

A man with a beard, wearing a green long-sleeved shirt, a red baseball cap, and safety glasses, is leaning over a large pile of yellow feed (likely corn or soybean meal) in a farm setting. In the background, there is a concrete wall and a building under a blue sky with light clouds.

Have You **HERD**

**UF/IFAS DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES
NEWSLETTER VOL.5 | SUMMER 2022**

SUMMER 2022

**UF/IFAS Department
of Animal Sciences**

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Cover Photo



*Miguel Mella, Intern at Quincey Cattle Company.
Photo Credit: Annabel Henson.*

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear alumni, friends and supporters,

As we begin a new academic year, we want to highlight many of the great awards and recognitions received by our faculty and students over the summer. This edition of Have You Herd captures many of these highlights, along with featured student internships and alumni spotlights.

This summer, we had thirty-nine students who completed an internship for-credit through the ANS 4941 internship class, and many others who completed non-credit internships. Internships provide students a unique learning opportunity through hands-on application of what they are learning in the classroom. To promote these experiences, undergraduates in the Equine and Food Animal specializations are required to complete an internship to graduate.

Heading into the fall semester, we are for certain it will be a busy one. One of our many events this fall is our annual Animal Sciences Alumni Tailgate. The goal of the Alumni Tailgate is to raise money for our Meat, Horse, and Livestock Judging teams. Students who join these judging teams gain invaluable experience by connecting with faculty and staff. Those students have the opportunity to travel across the country, participating in judging contests and networking. Our Alumni Tailgate will be on October 15 at the UF Beef Teaching Unit South and will start four hours before game time. We look forward to catching up with alumni and friends at the tailgate, or one of our many other events scheduled in the Department and College. To purchase tickets, please visit: <https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/events/ans-alumni-tailgate/>.

Lastly, we could not do what we do here in the department without our alumni, friends, and stakeholders who generously support our efforts in so many ways. Whether you are giving through financial support, your time to speak to our students or providing jobs and internships, we cannot say thank you enough. If you are interested in giving, please visit <https://give.ifas.ufl.edu/animalsciences-giving/> to learn about various giving opportunities or reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

John Arthington

Professor and Chair



John Arthington
PROFESSOR & CHAIR

Internship Highlights



Ainsley Hutto

 Hagyard Equine Medical Institute
Lexington, KY

Ainsley spent her summer as an Equine Reproductive Intern at the Hagyard Equine Medical Institute. She cared for mares and foals each day, taking their vitals, administering medications, and providing fluids. She acquired skills in charting, equine medical care, foal handling, and desensitization techniques.

“I learned a lot from this internship about how equine hospitals function. This really broadened my understanding of the field. I was surprised at how busy the hospital was, and how many mares gave birth during the foaling season! Additionally, the hand on experience I gained during my internship will help with my classes moving forward as I take more classes for my equine specialization”

- Ainsley Hutto, ANS Equine Student

Emma Schoenfeld

 JBS Foods
Ellijay, GA

Emma’s internship this summer was with JBS foods. During her time there, she rotated through the different departments in Live Operations, learning about the breeders, broilers, the hatchery, and live haul. She even took part in a project that will help farms improve their hatchability. She has been collecting egg pack data from the breeder farms to relate the occurrence of farm cracks and dirty eggs to how many will hatch into chicks.

“My favorite part was being able to apply what I’ve learned in classes to the real world. We learn how to grade and candle chicken eggs in our Intro to Animal Science lab, and my entire project revolves around visiting different farms to candle thousands and thousands of eggs. It’s also been really cool to connect my knowledge of growth and development, nutrition, and reproduction to the poultry industry and see it in real time, as it’s reinforced my understanding of these topics and helped me see where my education can take me.”

-Emma Schoenfeld, ANS Food Animal Student





Gracie Wagner

 **American Feed Industry Association**
Arthington, VA / Remote

Gracie was a communications intern with American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) this summer as the final chapter of her ANS degree. She spent most of her time writing and editing blogs, emails, and coordinating social media posts. She also attended board meetings and networked with AFIA associates. Her favorite part was getting to learn agricultural communications skills firsthand.

