AVS Corner, December 2017

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AVS EXCELS IN EXTENSION

-ERIKA JONES AND MATT BURNS

For many Clemson University students in the Animal and Veterinary Sciences department, their ultimate goal is to pursue a degree in veterinary medicine. However, after attending their first round of classes and learning about other career options that interest them, students may learn that attending veterinary school is not their only career option. An often overlooked career field that is rewarding for AVS majors is working with Cooperative Extension.

Clemson Cooperative Extension helps improve the quality of life of all South Carolinians by providing unbiased, research-based information through an array of public outreach programs in youth development, agribusiness, agriculture, food and nutrition, and natural resources. Each state has an Extension program that runs through land-grant universities, making Clemson University South Carolina’s 1862 Cooperative Extension headquarters. Because the network of Cooperative Extension is nationwide, a career in Extension is even possible for out-of-state students who plan to move back to their home state after graduation.

Each county in South Carolina has an Extension office to provide high quality programs. While programmatic responsibilities of Extension personnel may vary, based on their expertise and job duties, the administrative structure is similar across the state. Each county has a County Coordinator, who also serves as an agent (in any program area). In addition to their programmatic duties, this agent fosters relationships on a local level while coordinating Extension efforts in that particular county. Most county offices work very closely with local county governments, and the County Coordinator maintains this working relationship to meet the needs of the citizens of that area. Clemson Cooperative Extension divides the state into 4 regions. Each region has a District Director (all of whom have served as agents in the past) who is responsible for day-to-day management of staff and agents in their respective region. The programmatic responsibility lies with the Program Team Leader, who helps agents deliver relevant science-based educational programs to the citizens of South Carolina. Currently, there are 8 program teams within Clemson Extension: 4-H Youth Development, Agribusiness, Agronomy, Horticulture, Livestock and Forages, Food Safety and Nutrition, Forestry and Wildlife Resources, and Water Resources.
WELCOME TO THE 8TH EDITION OF THE AVS CORNER!

Hello! I hope this edition of the AVS Corner finds each of you blessed and doing well. Within this issue of the AVS Corner, you will find articles on Stakeholder Board Members (Jim Brazzel and Fred West) as well as a spotlight on Randy Griffis (AVS Alumnus and Stakeholder Board Member). In addition, the students introduce our 3 newest faculty members Dr. Keith Bertrand (Professor), Dr. Zheng Zhou (Assistant Professor) and Ms. Chelsea Sinclair (Lecturer) and the department’s newest graduate students. Please take the time read the articles about these individuals. They are very important to our department and its success and we are blessed to have them as part of the AVS family. AVS affiliated clubs have provided you updates on their comings and goings within these pages, as well. Our students have conducted an interview with Dr. George Askew (CAFLS Dean and VP of Agriculture), which I am sure you will find informative and interesting. It should be noted that Dr. Askew has been tirelessly advocating for AVS and CAFLS with the Provost and the SC Legislature. I hope you take the time to thank him for his efforts.

Dr. Johanna Johnson Lascano (former AVS Corner faculty editor) left AVS for another opportunity this past May. Thus, with this edition, we have a new faculty editor, Dr. Farzana Ferdous. Dr. Ferdous stepped up to fill the role as faculty editor on short notice, but I know you will find this edition of our student driven AVS Corner to be every bit as informative and pleasant as those in the past. I thank Dr. Ferdous and the students for continuing the AVS Corner publication.

In closing, I pray God blesses you and your families in all you endeavor and continues to bless the United States and Clemson University. We truly have so much to be grateful for at Clemson University and in the United States of America. Go Tigers!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Clemson Extension (1)
- Interview with Dean Askew (2)
- Visiting Scholar (2)
- Stakeholder Spotlight: Fred West (3)
- Stakeholder Spotlight: Jim Brazell (3)
- Clubs and Organizations (4)
- Scholarship/Award News (6)
- Alumni Spotlight: Randy Griffis (7)
- Where are They Now? (7)
- Did You Know? AVS CI Courses (8)
- Faculty Spotlight: Tom Scott (9)
- New Faces in AVS (10)
- Research Highlights (12)
- Calendar (13)

