The last of these goals means sharing information with the public and private citizens. From solving nuisance odor complaints for high schools to encouraging women to pursue biotechnology, the Department of Animal Science is doing its part to reach out to others.

Frank Mitloehner, assistant specialist in Cooperative Extension, was contacted recently by Sonoma Valley High School to help solve nuisance complaints caused by the school's animal facilities. Frank, an air quality specialist and agricultural engineer, surveyed students, teachers and neighbors and spent a day and night at the facility observing the activities there. After meeting with all parties involved, he applied his knowledge of animal behavior to recommend ways the school could help solve the nuisance problems. One important change he suggested was simply to feed all the animals at the same time, not individually. A plan was drafted and set into motion. The neighbors were so delighted with the improvements that they decided to donate the money they had collected for a lawsuit to the school for its agriculture program.

Alison Van Eenennaam was recognized by the dean of the college for reaching out to women high school students. Alison, Cooperative Extension assistant specialist in animal genomics and biotechnology, was a panel speaker for Sacramento Advocates for Girls' Empowerment (SAGE), a group of volunteers who strongly believe in helping young girls realize their potential in the world of mathematics, science and technology.

In March, she spoke to more than 200 high school girls at Armijo High School's Women in Technology (WIT) Fair, touching on careers in biotechnology and the route students need to take to pursue a career in this area.

“I think it is important for girls to see that there is nothing stopping them from pursuing a career in biotechnology and science,” she said.

Faculty in the department participated in a detailed study for the Council on Agriculture Science and Technology (CAST), called “Animal Agriculture and Global Food Supply.” The report largely defends the importance of farm animals to world health and nutrition and to local economies. In addition to being distributed to members of the US Congress and the White House, the study is being used by **Jon Beckett**, a Ph.D. graduate from the department and now associate professor of Animal Science at California Polytechnical State University, San Luis Obispo, who is offering a special senior-level course there in spring 2003 that will involve the CAST study.

The 92-page report was prepared by an international committee chaired by Emeritus Professor **Eric Bradford**; **Jim Oltjen**, **Jim Fadel** and **Lee Baldwin** of the UC Davis Animal Science department also served on that committee. Drs. Bradford, Fadel and Oltjen all visited Cal Poly as guest lecturers in Dr.

Beckett's course.

Francine Bradley, UC Cooperative Extension poultry scientist, gets the call when people stop being proud of their peacocks. Historically valued for their iridescent blue-green beauty, the birds have become intolerable nuisances in some parts of California. They are big, hungry, destructive birds that scream all night long during mating season—which in warm areas can last from late January well into fall. Lately, peafowl calls are on the rise, from Vacaville to Berkeley and Arcadia to Point Reyes.

“Peafowl are native to India, not California. They are an invasive animal species,” Francine says. “They hurt native birds by eating their food and decimating the plants where the natives would live. They ruin plants put on hillsides to prevent erosion, scratch the paint on cars, damage shingles and tiles on roofs and cover lawns with fecal matter.”

Currently, Francine is an expert witness in a civil lawsuit over the future of hundreds of free-ranging peafowl on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Usually, she advises municipal and park managers to trap the birds and give them to breeders who can keep them in a confined environment. Leaving peafowl in place is rarely an option, she says, since one pair can produce 20 offspring a year.

Francine has also been an expert witness recently defending the rights of breeders of show birds, particularly of game fowl, which have been blamed for the spread of Exotic Newcastle Disease in California. One of the state's leading poultry experts, she has been in the forefront of controlling the disease and educating commercial and backyard producers on the disease's ravages.

Children meet sturgeon in classroom visit

Molly Stephens and **Amy Welsh**, graduate students with Dr. **Bernie May**, brought species conservation to a future generation of young scientists. At Pioneer Elementary School in Davis, Molly and Amy taught several classes of fourth graders about conservation of green sturgeon. The students were able to see (and touch!) a live green sturgeon and sample caviar. The students then created a “paper quilt” depicting the issues green sturgeon face. This project will be exchanged with a project from a school in a different state. Dr. May and Dr. **Serge Doroshov** are collaborating with other professors on campus to understand the biology of this poorly described species.

