

February 2016

Wildcat Canter

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs Newsletter



Distinguished Lecture Series, featuring
Misdie Wrigley Miller

Wildcat Canter



6

Program Spotlight-Krista Lea

Krista Lea was born in Jackson, Mississippi, but grew up in Amarillo, Texas. Lea started her college career at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. After completing an internship at Shawnee Farm in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, through the Kentucky Equine Management Internship program, she decided to transfer to the University of Kentucky.



7

David Horohov Leads Renowned Gluck Center

The University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is home to the world-renowned Gluck Equine Research Center. The director of the center is David Horohov, who also carries the titles of Jes E. and Clementine M. Schlaikjer Endowed Chair at Gluck, and chair of UK's Department of Veterinary Science.



13

Craig Carter Assumes National Leadership Role

Craig N. Carter, director and professor of epidemiology at the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UKVDL), recently took the helm of the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society (AVES) as president for a five-year term.

Other features:

Student Professionalism Series

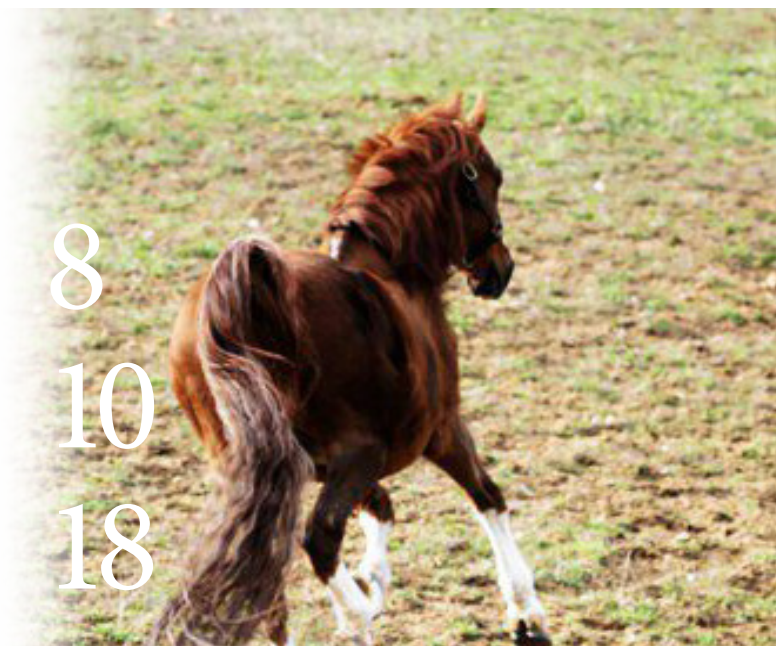
UK Student Entrepreneurs Take First Place at Georgia Bowl

UK lecture series presents conversation with accomplished equestrienne Misdee Wrigley Miller

8

10

18



Welcome

BRRRRRRRRR!!!!!! After an oddly mild November and December, winter showed up just in time to make sure we didn't forget about it! Thanks, we remember. It seems as though every year around this time we begin to get impatient about warmer weather, longer days and not having to scrape ice off our car windows. And why not? It is human nature to want things easy. No one gets excited about trudging through snow to feed animals and to make sure their water source is still in liquid form. It's not fun to have to pile on ridiculous amounts of clothing to brave the elements to ensure the care of others, to make sure our responsibilities get accomplished, to show up to class. So why do it?

Years ago when humans were dependent on horses for transportation and farm labor, pretty much everyone was tasked with this unfavorable predicament. You didn't have a choice. Your survival depended on the animals you took care of. It was hard, it was stressful and it wasn't fun. Fast forward to modern times, and guess what? You don't have to do it anymore! We have automobiles with their own traveling heaters. We have buildings that maintain a constant temperature all year. We have coffee shops that, for a reasonable price, will provide you will almost instantaneous deliciousness and warmth.