AVS CORNER EDITORS

Front Row: Caitlin Mathews, Emily Alexander
Back Row: Brooke Redmond, Meghan Courey, Erika Jones, Farzana Ferdous (Advisor)
Not in the picture: Wendy Guzman, Peyton Voirin, Morgan Forte
Because of this administrative structure, another advantage to a career with extension is that there is always room to grow! Someone can start as a county agent and work their way up to a state specialist. Clemson alumni and AVS program graduate Leona Ransdell did just that. Leona started as a county agent in South Carolina and is now the 4H Horse Program Associate for Virginia Tech, where she oversees the state horse show and equine educational contests. Ransdell says her AVS degree has prepared her for the equine industry by giving her the knowledge to teach the youth involved in the horse program.

Another fellow Clemson alum, Allie Winter, is the county agent and county coordinator for Lexington County, South Carolina. In Winter’s county, a lot of the youth participate in livestock and equine areas and she frequently gets asked questions regarding the health and care for those project animals. Winter stated that she feels “confident and prepared” to answer these questions because of the hands-on technique classes and curriculum she studied during her undergrad at Clemson. Both Ransdell and Winter said that their AVS undergraduate degrees have been instrumental in helping them succeed in the world of Extension daily and hope that more AVS students will hear more about opportunities like Extension work sooner rather than later in their college careers.

One thing these agents, among many others, have in common is that they were both Clemson Cooperative Extension interns during their undergraduate years. Cooperative Extension offers many internships in a variety of fields through the UPIC office on campus, allowing students to get their foot in the door before graduation. Fortunately, I (Erika) have also had the opportunity to intern for Cooperative Extension for the past five semesters, working in the state 4H office and under the 4H Horse program coordinator. Through my internships with Extension, I have had the opportunity to plan, set up, and implement many statewide events such as educational contests and informational booths. Being a UPIC intern for the Extension program has shown me the wide variety of jobs offered and provided many networking opportunities to make connections with professionals that will help with my career with Extension in the future.
INTERVIEW WITH THE DEAN

DR. GEORGE ASKEW

-MEGHAN COUREY

Over the past 45 years, Clemson University has kept Dr. George Askew close by. Dr. Askew came to Clemson from New Jersey in search of a school accredited in forestry. He started his journey at Clemson University in 1972 where he attended as an undergraduate to receive his Bachelor of Science degree in, what was then, the College of Forest and Recreation Resources. He then continued at Clemson to earn his Master’s degree within this college and the day after graduation, he got married! Dr. Askew then branched out to the College of Agriculture to complete his PhD in 1981. He was offered a position working as an Assistant Professor through Clemson in Georgetown, SC while finishing up his PhD.

Dr. Askew believes the AVS department reflects the needs of the agricultural community in South Carolina through teaching, research, and outreach programs. He hopes to increase the department strength by incorporating more faculty positions. He is currently working with the University Development Office to identify potential donors to help support the department’s strategic plan. Dr. Askew plans to continue improvement on the farms, in labs, and faculty expertise. He cares deeply about the students, as they have helped the department grow so much.

Dr. Askew has been serving as the CAFLS Dean for three years and loves his position. He finds joy in hearing from alums about all their accomplishments over the years. His favorite part about his role is to watch the student successes and being able to shake their hands as they walk across the stage at graduation. When Dr. Askew is not working as the Dean, he enjoys spending time playing his guitar, go hiking in the mountains, and doing crossword puzzles to keep his mind sharp, and learning new languages.

INTERNATIONAL VISITING INTERN

Maria Jose Oconitrillo Hidalgo

-MEGHAN COUREY

Maria comes to Clemson from Costa Rica to complete an internship this Fall semester. Maria is working on completing her Bachelor’s degree, and as part of her coursework, she is required to obtain an internship. Maria is studying under Dr. Lascano and helping in various aspects of his work. She is assisting his three graduate students on their projects, working at the farms and in the labs where she is needed. She is also helping to write scientific papers. Maria has a lot of interest in animal nutrition, which is why she thought Clemson would be a great fit!
Stakeholder Spotlight