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Generous McOmie Gift Recognized

The Department of Animal Science hosted a luncheon to honor **Marylou** and **Ken Horn** during their visit to campus on October 30, 2002. Marylou is the niece of the late **Lorenzo "Rennie" McOmie** who with his late wife Judith made a large gift to UC Davis and in particular to the Department of Animal Science. Coincidently, Marylou was the college roommate of **Ida Garrett**, wife of Animal Science Professor Emeritus **Bill Garrett**, and the Garretts helped to arrange the Horns' visit to campus. After lunch in Meyer Hall, which was attended by the Dean and Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and by representatives from the Department of Animal Science and the Department of Agronomy and Range Science, the Horns were given a tour of several Animal Science animal facilities where departmental research and outreach were described.

Ida Garret and Bill Garret (right), former chair of Animal Science, welcome Ken and Marylou (left) to campus to accknowlege the McOmie's bequest.

The McOmie charitable trust was established in 1975 with the income from the sale of the couple's Solano County ranch. At the time of Rennie McOmie's death in 2001, the value of the McOmie gift to UC Davis was valued at more than $9 million, making it one of the campus' largest gifts. Annual income from an endowment account will be divided between the Departments of Animal Science and Agronomy

and Range Science. The Department of Animal Science has committed a significant portion of its McOmie funds to support graduate students. The first McOmie Fellows will be announced shortly. Other important uses of McOmie funds will be as matching funds for facility improvement and equipment purchase, as seed money for new research initiatives, and for jointly funded collaborative research with other departments. The McOmies through their gift were able to realize tax advantages of giving to the university while ensuring that their generosity would continue to support agricultural research, teaching and outreach that the McOmies so appreciated.

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Ed "I ♥ MILK!" DePeters Leads Popular Dairy Program

With a license plate given to him by students in one of his classes to commemorate his near obsession with animal nutrition, an "I ♥ MILK!" button that his colleagues believe he wears even when he sleeps, and a cadre of current and former students who credit their successes to his interest and caring, Professor Ed DePeters is a dairy nutritionist who exemplifies a faculty member bent on making sure that his teaching, research and outreach to the public make a difference. As a nutritionist working on problems of the state's largest agricultural industry, the dairy industry, Professor DePeters, or “Ed” or “Dr. D.” as he prefers to be called, focuses his research on two important and practical problems: modification of milk protein and fat composition, and characterization of by-product feedstuffs.

In a nutshell, Ed's research on milk composition aims at determining the effect of dietary intake on milk composition and in using diet to change milk composition. Frequently in his research he uses lactating cows with ruminal and duodenal cannulas that allow samples to be collected during digestive processes. For example, he and his graduate students measured changes in milk protein in response to changes in the processing of cereals fed to dairy cattle. Results from one experiment showed that steam-flaking corn, in contrast to the more typical rolling process, increased ruminal starch digestion and enhanced microbial growth, increased flow of microbial protein into the duodenum and increased milk protein synthesis by the mammary gland. Since milk is a source of high-quality proteins in the human diet, these

results are important to not only dairy producers but to consumers in general. He also used the lactating cow model involving ruminal and duodenal cannulas to elucidate the effect of fats in dairy cattle diets on rumen metabolism and milk composition. One interesting finding is that feeding unsaturated fatty acids contributes to the conjugated linoleic acids (CLA) in milk fat; CLA has been shown to possess potent anticarcino- genic properties in vitro and in rodent models. Working with researchers in Food Science and Technology, Ed is developing a feed product that will increase the unsaturated fatty acids available for absorption from the small intestine. The impact will be to increase the unsaturated (omega-6 and omega-3) and decrease the saturated fatty acid contents of milk fat, thus improving the human nutritional value of dairy products. Plus, there is a potential that increasing the absorption of omega-3 fatty acids will improve reproductive performance of dairy cattle, a major problem in the dairy industry. Ed's research program is providing important results that have implications for both dairy cattle nutrition and human health.

Another important focus of Ed's research is utilization of by-product feeds by dairy cattle. More than 300 crops are grown in California. Processing these crops to prepare human-edible food generates enormous quantities of by-products that create a serious waste-disposal problem. Feeding these by-products to livestock converts human-inedible feedstuffs into human-edible foodstuffs (milk and meat). Although widely fed in California, few by-products have been characterized for their variability in nutrient composition. His study measuring the variability in nutrient composition of by-products involved nutrition professionals throughout California and was one of the largest studies of its kind.

