

Have You RD

Summer 2023

UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Featured Stories

Club Highlights4
Internship Highlights6
Study Abroad8
Alumni Highlight10
Events, Awards and News
Have You HERD? Program Update11
Florida Cattlemen's Convention12
Awards & Tenure14
American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting16
AMSA Reciprocal Meat Conference17
UF Ram Test & Sale Update18
Upcoming Events19

COVER PHOTO



Holstein dairy cow at the UF Dairy Research Unit. Photo Credit: Jessica Czipulis. See page 1.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear alumni, friends and supporters,

This summer semester has brought success, connection, and growth to our faculty, staff, and students.

The Department of Animal Sciences (ANS) had 50 students take this summer as an opportunity to broaden their educational and professional careers through internships. Pages 6 and 7 will give you a glimpse into just a few of their experiences. The inaugural Animal Science in Italy study abroad program also took place this summer. Dr. Antonio Faciola immersed 16 students into Italian agriculture where the group traveled to over 10 cities, participated in livestock-focused activities, and engaged in several cultural experiences. In addition, a group of ANS faculty hosted 11 students on a livestock industry tour through the midwestern United States. The group covered over 4000 miles through nine states and made stops at 17 different livestock farms and allied industry facilities. Students gained a better understanding of American animal agriculture while on the tour as they connected their classroom knowledge to real-world production in the equine, dairy, beef, swine, sheep, poultry, and meat science industries.

Several ANS faculty, staff, and students traveled to Marco Island, Florida for the 2023 Florida Cattlemen's Association Convention and Allied Trade Show. Collectively, we hosted a career building activity for the Junior Florida Cattlemen's Association members and remained active in FCA business and committee meetings.

Our two major scientific societies held their annual meetings this summer. The American Dairy Science Association met in Ottawa, Canada and a few weeks later, the American Society of Animal Science met in Albuquerque, NM. In addition to sharing recent research discoveries, several of our faculty and students received awards and recognitions. Lastly, faculty and students traveled to St. Paul, MN for the American Meat Science Association's 76th Reciprocal Meat Conference. Here, students and faculty participated in a quiz bowl competition, presented research posters, gave educational talks, and participated in panel discussions.

Please enjoy our latest newsletter which follows. Flip to page 19 for several upcoming opportunities to become involved within ANS. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to move the ANS mission forward. We could not do what we do 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/animal-sciences-giving/ to learn about various giving opportunities or feel free to reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

John Arthington Professor and Chair



John Arthington PROFESSOR & CHAIR

Olub Highlights

UF Block & Bridle President: Taylor McKinney

Only three weeks into the semester, UF Block & Bridle members made their way to New Orleans, Louisiana to attend the joint National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and National Block & Bridle conventions. While attending, members were exposed to a variety of Louisiana agricultural operations, such as a Tabasco factory and an oyster farm, and networked with both industry professionals and fellow collegiates. We welcomed new members at our semesterly New Member BBQ and enjoyed roping dummies with advisor Joel McQuagge! Moving along through the semester, Block & Bridle was thankful to have been able to hear from Dr. Kathleen Colverson, Associate Research Scientist in ANS, about her research on agricultural systems and gender roles. During spring break, members put boots on the hill with the Florida Cattlemen's Association at their

annual Legislative Quarterly in Tallahassee. Members had the chance to speak with legislators about Florida agriculture and discussed funding for new facilities at UF's Horse Teaching Unit! Members geared up for our annual Ropin' in the Swamp fundraiser, spearheaded this year by Luke Johnson. We added a breakaway roping and hosted our typical team roping, with over 1000 teams competing! We then went on to host the annual Ray Kempfer Memorial Clay Shoot in memoriam of our past B&B President. Vice President Jessica Czipulis coordinated this event, and we hosted 130 clay shooters! Before the close of the semester, we heard from UF ANS alumni Mr. Trey Warnock about his journey to his current position with Amarillo Brokerage Company. We moved quickly into the end of the semester and hosted our yearly Banquet with fellow ANS clubs.

We enjoyed an educational and fast-moving spring semester and are looking forward to the start of the fall semester!

UF Equestiian Club President: Hadley Wimsatt

The UF Equestrian Club had a year full of success, teamwork, and service! As a club, we have spent this year participating in activities that promote the core values of our organization such as high standards of character, leadership, and fellowship. Each of our four traveling show teams has built upon years past to find great successes in the show ring, with many notable accomplishments. All members of the Equestrian Club, whether participating in a team or not, partook in various fundraising, community service, and social events during the spring semester. The Equestrian Club also historically hosted our first Horsemanship Clinic!



