

# Animal Science E-Newsletter

## Department Welcomes New Administrative Specialist

A few shake-ups have taken place in the Department of Animal Science recently. Former Administrative Specialist and designer Jamie Newberry has taken recently retired Hadley Twilley's position as Departmental Administrative Manager, and Lauren Husband has taken Newberry's place. We are excited to welcome Husband to the Department, and we'd like to give you an opportunity to get to know her!



Lauren Husband

### •What is your job title and role in the Department?

I'm labeled an Administrative Specialist, but my main job duties include design, journalism, photography, social media, communications, promotions, and event planning. Basically, my main function is to let everyone know how awesome and innovative the Department of Animal Science is. Really amazing research and outreach takes place here everyday.

### •Tell us something about yourself.

I'll try to keep it interesting! I'm from Rogers, AR, but Fayetteville has my heart. Few things beat the incredible natural beauty of the Ozarks and the colorful culture it breeds. I love nature and try to spend as much time in it as possible. I enjoy cooking, photography, woodworking, traveling, hiking, and trying every restaurant and new food I possibly can. I also really love spending time with my friends, family, and cat Baby Kitty.

### •Where would you live if you could live anywhere?

Honestly, I really love Mt. Sequoyah and the historic district of Fayetteville, but I would totally live in the Pacific Northwest or North Carolina if given the chance. Good trees and good food.

### •What is your educational background?

I spent my freshman year at Hendrix College, but completed the rest of my undergrad career at the U of A. I received a B.A. with honors in Cultural Anthropology. I hope to one day earn my M.A. in

Public Administration and Environmental Policy.

### •Do you have a favorite food?

Oh man, that's tough. I really love mediterranean food. And pizza. And sushi. And tacos.

### •Are there any shows, movies, books, or bands you're currently enjoying?

Show: Silicon Valley; Movie: The Big Short; Book: The Omnivore's Dilemma; Band: Blitzen Trapper

### •What is your favorite time of year/holiday?

I love Autumn. The trees just light up and the weather is perfect. I'm getting excited just thinking about it! My favorite holiday is New Year's Eve. I love gold, friends, dancing, and champagne, so it's pretty perfect.

### •Do you have a favorite motto or quote you'd like to leave us with?

"The core of man's spirit comes from new experiences" - Christopher McCandless. }

## Core Training Fosters Smarter, Better Agriculture



A group of workshop attendees watch as Dr. Kelly Loffin, the Extension entomologist, demonstrates how to properly insert fly ear tags at the cow and calf processing Core training session.

The Livestock and Forestry Research Station in Batesville was abuzz as state employees from all over Arkansas congregated to learn about the newest and most efficient agricultural practices from the state's sharpest agricultural researchers and innovators.

Core training for new County Extension agents with agriculture responsibilities was held on May 11th and 12th. Core training offers opportunities for recently hired county agricultural Extension agents to receive hands-on training from the state's specialists in the areas of beef cattle, small ruminants, horses, herd health, forages, and youth animal science activities.

The training consisted of two very full days of classes, which lasted from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., and covered subjects from cattle handling and horse care to fence design and hay sampling. Several University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life, Sciences Department of Animal Science faculty members led workshops and meetings at the event.

The invaluable knowledge and skills Extension agents learn during Core Training can be utilized in their respective counties to help producers become more productive and efficient on their operations. }

## Lab Renovations Begin

Some long awaited and much needed lab construction is taking place this month in the Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences building.



Chairs, tables, and cabinets line the A-wing hallway as two rooms are gutted and prepped for new and improved facilities to serve both faculty and students. Labs A105 and A107 are receiving complete makeovers to fit the needs of two of our newest faculty members, Dr. Huang, who joined the department last August, and Dr. Zhao. Huang and Zhao are currently relegated to using a collection of other professors' labs for research. The new labs will cater specifically to their fields of study.

The renovations began on May 16th and are scheduled to last four to six weeks. }



## Arkansas 4H Teams Defeat Competition at Mid-America Grassland Evaluation Contest

Arkansas 4H Grassland Evaluation teams took top honors at the 2016 Mid-America Grassland Evaluation Contest held in Springfield, MO on June 8.

Arkansas students took 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th high individuals, tied for overall high individual, and took 1st, 3rd, and 5th place 4H teams, and overall high point team. The competition was very tight with the top 25 students, including 4H and FFA, separated by only 43 points. The contest included a field of 19 teams from Arkansas, West Virginia, Indiana, Ohio, and Missouri.

Cleburne County 4H received 1st place 4H team and team overall, scoring 1075 points out of a possible 1200 points. The team was coached by Cleburne County staff chair Michelle Mobley. Team member Stephen Wilson won high 4H individual and tied for overall high individual. Rachel Wilson received 2nd high 4H individual, followed by Luke Wilson as 3rd high. Kathryn Bechdoldt competed

as an individual from Cleburne County and placed 4th high. Spencer Beavers also competed on the Cleburne County team.

Randolph County 4H, whose team members included Blaine Huddleston, Will Sparks, Brittany Luttrell, and Clara Luttrell, won third place. Huddleston took 5th high 4H individual and rounded out the Arkansas sweep of 4H high individual awards. The Randolph County team was coached by Randolph County staff chair Mike Andrews.



Madison County 4H took fifth place 4H team and was coached by Madison County 4H agent Jerry Jo Hamm. Team members included Mitchell Nelson, Laura Ogden, Cody Ogden, and Cheyenne Walkingstick.

The Van Buren County team was coached by Van Buren County staff chair Danny Griffin, and team members included Brooklyn Smith, Sarah Megee, Breanna Huggins, and Riley Sawyer.

White County qualified as well, with team members Cody Acock, NoraLee Townsend, and Sarah Gaskin. Team coaches were Amy Heck and Brett Gordon.

County agents and vo-ag teachers from several states have commented that this contest is likely the most practical and realistic grassland evaluation contest available. According to Heck, "This was our first experience and it was a great one. We look forward to returning next year."

By John Jennings – Professor, Extension Forages }