

FALL 2017

Landmarks

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources



"I'm motivated by a desire to never stop learning. Like most landscape architects, I just want to continue making spaces that people enjoy."
Gregg Hudspeth ('82 BLA, Landscape Architecture)



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Landmarks

Vol. 32 Issue 2

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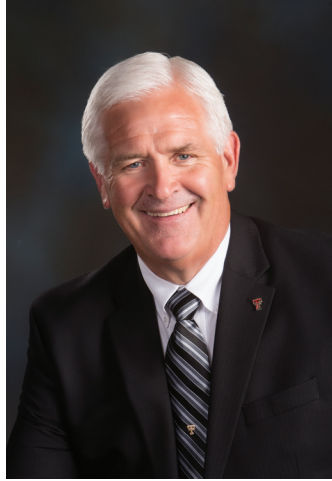
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More than a year has passed since I came to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to work in the Dean's Office as the Interim Dean when Dr. Galyean moved to the Office of Provost. One becomes quickly immersed into the many moving parts of administration at a collegiate level.

From the beginning of my tenure, I have appreciated the diversity of our college, and the many different challenges the college and departments face. I have come to value the common mission in regards to education, research, and service. In light of recent events unleashed by nature, the service aspect of the mission has become evident, and has taken on an entirely different meaning.

This year began with devastating fires in the panhandle, and continued with torrential rain and flooding in the coastal areas of the state. Agriculture, as well as people's lives and property, were lost due to the events of nature.

I was proud to see people rallying to help their neighbors in the panhandle to neighbors all the way down to South Texas. Truckloads carrying everything from hay to water were sent to victims across this great state. It was a proud moment to be a Red Raider when alumni took charge, and recruited fellow alums to help contribute to the relief needed. I was able to witness Texas Tech alumni, faculty, and students working together for the greater good of others, leaving a lasting impact on my perception of Texas Tech as a whole.

One of my favorite aspects while serving as Interim Dean involves rekindling, and developing relationships with alumni who have carried our banners far and wide, while making their mark on the world.

We have no one who can assist our recruiting efforts more than alumni. This fall, the college once again set a record for student numbers, exceeding 1,900 undergraduates and just more than 400 graduate students.

Along with the growth of the college, finding adequate space for the large numbers has become an issue. However, this is a good problem to have. As we continue to grow as a college, so does our footprint on the world.

This month's featured alumnus is Gregg Hudspeth, ('82 BLA, Landscape Architecture), someone who has set his bar high helping bring Disney to China. Take the time to read of his career path of many twists and turns. It is a great story and worth your time to read.

I believe this issue of Landmarks will bring everyone connected to Texas Tech and CASNR some enjoyment while reading. We all hope to see you soon at a CASNR or TTU function.

Steve Frazee
Interim Dean



MEET MATT WILLIAMS

Matt joined the Development and Alumni Relations team this fall as Assistant Director of Development.

Matt is a 1993 graduate of CASNR with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural

Education. As a student, he participated on the Livestock Judging Team. He is also a 2010 graduate of the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program.

He comes to us from the Texas Department of Agriculture where he served as a Regional Field Representative since 1999 working in Marketing, Trade, and Business Development. Before that he worked for Cargill Hybrid Seeds, and has also spent some time as a farmer and rancher with the MJ Land & Cattle Company.

He and his wife Jean Anne ('93 BS, Human Development and Family Studies and '05 MED, Education Leadership) have two children, Sunny ('16 BA, University Studies) and Dixie (currently pursuing a degree in Multidisciplinary Studies with specialization in ESL).

Welcome to the family, Matt!

Alumni Authors Library

Ronald Dunn ('65 BS, Horticulture) has written two books, *The Wisdom of Solomon* and its sequel *Time Awry*, a pair of science fiction novels about time travel, intergalactic travel, and alien technology, with a little of the author's Christianity sprinkled in.

Duane Griffith ('63 BS, Agronomy) grew up on a farm in northern Floyd County, Texas. He has written a book, *Plant My Feet*, about the early pioneers of the Texas plains including his great-grandfather, J.D. Griffith, and grandfather, Walter Griffith. The book can be purchased on Amazon.

Heidy Brady, a professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences and Co-Director of the Texas Tech Therapeutic

Riding and Therapy Center, has co-authored the first peer-reviewed textbook for the field of Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies. The book, *A Comprehensive Guide to Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies*, has been adopted for use in classes by universities across the U.S.

Collecting these books not only provides us with good stories to read—it also serves as a great resource for classmates, professors, and other professionals to read about and connect with the CASNR family. If you would like to join the CASNR Alumni Authors Library, please send a copy of your book to CASNR Alumni Authors Library, Box 42123, Lubbock, TX 79409-2123.

UPCOMING

events

Here in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the CASNR experience doesn't stop with commencement. From our signature Pig Roast to Homecoming Breakfast, there are lots of opportunities for the CASNR family to gather, reconnect, and enjoy great food and fun. We hope you will join us and participate in some of these traditions!

68th Annual Texas Tech Rodeo

Thursday, October 19, through
Saturday, October 21, 2017
Texas Tech Equestrian Center

56th Annual Homecoming Breakfast

Saturday, October 21, 2017
Student Union Building,
Red Raider Ballroom

90th Annual Pig Roast & Outstanding Agriculturalist Awards

Thursday November 9, 2017
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

A Closer Look at the Department:

ANIMAL AND FOOD SCIENCES



AFS is housed in a state-of-the-art teaching and research facility featuring five specialized teaching and research labs, the largest retail meat cooler on a university campus, and a retail store and restaurant, “COWAmongus!”

»» ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT:

The department of Animal and Food Sciences (AFS) is made up of a combination of animal science and food science faculty. The four major research areas are food science and food safety; animal health, nutrition, and welfare; meat science and muscle biology; and companion animal science. It has experienced an unprecedented 115% increase in undergraduate student enrollment during the past nine years.

This is not surprising considering the diversity of extracurricular activities available to students and the “hands on”, or experiential, education students are offered.

Undergraduate students have the opportunity to become part of six undergraduate clubs and 10 competitive teams. These

organizations are recognized nationwide for their success, and have won numerous national champion titles in the past 25 years.

AFS is housed in a state-of-the-art teaching and research facility featuring five specialized teaching and research labs, the largest retail meat cooler on a university campus, and a retail store and restaurant, “COWAmongus!”

Many faculty members are leading researchers in their respective fields, including food science, food safety, muscle biology, nutrition, animal wellbeing, breeding and genetics, or physiology, and with specialties in cattle, horse, sheep and goats, swine, and dogs.

» FAST FACTS:

Tagline: Discovering Solutions, Empowering Students, Serving Society

Discovering Solutions: We want to be a department that solves problems found in the worlds of animal science/industry and food science/industry.

Empowering Students: We want to see students develop both in the classroom and through extracurricular activities so that they are ready to lead in the future.

Serving Society: We believe strongly in Servant Leadership and want our students to leave our department to serve others and solve problems in their jobs and communities.

History: The Department of Animal Husbandry was one of the three original departments within the School of Agriculture when Texas Technological College opened its doors in 1925. The name was changed to Animal Science in 1968. The Department of Dairy Manufactures was added in 1927, changed to the Department of Dairy Industry in 1955 and then to the Department of Food Technology in 1970. The two departments were finally merged in 1979 and change its name to today's Animal and Food Sciences in 2001.

Students: More than 500 undergraduates, and 100 graduate students and Ph.D. candidates.

Faculty: 24 tenure stream faculty, 4 research professors, 3 instructors, 1 associate professor of practice.

Alumni: More than 4,650. Alumni can stay involved by joining the Animal and Food Sciences Alumni and Friends Network. Membership is \$30.00 annually. You can learn more, and sign up, on their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/AFSAlumniFriendsNetwork).

Website: www.depts.ttu.edu/afs

» ACADEMIC AREAS:

The department offers degrees in Animal Science with Business, Animal Production, Animal Science, Meat Science, Meat Science Business, Equine Science, Equine Assisted Therapy, Equine Production, Pre-Med, Pre-Vet, Nursing, Pre-Vet Companion Animal Science, Companion Animal options; Food Science and Food Industry; Food Safety and Microbiology; Meat Sciences and Muscle Biology; and an has an Equine Science Certificate Program.

It is home to many specialized centers and programs: Beef Cattle Center and Burnett Center Feedlot at the New Deal Research Farm, Gordon W. Davis Meat Lab and Raider Red Meats, International Center for Food Industry Excellence (ICFIE), Pork Industry Institute, Texas Tech Equestrian Center, and Texas Tech Therapeutic Riding and Therapy Center (TRTC).

It offers numerous opportunities for students to get involved and develop: Livestock Judging Team, Meat Judging Team, Livestock and Meat Animal Evaluation Team, Wool Judging Team, Ranch Horse Team, Horse Judging Team, Equestrian Team, Institute of Food Technologists College Bowl Team, Meat Science Quiz Bowl Team, and Rodeo Team, Block and Bridle Club, Collegiate Horsemen's Association, Food Science Club, Meat Science Association, Pre-Vet Society, and Rodeo Club.



» STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH:

Q: What are some top bragging points for the department?

A: You know I am afraid to answer this question because there are so many good bragging points! I do not want to forget anyone. In the last few years we have had several faculty win national awards, competitive teams win national championships, staff recognized for their service, and Raider Red Meat products cover the U.S.

Q: What is the most unique thing about the department?

A: The variety of programs, from Raider Red Meats to Therapeutic Riding and several different types of extracurricular activities.

Q: What are the focuses for the upcoming school year?

A: We are having a huge increase of new students, from a record last year of 209 to more than 280 this year. We need to figure out how to meet their needs with the personal touch that is a hallmark of our department.

Q: What is the long-term plan for the department?

A: We have a working 10-year focus for the department which includes such initiatives as developing a Ph.D. program in Food Safety; increasing opportunities for experiential learning, like study abroad and internships; expanding food safety research, and developing a collaborative center for human-animal interaction for research and education; further investing in its centers and facilities; establishing an endowed chair for the department; and reinvigorating alumni involvement.

Q: What are some new and exciting things the department is doing in research?

A: Really the Companion Animal Research Program is quite exciting and doing new things for TTU. We have also developed some pilot research data working with developmentally delayed children at the therapeutic riding center.



Q: What skills will this department most help students develop?

A: There are a great number of opportunities for students to improve interpersonal communication skills, not only in the classroom but through our many competitive teams and student organizations as well.

Q: What kinds of jobs do students who graduate from this department typically pursue?

A: Alumni of the department are highly regarded and extremely diverse in their careers. Many veterinarians, medical doctors, and leaders within major agricultural companies are proud to have degrees from the department.