“I’ve been working on my writing abilities, interviewing abilities, and analysis. This internship has helped me learn different ways to communicate the information I learned as an Animal Sciences student more effectively with the community.”

-Gracie Wagner, ANS Food Animal Alumnus

Hannah Newsome

 **Cindale Farms**
Marianna, FL

Hannah spent her summer as an intern at Cindale Farms, a dairy operation in the Florida Panhandle. Each day was spent doing different tasks, such as moving fences, setting up the misting system, moving cows, and milking. And on Mondays, she would help pasteurize and bottle the milk at the farm’s creamery, Southern Craft Creamery.

“I have learned to persevere, even in the sweltering heat. I also learned how to use a lot of different machines and farming equipment. My favorite part of the internship has been working with all the cows and calves, and milking in the milking parlor”

-Hannah Newsome, ANS Food Animal Student



Kaylie Rogers

 **Silver Spur Ranches**
Walden, CO

Kaylie’s internship was at Silver Spur Ranch in the hills of Colorado. Most days were spent riding horseback through the yearling cattle and the cow/calf pairs, ensuring the health of the herd. She also helped build corrals, fix the fences, bailed hay, and branded. Her favorite experience was getting to rope and drag in the branding process.

“The focus area of my degree is in beef cattle, so this internship has enabled me to use what I have learned in my classes in a real-world setting. It has also allowed me to see how different ranching in Florida is from out west. My food animal nutrition classes and reproduction classes have helped me so much. I got to artificially inseminate my first cow out here, and having a firm foundation in beef cattle reproduction really helped me a lot with that.”

- Kaylie Rogers, ANS Food Animal Student

Internship Highlights



Marissa Klimczak

📍 Heart of Florida Youth Ranch
Citra, FL

Marissa's internship was with the Heart of Florida Youth Ranch, a local non-profit organization. She tended to their horses' needs, assisted with riding, helped with record keeping, and kept the property organized and clean. Marissa has also helped with starting a new fundraiser, the "Foster-A-Horse" program, which will help fund therapeutic riding on the ranch.

"This internship made me realize how hard 501C(3) organizations can be to run, especially one with an equine program. Being a part of a non-profit organization has really taught me how to just live life as it is, and to do your best even when it's hard. I would highly recommend working for a non-profit at least once, even if it's through volunteering."

-Marissa Klimczak, ANS Equine Student

Save the Date

UF Animal Sciences Internship Seminar

Thursday, October 20th, 2022
5 p.m.

**Straughn Professional
Development Center**

In Five Years

Alumni Spotlights of ANS alumni who graduated five years ago



Breanna Lewis
HUNTING GUIDE,
NEW ZEALAND

Breanna graduated in the summer of 2017 with a specialization in Animal Biology and a minor in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. Since graduation, Breanna has been working as a hunting guide in New Zealand! Since her work is seasonal, she works as a hunting guide in the Northern Hemisphere, writes for numerous outdoor magazines, trains horses, and works as a commercial diver. She loved her time at UF as well as her lab and elective class because they gave her hands-on experience. Breanna learned the skills needed to turn her dream into a full-time job!

Advice to a Senior: I would encourage anyone at UF to chase all opportunities that the University and its community provides. The experiences and opportunities for learning and growth are unlike anywhere else.

Involvement while at UF: Block & Bridle, T.A. for Horse Psych. and Training, GCCW, & Wildlife Society



Clay Whitehead
UF SWINE & SMALL
RUMINANT UNIT MANAGER

Clay graduated in the summer of 2017, specializing in Food Animal with a focus in Beef Cattle Production. Since graduation, Clay has worked managing several different operations/units and is now the Farm Manager at the UF Swine & Small Ruminant Unit. He credits the Livestock Judging team for being one of the most valuable experiences while in his undergrad. He describes the atmosphere around the department to be like a family and has formed many connections and relationships because of that.

Advice to a Senior: Take on the opportunities that are about to come your way, because they will. And don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and give something a chance. In this stage of your life, its OK to try something and learn its not right for you.

