

September 2012

UK Ag Equine Programs  
Student Newsletter

## Kentucky Equine Survey Results Affect Students



*Photo credit: John Siegel*

In case you haven't heard, there is a large study currently underway which we expect will have a big impact on Kentucky's horse industry. The Kentucky Equine Survey will provide us with two very important pieces of information: an estimate of the number of all breeds of horses, donkeys, mules and ponies in Kentucky, on a county-by-county basis, as well as estimate of the economic impact of the horse industry on the state of Kentucky. A study of this nature hasn't been done since 1977 – the year that Seattle Slew won the Triple Crown and Jimmy Carter was president!

Why do we need the Kentucky Equine Survey? In order to make the best possible decisions for the future success and sustainability of Kentucky's signature industry, we need good data. We need good data for business owners and entrepreneurs. We need good data for our elected officials at all levels. We need good data so that our veterinarians can protect the health of our horses. And, we need good data so that we can measure our progress.

In addition, knowing what our industry looks like, from the western edge of the state to the eastern edge and from the north to the south, will better inform you about your future career choices after you graduate with a degree in Equine Science and Management. So, stay tuned for the results from the Kentucky Equine Survey, which are expected in late 2012 and early 2013.

To read further about the Kentucky Equine Survey go to <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/kyequinesurvey>

*Jill Stowe,*  
Associate Professor  
Department of Agricultural Economics

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# News and Announcements

## All-Time High College of Ag Enrollment; Graduates in Demand

Gone are the days when getting an agricultural degree led only to a plows-and-cows career. These days agricultural graduates are increasingly working in cutting-edge fields of biotechnology, robotics and all facets of human and animal health, to name only a few. The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture is reporting an all-time high enrollment with the largest freshman class ever.

In 2009, 1,903 students were enrolled in College of Agriculture programs. The most recent numbers for 2012 fall enrollment show 2,586 students.

“Students are gravitating toward the college for many reasons,” said Larry Grabau, associate dean for instruction. “When I met with parents of incoming freshmen over the summer, I pointed out that a large reason for our increased class is attributed to new programs in the college, but also growing popularity of existing programs.”

Grabau recently compiled a report breaking down enrollment growth program by program. He divided the college into several clusters made of either similar, related programs or those that naturally complement one another. For example, the food, animal and biotechnology cluster includes programs in human nutrition, animal and food sciences, equine, agricultural biotechnology and dietetics. One of the newest programs in that cluster is equine science and management. From 2009 to 2012, enrollment nearly doubled from 121 to 239 students. Human nutrition also saw large growth from 152 students in 2009 to 283 in 2012.

In Grabau’s environmental/sustainability cluster, the largest growth was in biosystems and agricultural engineering from 64 students in 2009, to 120 in 2012. In the social science cluster, agricultural economics saw the largest growth, while other areas showed a small increase or stayed steady.

Grabau said enrollment includes a large number of out-of-state students, which speaks to the quality of programs.

“We have the programs students want,” he said. “We have great faculty who are committed to helping students achieve their academic goals so they are well prepared for positions in their chosen fields. Even with increased enrollment, our faculty members have been able to meet the challenge of more students and still be responsive to the demands and emerging trends in higher education.”

Another encouraging statistic is retention. Grabau said it’s great to grow enrollment, but the real story is how many students are sticking around to finish their academic career. The most recent data shows the sophomore retention rate for the college at around 84 percent of students remaining at UK.

Agricultural graduates are in demand nationwide, and in many cases, there are more jobs than graduates. Grabau said that is especially true for crop consulting where some positions are being filled by general business or economics graduates.

“Overall, employability of our graduates looks good,” he said. “In spite of difficult economic situations in many other fields, our graduates are finding good jobs. With average salaries for many entry-level positions around \$40,000, it’s easy to see the pull toward our program areas.”

<http://news.ca.uky.edu/article/all-time-high-college-ag-enrollment>

*Aimee Nielson, Agricultural Communications Specialist*

*Source: modified news release*

# University of Kentucky

## Dressage and Eventing Club

Presents a Fall Clinic

With 4 Star Event Rider **Eric Dierks!**

Masterson Station Equestrian Park  
Lexington, KY  
**October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>**

The clinic will focus on the 3 phases of eventing, however

“Whether doing straight Dressage, Eventing, or Hunter/Jumpers, the basics of going straight and balanced are the same. I can help you teach or fix the basics to make your everyday ride or competition more progressive and successful.”