FRED WEST
-Emily Alexander

After Fred West graduated with a degree in business from the University of South Carolina, he began his career in human resources in the IT realm of computer science. After leaving the computer science industry, he then continued his human resource experience with Ryan’s Family Steakhouse supporting Human Resources for the Southeast for over 6 years. He then began his career at Amick Farms as Vice President of Human Resources. Amick Farms, based in Batesburg, South Carolina, has operations located in Maryland and South Carolina. The operations are “fully integrated”, which means they breed, hatch, feed, utilize local growers and process their own chickens in order to maintain control of the resulting poultry products being sold throughout the US and globally. In the last 19 years, Mr. West has watched Amick Farms flourish from a 900-member team to now employ over 3500 people. Mr. West now oversees multiple facets of the operations of the company and has many responsibilities in leading various departments including HR, IT, QA, Safety, Environmental, Engineering, and supporting company functions as a whole.

Amick Farms is a family-run business and emphasizes on establishing honest and faithful relationships with their customers. Amick Farms focuses on a strong partnership not only with their customers, but also with the farmers that grow their chickens. Working so closely with their farmers, Amick Farms places a high importance on the dynamic of animal welfare standards, not only for the growers but also for team members in its processing facilities. Amick Farms also has a summer program, the SCCSA, that provides students with experience in the process of producing chickens as well as shadowing employees and executives in the agricultural field. Amick Farms also offers internships to qualifying students that are interested in gaining experience in agricultural business. The chicken industry is the largest agricultural community in South Carolina. Agricultural businesses are “businesses within a business” says Mr. West, as he described how there are many opportunities and many careers available.

Mr. West never imagined himself working for a poultry company, but now says he couldn’t imagine doing anything else. Working in the agricultural business has provided him with a career of leading a variety of different departments and learning individual aspects of business management.

JIM BRAZELL
-Caitlin Mathews

Jim Brazell grew up outside of Richmond, Virginia and attended Clemson University. He played football until he injured his knee and was no longer able to play. Mr. Brazell graduated with a degree in agricultural education with a minor in business. Shortly after graduation, Mr. Brazell served two years in the U.S. Army before he began working for Purina in 1974.

During his 40 years at Purina, Mr. Brazell worked in general management and as the national sales director. Mr. Brazell travelled all over the country and worked with a vast group of people through his work. Mr. Brazell has experience working with the poultry, swine, cattle and even the horse industries.

After retiring from Purina, Mr. Brazell now serves on the Animal and Veterinary Science Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is working together with our Department Chair to help create more value for graduates from the Animal and Veterinary Science department. They are focusing on providing assistance to students seeking admission into veterinary school and be successful in business, and work with industry leaders. They are also developing an internship program to provide opportunities for graduate students.

Lastly, Mr. Brazell highlighted some of the most valuable things he learned during his time at Clemson University. Not only did he meet his wife at Clemson, but he also learned how to become a team player, which is critical in being successful in the agriculture business. Mr. Brazell also mentioned how attending Clemson provided him with experiences that he would not have been able to have if he had attended a different university. Mr. Brazell believes that Clemson students are unlike no other in their positive outlook about the world and the opportunities that it provides.
FROM THE FIELD: CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

SIGMA ALPHA

This semester Sigma Alpha had a lot of fun! Sisters participated in our Ag in the Classroom event, which is always a huge hit with the kids. On top of that, we did our first ever sisterhood apple picking day at Sky Top Apple Orchard! Sisters had a lot of fun bonding over apple picking, and the best part was that it was agriculture related which helped remind everyone why we are in this sisterhood to begin with. Additionally, we are so happy that we inducted five new sisters into our sisterhood this semester.

-Peyton Voirin

Dairy Science Club

The Clemson Dairy Science Club (CUDSC) had a great year last year and is excited for all the amazing events this semester has to offer. Over the summer, the Dairy Science Club attended the annual American Dairy Science Association national conference in Pittsburgh, PA! Students competed in the dairy quiz bowl, presented papers on topics in production and dairy foods, and presented a scrapbook as well as a website detailing the CUDSC activities and events. Sara Garbowski placed second with her paper and Katie Amsler was awarded second as well for her website design. The club started off this semester by attending Tiger Prowl and the CAFLS Welcome Back events and recruited many new members for the club! The Clemson Dairy Show team hosted their annual Anderson show in October and it was a huge success. The show team attended the South Carolina State Fair in October. The club also participated in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Florida.