Which begs the question, what the heck is wrong with us horse people? We don't have to have horses, we choose to. We don't have to go to school to learn about horses, we choose to. We could find other jobs or things to fill our time, but we have chosen horses. For most of us, I would say that sometime in our youth (or later for some), a horse has impacted the way we view things. It touched our life in some unexplainable yet positive way that we made a conscience decision to pursue a livelihood surrounded by this species. We choose to endure physical chores, long nights, emotional decisions and usually some bumps and bruises along the way just to be involved with this animal.

I think that this is one of the reasons why the Ag Equine Programs at the University of Kentucky is such an exciting and impactful program. Most of us didn't choose this because we saw it as a way to get rich; we didn't choose it because it's easy; instead we recognized that horses have changed who we are as people for the better and we became passionate about learning more about them. So as we all endure who knows how many more of these blustery days and chilling nights, don't forget the reason you chose this path. It wasn't the easy way out, it was the long, hard, grueling path that has already given you a lifetime's worth of rewards, and will continue to pay dividends tenfold.



Amy Lawyer, MS, Equine Extension Associate

Upcoming events/deadlines:**March 1****Equine Career and Opportunity Fair, 4:30-7 p.m.
Spindletop Hall****March 17-20****Road to the Horse****April 12, 14, 19 and 21****Equine Science and Management Senior Capstone Presentations, 8-9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Ag Sciences North Bldg., Room N-10****April 26****Senior Turn Out, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.****April 30, 9 a.m.****Equine Science and Management Alumni Tailgate
Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, Kentucky Horse Park****May 4-5****31st Annual National Conference on Equine Law
http://128.163.184.63/ukcle/Equine/2016/Equine2016_Brochure.pdf****MASTHEAD****■ Wildcat Canter Editorial Staff**

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Program Spotlight-Krista Lea

Alexandra Harper

Krista Lea was born in Jackson, Mississippi, but grew up in Amarillo, Texas.

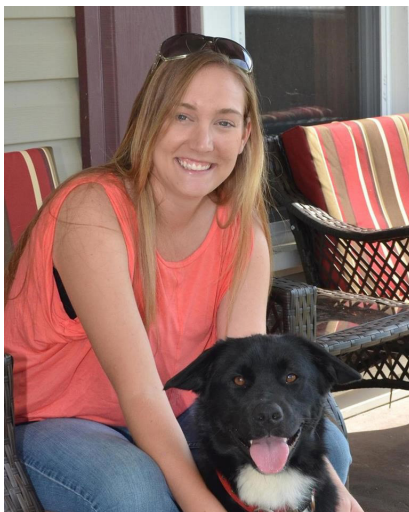
Lea started her college career at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. After completing an internship at Shawnee Farm in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, through the Kentucky Equine Management Internship program, she decided to transfer to the University of Kentucky. Lea completed her bachelor's of science in 2009 in animal science, with an equine emphasis. She then earned her master's in integrated plant and soil sciences in 2014 from UK.

Lea started riding western when she was 12 years old in Texas. She also had the opportunity to foal at a few breeding farms, spent a year on the race track grooming and exercise riding, worked the September sale at Keeneland and now owns three Quarter Horses.

Lea currently works as a forage extension specialist at UK as a senior lab tech. Her job is 80 percent extension and 20 percent research. Lea focuses on equine education and coordination of the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program, including supervising three to six students each summer. She also writes for the Bluegrass Equine Digest, is co-editor for Forage News and regularly co-authors scientific manuscripts, conference proceedings and presentations and extension publications.

When asked what her favorite part about her job is, Lea said, "I love educating others, talking with farmers and managers and working with students."

When she isn't busy at work, Lea likes to run, read and compete with her horse, Phil in reining.



David Horohov Leads UK's Renowned Gluck Center

By Carl Nathe
Source: UKNow

The University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is home to the world-renowned Gluck Equine Research Center.

The director of the center is David Horohov, who also carries the titles of Jes E. and Clementine M. Schlaikjer Endowed Chair at Gluck, and chair of UK's Department of Veterinary Science.

In a recent interview appearance on 'UK at the Half,' Horohov spoke about his research interests past and present, and goals for the future of the Gluck Center.

'UK at the Half' airs during the live radio broadcasts of each UK basketball and football game on the UK Sports Network, which covers Kentucky and contiguous areas. The segments are hosted by Carl Nathe of UK Public Relations and Marketing.