*-Eric G. Dierks, winner of the Retired Race Horse Trainer's Challenge*

### Clinic Rates

- \$200 if registered before September 20<sup>th</sup>,
  - \$225 before **October 1<sup>st</sup> registration deadline.**
  - \$150 for club members; Call for Pony Club discounts
- Clinic Dinner on Saturday night at 7:30pm

Checks made out to **Dressage Team**

Stabling is Available at Masterson, \$20 a night (straw only)

CALL OR EMAIL SHALISE FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM

Shalise04@hotmail.com

814-577-9492

| More info can be found on Eric at | [www.ericdierks.com](http://www.ericdierks.com)



## UK Students Create an App for Campus Organizations

Creators think their new Facebook application, “Organize My Organization,” just might become a hit with busy students on UK’s campus.

Agricultural economics and marketing senior Sean Shelton first approached computer science senior Jyrone Parker about creating the Facebook application for students in May, ironically enough, via Facebook. “I got turned down by plenty of people,” Shelton said. “But then I found Jyrone.”

The two shared an interest in technology and business and agreed to begin working together to develop a calendar application that will help link UK organizations.

“Say you’re in a marketing organization,” Shelton said. “You can set your calendar, pick your dates and everyone on campus who has access to the app will be able to see what’s going on throughout your semester.”

In addition to creating a personal calendar, users will have the opportunity to join forces with others.

“If two organizations want to collaborate on an event...you can send an event request to the other organization, and when they accept it will show up on both calendars,” Parker said.

Over the summer, the pair communicated through face-to-face meetings, text messages and occasional Skype sessions to build “Organize My Organization.”

After months of work, the finishing touches are finally being applied to the application. Before releasing it to the public, however, the application must go through a brief testing phase.

Shelton and Parker hope to begin the critique this weekend, and have a stable application available to students in two weeks.

Greek organizations critiquing the application will be Delta Sigma Theta, Omega Psi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi. Shelton said some Greek organizations have already expressed interest in using the application to help manage their schedules and team up with other Greeks for events.

Although Shelton and Parker initially started the project out of interest, they agreed their work could eventually develop into a career.

“I’ve always wanted to do app design as a career, so this was just a fun project to do, and now we’re looking for the next step,” Parker said. “This is the first of many apps that I hope to put out.”

Parker had dabbled in application development in the past, but “Organize My Organization” will be the first he’s created for consumers.

The application costs nothing to create, and neither Shelton nor Parker will profit from its use once released. Although the potential to profit from Facebook advertising is there, the tandem isn’t focused on making money.

“I just hope the majority of organizations on campus end up using it, and if it could spread to other campuses, that would be nice too,” Shelton said.

*Amelia Orwick*

*Source: modified news release*

# Who Are Our College of Ag Students?

The make-up of the students sitting in your classes:

## Animal Science

259 undergraduate students

- 205 females
- 54 males

## Equine Science and Management

237 undergraduate students

- 203 females
- 35 males

## Food Science

39 undergraduate students

- 22 females
- 17 males

## University

- 30% of undergrads are first generation college students (neither parent has a bachelor's degree)
- 33 First generation students in Animal Science
- 21 First generation students in Equine Science and Management
- Six first generation students in Food Science. If you are a first generation student looking for assistance, contact Matt Deffendall, Director of First Generation Initiatives (859) 257-1925.

20% of undergrads are from out-of-state

- 32.8% of Animal Science students
- 60.4% of Equine Science and Management students
- 33.4% of Food Science students

In upcoming years, the number of out-of-state students is expected to increase as the admissions office has hired four new recruiters to focus on out-of-state locations.

10% of UK's students are from underrepresented groups

- All non-Caucasians



## Academic Advising calendar

### October

- 2: Last day to change major to another college
- 15-Nov. 9: advising for Winter 2012/Spring 2013
- 15: Midterm
- 29-Nov. 20: priority registration



# Clubs and Teams

## Dressage and Eventing Team

Dan James was the guest speaker at the Dressage and Eventing meeting on Sept 12. Dan James of Double Dan Horsemanship is the 2012 Road to the Horse Champion, which is recognized as the international championship of colt starting. He shared his ideas on horsemanship and how his career path brought him to where he is today.

The Dressage and Eventing team will host a clinic with event rider Eric Dierks on Oct. 6-7 at Masterson Station Park with a focus on dressage/stadium on Saturday and cross country on Sunday. You do not need to be a club member to participate. There is stabling available and there will be a questions and answer dinner on Saturday night at the Cats Den. Contact Jen Brogie with (978) 257-1965.

