

January 2014

Wildcat Canter

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs Newsletter



UK Ag Equine
Programs
honors graduates

Wildcat Canter



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UK Ag Equine Programs honors graduates

On Dec. 20, the first UK Equine Science and Management graduation reception was held. Approximately 68 individuals, including graduates and their families, as well as program faculty and staff, attended the reception, presented by UK Ag Equine Programs.



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2011 grad is making a name for herself

Emily Brollier, a 2011 graduate of the University of Kentucky's Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program is making a name for herself in the dressage world.

Photo by Allison Wolff



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Clubs and teams updates

The Rodeo Team recently went to the Professional Roughstock Series Rodeo at the Alltech Arena on Jan. 11, where members helped sell presale tickets and had a booth set up for questions and donations.

Other features:

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Indecision, friend or foe?

Students start their academic endeavors here at the University of Kentucky with the best career intentions. It sounds so easy. Pick a school, choose a major, study, intern, graduate and start a bright and exciting career **DOING EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANTED TO DO**. The fact is, for many students, this is not a reality.

For some students, there will be things that throw them off the course. Not all of those things are so bad. Indecision is typical for students along their career development journey. You can become more comfortable with “indecision” by looking at your time here at UK as a path that will lead you to an opportunity to pursue your career goal. Your career development journey can be broken down into four phases.

The first phase should be to begin to **KNOW YOURSELF**. Knowing yourself is not as simple as it sounds. Perhaps somewhere along the way, your career goals became confused with someone else’s career goals for you. Maybe what you thought sounded like the perfect major isn’t as fun as you thought it would be. Self-assessment involves asking yourself questions about your values, interests and skills you can offer. A career coach (like me) can help you ask the right questions and point you in the direction of other valuable resources that will help you grow and become more self-aware.

The second phase is to **FIND OUT** what is out there for you. Explore. Get information about industries and professions that seem desirable. Connecting with faculty, staff and UK alumni is a good way to explore possible career paths. Job shadow, intern and get experience. Sometimes finding out what you don’t want to do is just as valuable as finding the career of your dreams.

CHOOSE YOUR PATH. Notice that I didn’t say “choose a career.” There may be lots of reasonable career opportunities that may fit your interests and goals. Take a step on your path, and be comfortable with the idea that your path might lead you to places you didn’t expect. Develop your resume and begin to network in your desired area.

PURSUE. The job search is very much like a full time job in itself. You must be strategic and have the right tools. Customize your resume and cover letter and work with a career coach (yep, that’s me again) to implement appropriate job search strategies. Be persistent and start early.

For more information, please visit me in the Advising Resource Center – Room N8 of the Agricultural Science Center. Have a wonderful semester and GO CATS!

Amanda Saha
Academic Coordinator



UK Forage Bowl team wins nationals

The University of Kentucky Forage Bowl team took the top spot at the National Forage Bowl, held during the 2014 American Forage and Grasslands Council meetings in Memphis, Tenn. in early January. The contest is an undergraduate quiz bowl competition that tests students on their knowledge of forage and livestock management.

“I am both extremely proud and humbled by the level of effort put in by these young ladies and their graduate coaches, and it showed in their performance,” said Ben Goff, assistant professor within the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences.



Photo: Katie Pratt

The competition is open to any undergraduates, regardless of major, and any student interested in participating in next year's contest should contact Goff at ben.goff@uky.edu or 859-257-5785.

Students pictured, left to right, are: Caitlin Timberlake (graduate coach; MS candidate in IPSS), Elizabeth Langlois (co-captain; Senior in Animal & Equine Science), Meredith Tapp (Junior in Animal Science), Cecilia Purtee (Senior in Animal Science), Veronica Bill (co-captain; Junior in Equine Science) and Jessica Williamson (graduate coach; PhD candidate in IPSS).

UK-bred horse making a name for himself, equine studies program

As seen in the Dec. 24 issue of the Lexington Herald-Leader

His name loosely translates to “almost handsome,” but he is making a group of college students look awfully good, too.

The now 3-year-old colt called Casiguapo was bred and foaled by the University of Kentucky. Equine studies majors in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment were responsible for caring for the colt, which was sold as a yearling at Fasig-Tipton's October 2012 sale for \$4,700 to Jorge Wagner to run in his All American Horses stable.

To read the entire story, please go to <http://www.kentucky.com/2013/12/24/3004087/uk-bred-horse-making-a-name-for.html>.