Q: What percentage of graduates typically obtain jobs related to the majors obtained in this department?

A: I am not sure but it should be close to 100%. There are numerous job possibilities in both the animal and food industries. We have many more requests from companies looking for employees than we have students. Our majors are in high demand in the workforce.

Q: Does the department have an advisory board or committee?

A: Right now we have an Equine Programs Advisory Board that is extremely active and very successful. The group focuses on development, support, and facility needs for the different equine related programs and teams within the department. It should be a model for the university.

Q: What are the department's greatest needs and challenges?

A: We are running out of space so we need some new facilities. A big goal we have is a new livestock arena. Running an animal science department is always a challenge due to the high cost of maintaining animals so that is always an issue. We are also very susceptible to market changes and disease outbreaks which can produce significant economic losses.



» MEET THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR: DR. MICHAEL ORTH

Q: What is your vision statement for the department?

A: I would like to see the department become one of the premier places for students to come with an interest in traditional animal science. Many animal science departments are becoming closer to an animal biology department with more of a focus on getting NIH funding using animal models. Having said that, I would like to see us continue to grow a few unique programs, like food security and human-animal interaction research, that can help us integrate with research areas in other areas of the university and TTUHSC. We have, and can have, a good balance between applied and more basic research.

Q: Tell us a little about your background: education, career path and when you started.

A: I received my B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Iowa and my Ph.D. in Nutritional Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After a 3 year postdoctoral position in Chicago, I accepted an assistant professor at Michigan State University where I worked for 17 years and attained the rank of professor. In June of 2013 I took the position here at TTU as department chair.

Q: What lead you to this position?

A: I was an associate chair for 3 years in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University. During that time, I was exposed to academic leadership and felt that my skill set matched well with being a department chair. I was not pursuing a position at the time but a colleague at Michigan State thought I might be a good fit for the open position at Texas Tech. After visiting various people and interviewing here, I agreed with him and took the job. I am very glad that I did!

Q: What do you consider your greatest achievement as Chair? What is your favorite part about serving in this role, working for Texas Tech University?

A: I am not sure that I have a great achievement. The great achievements, and there are many, are due to the excellent faculty, staff, and students in the department. I am excited about the new Companion Animal Science focus that we have started. That program increases the diversity of our research and teaching portfolio and provides unique opportunities for many of our current students.

Q: Are you involved in any professional clubs or organizations?

A: I serve as a national officer for the National Block & Bridle Club. I am currently the vice president but will become the president in 2018.

Q: Have you received any awards, accommodations, designations, etc.?

A: Not since joining Texas Tech. I received the Distinguished Service Award from the MSU Block & Bridle Club in 2013.

Q: When you are not working, what do you do in your spare time?

A: I really enjoy gardening although it is difficult in West Texas. I like playing board games and am also active in our church.



OVERCOMING IMMELMANN

Gregg in front of the Disneyland Shanghai castle, under construction.

Gregg Hudspeth makes the most of a reverse direction in careers

By: Tracee Murph

Gregg Hudspeth ('82 BLA, Landscape Architecture) grew up in Lubbock and graduated from Monterey High School. His childhood dream was to become a pilot, so after graduation he secured a nomination from Rep. George Mahon and applied to the Air Force Academy. When he wasn't appointed, he decided to stay home and follow his older siblings, Gary and Marsha, to Texas Tech.

His father, Elmer Hudspeth, Jr., was an agricultural engineer with the USDA and knew Dr. Sam Curl, the dean at the time of the College of Agricultural Sciences. Knowing Gregg liked to draw and how much he enjoyed the outdoors as an Eagle Scout, Elmer suggested that he major in Landscape Architecture.

"To me, it really didn't matter," Gregg said, "I just needed a degree so that I could graduate, get my commission in the Air Force, and go to pilot training!"

However, he enjoyed all of his teachers and advisors, especially

his studio design professors Neal Rassman, Kay Hutmacher, and Mike Williams, learning different skills from each of them.

"Despite the attitude I expressed earlier, the light bulb went on for me at the start of my junior year and I really enjoyed my design classes, not thinking that I would ever use those skills in the real world. Between school and all of my extracurricular activities, my life at Tech was a blur," Gregg said. "I squeezed 146 course hours into 4 years."

Gregg was involved in Saddle Tramps, Alpha Zeta, and, of course, Air Force ROTC. There he was able to secure a pilot slot and become an Air Force officer upon graduation. However, life handed him lemons, in the form of airsickness, so he decided to make lemonade and pursue a career in Landscape Architecture.

"The Air Force did not have a need for landscape designers, so I received an Honorable Discharge and found my first job at Richardson-

Verdoorn, now RVi, in Austin,” Gregg said.

He was fortunate to land a job with Richardson-Verdoorn, an up-and-coming firm that was only a year old, and became their 18th employee. Then life handed him more lemons in the form of layoffs. He worked for four years in Austin, Texas, but when he got laid off in June 1987, he had trouble finding another position in the state. Through a recruiter, he found a job in Atlanta, Ga., with Niles Bolton Associates, where he worked for 22 years before becoming their director of landscape architecture and a shareholder in the firm.

“The experience put me in a larger fish bowl and I was able to travel and work all over the eastern U.S. and even China,” Gregg said. “I made 12 trips to China between 2003 & 2009. In 2010, it came to a screeching halt and I experienced my second layoff.”