-Kaitlyn Amsler

MINORITIES IN AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND RELATED SCIENCES

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) is back on campus and members are busy at work networking professionally and within our college. This September, MANRRS hosted a Rent-A-Puppy fundraiser partnered with Crossroads Animal Rescue to provide some healthy socialization for the animals and students. In October MANRRS attended their 2017 Regional Cluster Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Members had the opportunity to sit in on forums and Q&A sessions with prominent industry and government professionals. Those who attended were able to have professional conversations with several companies and programs hiring for promising internships and employment opportunities. In October, MANRRS held a themed Halloween Candy and Bake Sale to raise funds for more professional networking events and opportunities serving the interests of members and all CAFLS students. November, the organization participated in the CAFLS Fall Workshop Series sponsored by Bookhart Student Services Center. Our members are so excited to bring new ideas and events to campus as we build our chapter again!

-Megan S. Tamakloe

Clemson Collegiate Horsemen’s Association

The Clemson Collegiate Horsemen’s Association has been very active so far this semester. We have attended farm tours in the local area, such as Wild Hearts Therapy and Emerald Leaf Stables. We had a guest speaker, Cassie Wycoff, on campus November 7th for a presentation. We also hosted our biggest fundraiser, the Trottin’ Around the Tree Horse Show, December 2nd-3rd, this is a student-run show that brings competitors from local barns and surrounding the states. We also have our National Convention hosted at Texas A&M University on March 9-11, which is a great opportunity for students to network and find internships and jobs nationwide.

-Kate Foseberry
AVS Graduate Student Association

The Animal and Veterinary Science Graduate Student Association has had a great time this past year! Along with our teaching, endlessly fun hours of research endeavors and mentoring other organizations, we still make time for fun and philanthropy. This past Christmas we participated in Operation Christmas Child where we were able to send a couple of packages to local boys and girls. We sold shirts with a unique stained-glass logo (thanks Dr. Koch for your design) that were well received with over 90 sold! Our other philanthropic work continued with a food drive for Clemson Community care! For the past 2 years over 1,200 cans have been donated, and we hope to continue this tradition in the future!

-Markus Miller

Block and Bridle

Block and Bridle has had busy semester in catching up from the summer break. We kicked off the year by working hard on our First Friday float which turned out great like always and provided ample opportunity for fellowship and interaction between members new and old! Our first speakers of the year were two representatives from the Clemson Student Extension office. They provided some very great input into what Clemson Extension does, and outlined what some of the career opportunities are through extension service. Our next speaker was our graduate student advisor, Markus Miller, who spoke about his path to where he is today and also gave insight into what to do after graduation. One of the new initiatives that we have started this year is a student spotlight where we have a student with past internships talk about what they did as a way to show our members some of the opportunities outside of school that will help them to become more competitive players in the job market. We held our annual new member “initiation” which involved a lot of fun, teambuilding games at our rodeo arena. We cooked for the Extension Meet and Greet on October 25th, which was a great time. We have several more events, such as pre-selling pork butts for home games, and an apple picking trip. We have also decided as a club to attend the National Block and Bridle convention this coming spring which will be held in Orlando Florida this year. All in all, we have had a busy, yet very productive semester!

-Jacob Koch

Pre-Vet Club

Clemson University’s Pre-Vet club strives to get students prepared for professional and graduate schools and for a future career in veterinary medicine. Weekly meetings consist of presentations from guest researchers, vet school recruiters, and different veterinarians of varying specialties. We want to give members as many opportunities as possible to ask questions and to network prior to the vet school application opening in May. So far we have had speakers from Ross University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and the Mississippi State CVM. Our advisor Dr. Jeryl Jones, a veterinary radiologist, explained some case studies with the club and Dr. Celina Checura talked to us about her vet school experience in Argentina and her journey coming to the United States. A suture clinic was held in October to give our members the opportunity to learn basic patterns and knots to help these students stand out upon arrival at vet school. In November, our members attended the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians Conference in Greenville. Last but not least, our 3rd Annual Spring Trip for members will be voted upon in the coming months. We will be holding our first scrub shirt fundraiser for members as well as the various departments. We welcome all majors interested in veterinary medicine and look forward to another amazing year!