The results of these experiments have many practical implications. For example, he showed that feeds containing slowly digested fiber (e.g., soy hulls) are more dramatically impacted by high rates of passage through the digestive system as seen in high-producing dairy cows compared with feed containing rapidly digested fiber (e.g., beet pulp). Ed's research on dairy cattle nutrition was recognized nationally when he received the 1999 Applied Nutrition Award of the American Dairy Science Association.

Ed is also one of the Department of Animal Science's excellent teachers and advisers. He teaches courses on introductory animal management, nutrition and feeding, and dairy cattle production. He received the UC Davis 1998 Distinguished Teaching Award and the 2000 Distinguished Teacher Award given by the American Dairy Science Association. Each year he serves as faculty academic adviser for 40 to 50 undergraduates in Animal Science. His popularity as a faculty adviser stems from his making time to help students in need. In 1993, he received the College's Outstanding Faculty Adviser Award recognizing him as a truly outstanding faculty adviser.

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UC Davis Livestock Jackpot Show Is Resounding Success Yet Again

Two years ago some of us wondered if our undergraduate students were being both a bit cheeky and a bit optimistic when they organized the "First ANNUAL UC Davis Livestock Jackpot Show." On May 17, a new crop of students pulled off the "Third Annual UC Davis Livestock Jackpot Show."

Bath time for a couple of steers

A jackpot show pits high-school-aged students and their cattle, sheep, pigs or goats against one another in the show ring. Winners take home a hefty jackpot. This year the show was held at the Yolo County Fairgrounds in Woodland, with lambs and pigs shown in the morning and cattle and goat classes afterwards.

This year's show was again an enormous success. This outreach activity was organized and run by an energetic group of departmental students, led by graduating senior **Gillian Ferguson**.

Jessica Wuoltee and Anna Hoes put up the banner at Yolo County fairgrounds for the Jackpot Derby

A number of Animal Science staff and faculty spent their Saturday attending and helping with the Jackpot Show: **Jan Carlson, Lisa Holmes, Alisha Nork, Kent Parker** and **Drs. Gary Anderson, Trish Berger, Ed DePeters, Tom Famula, Kirk Klasing, Jim Millam, Frank Mitloehner** and **Bob Sainz.**

Dana VanLiew served as unofficial adviser to the student organizers; **Fred Stewart** helped with arrangements to use the Yolo County Fairgrounds; **Dan Sehnert** helped with preparation for the Show; and Dr. **Robert Zinn** donated t-shirts with proceeds from their sales going to support the Jackpot Show.

This year's successful event serves as a reminder that, even in these challenging time, working together accomplishes great things toward fulfilling our missions in teaching, research and outreach.


Showtime for a line of lambs

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Animal Science Facilities Plans Moving Forward

For several years the Department of Animal Science has been engaged in planning new construction to replace several existing antiquated animal facilities. The department has worked with members of the Animal Science Development Board, a group of departmental friends and supporters, to develop plans for a Nutrient Processing Center to replace the current Feed Mill, an Agricultural Exposition Center to be built at the site of the Horse Barn arena and a new Dairy Cattle Facility to replace the existing facility. The needs for these new facilities are great. The Feed Mill was built in 1964 with funds from California Cattle Feeders Association. Although it has served the department well in support of teaching, research and outreach, the old facility makes it impossible to provide students with up-to-date training and to formulate experimental diets with the precision required for contemporary research. Furthermore, the current facility is stretched to provide diets for the variety of campus animal facilities. The Dairy Cattle Facility was built in 1959 and, like the Feed Mill, its size and design no longer reflect common dairy husbandry and management in California. Construction of a new facility will support the state-of-the-art teaching and research required for the state's #1 agricultural industry. A modern dairy is essential to our training of future policy-makers and future food-animal veterinarians and in educating our increasingly urban student population. Construction of a pavilion is proposed to provide an all-weather facility in support of teaching and outreach. Currently, student events risk having to be cancelled for bad weather, and campus field days typically cannot include live animals, since we lack a sheltered, large-capacity facility that accommodates large animals, agricultural equipment, etc.