UK Art Museum looking for students to join advisory group

The UK Art Museum is looking to form an advisory group for the art museum and would like to include students from a range of departments. Its goal is to increase student use of and involvement in the museum. Students will meet once a month for about an hour and will plan and execute one event per semester. If interested, please contact Deborah Borrowdale-Cox at deborr2@email.uky.edu.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 2-Feb. 28

Students may change majors

Feb. 5

Last day to drop a class without appearing on transcript

Feb. 15-16

Kentucky Round-Up, Alltech Arena

Feb. 28

Last day to change majors to another college

Feb. 28

Last day to apply for August 2014 degree online



MASTHEAD

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Scholarship opportunity for children of Extension employees or children of Extension volunteers

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a qualified student currently enrolled in the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (includes School of Human Environmental Sciences).

Undergraduate Scholarship

Complete and mail by **Feb. 1** to Jennifer B. Klee, 805 Patterson Rd., Versailles, KY 40383

Take advantage of this scholarship opportunity! The Epsilon Sigma Phi Retirees established a scholarship fund several years ago after hosting numerous silent auctions at its spring annual meetings. The \$500 one time award is offered each year. Send questions to Jennifer at jbklee@email.uky.edu For more information and a link to the application please visit, http://epsilonsigmaphi.ca.uky.edu/files/forms/Ret_Schol_App-2014-REV.pdf

In memory of wife, Dr. Stuart Brown will offer horse racing experience to benefit UK hoops

Guy Ramsey

Source: KyForward

Perhaps more than anything else during her 44 years, Christine Brown was passionate about horses and University of Kentucky sports.

She came to the University of Kentucky to pursue one of those passions and stumbled on the other. A three-day eventing competitor and member of a national-championship Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Riding Team while in college, Brown graduated in 1991.

To read the entire story, please go to <http://www.kyforward.com/2013/12/in-memory-of-wife-dr-stuart-brown-will-offer-horse-racing-experience-to-benefit-uk-hoops/>.

Garrison Forest School Polo alumna named 2013 Intercollegiate Player of the Year

Source: PRWeb

Posey Obrecht '09, a Garrison Forest School (GFS) Polo standout, was named the 2013 Intercollegiate Player of the Year by the Polo Training Foundation. In October, Posey, her family and Garrison Forest coaches and mentors, Cindy Halle (GFS Head Coach) and Emily Dewey (GFS Assistant Coach) were on hand in Houston for the ceremony. Posey, who played for the University of Kentucky's Women's team, embodies the criterion and values of the award.

To read the entire story, please go to <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/12/prweb11401348.htm>.

Spring Study Smarter Seminars

Academic Enhancement will be providing Study Smarter Seminars at the beginning of this semester. These seminars are one-time, three-hours seminar designed to give students an overview of what it takes to study successfully in college. Students will learn note taking strategies, study skills, time management and new technology to keep themselves organized.

This would be an excellent seminar for any new, first-time students this spring and those students on probation this semester.

Students can sign up on AE's website. Any questions regarding the seminar can be directed to Kayla Johnson at kmjo235@g.uky.edu.

Equine Science and Management course announcements and updates

If you have not applied for your degree, please make arrangements to do so immediately.

Students majoring in Dietetics, Family Sciences, Family & Consumer Science Education, Hospitality Management, Human Nutrition or Merchandising, Apparel & Textiles should schedule an appointment with Louise Gladstone in 112 Erikson Hall.

All other majors should schedule an appointment with Susan Skees in N8 Ag. Science Bldg. North. Please call 859-257-3468 to make an appointment.

August/December 2014 Graduates

Students majoring in Dietetics, Family Sciences, Family & Consumer Science Education, Hospitality Management, Human Nutrition or Merchandising, Apparel & Textiles should schedule an appointment with Louise Gladstone in 112 Erikson Hall.

Susan Skees will be meeting with August/December 2014 graduates in other majors Jan. 27-April 30. Students will sign up online beginning Jan. 22.

The deadline to apply online for an August or December 2014 degree is June 30, however it is encouraged that you apply now and not miss the deadline.

Commencement

Commencement will be Saturday, May 10, at Rupp Arena at 1 p.m. The commencement website should be available for registration beginning the week of Feb. 3.

Grad Salute will be in early March at the King Alumni House. Graduating students will be able to order announcements, cap, gown and tassel, have their picture taken for the yearbook, order class rings and anything else associated with graduation. More information will be sent at a later date.