He remained in Atlanta, picking up freelance work here and there, including a consultation with the Arnold Palmer Design Company. In 2013, he received a tip from a former co-worker about working for Disney on their new theme park resort in Shanghai. So, he rented out his house, sold his car, and put everything in storage to work in China for 34 months. When he returned to Atlanta in December 2016, he began to work for Amec Foster Wheeler, joining a landscape architect friend he’s known since his first days in Atlanta.

“So in summary,” Gregg said, “Do not be afraid of layoffs. They often allow you to grow and get out of your comfort zone to do bigger and better things.”

TO CHINA’S HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH, AND BEYOND

While working as a freelance landscape architect following his second layoff, Gregg learned of a project with the Shanghai Disney Resort through a fellow architect friend whose classmate was the

Disneyland Shanghai castle, complete.



“DO NOT BE AFRAID OF LAYOFFS. THEY OFTEN ALLOW YOU TO GROW AND GET OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE TO DO BIGGER AND BETTER THINGS.”

leader of a design institute in Shanghai. The institute had recently been awarded a contract to perform construction administration services for the public transportation corridor, the plaza between the Disney Metro Station and the theme park gates; *Disneytown*, a shopping, dining, and entertainment district; and two Disney resort hotels.

“Basically, they needed a westerner to be the conduit between Disney, the design institute, and the contractors,” Gregg said.

Before moving to China, he was invited by Disney to visit their Imagineering offices in California and review the working drawings. The job was too big for one person, so he handled the two hotels while four of his Chinese colleagues handled the other two projects. He was on-site every work day for 16 months.

Each “land” within the theme park had a designated landscape architect, and each would meet bi-weekly to compare notes and share stories. Gregg’s projects consisted of two hotels. One was a luxury, 400-room, Disneyland Hotel built in an Art Nouveau style, and the other was an 800-room budget hotel with a Toy Story theme.

Working closely with the two Disney hotel project managers, he assisted in the tender, or bidding, process with the contractors. Once the contractor was selected, Gregg reviewed and approved the material submittals and mock-ups, and inspected their work in the field.

He worked with four younger Chinese colleagues, fellow Disney landscape architects who lived and worked in Shanghai, and a Disney Imagineer from California who came twice a month to help lead them. Even though he was not an official Imagineer, they accepted him as one of their own, he said. He reported to a design principal in California, and each of the hotels had their own Creative Director, also from California, that came to China two to three times a year.

“It was a very energetic group led by some amazing project managers,” Gregg said. “The Chinese are known for speed, but sometimes their quality and attention to detail were not up to many of the Disney standards. We were lucky to have many local Chinese interpreters, but I found it very useful to use my quick hand-drawn sketches to convey an idea or concept to a contractor.”

“Working alone and having to solve most of my problems based on my 30 years of experience,” Gregg explained, “I had to think fast on my feet, be flexible and patient. When something didn’t work in the field as the drawings showed, I had to immediately find an alternative solution.”

“Despite the hardships, it turned out to be an amazing project. I developed many new friendships, both among the Chinese and within Disney, and living in Asia allowed me to visit other countries such as Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Australia. I could not have asked for a better environment to utilize all of the skills I had learned in my 30 years of experience.”

Upon returning to Atlanta in December 2016, he began working as Associate Project Manager at Amec Foster Wheeler, a 35,000



Gregg in front of the Disneyland Hotel, Disneyland Shanghai.

person firm based in London. The firm consists mostly of engineers and environmentalists involved in markets as diverse as oil and gas, mining, power plants, and infrastructure. The planning and landscape architecture department is only in Atlanta, and is involved in military planning, city/county comprehensive master plans, cemeteries with the Veteran's Administration, greenways, streetscapes, and parks.

In this job, Gregg focuses on a market that is new to him: public work. "After 30-plus years of working in the private sector, I'm looking forward to expanding my portfolio in the public realm," he said. "It may sound cliché, but I think one of my current projects may be the most significant that I have done or am doing."

The project is a 1.5-mile greenway in Hickory, North Carolina. It will be their version of New York City's High Line, although it will be on the ground parallel to the railroad that cuts through town. It will include an iconic pedestrian bridge and run from downtown to Lenoir-Rhyne University.

"I'm motivated by a desire to never stop learning," Gregg said. "Like most landscape architects, I just want to continue making spaces that people enjoy. One word says it all: place-making."

GREGG'S AERIAL VIEW

Gregg is overall very optimistic about the future for landscape architects, and is encouraging toward students interested in the career. "My advice is to pursue what interests you," he said.

"With the population growing and the pressures of urbanization, there are endless opportunities for us. And we've come a long way in the last 30 years, taking the lead on many complex projects. It's a broad profession. Once you learn the basics, find a specialty that you like. Absorb all that you can through travel, reading, sketching, computer programs, and the like. Get involved in ASLA and make as many connections as you can. Do not burn any bridges, the profession is too small."

As a profession, landscape architects are still subject to many of the ups and downs of the economy and lose a crop of talented people at every downturn, Gregg said. "At the same time, the public is starting to be educated that landscape architecture is more than just pretty things. In many cases, we're our worst promoters, but at the heart of it, it still revolves around health, safety, and welfare."

Professionally, Gregg has been a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) since 1986, and has been elected to every state office within the chapter, including Georgia Chapter President and Georgia Chapter Trustee. He is also active in the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), where he was a national grader for the registration exam and on the exam writing committee. He was also elected to serve on the Georgia Board of Landscape Architects by Governor Sonny Perdue, now the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. He has a *LEED AP BD+C* certification, as well as a *Congress for the New Urbanism* accreditation. He was also President of the Atlanta Texas Tech Ex-Students Association for 20 years and she enjoyed and enjoyed working closely with Jim Douglass, Associate Vice President of the Texas Tech Alumni Association.

