



# UConn Department of Animal Science Student Newsletter Fall 2014

UConn Department of Animal Science took home the first 'Big Scoop' trophy for best ice cream at the opening barbecue at the annual American Society of Animal Scientists (ASAS) meeting in Kansas City, MO. Creameries that sent ice cream to the meeting included South Dakota State, Washington State, & Kansas State. Turn to page 4 to read more about the ASAS meeting.

## A Message from the Department Head

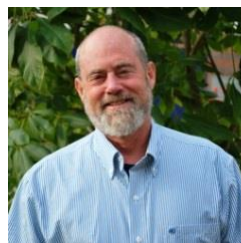
Welcome to fall semester 2014! Once again, we are preparing for an exciting and busy year in the Department of Animal Science. The semester began with our annual ice cream social to welcome new students. All students, new and continuing, attended and visited with faculty as well as members of Animal Science clubs. Over 280 people attended this year.

The summer began with the College graduation ceremonies. Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors and their families. We hope that you all stay in contact with the Department through email, Facebook, or a return visit to your alma mater. Just send your updated

email address to [anscmail@uconn.edu](mailto:anscmail@uconn.edu) to stay on the distribution.

Graduation was quickly followed by summer orientation for our new freshmen and transfer students. All new students should have been assigned an academic advisor. If you are unsure of who your advisor is, it should be listed in your student admin page. If no advisor is listed, please contact the main office (860-486-2413) and we will assign you an advisor.

*(more on page 2)*



### IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- Graduate Student News
- New ANSC Faculty
- Faculty Awards
- ASAS Meetings
- Morgan Horse Summer
- Graduate Student Association
- ANSC Fall Events
- Undergraduate ASAS Awards
- Summer Internship
- Compliance Corner
- Library Updates
- UConn Cheese Award
- Give a Gift

## ANSC Graduate Student News

- ANSC PhD student **Indu Upadhyaya** was featured in *Naturally@UConn*. Find out what she studied as an undergraduate student, why she applied to UConn, and what she is currently researching now in Dr. Venkitanarayanan's lab by reading the full article [here](#).
- **Meera Nair**, ANSC PhD student (Venkitanarayanan), won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Oral Presentation Competition at the June IFT meeting in New Orleans.
- **Devi Jaganathan**, ANSC PhD student (Govoni), won first place in Northeast ASAS/ADSA Graduate Student Oral Presentation
- **Indu Upadhyaya**, ANSC PhD student (Venkitanarayanan), won Best Graduate Student Research in the Poultry Products Safety Division at the 2014 Poultry Science Association meeting. Indu was also appointed to the 2014-2015 PSA Board of Directors as Student Director. She also received the prestigious Maurine Stein Fellowship Award.



*Indu Upadhyaya, ANSC PhD student*

This award is given to a graduate student whose training and research in applied poultry sciences may lead to improvements in efficiency and profitability of the egg industry.

- **Deepti Karumathil**, ANSC PhD student (Venkitanarayanan), passed the Certified Food Scientist (CFS) exam administered by the international Food Science Certification Commission (IFSCC) of Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). She is the first individual from UConn to attain this credential.

## Message from the Department Head *(continued)*

In addition to our new students this fall, Dr. David Magee from the University College, Dublin and Dr. Young Tang from the University of Connecticut, have joined the Department of Animal Science. To learn more about them, go to page 3.

Join me in congratulating the faculty, graduate students and undergraduates who won awards for their achievements in research, teaching and service this past year. Peruse through this newsletter to see who won what!

You may notice a change in our letterhead. In addition to changes in the UConn logo that occurred last year, the College got a new name! Beginning this summer, the new name is the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CAHNR). The new name celebrates our commitment to agriculture and recognizes recent changes in the College, including the addition of the Department of Kinesiology to CAHNR.

Have a great fall semester!

## Faculty News and Awards

### Welcome to Animal Science!



Dr. David Magee, Assistant Professor, is one of two new faculty hires in the Department of Animal Science starting this fall. Dr. Magee's area of research will focus on animal genomics and transcriptomics with emphasis on the bovine macrophage transcriptional response to infection with mycobacterial pathogens, which cause tuberculosis and Johne's disease in cattle. He previously worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the Animal Genomics Group at University College Dublin Ireland and had also worked in industry for over two years.