-Libby James
Scholarship News!

Congratulations to all the AVS Students who were awarded scholarships for the year 2017-2018 Academic Year. Below we have highlighted AVS-specific scholarships funded by philanthropic donors.

-Joni Deanne Jordan

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<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>FY18 Total Scholarship Dollars to AVS Students</th>
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<td>Animal and Veterinary Sciences Scholarship</td>
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<td>Chip Rauch Endowed Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Ben E. Goodale Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Pauline Hanckel Memorial Dairy Scholarship</td>
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<td>James &amp; Nelwyn Smith Endowed Scholarship</td>
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<td>Albin S Johnson Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Milk Producers of South Carolina Scholarship</td>
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| Number of AVS Students Receiving Private Scholarship Dollars | 173 |

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<tr>
<th>FY18 Scholarship Dollars Designated to AVS Majors</th>
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<td>T G Westmoreland Scholarship</td>
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Tell Us.......

DISTRIBUTION PREFERENCE!

We are considering some format changes for the AVS Corner. Please let us know if you prefer a paper format, an electronic format or something else. Please complete the survey at this website:


Awards!

South Carolina Association of Extension 4-H Agents “Specialist Award” presented to Dr. Kristine Vernon in recognition of outstanding contributions to 4-H.

Dr. Kristine Vernon (middle) with Dr. Ashley Burns (right) and Kathryn Shaw (left)

Grant News!

A group of AVS faculty members (Drs. Wilmoth, Birrenkott, Strickland) recently received a grant from the United Sorghum Checkoff Program to study sorghum as a feedstuff for gamebirds and broilers in the Southeast in collaboration with Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, A & J Nutrition Services, Inc., and USDA-ARS Poultry Research Unit in Mississippi. For this project their aims are to determine the growth performance of commercial broilers, Japanese quail, and Northern Bobwhite quail being fed three different varieties of grain sorghum. Grain sorghum is well adapted to the environment of the Southeast, being more tolerant of heat, drought, and reduced soil fertility than corn, which is the primary grain crop in the U.S.
Mr. Randy Griffis was born and raised in nearby Pendleton, South Carolina. He and his family have lived on their farm for decades. Their farm includes cows, goats, chickens, and horses. His family is also the founder of Griffis Farm and Home Center in Pendleton. Mr. Griffis attended Clemson University during the years 1972-1976. He entered Clemson in the pre-veterinary science concentration before switching to what was then Animal Industries. Mr. Griffis’ decision to change his concentration goes along with advice he would give current students, in the same field. Mr. Griffis stated: “Find something that you like and go with it. You might not realize that you like it yet, but go with it and trust your instincts.” He realized that the 24/7 work life that a lot of veterinarians was not for him. He worked at Griffis while he was in school and realized it was his calling. He made it very clear that he loves working with and around other people that share the same interests. After graduation he continued working at Griffis and is now the manager alongside his brother, Wayne, of the popular store. Randy Griffis has been working at the store for 48 years now and still enjoys all aspects of the career and lifestyle. Griffis’ wife also graduated from Clemson with a degree in computer science. She still works for the university in the IT department. One of his two daughters got her master’s at Clemson and currently works in their Financial Aid department. His second daughter graduated from Anderson University and currently works as an elementary school teacher.

His entire family still helps out on the farm whenever possible and they all enjoy the small town, farm and family friendly lifestyle that originally drew Mr. Griffis to his major, degree, and lifelong career.
Have you ever wondered what students do outside of their required classes at Clemson? It turns out, many students in AVS are participating in Creative Inquiry’s (CI) courses! Whether students just want more hands-on activity in their daily life, have a specific interest within AVS that you would like to know more about, or are trying decide what interests them most within AVS, CI’s can be a valuable part of the Clemson experience. Just check out some of these awesome CI’s Clemson has to offer.