To conclude the spring semester, each team sent a group of riders to their respective national competitions! Our Dressage Team sent six riders to the IDA National Championship and Quiz Challenge Finals, placing 12th overall! In May, the Eventing Team competed in the Intercollegiate Eventing Championships in Tryon, North Carolina. It was an incredible experience for UF Eventing as the team continues to grow! Our Hunt Seat Team had four team members representing UF at IHSA Nationals with Julia Berry placing third in Introductory Flat, Meera Paranjape placing 8th in Intermediate Flat, Sarah Alderman placing 10th in Intermediate Flat, and Millie Adin receiving an honorable mention in Novice Flat. At IHSA Nationals, our Western Team's Jessica McCall was 9th overall in Level 1 Horsemanship and Hannah Postlewait was a finalist in the Back on Track High Point Rider division. We are so proud of all of our team members for their accomplishments this year!

Our teams look forward to a promising 2023-2024 season, particularly our home shows! As a club, we are excited to welcome new members and to see our returning members this fall.

gator Collegiate Cattlewomen

President: Mikaela Martin

The women of Gator Collegiate Cattlewomen started off the spring semester with our annual Beef Dinner Fundraiser at Rustic Oaks Ranch. This year, we had the privilege of having Ms. Reba Mazak, the 2022-2023 American National Cattlewomen President, as our guest speaker. Shortly after that, we were off to New Orleans, Louisiana for the 2023 American National Cattlewomen meetings and National Cattlemen's Convention. Upon returning to Florida, our girls were excited to hear from our influential guest speakers invited to our meetings including Ms. Ashley Hughes, Owner/President of Ashley Hughes Consulting, Mr. Don Quincey, Owner/Operator of Quincey Cattle Company, and Mrs. Jaime Jerrels, Director of Strategic Initiatives at Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer

Services. We are lucky to have such extraordinary leaders in the agriculture industry! In addition, the ladies of GCCW had many other opportunities for involvement in the spring semester. We attended the ANCW WIRED event in Grand Island, Nebraska, put our boots on the hill at the Florida Cattlemen's Legislative Quarterly in Tallahassee, and attended the Florida Cattlemen's Convention in Marco Island, Florida. We also enjoyed food and fellowship at the home of Dr. Scott Angle, Senior Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources of UF/IFAS and Dr. Kelsey Kay, Director of Academic Programs in the Global Food Systems Institute.

Overall, GCCW has had a great year so far and our members look forward to continuing their service in the beef industry in the fall semester!

UF Dairy Science Club

President: Isabell Revere

This past year, the Dairy Science Club members had opportunities to learn new skills, network with professionals, compete in national competitions, and promote the dairy industry! Our club hosted an artificial insemination school in the fall and spring semesters. This club fundraiser allowed members to get certified in artificial insemination management from ABS Global. Our club members also attended dairy tours in Florida and Georgia, where we saw a variety of successful operations.

In addition, our club focused on community outreach. The club sent representatives to Marion County's AgVenture and the department's Family Day at the Dairy Farm. Our members made butter with guests at both events and taught the public about the importance of the dairy industry! As a club, we sent members to the Florida Dairy Production Conference and invited guest speakers to our meetings. Hearing from accomplished faculty and industry specialists allowed our members to gain unique industry knowledge. Most recently, a few of our members traveled to Ottawa to attend the American Dairy Science Association's annual meeting. Our members presented and competed in the scrapbook, yearbook, and website contests. This conference was a great opportunity to meet industry professionals, foster friendships across universities, and explore Canadian agriculture.

In the fall semester, the Dairy Science Club looks forward to welcoming new members, attending conferences, traveling for dairy tours, organizing an artificial insemination school, and making lasting connections. The Dairy Science Club is so grateful for this past year and cannot wait to see this year's success!







Internship



Mikaela Martin

Mikaela Martin is a current Animal Sciences student in the Food Animal specialization. This summer, Martin worked as a sales intern for Purina Animal Nutrition at a Purina dealership in Sanford, Florida. Her responsibilities as a sales intern included conducting market survey research in the area of her Purina dealer, and making farm calls to various equine operations. Martin conducted an informational event for horse owners to learn more about the forage they feed their animals. Martin learned about this internship opportunity at the UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Internship Seminar!