You may also check with the UK Bookstore about ordering announcements, class rings, and cap, gown and tassel.



Register now for UK Equine Showcase and Ky. Breeders' Short Course

Holly Wiemers

The University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs' Equine Showcase and the 5th Annual Kentucky Breeders' Short Course, will be held Jan. 7-8 at the Four Points Sheraton, 1938 Stanton Way, in Lexington. A reduced rate is available to students on a first-come, first-served basis.

The UK Equine Showcase, now in its third year, will highlight the university's current equine programs and relevant industry findings. It will run from 1-5 p.m. Feb. 7, with a light reception following.

Topics for the UK Equine Showcase include:

- Equine Cushing's disease in the aged horse
- Is your horse fat? There's an app for that!
- The Kentucky Horse Racing Necropsy Program: for the health and welfare of horses, humans and the racing industry
- The economic impact of Kentucky's equine industry
- Stem cells for equine tissue regeneration
- Age-related susceptibility of foals to *Rhodococcus equi*
- Genetics, health and performance
- Why did my performance horse test positive for prohibited substances?

The 5th Annual Kentucky Breeders' Short Course is an in-depth program on equine reproduction and horse management issues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 8, with lunch provided.

Topics for the Kentucky Breeders' Short Course include:

- Reproductive anatomy and physiology of the mare

- Starting and stopping a mare's cycle
- Methods for evaluating stallion sperm
- Methods to predict foaling
- Diagnosing cryptorchids and ovarian tumors
- Problems in newborn foals
- Managing your stallion for a natural mating or artificial insemination program
- Diagnosing placentitis (placental problems)
- Problem mare panel

New this year, an in-depth reproductive "wet lab" will also be offered Feb. 9 to a limited number of participants who want a hands-on educational opportunity led by some of the equine industry's foremost experts. Participation in the wet lab also requires attendance in either the showcase or short course on the previous two days.

Both the showcase and short course are open to veterinarians, owners and managers of all horse breeds or anyone with an interest in learning more about equine reproduction and topics concerning horse management. Continuing education credit for veterinarians and veterinary technicians is pending approval by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners.

To register for the event, visit <http://2014ukequineshowcase.eventbrite.com>. College students are eligible for a reduced rate to the showcase and short course, but student designated space is limited and on a first-requested, first-served basis. Students or UK faculty interested in attending either or both days should email jenny.evans@uky.edu. More about this event and other information about UK Ag Equine Programs can be found at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/equine>.

Equine research crowdfunding project launched at UK

Jenny Evans

Martin Nielsen, an equine parasitologist, veterinarian and assistant professor at the University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Center, has launched the first research crowdfunding project at UK and possibly the first such effort in the field of veterinary science.

Crowdfunding is a relatively new term that describes reaching out to the general public, usually through the Internet, to reach a fundraising goal. Success in reaching the goal often depends on many individuals making smaller donations through a website.



Photo: Steve Patton

Nielsen's crowdfunding campaign, called "Let the germs get the worms: Testing a novel probiotic compound for treatment of equine parasites," is hosted at the website <http://equineparasitology.ca.uky.edu/> and has a goal of raising \$30,000 before March 10.

Nielsen's research team is devoted to providing solutions for worm control in horses. Horse parasites, such as small strongyles and large roundworm, are developing increased levels of resistance to all available dewormers. No new drugs are being developed for use in horses, so the equine industry needs new reliable treatment alternatives. Horses on pasture

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Equine research crowdfunding project launched at UK

are constantly exposed to different parasite types. These can cause disease symptoms such as colic, diarrhea and weight loss. Foals are particularly vulnerable to parasite infection and need special attention in parasite control programs.

“It is our experience that horse owners are very interested in updated information about parasite control and have great concerns about drug resistance,” Nielsen said. “We therefore felt that crowdfunding would be very appropriate for raising funding for research in this area. The crowdfunding platform allows direct interaction with the end users of our research, which is very valuable to us. A good question can inspire us to set up the next research project.”

Researchers at the University of California have identified a naturally-occurring bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, which produces a crystal protein capable of killing intestinal worms without harming the animal. UK’s study aims to evaluate the effect of this bacterial protein against important horse parasites under laboratory conditions. Parasites will be collected from horses in a research herd and tested in the laboratory.

“We will test for the presence of receptors for the bacterial protein, and test the effect against different horse parasites under laboratory conditions,” Nielsen said. “We

expect to use the results to apply for a larger grant to finally allow us to test the probiotic in horses.”