Working with members of the Animal Science Development Board, the department developed conceptual plans that were submitted for review by our dean's office. The Nutrient Processing Center and the Agricultural Exposition Center were moved to the next planning phase, which included campus-wide review, site selection, architectural design and cost estimates. The new Dairy Cattle Facility, because of its complexity, scope and anticipated costs, still is undergoing review by the dean's office. The new Dairy Cattle Facility is expected to cost between $12 and 15 million to build. Cost estimates for the Nutrient Processing Center and Agricultural Exposition Center are $5.6 and 2 million, respectively.

Construction costs for these facilities are expected to exceed available state funds, even in the best of times, and financial assistance from stakeholders, individuals or groups will be required to allow construction to proceed. The current weak economy creates an even greater challenge, since construction of these facilities in the near future will have to be driven largely by private funds. The campus provides naming opportunities for major donors (e.g., the John and Mary Smith Nutrient Processing Center). Prospective donors and individuals wishing to learn more about our proposed new facilities are encouraged to contact Gary Anderson, Animal Science Department Chair, for details.

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Ag Science Field Day 2003

The 28th annual Agricultural Science Field Day, an outreach event attracting more than 3,000 FFA and 4-H high school students from California and adjoining states, was held in March. The Department of Animal Science participated by again hosting various judging contests for student participants. Students competed in 23 different contests, ranging from livestock to agricultural computer applications. Cal Aggie students, faculty and staff from most of the traditional commodity-based departments work together to coordinate and administer the campus' largest single outreach and recruitment event.

Approximately 175 student competitors assembled near the Animal Science Feedlot to compete in livestock judging. Teams judged three classes each of swine, sheep and beef cattle. In each class four animals were placed according to how they measured up to an ideal breeding or market animal. Graduating senior **Gillian Ferguson** was the student leader of the group with **Elisa Noble**, another graduating senior, her assistant. **Dana Van Liew** and **Professor Tom Famula** were the staff and faculty advisers.

Sixty-four students competed in the dairy cattle judging contest held at the Dairy Cattle Facility. This contest was organized by **Natalie Krout**, an Animal Science student who judged dairy cattle in high school as a member of the Petaluma FFA dairy team and also shows her own string of registered Holstein cattle. She and her assistant, **Liz Abell**, a student and resident at the Dairy, helped UC Davis students halter break and clip the 20 Holstein and Jersey cows used for the contest. **Doug Gisi** was their staff adviser.

The Meat Judging contest had 53 student competitors. After donning cooler coats and hard hats, students broke into groups to place beef, lamb and pork carcasses as well as retail cuts. Quality and yield grading of beef carcasses was a tough assignment, but competitors were really put to the test when they had to identify 30 different retail meat cuts by species, wholesale cut from which the retail cut was derived and correct retail name. The contestants finished by giving oral reasons and answering a set of 10 questions. The student coordinator was **Joshua Amador**; staff and faculty advisers were **Dan Sehnert** and **Dr. Y.B. Lee**.

The light horse contest attracted 220 competitors who judged animals on conformation and performance. The student coordinator was **Andi Adams**; Dr. **Jan Roser** was faculty adviser.

Another 50 students participated in an abbreviated poultry competition; due to the quarantine for Exotic Newcastle Disease in southern California, the live-bird portion was eliminated. **Rachelle Brammeier** and **Stephanie Little** were student coordinators.

Judging competitions are as old as the campus, with documented events as early as 1906. Evaluating animals and meats teaches students how to choose market and show prospects, knowledge with practical application in many industry jobs. Requiring students to express their opinions verbally to someone

familiar with the trends in the industry helps develop confidence and communication skills that are essential in future leaders. For the university, it's a great day for encouraging more agriculturally oriented students to come to UC Davis.

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Animal Scientists Garner College Awards

Several of the nine leaders chosen to receive the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences 2002 Awards of Distinction are animal science people. Recognized at a ceremony in October, Neal Van Alfen, dean of the college, presented the prestigious awards to three of our own.

Bob Loben enjoys his prize

Robert C. Laben, professor emeritus of Animal Science, was always a favorite among his students for his open-door policy and popular, practical courses on cattle breeding, mastitis, milk composition, inbreeding and limiting DDT in dairy herds. Serving for 15 years as master adviser in the department, Bob was chosen in 1983 as UC Davis' Outstanding Undergraduate Adviser.