To listen to the 'UK at the Half' featuring Horohov, visit <http://uknow.uky.edu/content/david-horohov-leads-uks-renowned-gluck-center>.



2016 Ken Freedman Nominees

Congratulations to the 2016 Ken Freedman Outstanding Advisor nominees. Jamie Dunn, Advising Network Chair, will recognize all nominees at the Feb. 12 Ken Freedman Awards Luncheon and will present both the Outstanding Professional Advisor Award and the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

Below, nominees have been organized by college or department. Those nominated for the Outstanding Faculty Advisors Award are marked (*).

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment:

- Marcus Hollan
- Esther Fleming
- Ann Leed
- Avery Malone
- Anissa Radford
- Roger Brown, Agricultural Economics*
- Tyler Mark, Agricultural Economics*
- Leigh Maynard, Agricultural Economics*
- Mary Rossano, Animal & Food Sciences*
- Kristine Urschel, Animal & Food Sciences*
- Robert Houtz, Horticulture*
- Mark Williams, Horticulture*
- Mika Pryor, Retailing & Tourism Management*
- Tammy Stephenson, Dietetics & Human Nutrition*
- Jason Swanson, Retailing & Tourism Management*
- Roberta Dwyer, Animal & Food Sciences*

Student Professionalism Series

Elizabeth A. LaBonty

The University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management Undergraduate Degree 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 a series called the Student Professionalism Series to the Wildcat Canter. The Student Professionalism Series will offer insights and tips to help you effectively prepare for, find, apply to and obtain the career of your choice. This month we will discuss the importance of time management.

Time Management

If everyone I know has one thing in common it's that we're all busy. From my students, to my friends, to my family, to myself I don't know anyone – short of the people in my life who are retired – who isn't busy. Life happens. People are busy managing their work, their play, their goals, their money and their relationships. Not to mention their pets, houses, cars and health. While I am in no way an expert at time management, I have learned some tips along the way that have proven quite helpful.

1. Small amounts of time, over time, add up.

Cramming and procrastination is so common among college students that an entire saying is dedicated to it. Giving it the 'old college try' is usually a reference to giving everything you have at the last second and hoping for the best. If there is anything I could tell you that I've learned about time management, both the hard way and from moments of success, it's that small amounts of time, over time, add up.

Instead of neglecting your classes until the day or week before a test, invest small amounts of time every day or two keeping up on them. Instead of attending a lecture and then forgetting about it, spend just 20 minutes the same day of a lecture reviewing your notes while it's still fresh in your mind and you will be shocked at how much more you will remember.

I am pursuing my doctorate in UK's Department of Education and one of the best classes I have taken is Psychology of Education. I won't bore you with an entire semester's worth of material, but what I will tell you is there's an entire area of research dedicated to how the human mind learns and retains information. Frequent review, repetition and personal manipulation are shown again and again to be more effective than memorization, cramming and lack of interaction. Spend time covering the material from your classes, ask questions, look it over frequently and it will never be time wasted.

2. Make time for what matters.

This one is easier said than done. It's not as hard when it comes to things we like doing, but when talking about things we don't enjoy as much, it's a whole different story. In my entire higher education career, I can't think of a single time that I needed to encourage a student to make time for their horse or friends or something fun. But I can think of many times I have encouraged them to make time for things they didn't like – like studying chemistry or a job that required hard work.

You need to actively schedule time to do the things that you would prefer to avoid. Otherwise, you will find every reason in the book to do something else, and in the end, you will regret it. In my own life, I am often surprised how quickly I decide that my house, or my fridge or even my car need cleaning when faced with schoolwork. Because I know that about myself, I have to deliberately set time aside every day to do what I know I need to do.



Serandu Custom Riding Boots Wins UK Venture Challenge

By Gail Hairston

Source: UKNow

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment students Caitlin Halliwell and Allison Burke of Team Serandu won UK Venture Challenge and \$1,500 on Feb. 20 with their idea for custom-fitted riding boots. Second place and \$1,000 went to Team Talkables, Cassady Ritter and Andrew Dharamse of College of Engineering, for their new device for pets. Juris doctor candidate Derek Campbell placed third and receives \$500 for BlamBags, a fun, new gift bag concept.