“We are proud of this innovative approach to fundraising which gives the donors a chance to participate in the research program and research findings,” said Nancy Cox, dean of the UK’s College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station director. “We are pleased that Dr. Nielsen’s crowdfunding project is the very first one to be implemented at UK.”

Guests can sign up for more information on the project and make online donations at <http://equineparasitology.ca.uky.edu/>, where they can also access videos and educational information. As a special feature, the site is set up with an exclusive questions forum where visitors can ask Nielsen about parasite control.

The mission of the Gluck Center, a UK Ag Equine program, is scientific discovery, education and dissemination of knowledge for the benefit of the health and well-being of horses. The Gluck Center faculty conducts equine research in six targeted areas: genetics and genomics, infectious diseases and immunology, musculoskeletal science, parasitology, pharmacology/toxicology and reproductive health.

For more information on the Gluck Center, visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/gluck>.

Secretary of Agriculture encourages UK Ag students to be part of rural economy

Carol Lea Spence

The economic health of the country’s rural communities affects us all, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack stressed as he spoke recently to students and faculty of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

“There is amazing opportunity if you want to be part of a new rural economy,” Vilsack said. “That is the single message I want to leave with the young people here today.”

UK was Vilsack’s first stop on a two-day swing through Kentucky.

“Secretary Vilsack’s visit gives us a chance to thank him for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture’s support of the college, which is significant,” said

Jimmy Henning, UK associate dean for extension and director of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. “I think it’s important for him to see how this actually plays out on the ground.”

Dean Nancy Cox introduced Vilsack, saying, “We really believe that together with the USDA, we make a difference in Kentucky every day, and we’re very proud to welcome you.”

Vilsack focused on the problem of poverty in rural America as he spoke to a full house in the Cameron Williams Auditorium in the Plant Science Building on campus.



Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture gives a presentation at the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Photo: Steve Patton

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Secretary of Agriculture encourages UKAg students to be part of rural economy

“These have probably been the five best years overall in agriculture we’ve seen in quite some time—record farm income and the best exports we have ever seen in the history of the country’s agricultural exports,” he said. “I fully expected traditional wisdom to play out, which is when farmers do well, the rural community does well.”

However, a study completed by the USDA’s Economic Research Service found that poverty in rural America is at its highest level in 25 years.

“How could it be that we have extraordinary opportunity in our farms and the rural communities that are located around the farms are not doing as well?” Vilsack said. “I think it’s because we have so few farmers.”

He pointed out that because productivity has increased greatly, it takes fewer farmers to produce food for not only the U.S. population, but also other populations around the world.

He outlined the four cornerstones of the USDA’s tactics to combat the problem.

“It starts with production agriculture, as it must,” he said. “We have to continue to invest in research to expand production, because as a world we’re faced with the challenge of producing 70 percent more food in the next 40 years.”

He acknowledged to the students that it is presently difficult for young people to establish themselves in farming. The entry way, as he sees it, is through a local and regional food system, not necessarily production farming.

“So, production agriculture and exports, local and regional food systems and the jobs and the stable incomes they can create,” he said, ticking off the plan. “But it requires more. It requires us to think differently about conservation.... We have to link those conservation opportunities to new economic opportunities.

“And the last cornerstone of this new revived rural economy is what I refer to as a bio-based economy: the ability to take everything we grow and everything we raise and create new ways to use them. Particularly the waste products from agricultural production.”

Vilsack traveled to Eastern Kentucky on Jan. 17, where he and Gov. Steve Beshear announced the designation of Kentucky as a StrikeForce state. StrikeForce currently exists in 16 states and provides greater access to the USDA’s poverty-fighting programs. This announcement comes on the heels of the Obama administration’s naming of eight southeastern counties as a Promise Zone. That specification, Vilsack said, was a commitment that federal departments will work collaboratively with local groups to bring more opportunities to the region.

“It’s an unlimited future, but we have to talk differently, and we have to educate our friends in cities and suburbs about precisely what rural America does for them and what farmers do for all of us,” he said. “We should be appreciative and thankful for every single person who has assumed that responsibility of feeding our families.”

UK Ag Equine Programs honors graduates

Photos: Steve Patton

In 2007, The UK College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment welcomed a new area of study for students, the Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree. As of today, the program has graduated 95 students who have gone on to be farm managers, sales representatives, horse trainers, marketing and communications specialists, as well as a variety of other career areas. In addition, others have furthered their studies with either graduate school or veterinary school.