Willard G. Clark of World-Wide Sires in Hanford graduated from Animal Science in 1953 and has shown extraordinary leadership in the international dairy industry for more than 30 years. Bill's contributions include innovations in bovine genetics, breeding and production. He pioneered international dairy trading and fostered strong relationships with countries around the world. In 1991 he was awarded Japan's Medal of Distinction. He has long been an advisor and supporter of the department as a member of the Development Board.

Paul Martin

Paul E. Martin of Petaluma was honored for his understanding of the importance of getting animal producers and environmentalists to work together to find common ground. As environmental services coordinator for the Western United Dairymen and on the California Diary Quality Assurance Program, he has provided informed and progressive leadership to the dairy industry for more than 30 years.

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Bigger Undergraduate Enrollment Brings Advising and Commencement Changes

An overwhelming increase in enrollment has brought many changes both to the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and to the departments within the college.

The Animal Science Department has gone from having 340 students in 1993 to more than 800 in 2003. Students coming into the department may choose among four majors: Animal Science, Animal Science and Management, Avian Sciences and Animal Biology.

To meet the demands of the increasing enrollment the Advising Center in Meyer Hall has hired more staff and student assistants. In addition to the staff advisors, **Rod Santos**, and **Amber Pflager**, four student peer advisers are available during the academic year. Two undergraduate students, **Erika Scharfen** and **Rachelle Brammeier**, work the front desk in the Advising Center.

Besides consulting with the two staff advisors and four peer advisers, students also see their faculty advisers, who play an important role in advising and academic opportunities.

One change the university made this past fall was adding a December commencement ceremony for UC Davis undergraduates who finish their degrees in the summer or fall.

Vice provost for Undergraduate Studies Pat Turner said the ceremony was instituted because the spring ceremonies of two of the undergraduate colleges—each attended by about 1,000 students—are nearing the capacity of the Recreation Hall. This year 21 Animal Science seniors graduated in the fall, with nine participating in the commencement ceremony.

The spring 2003 commencement ceremony for the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will take place on Saturday afternoon, June 14, 2003. About 150 undergraduate students are expected to graduate from the Animal Science Department majors..

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Notable Notes

Wendy Ward, Animal Science M.S. student working in Dr. Juan Medrano's laboratory, received an Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award. Wendy joins Jeff Mason, last year's recipient, and Monna Hess, a recipient several years ago, as current departmental graduate students who have received this prestigious award. Often these awards originate from departmental sponsorship; Wendy, however, was nominated by an appreciative undergraduate student and a co-teaching assistant in Wendy's Animal Genetics 107 course.

In March Professor **Joy Mench** received the 2002 Humane Society of the United States Animals and Society Award for her course, Animal Science 103, Animal Welfare. This award is intended to help foster the availability of high-quality curricula and instruction in animal welfare. In addition to a certificate of excellence, Joy received $1,000 for use in course development.

Professor **Chris Calvert** was selected by the Academic Senate to receive its prestigious Distinguished Teaching Award. In addition to his busy schedule as departmental vice-chair, Chris carries a heavy load of teaching and advising, both of which he does in a spirit of ensuring that our students receive a high-quality education. Chris' award was formally presented at the June 10 Academic Senate meeting.

Professor **Tom Famula** won a newly established, fully student-run award for outstanding teaching, the Associated Students of UC Davis' Excellence in Undergraduate Education Award, in late May. An outstanding teacher was recognized for each undergraduate college at UC Davis from more than 250 nominated faculty. Tom was the recipient for our college, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

In May, **Jeff Mason**, recipient of last year's Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, was selected to receive the 2003-2004 Chancellor's Teaching Fellowship. Graduate student **Cindy Batchelder** was chosen as a fellow in the Professors for the Future program.

Staff members **Dan Sehnert** and **Kelly Wade** were recognized at a Chancellor's reception as recipients of the UC Davis Staff Assembly Citation for Excellence for 2003. From the thousands of staff members on the campus, Dan and Kelly were two of only 50 to receive the award, which recognizes the valuable contributions our staff members make each day. Dan was cited for his work as the Animal Facilities Coordinator and for holding down five jobs (all within our department!) for a period of several months, keeping things running smoothly. Kelly was recognized for her role in keeping the department afloat during last year's year-end fiscal closing and for holding down two jobs essentially for a year, making sure the accounts and the payroll-personnel actions were managed properly.