Breanna Luby

Breanna Luby is a current Animal Sciences student in the Equine specialization. This summer, Luby worked as an animal ambassador intern for ZooTampa. During her internship, Luby presented wildlife connections throughout the park, and participated in feedings, husbandry, and training sessions. She says that her favorite part of her internship experience was being able to feed all of the animals, and then being able to watch them succeed in difficult training sessions. When asked what advice she would give to a fellow undergraduate student considering completing an internship, she said, "Be prepared to get dirty!"



Shelby McCubbin

Shelby McCubbin is a current Animal Scinces student in the Food Animal Specialization. This summer, McCubbin interned at Marineland Dolhin Adventure in St. Augustine, Florida. During her internship, McCunnin prepared rations for 15 dolphins daily, aided trainers during enrichment sessions, and educated guests about the park's conservation efforts. When asked for advice for students considering an internship like hers, McCubbin said "Do something out of your comfort zone!! Pick a topic within your field that you know nothing about, it could be the best thing you ever do!"

Highlights

Christopher Hernandez is a current Animal Sciences student in the Food Animal specialization. This summer, Hernandez interned at Cobb-Bear Hollow Farm in Pineville, Missouri. Hernandez spent his internship on Bear Hollow Farm, which is a pedigree research farm where pure line broilers are developed and reproduced. He held a variety of responsibilities as he worked through each department of the farm. Some of his responsibilities included vaccination, artificial insemination, phenotype selection, egg collection, and barn cleaning. Hernandez says that this internship has enhanced his undergraduate experience by giving him a inside look into the poultry industry. He now feels more prepared for a career in the animal sciences industry.



Christopher Hernandez

Taylor Riel is a current Animal Sciences student in the Food Animal specialization. This summer, Riel worked as the Assistant Sales Manager for the Pilgrim's/JBS Live Oak Plant. In this role, she produced daily order schedules for products, ran morning and afternoon sales meetings, and completed a tool project to benefit the sales department of the company in the future. Riel learned about this internship opportunity while attending the Careers in the Livestock Industry class. Riel says she would highly recommend other undergraduate students looking for internships to connect with Pilgrim's/JBS due to their positive work environment and opportunities to travel and shadow in a variety of departments.



Taylor Riel

This summer, Reanna Frauens interned at Aspire Wildlife in D'Hanis, Texas. Aspire Wildlife is an exotic livestock breeding/hunting ranch, where Frauens worked to determine nutritional needs of the animals by using feed ratios and medicating feeds to prevent internsal parasites. Frauens also overlooked all of the fawns and other juveniles to ensure they are receiving proper nutrients, maternal care, protection, and shelter. She participated in darting procedures to tag and relocate animals around the ranch, has completed research on bottle-feeding for different species, and formulated a plan for the ranch to implement into their program. Frauens says that she learned alot about wildlife ranch management and animal care, and has further developed her critical thinking skills.



Reanna Frauens



The inaugural Animal Science in Italy study abroad program, spearheaded by Dr. Antonio Faciola, immersed 16 students into Italian culture. During their 30 days overseas, the group traveled to over 10 cities, participated in agriculture-focused activities, and engaged in several cultural experiences. For the first few weeks, students stayed in apartments in Florence and would travel by train or bus to nearby cities each day. Students also attended classes and completed small homework assignments. Examples of assignments included summaries of their day trips and comparing food prices to those of the United States.

Students were able to visit four vet schools during their trip, including the Veterinary Medicine program at the oldest operating university in the world, the University of Bologna. They also were able to tour the Dairy Research Farm at the University of Bologna, which features a robotic milking system. Other animal science-related highlights included touring a Parmigiano Reggiano facility, visiting a Chianina beef operation, visiting pig and sheep farms, and learning about the production of various cheeses.

Outside of agricultural experiences, students visited historical cities such as Rome and Pisa. Students toured several museums and heritage sites. The Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum were among these famous landmarks.



ence in Italy/



Alumni Highlight



When Jordan Hernandez transferred into the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences in 2016, she did not expect to graduate with plans to go into agricultural education. However, during the last semester of her senior year she applied to graduate school with the UF/IFAS Department of Agricultural Education and Communication.

Hernandez was a transfer student with an Animal Biology specialization. During her undergraduate career, Hernandez was involved in UF Block and Bridle and the UF Dairy Science Club. She believes her involvement in these organizations was one of the most beneficial things she did as an undergraduate.

"Getting involved in clubs and making connections with people for the future is important. These connections help you get your foot in the door, and you never know when that connection could help you in the future."

