

CHOICE NEWS

Summer 2010

MEAT SCIENCE UPDATE

Texas Tech Hosts 63rd Annual Reciprocal Meat Conference

Texas Tech University proudly hosted more than 640 participants at the 63rd annual Reciprocal Meat Conference (RMC) on June 20-23. RMC is an annual conference sponsored by the American Meat Science Association (AMSA) which brings together meat scientists and students from academia, industry and government.

The conference kicked off with a glimpse of West Texas culture at the National Ranching Heritage Center. The Welcome Reception featured a chuck wagon dinner prepared by the Hightower family. Additional social events which highlighted Texas Tech University included the golf tournament at the Rawls Course and a dessert reception on the club level of Jones Stadium which was followed by the first annual Texas Hold'em Tournament, benefitting the AMSA student board.

National Champion Quiz Bowl Team. The two Texas Tech Meat Science Academic Quiz Bowl Teams went head-to-head in the final round to claim the title of National Champion for Texas Tech University.

"These students have studied and worked hard for months and dedicated themselves to excellence," said Mark Miller, Tech's San Antonio Livestock Exposition Distinguished Chair in Meat Science. "I was so excited that our teams finished first and second for the first time in school history."

The two Red Raider teams dominated 22 other teams that represented the top meat science programs at universities from across the United States. Texas Tech previously won the competition in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009.

The 2010 team was comprised of Adam Copeland, Collin Corbin, Caleb Crosswhite, Mai Lee Holmes, Tyler Maltsberger, Markus Miller, Nathan Reeves, Martin Shaw, Troy Tarpley and Loni Woolley.

The team was coached by undergraduate students Abby Long and Matt Bruton.

AMSA Undergraduate Awards. Two Texas Tech students were also honored at the opening session by the American Meat Science Association for their outstanding academic achievement and leadership in the meat science industry. Collin Corbin and Abby Long, both senior animal science majors, each received one of fourteen Undergraduate Academic Scholastic Achievement Awards.



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MEAT SCIENCE UPDATE

Texas Tech Hosts 63rd Annual Reciprocal Meat Conference Cont.

Taste of RMC. Graduate students Jerrad Legako, Sydney Knobel, Jessie Vipham and Cassie Chancey represented Texas Tech in the Taste of RMC competition with their product, "The Squealer." The spicy pork loin wrapped in bacon with cream cheese and jalapeno was an instant favorite. Be sure to stop by the meat science cooker this football season for your chance to sample their product!

Davis Honored for Service. Gordon W. Davis, Ph.D. was recognized by AMSA for his years of service in creating different avenues and opportunities to teach the next generation of students who make their way into agricultural fields. Starting out as a high school instructor, then as a professor, and now in his current entrepreneurial experience with CEV Multimedia, Ltd., Davis has placed great emphasis on the educational experience. Throughout his 41-year career, Davis has devoted his time and energy to making everything "all about the kids," from mentoring current and future generations of meat scientists to creating new and different educational resources for teachers. He was especially instrumental in developing the meat science program at Texas Tech University.



Meat Science Students Receive SMA Scholarship Awards

Shanna Ward and Collin Corbin were recently selected as recipients of the Bob Ondrusek Memorial Scholarship Award presented by the Southwest Meat Association (SMA) Foundation. They were selected from a group of outstanding applicants from universities across the United States. They have been invited to attend the SMA convention this summer at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort in Bastrop, Texas, where they will formally accept their awards.

Ward was a member of the 2008 National Champion Meat Judging Team and began her graduate studies in meat science this summer. Corbin was a member of the 2009 National Champion Meat Judging Team and plans to attend graduate school in meat science at Texas Tech following graduation next May.

Texas Pork Leadership Camp Stops at Texas Tech

The Texas Pork Leadership Camp stopped at Texas Tech University on June 15 during their annual trip across Texas. Participants were instructed regarding live hog evaluation and were challenged to make projections on back fat, loin-eye area and percent lean of four live hogs.

During their afternoon on campus, the participants harvested the four hogs they evaluated, were taught the basics of sensory panels, and learned about the pH of meats and other foods. Educational sessions were coordinated by Assistant Professor Jessica Starkey and meat science graduate students Jennifer Martin, Sydney Knobel and Jessie Vipham. The participants concluded their tour across Texas at Texas A&M University where they compared the carcass projections of the four hogs they evaluated at Texas Tech with actual carcass data.

The Texas Pork Leadership Camp is sponsored annually by the Texas Pork Producers' Association. The camp gives participants an in-depth look at the pork industry through special tours and hands-on learning activities and develops leadership skills to enable participants to be effective spokespersons for the pork industry. For more information, visit www.texaspork.org.

2010 Homecoming Banquet

Join your fellow Meat Science Friends & Alumni for a fun-filled weekend of festivities during Homecoming on **Nov. 5-6**. The Department of Animal and Food Sciences and the Meat Science Association will be honoring members of the 1990 and 2000 Meat Judging Teams, Hall of Fame Award recipients and recipients of the MSA awards.

We have reserved a **block of football tickets** so team members and alumni can sit together during the game against Missouri. We will be receiving seat preference behind only season ticket holders. The athletic office has extended the deadline to **Aug. 1** to reserve your seat in the block. Tickets will be \$65 each. Please RSVP to Moriah Beyers at (806)742-2805, ext. 248 or at moriah.beyers@ttu.edu for tickets.

Schedule of Events

Friday, Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the United Spirit Arena, City Bank Room - Animal and Food Sciences Distinguished Alumni & Meat Science Recognition Banquet

Saturday, Nov. 6 at 8 a.m.* in the Livestock Arena - CASNR Homecoming Breakfast

Saturday, Nov. 6 at 10 a.m.* in the Gordon W. Davis Meat Lab - Alumni & Student Meat Judging Contest

Saturday, Nov. 6 at noon* in the AFS Parking Lot - Tailgating Luncheon for all Animal and Food Sciences Alumni & students hosted by the Meat Science Program.

**Exact time pending the football game schedule*