

Department of Animal Science, UC Davis

HIGHLIGHTS

A PUBLICATION FOR OUR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Spring 1996

Message from the Chair



In my 30 years as a university professor, I have accumulated a long list of memorable experiences. I suspect you would not be surprised if I told you that a good share of those special experiences involve students.

Observing students learn and gain confidence in their ability to learn, seeing their smiles at graduation and learning of their successes as they establish careers and families are very special.

During my tenure as department chair, have watched our student Block and Bridle Club grow in numbers, and I have followed the establishment of a UC Davis Chapter of the Young Cattlemen's Association and observed our Dairy

Show Team perform at county and state fairs.

In this issue of HIGHLIGHTS we report on the success of our STUDENTS FIRST Fundraising Campaign. Through your generosity we have received enough money to establish eight new endowment funds in support of students including:

- Four new undergraduate scholarships
- Two new graduate fellowships
- One endowment for student activities
- One scholarship to support farm advisors who wish to come to the campus for study and research.

That makes you part of that student connection. Thank you so much for your support.

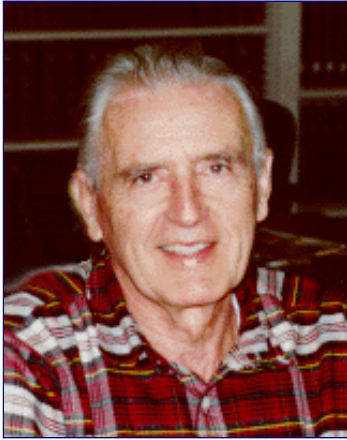
Ed Price

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Former Chancellor Jim Meyer Assists Home Department



Not unlike the Energizer battery, former Chancellor Jim Meyer shows no signs of slowing down. One of his former professors says that he is demonstrating symptoms of RDS--Retirement Denial Syndrome.

It's true that he formally stepped down from being Chancellor in 1987, after 18 years in that position and a total of 36 years on campus as teacher and administrator. He still pedals his old Raleigh to work every day, however, arriving well before most of his colleagues.

Although he is back in his home department of Animal Science where he began his career as an instructor in 1952, he resides in a new building, Meyer Hall, named in his honor.

Because of his sense of history and knowledge of the campus, Meyer has been in demand to serve on various campus committees. In recent years he has been a member of:

- The UCD Water Task Force
- The Historical and Video Recording Committee
- The Performing Arts Committee

He recently served on the Executive Committee of STUDENTS FIRST, the campuswide fund-raising campaign to raise money for student scholarships and activities.

His unspoken mission, however, was to prove that departments can do a better job than the campus in raising funds for their own students. His rationale was that most alumni are more likely to make donations to their home department.

Meyer with help from his editor, Eileen O'Farrell, ran the campaign for Animal Science, learning the "development" business while doing it.

He and Don McNary, former campus Development Officer, traveled the length of California visiting alumni and friends. Meyer even visited acquaintances in his native Idaho to raise funds for STUDENTS FIRST.

As head of the Department Development Committee, Meyer has encouraged the department to take a proactive stance in planning for its future needs, anticipating what professors, Extension specialists and students will need 20 or 30 years down the road.

Meyer is constantly visited by friends and acquaintances from around the world who wish to consult with him on such topics as administrative organization and structure or the future of agriculture and Land

Grant institutions.

He has written extensively on these topics in recent years, including an article that appeared in Science and two reports on the future of Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture, sponsored by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Meyer's style of open communication has earned the respect of administrators, faculty and students. The cartoons tacked outside his office door remind visitors that he enjoys a good laugh.

He often jokes that his farm background and his observations of animal behavior prepared him for his role as an administrator. Perhaps hard work, raising five children and an occasional game of golf have given him the courage to face life with such a confident smile.

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Department STUDENTS FIRST Campaign a Success

The Department of Animal Science STUDENTS FIRST Fundraising Campaign came to a close on December 31 with over **\$230,000** received and pledged for student scholarships and activities. These funds will be used to establish:



- **Four new undergraduate scholarships**
- **Two new graduate fellowships**
- **One endowment for student-related activities**
- **One Extension scholarship for farm advisors to come to Davis to study and engage in collaborative research with faculty and specialists.**

On behalf of our students, Jim Meyer, Campaign Head and former Chancellor, and Ria de Grassi, Chair of the Fundraising Committee of the Department Development Board, would like to thank all those who contributed to this successful campaign.

One hundred percent of all money received was placed in endowment accounts. Earnings from these investments are used to fund awards and increase the principal in each account to keep pace with inflation. Gifts may be added to these endowment accounts at any time.