On Dec. 20, the first Equine Science and Management graduation reception was held. Approximately 68

individuals, including graduates and their families, as well as program faculty and staff, attended the reception, presented by UK Ag Equine Programs.

“This graduation reception was created and held so that we could honor our graduates for this huge accomplishment in their lives, as well as allow them to have an opportunity to introduce their family and friends to the program they were a part of at UK for the past four years,” said Kristen Wilson, academic coordinator for the Equine Science

and Management program. “We plan to hold an event similar to this event at the end of each semester to honor

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Graduation reception recap

future graduates. The reception was held on campus in the E.S. Good Barn with light refreshments and desserts made by the UK Ag Equine Programs' faculty and staff. A brief program, emceed by Bob Coleman, director of undergraduate studies for the program, was held announcing the graduates with a small token of appreciation presented to each.

"The best part of the event was to share in the celebration with the students and their families," Coleman said. "This event helped to bring the student's experience here at UK full circle."

The December graduates included Christian Ackman, Virginia Barker, Katherine Clark, Alexandra Davidge, Katie Fretts, Kimberly Horne, Irene Kaar, Gretchen Keller, Emily Lago, Shelby Morrison, Anna Mynchenberg, Bora Nam and Susanna Shepherd.

"I think the event was a great success and I was excited to meet all of the graduates' families and friends and learn more about them," Wilson said. "Personally, I am also excited and looking forward to seeing what the next step is for our graduates and to keep in touch with them as alumni of the program."



2011 grad is making a name for herself

Alexandra Harper



Photo by Allison Wolff

Emily Brollier, a 2011 graduate of the University of Kentucky's Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program is making a name for herself in the dressage world.

Brollier, who came to UK from Wichita, Kan., runs a training program at Miramonte Equine. Brollier grew up taking dressage lessons and attending dressage clinics. However, it didn't matter the discipline or breed, she never turned down an opportunity to ride.

"Riding different types of horses and disciplines really helped me learn what my strengths and weaknesses are. It also gave me the ability to break and train my mare to the FEI levels," Brollier said.

During college, Brollier had the opportunity to work on a large breeding farm. In that role, she evaluated confirmation on a daily basis, created a nutritional plan for each horse, managed vaccinations, deworming, veterinary schedules and interacted with clients. Brollier also had the opportunity to break and gallop race horses in Florida last winter.

"Everything I learned, I use on a daily basis, not to mention the contacts I made," Brollier said.

When Brollier was asked what made her decide to start her own training program, she immediately cited her mentor and trainer, Elaine Gibala.

"She sat me down one day last year and basically told me I needed to make a go of riding and training dressage as my profession," Brollier said. "I also have heard so many people say over and over that you must LOVE what you do every day, so I figured, why not at least try to make it happen?"

"Emily was so great to have in class and in the program because she was incredibly dedicated, optimistic and hard working," said Elizabeth LaBonty, lecturer and internship coordinator. "She has earned every bit of her success and it's great getting to watch her succeed in the industry. She is talented, but more than that, has one of the best attitudes of anyone I know."

Starting out as a new trainer/instructor, Brollier thought it would be important to gain a wide client base. Her only requirement was each client had to have a desire to learn and to improve themselves as a rider, discipline of interest aside.

"When you can teach a trail rider how to manage their horse and keep him calm, then turn around and teach a 4th level rider how to do pirouettes, you've established your ability as a trainer," Brollier said.

The same was true for horses Brollier had in training. She would ride anything she could. These days, however, she can be a bit more selective about the horses she rides.

"By riding all breeds, sizes, disciplines and gaits of horses, you can really develop the ability to train just about any horse. Plus, if you're horse crazy (like me), you know that any hour spent in the saddle is not wasted," she said.

Brollier said she is starting small with her operation and thinking locally. She is making her prices competitive and trying to find local clients who can grow alongside her program. She is also trying to build her credentials so she can have a platform to base her training off of.

"I've earned my United States Dressage Federation Bronze and Silver medals and am half way to my Gold," Brollier said. "Those medals are kind of like a degree; they show your dedication and education in regards to dressage."

Brollier will also be making her FEI Grand Prix debut this show season.

"To know that I pulled my mare out of field 10 years ago and this year I plan to canter down centerline in my first Grand Prix is absolutely satisfying," Brollier said.

Brollier's advice to students who are interested in starting their own training program or business? Be realistic, find a mentor/role model, treat it like a business, take in consideration that it takes money to make money and use your resources.