In his spare time, Gregg enjoys travel, golf, and photography. "I love to travel and when I do, I seek out projects that I've seen in magazines or books," he said.

"I'm also an avid photographer, and enjoy dissecting a project, from its circulation patterns to its smallest details. I've had many interests throughout my career: new urbanism, golf courses, botanical gardens, and mixed-use town centers, to name a few, and this profession has allowed me to explore them all over the world."

"...IT TURNED OUT TO BE AN AMAZING PROJECT. I DEVELOPED MANY NEW FRIENDSHIPS, BOTH AMONG THE CHINESE AND WITHIN DISNEY..."

Gregg with new friends, Woody and Jessie, at Disneyland Shanghai's Toy Story themed hotel.



Disneyland Hotel, Disneyland Shanghai



CASNR received two grants totaling more than \$895,000 that will be used to create new academic and outreach programs dealing with global food security. The International Center for Food Industry Excellence received \$749,404 toward its project titled *"Developing a Generation of Agricultural Change Agents in the Battle for Food Security."* The remaining \$148,556 will go toward a collaborative effort between the departments of Landscape Architecture, Agricultural Education and Communications, and Plant and Soil Science for a program called *"Greenscape Design Studio."* The grants were awarded from the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) as part of 19 grants totaling almost \$5 million made possible through NIFA's capacity-building grants for Non-Land-Grant College of Agriculture program. Texas Tech received the most funding of the 16 academic institutions that received awards, and was one of only two universities to receive multiple grants.

Separately, three CASNR researchers received a \$296,000 NIFA grant to study the effects of stress on piglets. The stronger the stressor on a pig, the more restriction is placed on its ability to grow and develop at a normal rate by exaggerating the animal's immune responses. The team is working to reduce the effect by showing how the anti-inflammatory drug Cortisol, and its analogs can regulate a pig's immune system, allowing it to grow normally.

Several students in the Department of Landscape Architecture completed outstanding projects during the spring semester earning them recognition from both the American Society of Landscape Architects Texas Chapter (ASLA-TX) and the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA). Seniors **Derek Gay**, **Blane Potts**, and **Tyson Watson**, along with graduate student **Michael Ross**, were selected for Merit Awards at the ASLA-TX's Student Design Competition. Three Master of Landscape Architecture students, **Joanna Agyapomaa Aduhene**, **Michael Ross**,

and **Caitlin Dodson**, were accepted to present their research at the CELA Annual Conference in Beijing, China.

A pair of repeat team roping titlists from the Texas Tech Rodeo Team earned National Championships at the 69th annual College National Finals Rodeo. **Cole Wheeler**, a junior from Flint, Texas, and **Wesley Thorp**, a junior from Stephenville, Texas, were the only repeat champions, winning their second straight title, but their first for Texas Tech. Last year Cole represented Weatherford College while Wesley represented Ranger College. As a team, Texas Tech finished sixth overall at the Rodeo.

The Department of Agricultural Education and Communications hosted 25 bright, emerging African leaders for a six-week academic and leadership institute. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the 2017 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders awarded Texas Tech a \$150,000 grant to fund a Public Management Academic and Leadership Institute for the fellows. Tech was one of just 38 U.S. colleges and universities chosen for the program designed to challenge, inspire, and empower the young leaders. During their visit, the fellows were introduced to U.S. models and best practices through a broad mix of leadership development and academic activities like classroom sessions, panel discussion, and site visits. They also connected with local leaders and the community through volunteer activities and service projects.



Two significant philanthropic investments from Cargill and Teys Australia were made to support research in meat science. Cargill donated \$750,000 to establish the Cargill Endowed Professorship in Sustainable Meat Science, while Teys Australia, a partnership between the



Teys family and Cargill, made a \$2 million gift to support research in meat science. Both gifts represent a strategic and significant investment in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. The gifts were celebrated during a press conference and reception held in May.

1960-1969

Finus J. Branham ('60 BS, Agricultural Education) was with the Air Force for more than four years before coming to Tech. Following graduation, he taught for 35 years and was the first in Texas to begin an Ag Co-Op Program where he started raising Southdown Sheep and other animals. He then worked for Economy Feed Mills where he retired after 22 years. He has been the secretary treasurer for the Texas Southdown Breeders Association for 21 years.

Tom Alvis ('61 BS, Agricultural Education) has been married for 58 years. He and his wife have three children and eight grandchildren. He works for Moak, Casey and Associates dealing with schools regarding the Texas Economic Development Act for Chapter 313 Agreements, complex economic development program involving school district tax value for wind and solar energy.

Larry W. Hendricks ('62 BS, Dairy Manufacturing) recently completed a genealogy project on his mother's family dating back to the 1400s to discover he was descended from Scottish royalty.

Garland A. Weeks ('67 BS, Agricultural Economics) has been a professional sculptor for the past 40 years, with no plans to retire. He has several monumental sculptures in several different states.

1970-1979

J. Robert "Bob" Anderson ('73 BS, Park Administration) retired and closed his office, J Robert Anderson FASLA, after 35 years.