Ten thousand dollars is needed to establish a named undergraduate scholarship and \$50,000 is needed for a named graduate student scholarship. Six of the eight endowments established from STUDENTS FIRST donations have been named:

- **Robert Laben Undergraduate Scholarship**
- **Clement and Jeanne Pelissier Undergraduate Scholarship**
- **Harold and Elizabeth Kendall Undergraduate Scholarship**
- **Frank Rue Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship**
- **Edward Jessup Graduate Fellowship**
- **Reuben Albaugh Extension Scholarship**

Click on this button  for a complete list of contributors to the Animal Science STUDENTS FIRST Campaign.

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Ian Garnett Heads Animal Agriculture Research Center



Ian Garnett, Animal Science Senior Lecturer, recently assumed duties as Director of the Animal Agriculture Research Center (AARC), now in its fourth year of operation. He succeeds Emeritus Professor Eric Bradford who was AARC's director from its inception.

AARC was conceived in 1992 as a broadly based organization to promote and to carry out issue-oriented research in animal agriculture that is often too broad to be effectively addressed by any one department. AARC has a board of directors drawn from industry, government, the State Universities, and UC Davis whose function is to prioritize projects, or areas of research, and assist in fund raising.

In 1993-94, AARC conducted a study of the impact of animal agriculture on water quality in California. This was followed by a Statewide conference co-sponsored by the UC Agriculture Issues Center (AIC). Other projects completed by AARC include the printing of a photographic and descriptive guide to aid in the identification of endangered plants on public lands used for grazing in Northern California and a directory of animal science departments in the UC and CSU systems.

Currently AARC is coordinating the gathering of technical information for the completion of four AIC reports on animal waste handling and impacts for the State Water Resource Control Board. In August, AARC will sponsor a Grazing Impacts Workshop led by former director Bradford. This will be followed by a report summarizing the available scientific information on this topic.

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Former Animal Science Student Hired as New Meat Lab Manager



In September 1995, **Ted Mori** was hired as the manager of the Animal Science Meat Laboratory. Ted's responsibilities include:

- Processing animals for research and teaching functions
- Finding outlets or markets for the processed meat and parts
- Maintaining this federally-inspected facility.

In addition, he assists Professor Y.B. Lee in teaching his "Meat Processing and Marketing" and "Principles of Meat Science" courses and assists Professor Trish Berger in teaching her "Introductory Animal Science" course. He also trains student interns in meat science and assists with the new "Animal Management

Practices" course.

Ted is a key player in many department and campus events such as Picnic Day and Ag Field Day, and represents the Department at National Meat Association meetings.

Ted is a 1987 UC Davis graduate with a B.S. degree in Zoology and a minor in Nutrition. He worked for Animal Science Professors Lee Baldwin and Chris Calvert between 1985 and 1988 and then left for Montana State University where he obtained his M.S. in Animal Science in 1990. Ted returned to UC Davis at that time to seek a Ph.D. degree in nutrition. In 1992, he left to work as the Quality Control Manager for Superior Packing, a large lamb processor in Dixon.

In his spare time, Ted enjoys snow skiing, water skiing, softball, soccer, and golf. He also coaches girls' softball in Dixon.

It's great to have you back, Ted.

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Animal Science Student Appointed as Dairy Farm Advisor



Animal Science student **Denise Mullinax** has been appointed Dairy Farm Advisor for Stanislaus and Merced counties. Denise will graduate from UC Davis in June with a Master of Agriculture and Management degree (MAM), offered jointly by the Department of Animal Science and the Graduate School of Management.

While an undergraduate majoring in Animal Science at UC Davis, Denise participated in the rigorous Student Herd Manager Internship Program at the department dairy.

Last summer, Denise worked with Extension specialist Deanne Morse on a dairy waste management study. She is currently involved in a study on the economic utility of animal manure as a source of plant nutrients and energy generation for dairy operations.

Congratulations, Denise!

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New Wing Dedicated at the Bodega Marine Laboratory

On Saturday, May 4, 1996, the new West Wing of the [Bodega Marine Laboratory](#) (BML), Bodega Bay, was dedicated with an attendance of over 350 people including:

- Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef and his wife, Rosalie
- Senator Mike Thompson, a great proponent of coastal reserves and the Bodega Marine Laboratory
- Cadet Hand, the first BML director
- Mr. Robert Ogg, inventor of the Danforth anchor
- John and Mary Louise Riley, for whom the weekly BML Seminar Series has been named
- Eleanor Uhlinger, head librarian



Current BML Director, Dr. James Clegg served as host. The new wing offers a 120-seat lecture hall, a larger library (dedicated that day to Cadet Hand), two large aquaria and a jellyfish aquarium in the main entrance hallway, an outside tidepool/ mesocosm still to be completed, a large conference room with a view of the ocean, and offices for faculty, research staff, visiting researchers, and administrative staff.

Animal Science Professor Ernie Chang and Geneticist Dennis Hedgecock are now housed in this new wing.