Dr. Young Tang, Assistant Professor, is our second new faculty hire this academic year. Dr. Tang's area of research will focus on animal stem cell biology and infectious diseases with emphases on epigenetics and signaling pathways. He will also coordinate the fall ANSC Seminar Series in Dr. Amalaradjou's absence. He previously worked as a NIFA (National Institute of Food and Agriculture) postdoctoral fellow at UConn in the Department of Animal Science, and had also worked in the pharmaceutical industry for five years.

### AAUP Award for Service in Excellence

Congratulations to ANSC Professor Dr. Michael Darre who received the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Award for Service Excellence this past spring.



### 2014 ASAS Young Teacher Award



Congratulations to Dr. Sarah Reed, Assistant Professor, who received the 2014 Northeast American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association Young Scientist - Teaching Award. She received her award in July at the 2014 ASAS Meetings held in Kansas City, Missouri.



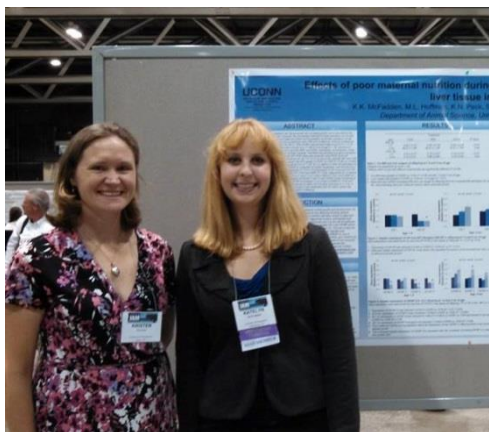
## Success at ASAS Meeting



Dr. Reed with her undergraduate advisees:  
Bethany Sullivan, Emma Lavigne, Samuel  
Lambert, and graduate student Joseline Raja



ANSC Undergraduate Bethany  
Sullivan and her advisor Dr. Reed



ANSC Undergraduate Katelynn  
McFadden with her advisor Dr. Govoni.

The 2014 American Society of Animal Scientists annual meeting took place in July in Kansas City, Missouri. UConn ANSC faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students attended presented their research, competed in various competitions and attended many presentations. They came back to Storrs with quite a few awards and recognitions.

- **Devi Jaganathan**, PhD student in Dr. Govoni's lab, won first place in the 2014 Northwest American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy.
- **Bethany Sullivan** (undergraduate in Dr. Reed's lab) and **Katelynn McFadden** (undergraduate student in Dr. Govoni's lab) tied for third place in the 2014 American Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Research Poster competition.
- **Dr. Sarah Reed** gave an invited presentation at the 2014 American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association joint annual meeting on Satellite Cells in Horses. She later received the Northeast ADSA/ADSAS Young Scientist – Teaching Award.
- **Dr. Kristen Govoni** gave an invited presentation at the 2014 American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association joint annual meeting on Graduate Student Education.
- **Dr. Steven Zinn** gave an invited presentation at the 2014 Biology of Lactation in Farm Animals Workshop at the 2014 American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association joint annual meeting on Graduate Student Education. He also received the 2014 H. Allen Tucker Lactation and Endocrinology Award.



Department Head Dr. Steven Zinn received  
the H. Allen Tucker Lactation and  
Endocrinology Award

## UConn Morgans Take the Top Spots In Summer Shows

To start off the 2014 UConn Morgan Show Team showing season, Mr. John Bennett (UConn Horse Barn Manager) and ANSC senior Jane Griffin, took three UConn horses to North Hampton, MA to compete at the New England Morgan Regional Horse Show on July 21, 2014. The first competitor for the week was Jane riding UC Night Star in the Low Hunter Division. Night Star and Jane rode to the Reserve Champion title placing **first**, **second**, and **third** in their three fence classes and placing second in the hunter under saddle class. In addition to competing in the Low Hunter Division, Jane rode Night Star to the **blue ribbon** in the Hunter Hack class.



The pair comprised of UC Valentino and UC Mastermind, driven by Mr. Bennett, continued the week and every class they competed in they had a victory. As a pair, they were overall champions in the Pleasure Driving Working Limit Multiples Division which included a **win** in their driven dressage test and a **second** place in Super Reinsmanship Limit. As well as driving the horses as a pair, Mr. Bennett drove UC Valentino to the Reserve Champion Title in the Single Limit Driving Division, including a win in the Pleasure Driving Turn-Out class and a win in the Driven Timed Obstacles.