## Equestrian Team

Western competition schedule:

Sept. 30, Gatewood Arena hosted by Northern Kentucky University

Nov. 17-18, in combination with the Hunt Seat show hosted by Morehead State University

Hunt seat competition schedule:

Oct. 27-28, hosted by University of Louisville

Nov. 10-11, hosted by Morehead State University

Feb. 2-3, at Midway cohosted by the University of Cincinnati and Midway

Feb. 23-24, at Lakeside hosted by UK

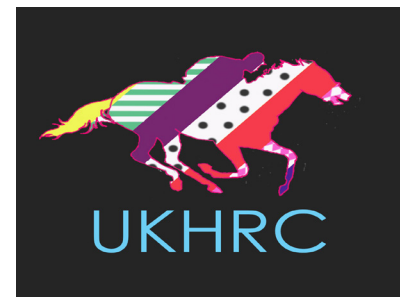
## UK Horse Racing Club Update

September: Field trip to Adena Springs on Saturday, Sept 29 at 12:30 p.m. Meet at the Ag North building round-about at 11:15 a.m. to leave by 11:30 a.m. Plans are to arrive by 12:30 p.m. Club members can meet us at the farm, but if you'd like to caravan rides will be available!

October: Visit Rachel Alexandra (2009 Horse of the Year) on Thursday, Oct. 11 at 1 p.m. Possible trip to Taylor Made Farm as well as Spendthrift Farm. Trips to Keeneland as a group picnic/tailgate to watch the races!

November: Trips to Churchill Downs for racing and sales and a special Breeder's Cup viewing party.

Plans are being made to host a professional from the horse industry (trainers, breeders, owners, veterinarians etc.) for every club meeting once a month in the Alumni Gallery of the William T Young Library on campus. This information is TBA and will be posted on our Facebook page (University of Kentucky Horse Racing Club).



## Plenty To Do This Fall Semester!

It's that wonderful time of year again! Cars packed full of things, mom and dad eager to drop their child off, and students ready to start their journey full of independence and individuality.



One of the things I love about being back at school is football games. It's not a complete UK experience until you've attended your first one. The aroma of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, playing corn hole, friends and families gathered-it's an atmosphere you can't resist! One of my favorite things about attending the football games is standing in the student section. I love being beside the band and shouting cheers at the top of your lungs. The next morning, your ears will ring a little and you probably won't have a voice, but it's so worth it!

Another great event in the College of Agriculture is UK's Ag Round Up. What a great way to meet fellow College of Ag students and get to know your professors on a more personal level as well. I hope you had the chance to stop by for free food and maybe you were lucky enough to win a door prize like me! Last year I won a College of Ag sweatshirt and I wear it all the time!

There's so much to do on the College of Ag campus, so welcome back and I hope everyone has a fantastic semester. Go Big Blue!

*Erin Morgan*  
*College of Ag Ambassador*  
*Equine Science and Management Sophomore*

## Calling All Wildcats!

Check out the student blog to read about our UK Ag students and their See Blue experience.  
<http://www2.ca.uky.edu/academics/>

Follow all the College of Ag's student happenings by liking University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Facebook page!

# Internships

## Awarding Great Achievements: Student Internship Awards 2012

It was an exciting night at Good Barn on Sept. 24 with more than 125 students and internship hosts in attendance for the Fall Student Reception. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed as some of the best and brightest from our program were honored in front of their peers for their hard work. Congratulations to all the winners on their outstanding achievements!

- Going the Distance: Sombrero Ranches
- Most Interns: Hagyard Equine Medical Institute
- Best Experiential Learning Opportunity: Taylor Made Farm
- Above & Beyond Intern: Meagan Woodard
- Outstanding Intern: Claire Willis
- Above & Beyond Internship: Georganne Hale, Pimlico
- Most Influential Internship: Knoll Dressage



*Jamie O'Flynn and Mary Hinton of Hagyard Equine Medical Institute accepting their Most Interns award.*

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## American Quarter Horse Foundation 2013 Scholarship Application Now Available

The 2013 AQHF Scholarship Application is now available online at [www.aqha.com/foundation](http://www.aqha.com/foundation). Completed applications are due Dec. 1, 2012.

The American Quarter Horse Foundation provides financial assistance to members of the American Quarter Horse Association and American Quarter Horse Youth Association through general, racing, career path and state or regional scholarships. Eligibility of applicants is based on the individual scholarship criteria and requirements provided for each scholarship offered through the Foundation. A complete list of criteria is located within the 2013 Scholarship Guidelines.

**AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE FOUNDATION** Scholarship applicants must submit a completed application, official transcript and letters of reference. Students applying for state or regional scholarships must also submit proof of affiliate membership. State and regional scholarships are currently available for Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas. All application materials must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2012 in order to be eligible.

Recipients are selected based on academic merit, financial need and American Quarter Horse involvement, as well as applicant's leadership and communication skills. For more information call (806) 378-5040.

*Source: modified news release*



## Making the Connection

Bob Coleman, Director of UK Ag Equine Programs and Horse Extension Specialist travels the back roads of Kentucky to various counties each week to offer equine educational opportunities for horse owners. Horse College is a multi-county educational activity designed for the adult horse owner and the programs are a cooperative activity between Coleman and county agents. The format of Horse College is a seminar-based activity with four or five evening sessions covering a variety of equine-related topics from nutrition, facilities, health, forages and foot care. Host agents help select applicable topics to develop a program that meets the needs of the horse owning clients in their particular county.



This program works because of the involvement of the local agents. While I can work on the topics delivered it is the agents that make the program right for their horse owners. Over the last 10 years the program has grown and I would estimate we have been in over 100 counties across the state. For many of the horse owners that attend this could be their first contact with the county extension office but we have learned it won't be their last. Changes to the program happen because of the agent involvement. The adoption of technology has been due to their willingness to add that component so the program becomes more available.



Recently, Horse College has used the new meeting technology available and was offered via satellite to multiple county extension offices to expand the viewing audience to the seminar topics that are discussed. More than 11 counties from District I have participated in a recent Horse College via the UK Connect system including: Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Mason, Pike and several more. Hosted on Tuesday evenings this fall, when it is more convenient for working adults to participate, more than 75 attendees can be accounted for among the participating counties. This is Boyd County's seventh time to host Horse

College and the extension office will offer the first Advanced Horse College starting on October 1st. More than 150 people have previously participated and attendance is expected to be high for the advanced course.

Steve Walker, DVM, of Equine Medical Center in Chesapeake, Ohio, gave three presentations to participants on immunizations, parasites and the importance of equine dentistry. Attendees outside of the Boyd county area watched the presentation via satellite and Walker answered various questions from the global audience.

The Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service is the most comprehensive outreach and engagement program at the University of Kentucky. Its mission is to make a difference in the lives of Kentucky citizens through research-based education. Jointly with our other land-grant partner, Kentucky State University, we take the University to the people in their local communities, addressing issues of importance to all Kentuckians.



# Email Etiquette Never Goes Out of Style for Professional Preparation

As the semester rolls on and everyone starts to relax into their routines, don't throw your common courtesy out the window! When communicating with your fellow professors and future employers, be sure to exercise proper communication skills to put your best foot forward, personally and professionally.

When sending an email, don't forget to include a specific subject on the subject line such as, "Mary Smith: advising question." Once you've begun to type your email, always include a salutation such as, "Dear Dr. Smith." If a professor has not responded to your email within three days, don't hesitate to pick up the phone and politely inquire further about your question. Some emails from accounts other than @uky.edu and @gmail.com might go directly to a spam folder, which isn't always checked promptly.

Be sure your text is written in complete sentences with capital letters and proper punctuation.

If you are asking for help from a UK instructor/advisor/staff that might require them to look up your records (transcript, financial aid package, etc.), be sure to include your UK student ID number (which is different your social security number).

In closing your email should include words like, "Sincerely," "I look forward to your response," "Thank you for your time," etc.

Your email signature should include your first and last name, and if appropriate, your phone number with a best time to call between 8-5 p.m.

Take few minutes to proofread your emails to professors, UK staff or a prospective employer, to make sure you present the most positive image upfront, assuring your question/need will be taken seriously and deserving of a quick response.

For those students interested in applying to veterinary school, you'll be responsible for writing your own essay. Some veterinary schools also require applicants to hand write their essays again prior to their interview with paper and pen just to see if students can write without spell check, grammar check and outside proofreading.

Your email address speaks volumes about you. Use your @uky.edu account for business/jobs/school and your personalized email exclusively for friends and family.

