

Cheyenne Summers

University of Connecticut
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EDUCATION

- UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT:** Storrs, CT 06269 August 2023 – Present
PhD in Animal Science
- UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS:** Urbana-Champaign, IL 61801 May 2019 – May 2021
Master of Science in Comparative Biosciences
- UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS:** Urbana-Champaign, IL 61801 August 2015 – May 2019
Bachelor of Science in Animal Sciences

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut Department of Animal Science August 2023 – Present
Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant, Reed Lab

- Researches the influence of metabolic syndrome on ovulation induction in mares
- Utilizes transrectal ultrasound to determine follicular activity in research mares during the breeding season
- Conducts glucose tolerance tests on research mares
- Responsible for assisting with parturition in mares and data collection associated with parturition
- Collects colostrum, placental, and blood samples at the time of foaling
- Mentors undergraduates who assist in animal work and laboratory duties within the labs of Dr. Sarah Reed and Dr. Steve Zinn
- Assists with sample collection in a bovine research project looking into different feeding strategies
- Responsible for scheduling of all laboratory personnel across experimental responsibilities, including animal care, data collection, and sample processing
- Utilizes R to analyze data
- Facilitates all data collection of F2-2 generation in a multigenerational sheep project, including blood collection, weight record, liver biopsies, LPS trials, muscle biopsies, and necropsies

University of Connecticut Department of Animal Science December 2022 – August 2023
Research Assistant II, Govoni Lab

- Facilitated ovine research projects investigating the effects of maternal nutrition on fetal programming in the F2-2 generation in a multi-generational project
- Responsible for all data and sample collection of F2-2 generation in a multigenerational sheep project, including blood collection, weight record, morphometric measurements, and glucose tolerance tests
- Experienced in collecting and processing blood samples from cattle and sheep of all ages
- Spearheaded lambing processes in research ewes
- Maintained health and data record of all research lambs
- Mentored undergraduates who assist in the laboratories of Dr. Kristen Govoni, Dr. Sarah Reed, and Dr. Steve Zinn

- Organized and implemented scheduling of all laboratory personnel across experimental responsibilities, including animal care, data collection, and sample processing

University of Illinois Equine Research and Teaching Unit

June 2021 – December 2022

Equine Research Specialist in Agriculture

- Managed an AALAC-accredited equine facility
- Responsible for the welfare of 80 horses housed at the University of Illinois Horse Farm, which included stallions, broodmares, yearlings, weanlings, and foals
- Experienced in handling stallions and yearlings
- Well-versed in collecting stallions for artificial insemination purposes
- On-call to assist staff with questions or farm-related issues
- Facilitated research between principal investigators and university-owned horses
- Responsible for record-keeping, billing, and compliance with university oversight entities
- Forged and maintained client relationships
- Responsible for parturition and post-foaling care of 27 mares and foals during the 2022 foaling season
- Facilitated communication between veterinarians, farm staff, and horse owners to ensure the welfare of all horses housed at the Horse Farm
- Provided basic veterinary care in emergency and non-emergency situations
- Responsible for hiring and managing a team of 17 student employees and interns
- Implemented a training program for farm staff to learn safe horse handling and basic horse medical care
- Collaborated with faculty on several outreach opportunities including the Academic Quadrathlon, labs for veterinary students, Walking Skeleton Contest, and the Veterinary Medicine CDE for FFA members
- Responsible for preparation, transport, care, and handling of yearling horses at multi-day sales
- Taught and supervised several on-farm animal science classes

University of Illinois Department of Comparative Bioscience

August 2019 – May 2021

Graduate Research Assistant, Bagchi Lab

- Led research trials using gene-edited mouse models of pregnancy
- Developed two separate high-health gene-edited mouse colonies from two founders each
- Performed various analyses including dissection, tissue preparation and sectioning, histology, DNA isolation and PCR
- Mentored new lab members in proper research techniques, including demonstrating methods of ensuring high-quality data and training in both live animal and wet lab assays
- Disseminated research findings via oral presentations in academic settings
- Responsible for managing multiple mouse colonies with specific genetic backgrounds
- Collaborated with other lab groups in accomplishing research objectives

University of Illinois Equine Research and Teaching Unit

August 2016 – May 2019

Lead undergraduate employee

- Responsible for management duties in manager's absence
- Created work schedule and delegated tasks to other students
- Trained undergraduate workers in basic farm tasks, horse handling, and equipment usage
- Administered basic medical care under veterinary direction
- Responsible for foaling in manager's absence

- Assisted in collecting and processing semen samples from stallions
- Versed in stallion, yearling, foal, and broodmare handling and care

Freedom of Movement Dressage and Eventing

October 2018 – June 2019

Agricultural Caretaker

- Provide daily care for performance and pleasure horses
- Versed in handling horses of various temperaments, such as stallions and ex-racehorses
- Responsible for maintenance chores

University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital

July 2017 – May 2018

Large Animal Clinic Student Caretaker

- Responsible for ensuring biosecurity throughout the clinic
- Sanitized stalls, chutes, and surgery suites in between animals
- Aided in providing general care for university-owned animals