Involvement while at UF: Block & Bridle, GCCW, Livestock Judging, Meat Animal Eval., & RMC Quiz Bowl

Congratulations

Tenure

We consistently remind ourselves of the department's commitment to our tripartite mission of Research, Teaching, and Extension. Faculty achievement in these areas is especially celebrated through promotion from through the ranks of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor.



Dr. Tracy Scheffler
Associate Professor

Dr. Tracy Scheffler leads a program focused on research and teaching in the field of muscle biology. Tracy was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with Tenure.



Dr. Chad Carr
Professor

Dr. Chad Carr leads a program focused on teaching and extension programs in the field of meat science. Chad was promoted to the rank of Professor.

American Dairy Science Association Awardee



Dr. Jose Santos

Dr. Jose Santos, ANS Professor, was recognized four different times for his contribution to the dairy science field at the American Dairy Science Association Annual meeting. Dr. Santos was awarded: the DeLaval Dairy Extension Award, Nutrition Professionals Inc. Applied Dairy Nutrition Award, Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association 2022, and the Journal of Dairy Science – Highly Cited Award 2022.

Career Influencer Award



Audy Spell

The Department of Animal Sciences was recently recognized for contributions to student career development through our livestock units. Amie Imler (Lecturer) served as the nominator and gathered all of the supporting information for our packet. Audy Spell (Operations Manager) represented the department and accepted the award on behalf of the ANS livestock units. Through student employment, volunteer opportunities, and internship experiences, the Department of Animal Sciences livestock units have demonstrated a long-term commitment to developing students as career-ready professionals. For the 2021 – 2022 academic year, the Department of Animal Sciences had a total of 66 students representing 11 majors and three colleges employed or working in volunteer positions at on the animal farm units.

Have You HERD

This fall, we will be bringing in five high school students to participate in the newly launched Have You HERD student program. The Have You Herd program gives high school students the opportunity to be individually paired with a current UF CALS Animal Sciences student for a day. These students will attend undergraduate classes and have the option to stay for a club meeting or even practice with the livestock, horse, or meat judging teams.

In the Have You Herd application, students submit a 3-4 minute video of themselves describing their background and interest areas. We ask that they tell us about their activities or events they have been involved in through high school, like, 4-H, FFA, Junior Breed Association, and community service activities, for example. In the application, we ask them to talk about their career interests in Animal Sciences and what subjects or animal sciences disciplines they enjoy learning about (nutrition, reproduction, genetics, etc.).

Our goal is to make the program a truly individualized experience. Lunch is provided for the student and one guardian, as well as some fun Animal Sciences gear!

Teachers and 4-H Club leaders are encouraged to nominate students who they believe would benefit from learning more about the Animal Sciences department. An additional resource for all College of Agricultural and Life Sciences prospective students, including those students interested in animal sciences, is [NaviGATORing CALS](#).

Requirements:

1. Applicant must be a current high school student or graduated from high school within the past year.
2. A guardian must be present but will not be allowed to attend classes.
3. Have an interest in or career goals related to the field of Animal Sciences.

**The next round of Have You
HERD will be in Spring 2023.**

Animal Sciences Students Study Abroad

This summer, animal sciences students had the opportunity to study abroad through various organizations. Animal sciences students who serve as CALS Ambassadors studied abroad in Greece for two weeks. Those students were accompanied by Mrs. Amie Imler, ANS Lecturer and CALS Ambassador Alumna. In Greece, they walked the Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus, lodged in the mountains of Delphi, explored a marble quarry, trolled to Aegina Island, taste-tested at an olive oil farm, toured the IEK Praxis Vocational Training Institute, and shopped at an open-air market.

Another study abroad trip had ANS students going all the way to Ireland! Dr. TenBroeck, ANS Associate Professor, and Allyson Trimble, ANS Academic Programs Specialist recruited 8 ANS undergraduate students as well as 1 UF Veterinary Medicine student. They joined the University of Nebraska and Purdue University on this once in a lifetime trip. Over the course of 3 weeks, the group traveled across the country of Ireland, spending each day learning about the cultural and economic importance of the Irish equine industry.