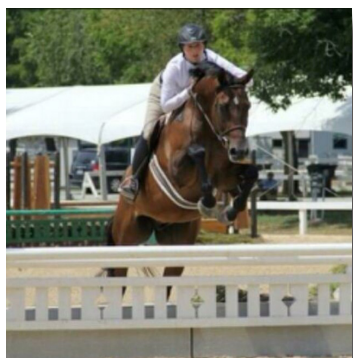
Taking a few moments to follow proper punctuation and grammar when communicating will ensure you are regarded as a student that takes his or her college experience seriously and ensures you will be seen by future employers as a successful student ready to take step into the corporate world!

*Roberta M. Dwyer, Dipl. ACVPM, a professor in the Department of Veterinary Science and pre-veterinary program advisor.*



## UK Equestrian Team Horse Spotlight: Tyson

The University of Kentucky Equestrian Team competes in IHSA competitions for UK in the Hunt Seat, or English, discipline. The team allows college students to competitively show while also working with a large variety of horses and fellow classmates.



The UK Equestrian Team is fortunate to ride and practice at a farm close to campus in Versailles, Ky., at Robert Murphy Stables. Robert Murphy's allows students to use their facilities' horses for lessons and shows, as well as boarding UK team horses that have been donated.

One amazing horse that has been donated to the UK Equestrian Team is Tyson. Tyson is a beautiful bay, 6-year-old Appendix Quarter Horse. He was donated to UK this past January and is a registered Quarter Horse with the registered name of Charming Mr. Willy. He has successfully competed in both AQHA and USEF accredited shows, as well as won a number of under saddle classes within the AQHA shows.

The UK Equestrian Team is very fortunate and appreciative to have such nice horses as Tyson, donated to the team. Working with horses brings a large magnitude of positive qualities to the students' lives and having these horses helps to strengthen the team on an individual basis as well as a whole.

This fall the UK Equestrian Team has accepted and welcomed a total of 68 students to the team and looks forward to wonderful new season!

*Samantha Smith, UKET president, Samantha.Smith@uky.edu*

## Like us on Facebook!

Like us on Facebook!

The University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture has several equine-related pages that present the latest news and events information. Stay up-to-date with UK's horsey happenings by following their activities on these pages:

- UK Ag Equine Programs
- Gluck Equine Research Center
- Saddle Up Safely
- UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program



## Equine Research Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

The University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Foundation inducted three scientists into the UK Equine Research Hall of Fame Sept. 23 at Keeneland Race Course.

George Allen, a posthumous inductee formerly of UK's Gluck Equine Research Center (left), Eugene Lyons of UK's Gluck Equine Research Center (middle) and Stephanie Valberg of the University of Minnesota (right) were selected for their contributions to equine science and research. Nominated by their peers and colleagues, the three individuals were selected by past Hall of Fame inductees.

To read more about the Hall Fame inductees go to <http://news.ca.uky.edu/article/equine-research-hall-fame-inductees-announced>.



*Source: modified news release*

## Equine Club Directory

### Dressage & Eventing Team

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, [jill.stowe@uky.edu](mailto:jill.stowe@uky.edu)

President: Jen Brogie, [jen.brogie@uky.edu](mailto:jen.brogie@uky.edu)

### Equestrian Team

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman, [rcoleman@uky.edu](mailto:rcoleman@uky.edu)

Hunt Seat President: Samantha Smith,

[smsm224@g.uky.edu](mailto:smsm224@g.uky.edu)

Western President: Allie Board, [allison.board@uky.edu](mailto:allison.board@uky.edu)

### Horse Racing Club

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence, [llawrenc@uky.edu](mailto:llawrenc@uky.edu)

President: Audrey Boslego, [aabo224@g.uky.edu](mailto:aabo224@g.uky.edu)

### Polo Club

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, [rogerbrown@uky.edu](mailto:rogerbrown@uky.edu)

President: Posey Obrecht, [poseyobrecht@aol.com](mailto:poseyobrecht@aol.com)

### Research in Equine and Agricultural Disciplines (READ) Club

Advisor: Dr. Kristine Urschel, [klur222@uky.edu](mailto:klur222@uky.edu)

President: Rose Digianantonio, [rndi223@g.uky.edu](mailto:rndi223@g.uky.edu)

### Saddle Seat Team

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, [mary.rossano@uky.edu](mailto:mary.rossano@uky.edu)

President: Nicole Laroussa, [nlaroussa@gmail.com](mailto:nlaroussa@gmail.com)

## Contact Us

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Director of the UK Ag Equine Programs & Dickson  
Professor of Equine Science and Management:  
Dr. Ed Squires

Associate Director for Undergraduate Education in  
Equine Science & Management: Dr. Bob  
Coleman

UK Ag Equine Programs Communications  
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