If any of these creative inquiries peaked your interest, or simply sparked further questions, feel free to contact the team leader about their project. If there is not a current CI at Clemson, that doesn’t mean there won’t be in the future! In order to start a CI, Clemson University requires that a student have “Commitment and curiosity. They’ll need the desire to be creative, to work with a group of peers for several semesters and to be mentored by a faculty member or advanced graduate student.”

**Sorghum as a Feedstuff for Gamebirds and Broilers in the Southeast.**
Team Leader: Tiffany Wilmoth
In this project, students will learn to determine metabolizable energy of a dietary treatment and components of formulating a diet. In addition, students calculating and analyzing diet formulations will be able to make projections for expected growth rates and performance of the birds as well as the economic costs and benefits of an alternative feedstuff.

**Animal Diagnostic Imaging Research**
Team Leaders: Kristopher Murray, Jeryl Jones, and Constance Brinks
You don’t need x-ray vision to see how cool this CI is! Students choose a project to be approved based on an issue involving diagnostic imaging, such as lower back pain in working dogs, a current project. With lots of goal setting, progress reports, meetings, and a final report, this CI helps students improve their research skills.

**Equine Hay Feeding Meth. & Res.**
Team Leader: Kristine Vernon
It’s the start of something new! This CI is intended for equine enthusiasts. Undergraduates will learn essential research techniques needed to design and conduct research focused on equine management and feeding behaviors.

**Ruminant Nutrition Research Team**
Team Leader: Gustavo Lascano
Who doesn’t like cows? The main focus in this creative inquiry is on nutrition in ruminants. This CI is interesting because students spend time in the lab, but also get to spend time out on the dairy farm collecting data from cute furry friends! If anyone has a special interest in nutrition or ruminants, or even better, both, this CI would provide a professional outlet to follow those interests.

**AVS Corner**
Team Leader: Farzana Ferdous
This entire newsletter was created by a CI! By merging journalism and AVS, students in this CI are able to improve on their writing and communication skills, and have fun while doing it! If you like reading the AVS Corner, you’re already supporting a CI!
Generous, compassionate, respected and well-rounded are just a few words to describe our Faculty Spotlight, Dr. Thomas Scott. He was brought up in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He discovered his love for biology in the 10th grade after having the opportunity to dissect a shark, and decided that this would be his life and career from then on. He obtained his Bachelors and Master’s Degrees from LSU located five miles from home. He left Louisiana with his wife, Stephanie for a PhD in Poultry Science at UGA. He concentrated in Poultry Science and was really inspired to learn the embryology of the chicken. Dr. Scott completed his post doctoral at Mississippi State with the famous poultry scientist Dr. Bruce Glick in immunology, an experience that changed his life forever.

During his 31 years at Clemson University Dr. Scott has served as a faculty member and in various administrative positions. Dr. Scott moved to Clemson in 1986 as an assistant Professor in the Poultry Science Department. In a couple of years, he was promoted to Associate Professor, then to Department Chair and Professor, ultimately becoming the School Director of Animal, Biomedical and Biological Sciences along with being Supervisor for all farm managers. Impressive, right?! He returned to his research and teaching in 2000; deciding to reinvent himself, he began to look more into molecular biology and even started teaching an immunology course. In August 2009, Dr. Scott became the Dean of CAFLS. Dr. Scott returned to faculty, what we considered to be the best department, AVS, in 2014, where he began to teach Animal Health and Immunology. Dr. Scott figured 10 years of Administrative work was more than enough for him.

Of the years spent in Clemson, there were many wonderful memories that were accumulated by Dr. Scott. However, there is one specific memory that truly stands out. This memory lies within his first year of being on campus where he and his oldest daughter, who was 5 at the time, took a walk to Bowman field to see the Homecoming floats. Skipping and hopping his daughter turns around and says “Dad, I really like this place. Let’s just stay here forever.” This truth resonated in him and touched him so much that that’s just what he did. Upon his retirement, Dr. Scott plans to do some traveling and spend more time with his family. However, he isn’t completely ready to settle down yet, because he likes to stay busy. Though he will not be in the lab much anymore, he would still love to mentor and direct various students and other scientists and generously help them to build a legacy of their own.