6S Farms

June 2016 – August 2016

Farm Hand

- Provided general care for cows, heifers, calves, and a bull
- Responsible for milking the herd twice each day
- Assisted with sanitizing equipment and maintenance chores

University of Illinois Dairy Farm

January 2016 – May 2016

Academic Hourly

- Responsible for milking and sanitizing equipment
- Provided general care for cows and calves
- Administered mastitis treatment under veterinary direction

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Horse Breeding Management – University of Connecticut

Spring 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Mentors students on breeding practices and management of stallions, broodmares, and foals
- Oversees the handling of breeding stallions by students
- Responsible for helping students perform daily teasing checks on broodmares throughout the semester

Foal Watch – University of Illinois

Spring 2022

Instructor

- Taught students about parturition in mares
- Directed students on how to assist during birth and post-foaling care
- Responsible for providing students with hands-on experience during the foaling process

Working with Farm Animals – University of Illinois

Fall 2021/Spring 2022/Fall 2022

Instructor

- Taught the equine section of the course
- Educated students on safe horse handling
- Provides students with the opportunity to learn basic horse care and maintenance

- Maintains attendance records for each lab section

Veterinary Histology – University of Illinois
Graduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2019/2020, Spring 2020/2021

- Aided in administrative tasks, including proctoring exams and handling student concerns or conflicts
- Organized and led several laboratory sections throughout the course
- Responsible for answering student questions, reviewing content, and facilitating discussion

Contemporary Animal Issues – University of Illinois
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Spring 2019

- Managed students' participation in a 196-seat class
- Assisted students with questions

Foal Watch – University of Illinois
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Spring 2017/2018/2019

- Organized and scheduled all shifts throughout the semester
- Facilitated student involvement in the foaling process
- Responsible for responding to overnight calls throughout the semester

Working with Farm Animals – University of Illinois
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2017/2018

- Responsible for teaching students how to safely handle horses
- Assisted in teaching students about equine production

Horse Management – University of Illinois
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2017

- Responsible for teaching students about handling weanling horses
- Ensured student safety when handling horses

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

American Society of Animal Science
National Graduate Director

August 2024-Current

- Acts as a voting member on the National Executive Board
- Responsible for attending board meetings throughout the year and the National ASAS conference
- Serves as a representative for graduate students in Animal Science in decision-making processes
- Supports and networks with graduate students during the National ASAS conference
- Developed and maintains a bi-weekly online study group for graduate students in Animal Science throughout the country

American Society of Animal Science
Northeast Section Graduate Director

August 2023-Current

- Serves as a voting member on the Northeast Section Executive Board
- Provides a graduate student's perspective during decision-making processes
- Responsible for attending monthly board meetings and networking with fellow members
- Aids in planning upcoming Northeast ASAS meetings and events

Animal Science Graduate Student Association

August 2023-May 2024

Secretary

- Takes part in planning networking events for graduate students
- Assists in conducting events for graduate students within the Department of Animal Science at UConn
- Responsible for recording and disseminating minutes of all meetings

Comparative Biosciences Research Trainee Group

January 2020 – December 2020

Secretary

- Organized records of Group activities, including fiscal reports
- Responsible for recording and disseminating minutes of board and monthly meetings

University of Illinois Department of Animal Sciences

Fall 2017 – Spring 2019

Animal Science Ambassador

- Enthusiastically informed students about opportunities within Animal Sciences
- Guided students in developing personal academic pathways
- Served as outreach personnel to potential students

GUEST LECTURES

Horse Breeding Management – University of Connecticut

Spring 2024

- “Physiology of Pregnancy”
- “Management of the Pregnant Mare”
- “Parturition”

Horse Science – University of Connecticut

Spring 2024

- “Equine Reproductive System and Disorders”

Introduction to Animal Science – University of Connecticut

Fall 2023

- “Introduction to Equine Reproduction”

ABSTRACTS

C.S. Summers, N.M. Tillquist, T.E. Engle, N.M. Barnello, S.P. Voggu, A.S. Reiter, K.E. Govoni, S.A. Zinn, S.A. Reed. Effects of maternal body condition on colostrum, foal weight, and foal IgG concentrations. 2024 ASAS National Meeting.

C.S. Summers, A.S. Reiter, N.M. Tillquist, N.M. Barnello, S.P. Voggu, R.E. Carter, M.Y. Kawaida, K.E. Govnoi, S.A. Zinn, S.A. Reed. Effects of maternal nutrition during gestation on second parity F2 offspring growth and organ weights. 2024 ASAS National Meeting.

Voggu S. P., N.M. Tillquist, N.M. Barnello, A.S. Reiter, M.Y. Kawaida, C.S. Summers, S.A. Reed, S.A. Zinn, K.E. Govoni. Betaine supplementation and nutrient restriction during gestation: Influences on growth in fetal sheep offspring 2024 ASAS National Meeting.