1980-1989

Davin Winger ('83 BS Agricultural Economics) was named Dean of Business and Technology at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. He has been serving at Panhandle State for 10 years, most recently as an assistant professor in the School of Business and Technology.

1990-1999

Kevin Lombard ('91 BS, and '00 MS, Horticulture) is Associate Professor of Horticulture in the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences at New Mexico State University, as well as Superintendent of the NMSU-Agricultural Science Center at Farmington, N.M.

Richard A. Vierling, Ph.D. ('92 Ph.D., Agronomy) is now the center director for Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension in Vernon, Texas. He is also Director and Business Development Manager for the Texas Foundation Seed Service and Business Development for all AgriLife Research and Extension Centers.

Scott Pinkerton ('95 BS, Entomology and '97 MS, Agronomy) celebrated 20 years of marriage to Camille Landry ('94 MS, Entomology). He is currently the project and production manager for Control Solutions, Inc., while Camille is the online manager for Solutions Stores in Pasadena, Texas. They have two daughters, and the youngest started at Tech this fall.

Kirk McDonald ('98 BS, Landscape Architecture) is the owner of Kirk Development Services, a real estate development company in Fairview, Texas.

Pamilyn Scott Miller ('98 BS, Agricultural Communications) is on the Agriculture Subcommittee for the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriation Committee. She resides in the Washington, D.C. area with her husband and two children.

Jaime Bobinmyer Hornecker ('99 BS, Animal Science) is married to Heath Hornecker ('99 BS, Interdisciplinary Agriculture). She is a clinical associate professor with the University of Wyoming's School of Pharmacy, while Heath is the department head at Casper College. They have four children, Nolan 12, Emerson 9, Carson 6, and Jansen 4.

2000- 2016

Christopher Shawn Ogletree ('00 BS, Wildlife and Fisheries) was promoted to Engineering Geologist/Paleontology Specialist with the California Department of Transportation.

Randolph Ferris ('02 BS, Environmental Conservation of Natural Resources and '08 MS, Agriculture) is the Regional Manager for the South East Region of the New Mexico State Parks in Carlsbad, N.M.

Brandon Lipps ('02 BS, Agricultural and Applied Economics and '09 JD, Law) was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to serve as the administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service, and as Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Food Nutrition and Consumer Services.

Amy T. Hollenshead ('03 BS, Agricultural Communications) is the coordinator for Northwest ISD's Outdoor Learning Center, a 200 acre facility dedicated to expanding NISD student academic connections to the environment through experiential learning. When not exploring and leading learning, she is on adventures with her six-year-old son, Jonas.

Michelle Gorhum Tittor ('05 BS, Animal Science and '07 MS, Meat Science) is the operations manager at Syracuse Sausage in Ponder, Texas.

Samantha L. Jenkins Thomas ('06 BS, Animal Science) received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Texas A&M University in 2001. She is working at Above and Beyond Pet Care Clinic in Lubbock. She and her husband welcomed their daughter in January 2016.

Sarah Dierschke Tharp ('08 BS, Food Science) and Marshall Tharp ('09 MS, Agricultural and Applied Economics) welcomed their first child, Cora Elizabeth, in November 2015.

▼
Rachel Oates Clark ('08 BS, and '09 MS, Agricultural Communications) was named Head Rodeo Coach at Stephen F. Austin State University in January. Her team will be competing in the Southern Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

▼
Abby Long Cobb ('10 BS, Animal Science) graduated dental school in May 2016.

▼
Grant Sorensen ('10 MS, Range Science and '15 Ph.D., Wildlife Science and Aquatic Wildlands Science and Management) completed a one-year post-doc at the TTU Institute for Environmental and Human Health, and is currently in medical school at the TTU Health Sciences Center in the MD Class of 2020.

▼
Laila Hajji Down ('11 BS, Agricultural Education) has launched a coaching, speaking and facilitation business, where she leverages her more than 10 years of facilitation and speaking experience to help companies, universities, and youth programs develop their people. Her company, Point One Development, can be found online at www.pointonedev.com.

▼
Ashley Larkin Smith ('11 BS, Interdisciplinary Agriculture) was recently named Training Coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

▼
William Morrissey, D.C. ('11 BS, Animal Science) received his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in December 2015, and is now the owner of Mesa Hills Chiropractic in El Paso, Texas.

▼
Marissa Giampaoli ('12 BS, Agricultural and Applied Economics) now works for the University of Nevada in Cooperative Extension as the Washoe County 4-H Program Coordinator and a community based instructor.

▼
Elizabeth Mack ('13 BS, Wildlife and Fisheries Management) is currently working as a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Wyoming.

▼
Melissa Tabke ('13 BS, and '14 MS, Animal Science) is working with AgriCorps, an agricultural education development program, in Ghana and Liberia as the Country Director for the Liberia program.

▼
Maria Mejia ('13 BS, Environmental Conservation of Natural Resources and '16 MS, Wildlife Science and Aquatic Wildlands Science and Management) is working with the Witte Museum as part of an exhibit with the East Foundation that focuses on land stewardship and connecting Texas to our natural resources.

▼
Gregory Byers ('14 BLA, Landscape Architecture) relocated from Dallas, Texas to Bonita Springs, Fla. to take a job with Waldrop Engineering P.A. as a project designer.

▼
Joseph Drake ('16 MS, Wildlife Science and Aquatic Wildlands Science and Management) started work on his Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He is working on a research project in the Scottish Highlands, has had graduate research published in the Ecological Society of America's journal Ecosphere, and was recognized for his writing with a scholarship from the New England Outdoor Writers Association.