Awards & Recognition

Meat Science Team

- Team members include: Elizabeth Chmielewski, Stephanie Shimer, Emma Lipori, and Douglas Natoce, Coaches: Gabrielle Allen and Michael Fioretto
- Reciprocal Meat Conference
 - Elizabeth Chimelwinski: 1st in Undergraduate Research Competition & recognized as one of six students with the undergraduate scholastic achievement award
 - Undergraduate Meat Science Quiz Bowl winners
 - Kevin Martinez & Douglas Natoce: Champion Iron Chef Team
 - Gabby Allen: member of champion Charcuterie Board Team
 - Stephanie Shimmer: 10th high point individual in the Processed Meat Judging Competition.
 - Douglas Natoce: T-shirt design

Dairy Science Club

- The UF Dairy Science Club attended the American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting. Those that attended include: Sara Hettinger, Camryn Farquhar, Isabell Revere, Tyler Newberry, Justice Waldmann, Katheryn Bojanowski, and Christine Sainz
- Awards:
 - Most Miles Traveled
 - 1st Place Scrapbook
 - Sara Hettinger: 1st Place in Oral Presentations Dairy Foods



Awards & Accomplishments

- Equine Nutritionist, **Lori Warren** was awarded the Equine Science Award by the American Society of Animal Science.
- ANS Associate Professor, **Philippe Moriel** was awarded the Early career Achievement Award by the American Society of Animal Science.
- ANS Assistant Professor, **Jason Scheffler** was awarded the Distinguished Teacher Award by the American Society of Animal Science.
- ANS Graduate student, **Felipe Alves Correa Carvalho da Silva** was awarded the Wilson G. Pond International Travel Award by the American Society of Animal Science.
- ANS Professor, **Chad Carr** was presented with the Distinguished Teaching Award by the American Meat Science Association.
- ANS undergraduate student, **Elizabeth Chmielewski** was recognized with the Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Award at the American Meat Science Reciprocal Meats Conference.
- ANS Professor, **Arie Havelaar** was the recipient of the International Leadership Award at annual International Association for Food Protection meeting.
- The UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences was recognized for their contributions to student career development through their livestock units with the Career Influencer Award.



Chad Carr



Career Influencer Award

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

We enjoy hearing updates from our alumni!

- Do you have internship or job opportunities for animal sciences students?
- Are you interested in speaking in an undergrad class about your career?
- Would you like to be featured in a **Have you HERD** Alumni Spotlight?

Visit our website to learn how to be involved with the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences!

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @UF_ANSCI



SAVE THE DATE UF/IFAS Animal Sciences
Alumni Tailgate
October 15th, 2022 | TBD

Geaux
Gators!



UF vs. LSU

UF | IFAS | ANIMAL
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA | SCIENCES

Animal Genetics CERTIFICATE

The 11-credit Animal Genetics certificate provides a background in Mendelian, population, and quantitative genetic inheritance, in-depth knowledge of genetic improvement and management programs, and the application of genetic principles towards the improvement of the health and production of livestock and domestic animals.

Courses included in the certificate program:

- ANS 3384C- Genetics of Domestic Animals
- ANS 4382- Equine Genetics
- ANS 4383- Genetic Analyses of Complex Traits in Livestock
- ANS 4388- Canine and Feline Genetics

UF Certificates are open to current students and non-students. Visit <https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/students/animal-genetics-certificate/> to apply for the Animal Genetics certificate

September 16th-17th, 2022

Straughn Professional Development Center
Gainesville, Florida

SMALL RUMINANT SHORT COURSE & RAM TEST SALE

UF College of
Veterinary Medicine
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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AGRONOMY
DEPARTMENT

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UF ANIMAL
SCIENCES

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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL
DAIRY ACADEMY
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Have You
HERD

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GIVING

Your generous donation to the UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Department will provide support for our students, faculty and staff.

To support ANS, our scholarships and more, visit give.ifas.ufl.edu/animal-sciences-giving/.

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