Eight student teams pitched their new business concepts to judges from the local entrepreneurial community at the fifth annual competition at the William T. Young Library UK Athletics Auditorium. The teams' written proposals were judged prior to their pitches.

"Competing in Venture Challenge sparked a passion for me to continue pursuing business as a career," said Serandu team member Allison Burke, who was a December graduate in merchandising. "I am so inspired by the ideas of other young people and the amazing support by the faculty and staff at UK."

Team Serandu was part of the 10-week Venture Studio Bootcamp, a new program in the Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship, which wrapped up at the end of the fall 2015 semester. The idea for the fitted boot originated from UK faculty members, Janet Kurzynske and Scarlett Wesley. "Because of the Venture Studio Bootcamp, both of us are planning on enrolling in the Gatton MBA program next semester," said Caitlin Halliwell, a senior in equine business management.

"Venture Challenge has already been opening a lot of doors for me," said computer engineering sophomore Cassady Ritter. "I'm so excited to take Talkables all the way and really make something to show for my college experience beyond a degree."

Talkables team member Andrew Dharamsey, also a sophomore studying computer engineering, said "Venture Challenge is a great way for me to use my technical expertise, while working on a team, to actually build a product."

Talkables will also receive \$50 for winning the popular online vote with nearly 2,000 votes.

"Venture Challenge is a wonderful way of furthering ideas and concepts by presenting them before people of note in the business community who can help you overcome initial barriers to entry and ultimately take a better product to market," said BlamBags creator Derek Campbell, a Gatton College finance and economics graduate, who is currently a second-year law student UK.

The judges included LaShana M. Harris, founder and CEO, Babylocity LLC; Wanisa "Pang" Hartman, vice president and creative designer, Frogdice Inc.; and George Ward, executive director, Coldstream Research Campus.

The three sponsors were the Bluegrass Business Development Partnership, an economic development partnership between UK, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, and Commerce Lexington; the Gatton College of Business and Economics; and the College of Communication and Information.

UK Venture Challenge is organized by iNET, the Innovation Network for Entrepreneurial Thinking, hosted by the College of Communication and Information, with the Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship, Venture Studio & the Lexington Office of the Kentucky Innovation Network in the Gatton College of Business and Economics.



22-Year-Old Santangelo Scores First Training Victory at Turfway Park

Source: Paulick Report

Brett Santangelo, 22, scored his first career training victory Sunday when Charnocks drew in off the also-eligible list and won the third race at Turfway Park.

Santangelo has been in the money with all four of his starters this year, including a second and a third from Charnocks in his previous two races. Since taking out his license in July of last year, the trainer has compiled a 1-4-2 record with 15 starters.

A native of Hershey, Pennsylvania, Santangelo began his career in racing by working for a track veterinarian at Penn National while still in high school. He moved to Kentucky to attend the University of Kentucky and is currently working toward a degree in Equine Science.

To read the entire article, visit <http://www.paulickreport.com/news/people/22-year-old-santangelo-scores-first-training-victory-at-turfway-park/#.Vq6jCuhyEGw.facebook>.



UK Student Entrepreneurs Take First Place at Georgia Bowl

By Carl Nathe

Source: UKNow

A team of University of Kentucky students captured first place Feb. 6 at the Georgia Bowl intercollegiate entrepreneurship competition hosted by Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Georgia.

Team Race Assured, comprising Julia Fabiani, an undergraduate student in equine science and physiology, Ben Martin, a graduate student in finance and agricultural economics and Stefanie Pagano, a graduate student in biomedical engineering, earned a \$2,500 cash prize for their efforts.

Race Assured is a service that provides a blood test, which can potentially predict injuries in horses well before serious problems occur.

The UK squad bested six other teams representing five other major universities: Georgia Tech, two teams from the University of Texas (Austin), the University of Tennessee, the University of Arkansas and the University of Manitoba (Canada).

Thanks to its first-place finish, Team Race Assured will receive a recommendation to be accepted into Rice University's global competition, which is the largest competition for startups in the world.