Of all his years of teaching, research, and administrative work, Scott says that he has no regrets. Only memories of experiences that made him stronger. This is where he gets his empathy and affinity from because he understands the struggles of a college student. Dr. Scott states that his sole purpose in becoming a professor was to develop relationships and help young and excited people grow and become successful. He has come here to Clemson University and has grown to appreciate how to work with and educate rising and developing future dominators of the work force. The success of his students is his greatest reward. I know sometimes as students we feel that the entire world is coming down on us at one time, but Dr. Scott ensures us that there is a way and that there are so many people to help us find that way.

Thank you so much for your time at Clemson Dr. Scott. We hate to see you go. Please know that you will be missed dearly. You have left a lasting impact on your students and it will never be forgotten.
NEW FACES IN AVS

DR. JOSEPH KEITH BERTRAND
Professor
-Morgan Forte

Dr. Bertrand received his B.S. in Animal Science from the University of Florida and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University in Animal Breeding and Genetics. Dr. Bertrand was a professor at UGA for over 33 years and retired from his position as department head of the Animal and Dairy Science Department in July 2017. He taught a multitude of classes on all levels, including Ph.D. and M.S. level classes in animal breeding and genetics. His research at UGA focused on the development and improvement of the methodology for predicting genetic values for economically important traits in beef cattle.

Dr. Bertrand has two daughters, one of whom graduated from UGA, and the other from Clemson. Dr. Bertrand’s wife, Dr. Jean bertrand, is the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences at Clemson. Dr. Bertrand is a member of the Catholic church and thoroughly enjoys being of service to anyone who needs it, especially his students, who he loves to help and interact with when at all possible. Dr. Bertrand is an avid reader and enjoys staying physically active in his free time; he also likes to travel with his wife when time allows.

“(I believe that it is important to try to help folks when we can and treat everyone with respect.)”

DR. CHELSEA D. SINCLAIR
Lecturer
-Morgan Forte

Chelsea D. Sinclair was originally from the Irmo / Lexington area in South Carolina. She received her B.S. in AVS at Clemson and upon graduating managed a farm in Virginia. She worked at the CU Equine Center as a student at Clemson and started the Trottin Tigers 4-H club during her undergraduate years. After her ...as farm manager, she pursued her Masters Degree at Kansas State University in Animal Sciences and Industry and stayed at KSU for her PhD. Ms. Sinclair specializes in reproductive physiology and endocrinology, and is currently working on a study investigating the use of AMH as a biomarker for fertility in mares. She intends to complete her PhD by December, 2018.

Ms. Sinclair grew up riding hunters and still enjoys doing that to this day. Most recently she has successfully competed at the APHA World Championship and the Pinto World Championship shows on her Clemson-bred mare and showed her yearling colt at the AQHA Congress at the end of October. Ms. Sinclair enjoys being outdoors with her long-time boyfriend and their 3 dogs, going to the lake, beach, and river. She also enjoys camping, watching Clemson football, and porch-sitting with her grandmother. She notes that her favorite time of the year is breeding season.

“It’s very busy (and very dirty), but is extremely rewarding. My favorite teaching moments include students finally getting to see their foals born after many sleepless nights (which makes it all worth it) and training undergraduate researchers.”

DR. ZHENG ZHOU
Assistant Professor
-Morgan Forte

Dr. Zhou began his studies at Huazhong Agricultural University in China and received his B.S. in 2009. He continued his education there, receiving his M.S. in 2012. Dr. Zhou received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 2017. Dr. Zhou has done research on a wide variety of animal subjects from traditional nutritional studies to molecular biology and omics. He began his undergraduate research since his sophomore year with poultry related studies as well as research on monogastric animals; pigs in particular. He conducted fatty acid related research with sows that focused on intramuscular fats and marbling. His M.S. research focused on stem cell and myoblast biology using molecular biology approach. His Ph.D research focused on metabolism in dairy cows using a variety of omics approach. The primary goal of his research throughout his education has been to improve the overall health and performance of farm animals while discovering underlying physiological and molecular regulatory mechanisms. In his free time, Dr. Zhou enjoys playing basketball and fishing.
1. **Hayley Boyd**

Major Advisor: Dr. Tom Scott  
Undergraduate Institution: Clemson University  
Hometown: Rock Hill, SC  
Research Focus: Analyzing protein expression in cancer cells. Hayley is a non-thesis master’s student. After she completes her degree, she plans to attend veterinary school to obtain her DVM.