Alena Meacham (Director of UConn Horse Riding program) with her son Noah and Mr. John Bennett watching Jane Griffin ride UC Night Star at the Woodstock Fair

## UConn Polo Is Back In Season!

Attend a UConn Polo match this fall! All home games are held in the Horsebarn Hill Arena with free admission. For the full schedule, visit the Department of Animal Science [Polo Webpage](#). First match at UConn is scheduled for Sunday Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**UConn**  
POLO



### Fall 2014 Game Schedule

Day	Date	UConn Team	Time	Team
Sunday	Sept 21st	BLUE/WHITE SCRIMAGE	2:00	CORNUCOPIA
Saturday	Oct 4th	Women	2:00	@ Umass
Sunday	Oct 5th	MEN	2:00	CORNELL
Saturday	Oct 11th	Women	2:00	@ Skidmore
Sunday	Oct 12th	Men	12:00	@ Harvard
Sunday	Oct 12th	WOMEN	2:00	TBD
Friday	Oct 17th	WOMEN	7:00	@ UVA
Saturday	Oct 18th	Men	2:00	@ Skidmore
Sunday	Oct 19th	WOMEN	12:00	@ UVA
Sunday	OCT 19th	MEN	2:00	ROGER WILLIAMS
Saturday	Oct 25th	WOMEN	3:00	@ Harvard
Saturday	OCT 25th	MEN	2:00	MICH STATE
Saturday	Nov 1st	Women	2:00	@ Yale
Sunday	Nov 2nd	Men	2:00	@ Yale
Friday	Nov 7th	Women	7:30	@ Cornell
Saturday	Nov 8th	Men	7:30	@ Cornell
Sunday	Nov 9th	WOMEN	2:00	SKIDMORE
Sunday	Nov 16th	MEN	2:00	SKIDMORE
Friday	Nov 21st	WOMEN	7:00	TEXAS A&M
Sunday	Nov 23rd	WOMEN	12:00	TEXAS A&M
Sunday	Dec 7th	WOMEN	2:00	CORNELL

HOME GAMES IN BOLD & CAPS

Coach: Jon Nicholson - jonathan.nicholson@uconn.edu

Home Games Held in Horsebarn Hill Arena located at:  
3017 Horsebarn Hill Rd., Storrs, CT

## ANSC Graduate Student Association News

Animal Science Graduate Student Association (ASGSA) is a UConn Department of Animal Science Organization whose objective is to aid graduate students in advancing their educational, social, cultural and academic/industrial skills. We provide a healthy and amicable environment for all graduate students to participate, interact and enrich themselves during various events organized by the ASGSA committee.

### MEET THE COMMITTEE:

President : Hsin-Bai Yin

Past President : Indu Upadhyaya

Vice President: Joseline Raja

Treasurer: Kaylin Belskie

Secretary : Varun Kumar Bhattaram

Event Coordinator: Chi-Hung Chen

Senator (Representative to GSS) : Meera Surendran Nair

(Also pictured is Abhi Upadhyaya, ANSC Post Doc)



As a welcome to our new graduate students, we hosted the Who's Who pizza luncheon to facilitate their interaction with ANSC faculty and ASGSA members. Following are our upcoming events for 2014-2015 academic year:

- **Who's Who luncheon: (September 2014, ANSC and ASGSA)**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fun Food 'n' Frolic – (Thanksgiving, November, 2014)**
- **Farewell 2014 :(ANSC and ASGSA, December, 2014)**
- **Linkedin photo shoot –(February, 2015)**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grad Olympics – (February, 2015)**

### NEW ANSC GRAD STUDENTS

Please help us make your graduate experience at UConn more informative and memorable by joining us on [UConncontact](#) and "LIKE" our Facebook page [here](#).





## Don't Miss These Fall Events!



- ANSC Seminar Series – Every Friday beginning September 12 (for more details visit [www.animalscience.uconn.edu/calendar.php](http://www.animalscience.uconn.edu/calendar.php))
- 2014 Cornucopia Festival – Sunday, September 21
- Dressage Home Show – Sunday, November 2
- Drill Team Home Show – Friday, October 31
- Little International Livestock Show (Little "I") – Saturday, November 1
- UConn Beef Auction – Sunday, November 2
- Huntseat Home Show – Saturday, November 22

## Spring 2014 Undergraduate ASAS Awards

The 2014 American Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Scholar Recognition Awards Ceremony was held this past May! This honor is awarded to ANSC Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors in the top 10% of their class. Congratulations!