The UK team's project was spun out of research developed by David Horohov, director of the Gluck Equine Research Center and chair of the Department of Veterinary Science, as well as the Jes E. and Clementine M. Schlaikjer Endowed Chair and professor in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

"It is both gratifying and exciting that our students have received this recognition," said Horohov. "Having watched their interest and enthusiasm for this project grow throughout the semester, I am not surprised they were successful in the competition."

The three students brought the project to the UK Venture Studio bootcamp and after 10 weeks, the team elevated the concept into a business plan. Their ultimate goal is to start the company and launch Race Assured in Lexington.

The Venture Studio and bootcamp is part of UK's Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship and Lexington Office of the Kentucky Innovation Network, within the Gatton College of Business and Economics. To learn more or to get involved, click on their homepage for upcoming events in the Venture Studio: <http://www.gatton.uky.edu/vace/>. The Venture Studio is located in Room 124 of the new Gatton College building.

"We are very proud of Julia, Ben, and Stefanie and what they have accomplished," said Von Allmen Center commercialization specialist and UK Venture Studio Director Mariam Gorjian, who serves as team coach. "This demonstrates the growing entrepreneurial spirit and savvy which is increasingly evident on our campus."



Equine Science and Management Alumni Profile

Bethany Wurl, '15

Marketing Coordinator at WinStar Farm

by Hannah Forte



Where is home for you?

I was born and raised in Michigan, but lived in Columbus, Indiana, for eight years prior to moving to Lexington, to attend the University of Kentucky.

How did you first become involved in the horse industry?

I first began in high school, showing Quarter Horses in 4-H. My dream was to be involved with Thoroughbreds, but opportunities were somewhat limited in southern Indiana.

What were your career goals before graduation?

I have always been passionate about the Thoroughbred racing industry, and I wanted to pursue a career that would lead me to exciting things within it. My goals were to attain a racing related job that would position me for a future in the industry.

Where are you currently employed?

I am currently the Marketing Coordinator of WinStar Farm in Versailles.

What led you to this position?

I began as an intern for WinStar in October 2012. During that time I also interned at the Keeneland sales. When I graduated in May 2015, I was hired on full-time at WinStar to a public and client relations position. I assumed my current role in December 2015.

What are your current job responsibilities?

I manage all aspects of marketing for WinStar. This includes managing social media, managing the relationship with our advertising company and approving all ads, assisting in planning and carrying out events at the farm, managing our office interns and farm tours. I also help maintain our website and racing notifications.

How are you currently involved in the horse industry?

My job as marketing coordinator puts me in a position to gather news fans not only for WinStar, but also for the racing industry in general, which I am really passionate about.

What advice do you have for current equine students?

Take opportunities as they present themselves, no matter what it is. People in the horse industry wear many hats, so you never know where you will meet someone who can help you along the way. Always have a positive attitude and work hard.



Racing's Future: Madison Scott

Source: *Horse Racing Nation*

Meet Madison Scott

21-year-old Madison Scott grew up in Austin, Texas, in a family far removed from horses and the racing industry. Ever since becoming hooked on the sport at age 10 thanks to Smarty Jones, Madison has pursued a career in the industry. Her knowledge of the industry grew as she followed the progeny of Smarty Jones through middle school and high school, sending fan mail and updates to Three Chimneys Farm. That farm put Madison in contact with Patricia Chapman (Smarty Jones' owner), allowed her the privilege of naming a Smarty Jones colt – Mad for Smarty – while she was visiting the farm in 2009, and later gifted the horse to her once his racing career concluded. She is currently a senior at the University of Kentucky, double majoring in Marketing and Equine Science and Management. During her time in college, she has had work/internship experience at Three Chimneys Farm, Shawhan Place, Northrop Equine, The Blood-Horse, and Fasig-Tipton. In spring 2015, she studied abroad in Co. Kildare, Ireland to gain international experience, working at a stud farm and going racing. In November 2015, she and her boyfriend formed a registered LLC syndicate to purchase a pinhook prospect and became the primary investors.