During the dedication, Chancellor Vanderhoef, who was directly responsible for BML when he first came to UC Davis in 1984 and has remained a strong supporter over the years, got to "speak" to a fish and received from it a bottle of wine etched with BML's logo, a unique BML way of dedicating the wing in lieu of ribbon cutting.

For those of you who have worked, studied, or conducted research at the Bodega Marine Laboratory since it opened in 1961, now is the perfect time to visit the Laboratory and see how it has grown and prospered. Please call 707-875-2211 for more information and tour schedules.

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The 1996 UC Beef and Range Field Day



The 1996 UC Beef and Range Field Day was held at the Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center, Browns Valley, on April 11, 1996.

Center Superintendent Mike Connor snapped this photo of Animal Science Extension Specialist Jim Oltjen speaking to the audience on supplementation feeding of beef cattle. Animal Science professors Jim Fadel and Bob Sainz were also on the program as well as Animal Science graduate student, Cindy Daley.

The annual Beef and Range Field Day is co-sponsored by the Department of Animal Science and UC Cooperative Extension.

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Chairperson of the California Young Cattlemen's Association



Animal Science and Management Senior **Melissa Garrod** has recently been named chairperson of the California Young Cattlemen's Association.

Melissa was a key player in the establishment of a chapter on the UC Davis campus in January of 1995. She served as vice president of the local chapter in 1995 and president in 1995-96. Melissa is no stranger to the cattle industry, having been raised on a cattle and alfalfa ranch in Northern California. Congratulations, Melissa!

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Funds Sought for Third-World Student Scholarship

Dr. David Robinson was a distinguished faculty member in the Department from 1967 until his untimely death in 1985 at age 49. He was an outstanding teacher, highly productive researcher and administrator of exceptional vision. Dave was also a gifted athlete and artist.

At UCD, Dr. Robinson taught the campus' Principles of Nutrition course (Nutrition 110) for many years and was a popular and successful mentor of graduate students.

He was well known for his research in protein nutrition and the control of food intake. He was Associate Dean in the College from 1976-78, and in 1978 Dave became the first program director of the Agency for International Development's Small Ruminant Collaborative Research Support Program, which coordinated research on goat and sheep production in South America, Africa, Indonesia and the US. He brought dedication and great energy to this task and made key contributions to developing a remarkably successful new paradigm for international aid in the field of agricultural research.

His hope was "to train a cadre of people who not only understand the problems of hunger and poverty but who have the sensitivity and courage to resolve them."

In recognition of Professor Robinson's many achievements and his lifelong interest in international agriculture, the department established the David W. Robinson Memorial Scholarship in 1986 to benefit third-world students.

Approximately \$3,500 was contributed in the first few months by David's friends and former students. The amount required by the University to establish a named undergraduate scholarship, however, is \$10,000, and \$50,000 is required for a named graduate student scholarship.

The department would like to encourage donations to this scholarship in an effort to reach and surpass the \$10,000 needed to establish a scholarship for third-world students in Dr. Robinson's memory. We welcome gifts from friends, former students and others who share Professor Robinson's concern for less fortunate persons around the globe. One hundred percent of your donation will be placed in this endowment fund.

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Endowment Fund Established for Student Activities

An endowment account to support student activities has been established from funds received during the recent STUDENTS FIRST campaign. Earnings from this account will be used to support student functions not covered by state (University) funds.

Examples include:

- Sending officers of Block & Bridle to the annual National Convention
- Providing travel funds for students to attend field days, farm shows, and meetings of professional scientific societies and animal industry organizations
- Supporting our Dairy Show Team at county and state fairs
- Funding field trips to visit livestock and dairy producers
- Fall and spring faculty/student BBQs
- Commencement reception for students and their parents
- Student internships
- Student research.

Gifts to this endowment fund will be greatly appreciated!

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Animal Science Exhibits Are A Hit On Picnic Day

Several thousand people visited the Animal Science exhibits at the Cole Facility on Picnic Day. The fistulated cow and stallion semen collection exhibits were as popular as ever.



The young man shown here got a chance to show his friends how to milk a goat.



And others discovered that some dairy goats crave human attention.



The Young Cattlemen's Association exhibit offered Picnic Day goers a chance to brush up on their knowledge of beef cattle.

Kids galore!



Who said we don't have prolific goats at our Goat Facility? Only about 5% of goat births result in quadruplets. But during a four-day period in March, it happened four times. Showing off their four-legged youngsters are, from left: student **Judy Smith** with the La Mancha-cross kids; Goat Facility Manager **LaDonna Foley** with the Toggenburg kids; student **Nicole Gibison** with the Nubian-Alpine cross kids; and student **Nancy Marshall** with the Saanan kids. What a

handful!