*Pictured (right to left from the top): Alvin Alper, Department Head Dr. Steven Zinn, Sam Lambert, Katelyn McFadden, Delaney Patterson, Lexi Gallina, Cara Dooley, Rachel Jorgensen, Erin O'Rear, Megan Palmisano, Jackie Lee, Jessica Barry, Emma Price, Brenna Daly, Bethany Sullivan, Audrianna Finney, Allison Schauer, Julie Notestine, Clarissa Spadanuta, and Alycia Fulton.*



## Summer Internship

ANSC undergraduate Lauren Bauer spent this past summer interning at Green Valley Veterinary Services working alongside the owner Dr. Dennis Thibeault. Lauren was able to travel throughout Connecticut and Rhode Island to assist Dr. Thibeault in treating both large and small animals. This internship gave her hands-on experience in numerous areas of veterinary medicine. She was able to help in the restraining of animals during exams, prepare vaccines, dispense medications, and aid Dr. Thibeault when he performed various surgeries. Not only was Lauren able to gain important veterinary skills throughout the duration of this internship, but she was able to learn all aspects behind the scenes of a veterinary operation in addition to animal care. The Green Valley Veterinary Services Internship is one of the many internships that Animal Science students have participated in over the summer. To learn more about the opportunities available visit

<http://animalscience.uconn.edu/InternshipsAndEmployment/internships.php>.



## Results of the ANSC Summer Plans Poll

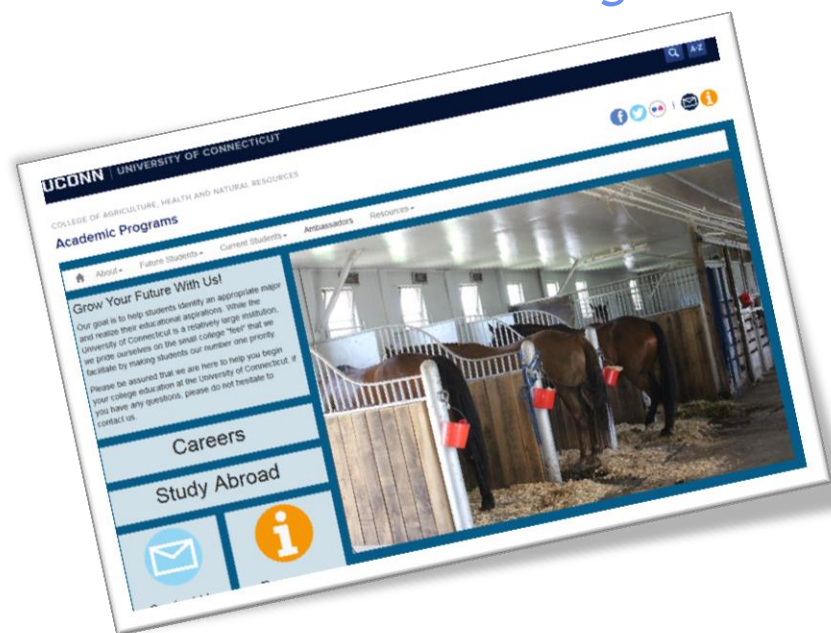
A survey was posted in April's 2014 ANSC Student Newsletter that asked "ANSC Undergraduates, what are your plans this summer"? The majority of students who responded participated in a summer internship, worked at a summer job related to their major, or traveled.

ANSC Major Ashley Kotran participated in a US Animal Research Center Internship. Read more about her internship [here](#).





## The Office of Academic Programs has a new website - *grow.uconn.edu*



Academic Programs is your resource for all things CAHNR. Visit their homepage to be connected to social media for the college, find important dates, and learn about fun events around campus. Check out the *Current Student* pages to learn more about clubs, departments and majors, scholarships, study abroad, and graduation. Academic Programs is also your connection to academic advising – find registration information, common forms, and student resources.

[Grow.uconn.edu](http://grow.uconn.edu) is your one stop shop to make the most out of your time here at UConn!

## ANSC Compliance Corner



Victor Delaire, ANSC Compliance Director

EHS Training Module Schedule for **NEW** student employees to work in Animal Barns.