▼
Laurie Tolboom ('16 BS, Agricultural Communications) was named the 56th Masked Rider. She was a member of the Masked Rider Field Safety Crew starting in 2014, and served under the 54th and 55th Masked Riders. She is currently working on her master's degree in mass communications, and hopes to work in the equine or agriculture industry as a graphic designer, photographer, or videographer after serving as mascot.

In Memory

Lawrence W. Coyne
 1941 Agricultural Education

Loys S. Tilger
 1947 Agricultural Education

Jack R. Miller
 1952 Agricultural Economics

Charles E. Armstrong
 1953 Agricultural Economics

Hugh E. Moseley
 1953 Agricultural Education

Bobby Lewis
 1957 Agricultural Education

Wesley J. Cagle
 1958 Agricultural Engineering

Billy D. Bigham
 1962 Soil Science

Darrell G. Hobgood
 1964 Soil Science

James C. Doyal
 1966 Animal Production

Raymond H. Kincaid
 1969 Range Management

Glen B. Miller
 1970 Soil Science

Justin B. Hollis
 1972 Park Administration

Rebecca K. Kahanek
 1974 Horticulture

James P. McCright
 1977 Agricultural Education

Six standout faculty members were honored for excellence in teaching, research, and service at Convocation.

Robert Cox, an associate professor in the Department of Natural Resources Management, received the President's Excellence in Teaching Award; **Venugopal Mendu**, a research scientist who specializes in plant physiology and biochemistry, and assistant professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, received the Texas Tech Alumni Association New Faculty Award; **Jyotsna Sharma**, a plant ecologist and conservationist, and associate professor in Plant and Soil Science, received the Texas Tech Parents Association Bernie E. Rushing Jr. Faculty Outstanding Researcher Award; **Alon Kvashny** was presented an Emeritus Faculty Certificate for his long and faithful service to the Department of Landscape Architecture upon retirement; **Michael Farmer**, an associate professor in both the Department of Natural Resources Management and Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, received the Parents Association Faculty Distinguished Leadership Award; **Cynthia McKenney** ('79 BS, and '86 MS, Horticulture), Rockwell Professor of Horticulture in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, received a Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award, and **Michael Ballou**, an associate professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences and an Associate Dean for Research in CASNR, also received a Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award.

Michael Ballou, an Associate Dean for Research in CASNR, received this year's Lallemand Forward Award for Scientific Excellence in Dairy Nutrition from the American Dairy Science Association. The nutritional biologist also serves as an associate professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions in applied dairy nutrition in areas such as basic or applied forage research in the areas of forage production, processing, storage, or utilization, and basic or applied research in the areas of rumen and gastrointestinal microbiology and

function, as well as nutritional effects on production efficiency, cow comfort and health.

The American Meat Science Association awarded **Mindy Brashears** ('92 BS, Food Technology), Director of TTU's International Center for Food Industry Excellence and professor of food microbiology and food safety in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, the Distinguished Extension-Industry Service Award in recognition of her outstanding achievement in meat science extension and service to the industry. Separately, The West Texas Association for Women in STEAM presented her with its annual Outstanding Woman Leader Award for her work to support and encourage women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and mathematics (STEAM).

Warren Conway ('97 MS, and '01 Ph.D., Wildlife Science), a nationally-known water bird and wetland ecology expert in the Department of Natural Resources Management, received the Professing Excellence Award from the TTU's Student Housing Office. The Bricker Endowed Chair in Wildlife Management was presented the award for his dedication and commitment to student learning. The award recognizes outstanding faculty who go above and beyond, both inside and outside the classroom, to impact their students' learning and academic success.

For a lifetime of achievements and service, **Charles Eatherly** ('61 BS, and '63 MS, Park Administration) received the Professional Emeritus Award from the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association. The award honors professionals, now retired, who led the way; who strove for standards, professionalism and recognition for their field of service; and who dedicated themselves to quality park and recreation services for all. Charles has worked in the parks and recreation profession for 57 years, 51 of those with the Arizona State Parks. During this time, he was instrumental in acquiring, planning, and opening 17 of the 35 state parks in Arizona.

Michael Farmer, an environmental and natural resource economist in the Departments of Natural Resources Management and Agricultural and Applied Economics, received a Faculty International Scholarship Award from the Office of International Affairs during its Global Vision Awards Ceremony. The ceremony celebrates faculty, staff and students for their efforts in helping Texas Tech to become a globally-connected, higher education institution. Also recognized was **Keelyn Hanlon**, a doctoral student in Animal and Food Science, for the Student International Research Award, and CASNR's **International Center for Food Industry Excellence** for the Campus Internationalization Award.

Sorority sister **Ellen J. Foster** ('93 BS, Agricultural Economics) received a Real. Strong. Women of Distinction Award from Alpha Chi Omega. The award highlights members who are on the road to achieving their dreams, and who were inspired by their Alpha Chi Omega experiences to become the best versions of themselves. Ellen joined the Gamma Rho chapter when she was a sophomore at Texas Tech.

Eric Hequet, a noted leader in cotton fiber research and the current chairman of the Department of Plant and Soil Science, was designated an honorary professor and international advisory board member for scientific research by the Industrial Crop Research Institute in China's Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences. Separately, he was appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Cotton Science*.