Hernandez also worked at the UF/IFAS Horse Teaching Unit for two years during her time in the department. Part of her responsibilities included assisting with teaching some of the equine specialization courses. Through this experience, Hernandez realized this was a career path she was interested in pursuing.

"I started realizing how much I enjoyed the teaching part of it, so I decided to get a master's degree in agricultural education. Then I realized that being an ag teacher would hit all of my wants in a career."

After completing her master's degree in Agricultural Education, Hernandez got her first teaching job at Sumner High School where she taught veterinary assisting courses. She also taught a middle-school level introductory agriculture course at Sumner High School's Academy, a three-year, temporary middle school. Recently, she moved over to a position at Riverview High School in Riverview, Florida. Here she teaches a variety of agriculture courses, including animal science and equestrian studies.

Although Hernandez did not expect to teach agriculture, she could not imagine doing anything else now. She loves that every day and year is different with each group of students that enter her door. She has a passion for education and plans to continue working in the classroom for years to come.

"That "AH HA" moment that students get whenever they finally figure something out or they learn something new is extremely rewarding."







Have Now 18 18 19

The UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Department had another successful semester of the new Have You HERD (HYH) program! This past spring, seven high school students had their own customized day spent in the Animal Sciences department.

The HYH program was created for high school students who have a passion for animal agriculture and an interest in majoring in animal sciences at UF. To apply, students submit a video where they express their interests, what they would like to see at the department, and the classes they would like to attend. Alexis Tilton, Undergraduate Advisor, and ANS Ambassadors use this information to create the agendas for selected students.

The spring 2023 HYH students were:

Ainsley Wright
Cade McCullough
Ethan Moya
Isabella Puga
JR Pickard
Laycee Wilson
Reagan Richards

Isabella, who would like to pursue a career as a veterinarian in the cattle industry, shared her thoughts on the experience, "Have you HERD was so helpful with giving me an opportunity to see what it's like in food animal, as well as a detailed overall insight as an animal science student."

Have you HERD has received an overwhelming amount of support and many passionate applicants. The Animal Sciences department is excited to host future students in the 2023-2024 academic year!

For more information about the Have You HERD student program, please visit our website: https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/students/have-you-herd/

Florida Cattlemen's Convention

The UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences (ANS) attended the 2023 Florida Cattlemen's Convention and Allied Trade Show in Marco Island, Florida from June 20th – 22nd. Faculty, staff, and ANS club members from the Gator Collegiate Cattlewomen and UF Block and Bridle clubs attended the annual convention and trade show, and participated in a variety of activities.

ANS hosted a career bingo for the Junior Florida Cattlemen's Association (JFCA) members, which integrated the different operations and businesses within the trade show. In this bingo, students practiced their communication skills with industry members by introducing themselves and asking the questions: "What is your current role in your company/business?" and "How do you market your product(s)?" After asking these questions, members received an initial on their bingo card and returned their card to the ANS booth for a prize. The department also hosted a JFCA leadership development workshop titled, "Marketing Livestock, Marketing Yourself, and the Career Market."

ANS club members remained active in FCA business and committee meetings by collecting minutes for each of the committees. Students attended the Florida Cattlewomen's Membership Breakfast, where Gator Collegiate Cattlewomen Club President Mikaela Martin addressed the membership. Martin spoke on her experiences as a young woman in agriculture, and how influential previous generations of Florida Cattlemen and Cattlewomen have been to the upcoming generation of agriculturalists.

The department also hosted another successful Big Loop Dummy Roping and Merck's King of the Reach Competition, and gave a report at the IFAS Research Update Meeting.









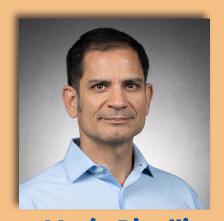






Congral

Promotions



Mario Binelli
Associate Professor
with Tenure



Kwang Cheol Jeong
Professor

Faculty Awards



Pete Hansen
ASAS
Morrison Award



Geoffrey DahlASAS and ADSA
"Fellow"

uations

Graduate Student Awards



Arslan Tariq
USDA-NIFA-AFRI Merit Award,
SSR Trainee Travel Award,
SSR First Place Poster



Usman Arshad
National Milk Producers
Federation - National Dairy
Leadership Award



Richard Lobo

ADSA Purina Graduate Student
Poster Contest - Ph.D. Division,
Dairy Production Category Poster
Winner

American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting

In June, the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences Dairy Science Club traveled to Ottawa, Canada for the American Dairy Science Association's (ADSA) Annual Meeting. In Ottawa, club members presented and competed in various competitions, toured the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, attended undergraduate student business meetings, small group mentoring sessions, educational workshops, and more.