**New student employees need to attend ONE – 1 hour session below.** There is no need for preregistration, but please bring a pen. Visit Compliance Corner website for more info:

<http://animalscience.uconn.edu/compliance/compliancecorner.php>

**G. White Bldg., Room 103**

- Tuesday, September 16 5-6pm
- Wednesday, September 17 3:30-4:30pm
- Thursday, September 25 5-6pm

## UConn Creamery's Cheese Wins Top Prize!

The Department of Animal Science Creamery won top prize for their Chile Queso Blanco cheese at the American Cheese Society Annual cheese competition! We are very proud of our faculty and staff who made this possible.

Each year, the American Cheese Society awards cheeses and dairy products that have achieved technical excellence and exhibit the highest aesthetic qualities. This year, following its return to cheese making, the UConn Department of Animal Science Creamery Green Chile Queso Blanco was awarded the top prize in its category at the American Cheese Society Annual cheese competition, which consisted of 248 companies submitting 1,685 products ([http://cheesejudging.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ACS\\_2014-AwardsBrochure\\_Sm.pdf](http://cheesejudging.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ACS_2014-AwardsBrochure_Sm.pdf)).

For more information on the UConn Department of Animal Science Cheeses please contact Dr. Dennis D'Amico, Assistant Professor, at [ddamico@uconn.edu](mailto:ddamico@uconn.edu).

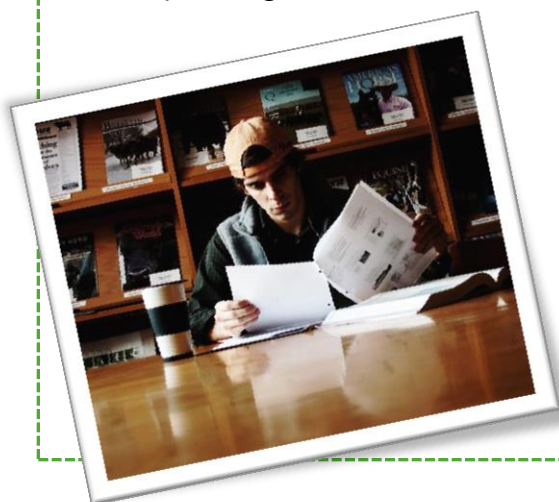
*As a clarification, in the photos, a second place ribbon is shown, but the cheese was awarded the top prize as there were no first place cheeses in the category. None of the cheeses scored over a 93, therefore UConn received the top prize with a second place.*



Photo taken by Marc Druart

## Relax or Study Between Classes ANSC Student Library Updates

The Donald M. Kinsman Library is located in room 110 of the G. White Building and is available to all ANSC students and faculty between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ANSC student organizations can reserve the library to hold their evening meetings by visiting the ANSC Main Office in G. White Room 107.



This summer six new computers were installed in the library for a total of **nine** computer stations. Students can now print from the library computers (HuskyPrint) and pay and pick up their print jobs at the WB Young Building Student Lounge. There is also a soda/water vending machine available to students. Be sure to utilize YOUR library.

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## Give A Gift...

Many donors choose to honor a loved one or friend with a gift to support UConn in his or her name. Perhaps the gift is in memory of someone who loved UConn's animals, from an alumnus who attended the Department of Animal Science, or in honor of an inspirational professor. Gifts may be made by mail or online. For more information, visit [www.foundation.uconn.edu](http://www.foundation.uconn.edu)

## ANSC Students and Faculty Welcome Your Support!

If you would like to contribute to a scholarship or to the general ANSC fund, please complete the information below or make a donation online at [www.foundation.uconn.edu](http://www.foundation.uconn.edu) and click GIVE NOW at top right.

\_\_\_\_ I/ we would like to contribute to the ANSC department.  
Please indicate amount:

\_\_\_\_ \$25      \_\_\_\_ \$50      \_\_\_\_ \$100  
\_\_\_\_ \$250      \_\_\_\_ Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the *University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc.* On the memo line indicate the *ANSC Department Fund* or name of a particular scholarship.

For more information, contact [Jennifer.Simoniello@uconn.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Simoniello@uconn.edu) via phone (860) 486-1088 or mail: University of Connecticut, Department of Animal Science, 3636 Horsebarn Road Ext., Storrs, CT 06269-4040.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt not-for-profit corporation dedicated to UConn. Donors to the Foundation have the right to request in writing that their identity be anonymous.