2. **Kris Murray**

Major Advisor: Dr. Jeryl Jones  
Undergraduate Institution: The Pennsylvania State University  
Hometown: West Grove, PA  
Research Focus: Early behavioral indicators of lower back disease in working dogs. Kris became involved in research while working on the Penn State Equine Research team which led Kris to pursue a Master’s degree in Animal Behavior.

3. **Madeline Oskey**

Major Advisor: Dr. Matias Aguerre  
Undergraduate Institution: The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
Hometown: Sussex, WI  
Research Focus: Pasture Management in Beef Cattle Production  
Madeline got her interest in cattle from working on her grandparent’s dairy farm. She took part in an exchange program at the University of Kentucky, which sparked her interest for pasture management.

4. **Maslyn Greene**

Major Advisor: Dr. Susan Duckett  
Undergraduate Institution: Mars Hill University  
Hometown: Dallas, GA  
Research Focus: Pasture Management in Beef Cattle Production  
Maslyn chose to attend Clemson for her M.S. degree because she was offered a position that suited her interests in researching for producers.

5. **Constance Brinks**

Major Advisor: Dr. Jeryl Jones  
Undergraduate Institution: University of Maryland  
Hometown: Baltimore, MD  
Career Focus: Work in some capacity with companion animals, research, or industry-related career. Constance has experience working in an animal shelter and veterinary clinic. She hopes to one day work with companion animals.

6. **Cary Cottrel**

Major Advisor: Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth  
Undergraduate Institution: Clemson University  
Hometown: Simpsonville, SC  
Research Focus: Swine Reproduction  
Cary is very excited to be returning to Clemson. She enjoys spending her free time with family, riding horses, and watching Clemson football games.

7. **Julia Gates**

Major Advisor: Dr. Kristine Vernon  
Undergraduate Institution: Clemson University  
Hometown: Easley, SC  
Research Focus: Equine Physiology  
Julia has returned to Clemson to pursue her Master’s Degree in equine exercise science. Julia enjoys competing her own horses in a variety of disciplines in her free time.

8. **Alissa Moritz**

Major Advisor: Dr. Tiffany Wilmoth  
Undergraduate Institution: University of Delaware  
Hometown: Roselle Park, NJ  
Research Focus: Poultry nutrition  
Alissa chose Clemson because the AVS department offered a program she knew would challenge her while having dedicated faculty to support her.
Here are some of the scientific publications and presentations that AVS faculty and students have published and presented this year so far! Please let us know if you want additional information.

**SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS**


**PRESENTATIONS**

Richards V.P., T.C Jenkins, L.E. Koch and G.J. Lascano. 2017. Changes in rumen bacteria communities in continuous cultures fed high and low levels of unsaturated fatty acids with increasing rates of starch degradability. ADSA Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.


**PRESENTATIONS CONT.**

Koch, L.E., B. Koch, R. Klopp, S. Hussein, V. Murphree, and G.J. Lascano, 2017. Effects of replacing corn with different levels of starch degradability with beet pulp as a source of soluble fiber on fermentation in continuous culture. ADSA Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.


**What's Going On?**

**2018 Calendar of Upcoming AVS-Related Events**

**January-February**
- Jan 10, Classes Begin
- Feb 24, 4-H Horse Bowl
- Feb 25, 4-H Hippology

**March-April**
- March 19-23, Spring Break
- April 7, LNA
- April 14, Clemson University Equine Center Open House

**May-Jun**
- May 10-11, Commencement

*More information and additional extension events listed at [http://www.clemson.edu/extension/livestock/events.html](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/livestock/events.html)*
Interested in reconnecting with the AVS department? Contact us, and we can talk about what form that might take. Perhaps you’re interested in being a guest speaker for one of our classes, acting as a sponsor for a WAVS member or moving a pet project forward. If you saw something here that piqued your interest, let us know! Former club members, students and faculty — we would love to hear about what you’re up to and where you are!

Be sure to visit the department website for more information. Find us at: www.clemson.edu/avs

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