Brollier is currently accepting new students and horses in training. For more information, visit www.MiramonteEquine.com.

Faculty spotlight: Amy Lawyer

Alexandra Harper

Amy Lawyer, equine extension associate at the University of Kentucky, was born in Texas but grew up in many states. Since her father was a college football coach, Lawyer lived in Illinois, Oregon, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Ohio and, finally, Kentucky.

In April 2011, Lawyer came to UK for the equine extension associate position. She thought it would be a great opportunity to work with children and teach. Lawyer teaches ASC 310 Equine Anatomy and, along with Fernanda Camargo, associate professor in Animal and Food Sciences, helps run the Kentucky 4-H horse program. More than 5,000 children participate from across the state in horse shows and knowledge competitions.

She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Louisville in equine business and her master's degree in animal science with an emphasis in equine reproduction from Colorado State University. She is currently working on her PhD in education sciences and leadership studies at UK.

Lawyer competed in hunt seat when she was young. Over time she learned how to rope and work with race horses, which eventually lead to her owning race horses. Currently she trail rides when time allows and hopes to own race horses again in the future.

When Lawyer is not hard at work, she can be found playing softball, hunting, fishing, running or spending time with her family, which includes her grandfather, former UK basketball coach Joe B. Hall.



Check out the January issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest at www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/bed

Stories this month include:

- Equine Parasite Research Crowdfunding project launched
- UK researchers' work discussed at AAEP Kester News Hour
- Protect horses from dying ash trees and wildfire threat
- UK's Horohov, Page receive research grant
- Weed of the Month: Eastern Poison Ivy



Student professionalism series

Elizabeth LaBonty, Lecturer and Internship Coordinator

The University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management Program strives to not only educate you about equine science, but also to prepare you for your future career. Part of this preparation includes classroom guest lectures, hands on labs, requiring an internship before you graduate, exposing you to numerous industry related careers and most recently, we have added an all-new series called the Student Professionalism Series to the Wildcat Canter. The Student Professionalism Series will offer insight and tips to help you effectively prepare for, find, apply to and obtain the career of your choice. This month we will be exploring what you can learn from different bosses.

Bad Bosses:

To each his own

PART II

Are there really bad bosses? Of course there are. But are there also things we can learn from different personality types and management styles? Absolutely!

One of my father's favorite pastimes growing up was coming up with summer jobs for my brother and me. And not just jobs for us to earn a little money, mind you. No, his goal was for us to have jobs that would 'build character.' From the time I was in grade school, I spent my summers painting outhouses, shingling barns, picking raspberries, inspecting machines at a treadmill factory, painting patio roofs (there are a lot of nooks and crannies in those things!), mowing lawns and cleaning hotel rooms. By the time I got to be a groom and muck stalls, I thought I was in heaven.

In all those jobs I had bosses that never knew I existed, thought I was completely incompetent, didn't speak English and just plain didn't like me. More than once I came home crying and wanting to quit. But quitting wasn't an option with my dad. Period. Instead, he taught me to learn something from every boss, even if it was simply what I never wanted to do or be if I was ever a boss.

Lesson 1: Not everyone likes you.

We all know that there are some people who just rub us wrong. They say things that annoy us, they remind us of someone we don't like, or for some reason we can't quite put our finger on, we just don't like them. Bosses are people too. They are responsible for managing people they get along with and people they don't. They are responsible for playing referee when coworkers clash and they have good days and bad. Don't worry whether or not your boss likes you or if you're going to win the employee of the month award. Try not to let it be personal. Instead, just

focus on doing your job to the best of your ability. Every. Single. Day. Work hard, be respectful, show up early, stay late, don't talk back and leave your personal life at home. Even if your boss doesn't like you personally, they will surely respect you and be able to give you a good recommendation when you leave.

Lesson 2: Some bosses aren't 'people' people.

To excel in the horse industry, you need to be good with horses or good with people but not necessarily with both. Some bosses excel at managing horses but struggle with interpersonal skills. Some bosses are extremely personable and likeable but not the most competent horsemen or woman. Whether or not your boss is interested in your personal life or your happiness shouldn't matter. It's great if you get along and you like to be around them but it can be equally rewarding to maintain a strictly professional relationship with your boss and leave the rest at home.

Lesson 3: Some bosses will teach you everything you don't want to do or be, and that's ok.