Longtime professor, current chairman of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and Director of the Thornton Agricultural Finance Institute, **Phillip Johnson** ('70 BS, '72 MS, and '93 Ph.D., Agricultural Economics), was presented a Distinguished Service Award by the Austin-based Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council. The award recognized his meritorious and exceptional accomplishments in the field of cooperative endeavor.

Courtney Meyers, an associate professor and graduate studies coordinator with the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, was named this year's Bumpers College Alumni Society's Outstanding Young Alumni at the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.

A professor of conservation science in

the Department of Natural Resources Management, **Gad Perry**, was named one of only 14 individuals nationwide selected for the Jefferson Scientific Fellowship Program which builds science, technology, and engineering expertise within the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development. He is also Director of the International Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Land Studies, and Senior Director of the Division of International Research

and Development in the Office of International Affairs.

David Weindorf ('95 BS, Range Science, '97 MS, Soil Science, and '02 Ph.D., Agronomy), a professor and B.L. Allen Endowed Chair of Pedology in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, and an Associate Dean for Research in CASNR, has been named a fellow by the Soil Science Society of America. It is the highest honor the Society bestows upon its members.

Distinguished Alumni and Outstanding Young Alumni Awards



L to R: Interim Dean Frazee, Kristina Boone, Dawn DeBerry Stump, Mandy Carr Johnson, Dale Rollins, Shawn Bengel, and Eric Best. Seated: Billy Zanolini.

The 37th annual Distinguished Alumni & Outstanding Young Alumni Awards recognized some of the most outstanding graduates from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The purpose of these awards is to recognize and honor CASNR alumni who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments and careers have brought distinction to the College and to the professions associated with agriculture and natural resources. One alumni from each of the College's departments is selected to receive the awards.

This year's recipients were:

Dawn DeBerry Stump ('96 BS, Agricultural Economics) of Washington, D.C. She is a principal at Stump Strategic, a consulting and advocacy firm helping clients proactively engage federal policy makers and navigate the intersection of public policy and politics.

Kristina Boone ('86 BS, Agricultural Communications) of Manhattan, Kansas. She was recently a department head and professor in communications and agricultural education at Kansas State University. Starting this April, she began a new role as the director of The Ohio State University's Agricultural Technical Institute.

Mandy Carr Johnson ('94 BS, '95 MS, and '99 Ph.D., Animal Science) of Centennial, Colorado. She is the senior executive director of science with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. She also leads the beef safety research program and facilitates the functions of the Beef Industry Food Safety Council.

Shawn Bengel ('89 BLA, Landscape Architecture) of Washington, D.C. He serves as associate director of park planning, facilities, and land with the National Park Service. He is in charge of policy development, program accountability, budget formulation for

development planning, land acquisition, facility operations, and design/construction activities across the national park system.

Dale Rollins ('83 Ph.D., Range Science) of San Angelo. He is a professor and extension wildlife specialist with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, and executive director of the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, a 4,700 acre research/demonstration ranch in Fisher County.

Eric Best ('94 BS, and '05 MS, Crop Science) of Lubbock. He serves as a technical agronomic advisor with Monsanto. He has been the technology development and technical agronomist for the firm since 2007.

In addition, the college recognized one outstanding young alumnus. The recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Young Alumni Award was **Billy Zanolini** ('04 BS, and '06 MS, Animal Science) of College Station. He is an assistant professor and extension specialist for Youth Livestock and Agriculture with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. He is responsible for coordinating 4-H and other youth-oriented agriculture education programs, and has developed and installed more than 600 learning strategies and programming efforts through the Texas 4-H Association and other youth agriculture organizations.

The measure of a college's distinction and influence depends greatly upon the achievements of its alumni and the positions they attain in their respective communities and fields of endeavor. These awards were established to recognize some of the college's most outstanding alumni.



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COLLEGE UPDATES

CASNR has created a new **undergraduate companion animal program**. The program will provide an introduction to the myriad of opportunities to work with animals. Among the options are small animal nutrition and the potential to work for companies that make dog food, or small animal behavior consulting, to name a few. The concentration, offered in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, is still very young and enrolled students for the first time in the spring 2017 semester.

Karissa Greathouse has been named the new Distance Education Instructional Technologist for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. She is working to develop and redesign instructional materials and products using technology-based resources for online courses, as well as assisting the faculty in learning about becoming proficient in and applying instructional

technology. In addition, she'll be monitoring and evaluating CASNR distance education online courses, and assisting with the implementation of a course review process based on the university's approved online course design rubric for new and existing courses to ensure quality and consistency within CASNR.

Ed Hellman has been named a professor of viticulture and enology in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, and will be based at the Fredericksburg campus. There he plans to establish a research program primarily focused on applied research addressing critical needs of the Texas grape and wine industry, and on sustainable production practices for several fruit crops including blackberry, strawberry, blueberry, peach, and apple. In addition, he'll be teaching undergraduate and graduate course in viticulture and enology, and developing a new course in sustainable fruit and

nut crop production. He previously served as professor of viticulture at Tech with a joint appointment as a professor and viticulture extension specialist with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Rosalyn Shim has been named an assistant professor of plant breeding and genetics with the Department of Plant and Soil Science. She plans to continue her research efforts in molecular breeding, domestication genetics and germplasm development by wide hybridization. She would like to concentrate on elucidating the genetics of preferential chromosome transmission from the wild to the cultivated crop species. Findings from such research would form basis for the more effective and widespread utilization of wild relatives of crops as a reservoir of important genes for crop improvement.