Club President, Isabell Revere, competed in the Undergraduate Student Division of the Oral Presentation Competition. Isabell presented on anaerobic digesters within the Dairy Production category of the competition. The club also competed with their club website, yearbook, and scrapbook.

This trip provided meaningful personal and professional development opportunities for club members. Students were given the opportunity to network with various agricultural company representatives at the trade show. Students participated in a career roundtable discussion, where they spoke with industry leaders in sales, extension, and research about their backgrounds and careers. Students also took advantage of career mentoring sessions where they met with professionals within the specific fields that they are interested in.

Club Vice President, Camryn Farquhar, says that she was able to, "gain insight into future career opportunities available within the dairy industry and networked with dairy science club members and faculty across the US."



Reciprocal Meat Conference

In June, seven undergraduate students, two graduate students and four faculty members from the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences (ANS) traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota for the American Meat Science Association's (AMSA) 76th Reciprocal Meat Conference (RMC). On their way to the event, they stopped for several industry-related tours, including a Cargill case-ready operation and a specialty meats processing facility. The undergraduate attendees participated in the Ouiz Bowl competition and the Iron Chef Competition. Adeel Manzoor, a Ph.D. candidate under Dr. Jason Scheffler, presented a research poster discussing Salmonella enterica, Escherichia coli 0157:H7, and Listeria monocytogenes inactivation in non-intact beef steaks during low temperature sous vide cooking. Dr. Tracy Scheffler gave opening remarks for the Meat and Muscle Biology concurrent section regarding stress and its impacts on muscle biology and meat production. Dr. Jason Scheffler participated in a panel discussing the transition from being a student to an academic professional. Recent ANS graduate Stephanie Shimer was also recognized with the AMSA Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Award.







2023 University of Florida Ram Test & Sale

Here in "The Swamp", we currently have our third annual UF Ram Test ongoing this summer at the University of Florida! This program is designed to standardize environmental conditions to evaluate and quantify individual ram performance in the harsh southeastern US, with a primary emphasis on natural parasite resistance and growth.

This is a forage-based ram performance test where the rams have continuous access to Bahiagrass pastures and are supplemented 2% of their body weight daily with the 'UF Ram Test' concentrate ration. Upon entry to the program, all rams receive anthelmintics to ensure the rams entered into the test do not harbor drug-resistant parasites. Those that do not achieve adequate fecal egg count (FEC) reduction are disqualified due to harboring anthelmintic-resistant parasites. After the 12-day acclimation period, the rams begin the 84-day gain test. Throughout the test period, measurements of body weight, body condition score, FAMACHA score, and fecal egg count will be obtained.

New this year, both registered and commercial rams are eligible for the test and sale. Eligible rams must have been born between 12/1/22 - 2/15/23 and weaned by 5/1/23. Sale eligibility is based on both fecal egg count and growth indices during the test period. The final requirements for sale eligibility include achieving a 'satisfactory' breeding soundness evaluation. Sale order priority will be given to rams registered within a recognized breed association, followed by commercial rams.

For full program details and current data collection parameters on rams enrolled in our 2023 UF Ram Test, please visit our website.

This program is open to any breeder/consignor in the United States and we welcome your participation and the opportunity to work with you. We encourage your participation and attendance at our 2023 Small Ruminant Short Course and Ram Test Sale on September 29-30th here in Gainesville, FL. There will be numerous high-quality rams for sale at our auction who demonstrated the ability to perform in the harsh Florida climate. These rams will be sold to the highest bidder through an online auction format with Willoughby Livestock Sales. The sale will be open for 24 hours, beginning on Friday, September 29th at 11 AM and closing on Saturday, September 30th at 11 AM. The sale rams will be available for in-person viewing on September 29-30th during the 2023 Small Ruminant Short Course at the UF/IFAS Horse Teaching Unit, located at 1934 SW 63rd Ave., Gainesville, FL 32608.

If you are interested in consigning your ram(s) next year to our test, please keep an eye out for our announcements regarding eligibility and registration next spring.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding this year's test or upcoming events: Clay Whitehead at (904) 796-0441, email jacobcwhitehead@ufl.edu, or Dr. Brittany Diehl at (352) 294-4387, email bn.diehl@ufl.edu.

Upcoming Events

Small Ruminant Short Course

Ram Test Sale

Internship Seminar

Little International

Dairy Production Conference

Livestock Education & Certification for Agriculture Law Enforcement

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











UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Department

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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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