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Animals Find New Home in Animal Science

We would like to acknowledge the following friends who in the last two years chose to donate animals to the department:

CATTLE:

Alexander Cross.

GOATS:

William and Teresa Ackerman, Jerry and Beth Bearry, Joan Rowe, Sherrolyn Welker.

HORSES:

Harry Bashian, Bull Market Stable, Vivien Bunnell, Joseph Duffel, Lyndall Erb, Gene Fenbrink, Carmen Lee, Rose Lewis, Diana Lucas, Joseph Marion, Victoria Menear, Greg Payne, Riverdale Arabian Park, Christina Robinson, Stephanie Vaughn, John and Kimberly Vernachio, Janet Ver Plank, Mackenzie Williams.

SHEEP:

Diana Bruno, David Olmsted.

SWINE:

Howard and Dorian Balsdon, Norman Montague, Matthew Rocha.

The Department would also like to acknowledge Janelle Belanger for donating a saddle, Marilee Urban for a very nice painting, and Nunes & Sons, Inc. for a silage bagger.

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Animal Science Major Revised

The Department's Undergraduate Instruction Committee recently completed an extensive review of the Animal Science major. The new Animal Science major ensures significant exposure to food animal production while maintaining flexibility for students with a more general interest in animal biology. It also improves the requirements for integrative biology and replaces the previous two "options."

The Animal Biology option will be retained for students interested in a disciplinary approach to animal science with or without a species orientation. In addition, a well-defined set of species-oriented "specializations" have been established including:

- Dairy and Livestock Management
- Equine Management
- Laboratory Animal Management
- Captive and Companion Animal Management
- Aquatic Animal Management

The Animal Science and Management undergraduate major, which combines training in animal science and business/economics, remains unchanged. Current enrollment in both majors exceeds 400 students.

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Potential Students Visit Department



Earlier this year, the Department contacted some 265 individuals who had been admitted to one of our two undergraduate majors for fall, 1996, but had not made a commitment to enroll.

Invitations were sent to these individuals and their parents to visit the Department during a two-week period in April to participate in discussions with faculty, staff and students and tour two of our animal facilities.

About 150 students and parents took advantage of the "Admitted Student Program" this year. In the photo above, student **Lara Lurie** (left) speaks to a group of prospective students and their parents.

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Notable Notes



Animal Science Professor **Serge Doroshov** and Staff Research Associate **Joel Van Eenennaam** are organizing a Sturgeon Broodstock Management Workshop to be held September 27-28, 1996 at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. The Workshop is the culmination of four years of collaborative research through the Western Regional Aquaculture Consortium Sturgeon Research Project with contributors from research institutions and commercial sturgeon farms in California, Idaho and Montana. The purpose of this research was to focus on the most critical aspects of sturgeon broodstock development and breeding and to establish reliable production seedstock for the commercial sturgeon industry.



Professor Emeritus **G. Eric Bradford** gave an invited presentation on "Small Ruminant Genetic Resources - Global Overview" at a symposium sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization in Beijing, **China**, in early May. He has also been asked to chair a Council for Agricultural Science & Technology (CAST) National Task Force to write a publication on the "Impacts of Animal Production on the Future Availability of Food for Humans."



Emeritus Professor **Bob Laben** was recently recognized as the California Hunter Education Instructor of the Year by the California Department of Fish and Game. For 35 years, Bob has taught proper gun handling techniques, hunter ethics and wildlife conservation to over 2,000 individuals in 81 Hunter Education classes. A Hunter Education Certificate is required in California before individuals can be issued a hunting license.



If you want to know what it's like in **Siberia**, just ask Animal Science and Management Junior **Stacy Pettigrew** this fall. Stacy is spending a three-month summer internship at the Homatova School of Agriculture in Irkutsk. She will be taking classes in farm management and fur processing and will work with their youth agriculture program (similar to our Future Farmers of America). The sponsor is Rural Enterprise Adaptation Program International.



Dr. James France of the Institute of Grasslands & Environmental Research (IGER) in North Wyke, **Great Britain**, is spending his 6-month sabbatical here working with Professor **Lee Baldwin** and others in the Department.



Professor **Tom Famula** is hosting **Dr. Matti Oljala** from the University of Helsinki, Department of Animal Science in Helsinki, **Finland**, who will be with us during his 13-month sabbatical.



Dr. Mario Poli of the Instituto de Genetica in Villa Udaondo (Castelar), **Argentina**, is here until January 1997 working with Professor **Juan Medrano**.



Professor **Ed DePeters** is providing training at our Dairy Barn for visiting scholar **Manuel Valdez-Lopez**, a professor in the School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa, **Mexico**, for the next three months.



Carole Wallace, secretary to the chair of Animal Science, and **David Tafoya**, an Ag Tech employee on our farm crew, have both received their 10-year pins for their years of service with the University.