At some point in your career, you will likely work for someone who is most definitely a bad boss. They may be rude, temperamental, unreasonable, confusing or degrading. They might be micromanagers when you need room for creativity or provide no leadership when you require guidance. Whatever the case may be, bad bosses can actually teach you a lot too.

I would probably not be as forgiving had I never worked for someone who gave me a verbal lashing any time I messed up. I would probably be the world's worst micromanager had I not worked for someone who controlled every aspect of my job. I would probably never invest in training others had I not worked for someone who assumed I knew how to do things I didn't. I'm not saying I'm the world's best boss, but one thing's for sure, any good traits I have stem more from frustration with bosses that didn't have them than appreciation for bosses that did.

Even today, over a decade into my career, I am still learning what it means to be a good boss and the importance of adapting to different personality types. In the end I probably ended up with more character than my father was hoping for, but I am deeply thankful for what I have learned from each and every boss along the way.

Nancy Cox named new Dean of UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Jay Blanton



Photo: Matt Barton

Citing a compelling vision for the future of the college and a national reputation for leadership, University of Kentucky Provost Christine Riordan announced that Nancy Cox has accepted the position as dean of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Cox will replace Scott Smith, who has led the college since 2001. He plans to return to the faculty, where he has been a member of 35 years. Cox is

currently associate dean of research in the college, a position she has held since 2001 when she came to UK from Mississippi State University.

She is widely regarded as a leader in the field, serving on several national policy boards and organizations and has close ties to both civic and agricultural leaders throughout the Commonwealth, which enthusiastically supported her candidacy for dean.

President Eli Capilouto praised both Cox and Smith, saying that the “UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is widely known as one of the leading colleges in the country. That’s, in large part, because of the leadership of Scott Smith and his senior team, including Nancy Cox.

I want to thank Dean Smith for his long service and leadership. I am excited about the prospect of Nancy’s continued leadership both on our campus and in the Commonwealth, where she is so respected.”

“We are fortunate to have found someone with the rare combination of skills, intellect and reputation of Dr. Nancy Cox,” Riordan said in announcing the selection. “She is widely known and highly regarded throughout Kentucky for her knowledge and relationships with agriculture, political, and civic leaders. At the same time, she is renowned nationally in helping lead the research and administrative efforts of one of the country’s premier

colleges of agriculture, including an extension service treasured throughout the Commonwealth.”

Among many duties, Cox oversees the college’s research portfolio, which includes \$25 million in external awards in Fiscal Year 2012. She currently represents the college on most Kentucky agricultural commodity boards, was the founding administrator of UK’s growing Ag Equine Programs, and has been the key administrator in innovative alliances with private industry such as Alltech.

On the national level, she serves or has served on key federal policy boards such as the American Society of Animal Science and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Advisory Board for Research.

“I am very honored to represent, serve and support the UK Ag community, including its outstanding students, faculty, staff and an extension system known throughout the Commonwealth for its commitment to service,” Cox said. “During interviews for this position, I was impressed

“We are fortunate to have found someone with the rare combination of skills, intellect and reputation of Dr. Nancy Cox.”

Provost Christine Riordan

once again by the pivotal role the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and its stakeholders play in the economy of the Commonwealth. I look forward to building on that legacy of engagement.”

Riordan also thanked Smith for his long tenure as dean,

which included leading the college in confronting pivotal issues such as Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome and the end of the tobacco price support program. Riordan said “UK is fortunate that Dean Smith will continue in our faculty ranks, providing his guidance to students, faculty and staff in the college and throughout the university.”

Department of Entomology Chair John J. Obrycki, who co-chaired the search committee that helped select Cox, said, “Dr. Nancy Cox impressed the members of the search committee with her breadth of knowledge, administrative experience, and understanding of the land-grant mission of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment at the University of Kentucky. She stressed the need for a shared vision of the future of the newly renamed college and how we will address the diverse needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.”

Cox began her tenure as dean on Jan. 1.

To hear audio with Nancy Cox, click on the play button below or [click here](#).

Q & A with Nancy Cox, UK's new agriculture dean

Janet Patton

Source: *The Herald-Leader*, [Kentucky.com](http://www.kentucky.com)

<http://www.kentucky.com/2013/12/30/3010170/question-and-answer-with-cox.html>

The future of equine education in the Bluegrass

Natalie Voss

Source: *The Paulick Report*

Nancy Cox was recently promoted to the dean of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment, replacing former dean Scott Smith.

Cox, previously the associate dean of research in the college, was the founding administrator of the university's equine studies department, which works closely with the Thoroughbred industry in Lexington, Ky. She holds degrees in English and animal physiology, and has worked both as a researcher and administrator in Mississippi.

To read the entire story, visit <http://www.paulickreport.com/features/the-breeders-cup-forum/the-breeders-cup-forum-the-future-of-equine-education-in-the-bluegrass/>.

Nielsen, Stowe win Horse Call Grant award

Source: *TheHorse*

The Zoetis Horse Call Grant review committee is pleased to announce the award of a Horse Call Grant for the study proposal, "Transabdominal Ultrasonography: A Monitoring Tool for *Parascaris equorum* Burdens in Foals," by Martin Nielsen assistant professor of parasitology at UK's Equine Research Center and Jill Stowe, associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and director of UK's Ag Equine Programs.

"We believe that the most productive way to advance veterinary research will be through an open model of discovery," said Rob Holland, director of Zoetis outcomes research. "There is a real economic value imposed on horse owners when their horse becomes sick and a real value when disease is prevented from occurring. We would like to help establish what the intrinsic value is when this is done and to determine how a practice achieves this."

To read the entire story, please go to <http://www.thehorse.com/articles/33080/nielsen-stowe-win-2013-horse-call-grant-award>.

Clubs and teams updates

Equestrian Team

HUNT SEAT TEAM

The Hunt Seat Team started this semester ahead in its region by 29 points. The team also traveled to the University of Mary Washington on Jan. 25 for the Tournament of Champions and placed seventh out of 20 teams.

WESTERN TEAM

The Western Team would like to welcome everyone back to the start of a new semester and invite anyone interested to attend our UK Equestrian team-hosted show on Feb. 22 and 23 at Lakeside Arena. This is a free event and a fantastic opportunity to show the UK Wildcat equestrians your support at a very important show held right before regionals! All the girls have been working hard riding through the cold and snow prepping for the rest of the season. Our first show will be held on Feb. 1 and 2 at Morehead State and immediately following will be another show on Feb. 8 and 9 at Morehead as well! If you're interested in joining the team, please be sure to contact our president Kelsie at winslow.kelsie@gmail.com or our adviser Dr. Bob Coleman at rcoleman@email.uky.edu.

Horse Racing Club

The UK Horse Racing Club would like to send a big thank you to Stonestreet Farm for allowing us to see Rachel Alexandra on Dec. 7. The team's first meeting of the semester was on Jan. 23. The speaker was Nick Nicholson, Jr. He is part of the committee of Vision 20/20, which is a group whose goal is to get youth back into the Thoroughbred industry. The team's first field trip this semester was on Jan. 18 to Ashford Stud. If you are not on our email list, please email us at ukhorseracingclub@gmail.com. Be sure to 'Like' us on Facebook to get the latest information about what's going on in the club.

READ Club

The READ Club will hold its next meeting on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. in N10 Agriculture Science Center North. READ welcomes anyone interested in research in the animal and agricultural fields. We offer opportunities to learn and connect with fellow students and faculty members in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Like us on Facebook at "READ Club".

Rodeo Team

The Rodeo Team recently went to the Professional Roughstock Series Rodeo at the Alltech Arena on Jan. 11 where members sold presale tickets and had a booth set up for questions and donations. The team is still in need of several items. You can find a full list of items on the Facebook page, or ukrodeoteam@gmail.com. If you would like to make a donation, contact team president, Chelsea Reumont at Chelsea.reumont@uky.edu or team advisor, Elizabeth LaBonty at elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu. The team will host an open house and a youth day this semester. The dates are still tentative, but check out the team's Facebook page at facebook.com/ukrodeo for more information and upcoming events.



CLUBS AND TEAMS DIRECTORY

DRESSAGE AND EVENTING TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, jill.stowe@uky.edu
 President: Aileen O'Brien, aileen.obrien216@gmail.com
 Facebook: UK Dressage and Eventing

HORSE RACING CLUB

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WESTERN TEAM

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R.E.A.D. CLUB

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 President: Virginia Stilwell, virginia.stilwell5@uky.edu
 Facebook: READ Club

RODEO TEAM

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 President: Chelsea Reumont, chelsea.reumont@uky.edu
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Rodeo Team/Club

SADDLE SEAT TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, mary.rossano@uky.edu
 President: Nicole Laroussa, uksaddleseatteam@gmail.com
 Facebook: UK Saddleseat Team 2013-2014 (Group)