Read more of this story at http://www.horseracingnation.com/blogs/grandstand/Racings_Future_Madison_Scott_123#

Congratulations to Equine Science and Management Fall 2015 Dean's List Recipients!

Leah Ayau
Bennett Baughman
Ian Bennett
Sarah Bernknopf
Alexandra Bertke
Erica Bischoff
Krystal Blundell
Claire Burnham
Darby Cease
Kimberly Cecere
Blake Chandler
Julia Christopher
Shannon Clancey
Callie Clement
Autumn Cooper
Taylor Cordovano
Lucia Cresci
Samantha Daily
Erin Daugherty
Meredith Davis
Olivia Desch
Danielle Dixon
Rebecca Doss
Megan Douglass
Kelsey Drew
Riley Drumm
Kaitlin Farmer
Nicole Feeney
Elise Garrett
Samantha Geller

Tatyana German
Hollis Glowniak
Victoria Gott
Olivia Gould
Crystal Harrell
Emma Iler
Sherry Jackson
AnnMarie Kadnar
Daina Kaugars
Rachel Kiczuk
Heather Kirby
Michaela Lambert
Samantha Latza
Samantha Laurel
Anah Lewis
Kristen Lindsay
Olivia Lowe
Madison Maavere
Eva Mangan
Olivia Matlin
Martha Meng
Jeffrey Mitchell, Jr.
Tiffany Molina Martinez
Elizabeth Morelan
Emily Mountford
Katherine Murphy
Michelle Newman
Marie Noel
Meredith O'Connell
David Park

Shelbie Parker
Jessie Parsons
Chase Passarella, IV
Justin Pedoto
Anna Peterson
Caroline Petrine
Jacqueline Post
Kelli Powers
Amanda Putorek
Hillary Ramspacher
Jenna Rittenhouse
Ashley Rose
Emma Sanchez
Alyssa Schuster
Madison Scott
Stella Silverman
Sarah Sivinski
Emily Sklar
Corinne Smith
Kelly Thomas
Peggy Thomas
Blair Turnbull
Lindsay Vance
Lauren Walling
Tamar Weisburd
Jackson Wells
Katie Williams
Rachel Williamson
Julianna Witt
Rachel Womack
Dante Zanelli
Haley Zynda

UK's Craig Carter Assumes National Leadership Role

By Ashley Cox

Source: UKNow

Craig N. Carter, director and professor of epidemiology at the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UKVDL), recently took the helm of the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society (AVES) as president for a five-year term.

AVES was founded by James H. Steele in 1964 to recognize global leaders in infectious disease epidemiology and public health and to foster research to combat infectious diseases in both animals and humans. The society has recognized more than 70 world-renowned scientists through awarding the K.F. Meyer/James H. Steele Gold Headed Cane Award, which Carter received in 2011, primarily for his work on zoonotic diseases.

"I consider it such a great honor and privilege to serve as the president of the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society for the next five years," said Carter. "Since leaving my ambulatory practice in Texas, I have worked as an epidemiologist in service, research and teaching roles in the university, military and international consulting environments for over 30 years. Dr. Jim Steele — founder of the AVES and the CDC division of epidemiology — was my graduate professor, mentor and dear friend for many years until his death at 100 years young in 2013."

Carter was recruited from Texas A&M University to the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in 2005 to build an epidemiology program to provide for the early detection of animal disease outbreaks such as Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome. In 2007, he was appointed to his current position at UKVDL where he oversees lab operations, conducts research and works with his graduate students.

One of Carter's goals for the AVES is to attract more bright students into careers in epidemiology. Sponsored by Hartz Mountain Corporation, the AVES hosts its annual meeting each year as part of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) meeting. The 2016 meeting will be held in July, in San Antonio, Texas. A celebration of the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps will also be held at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio in conjunction with the AVMA meeting. Carter's military career spanned from 1967-2008, retiring as a full colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve Veterinary Corps.

Carter said he has thoroughly enjoyed his many years as a faculty member at UK.

"Now nearing the end of my career, I delight in this opportunity to give something back to the AVES and to a scientific discipline that has been so good to me and the world."



The King of Red Mile

By Hannah Forte

Hagan Southworth is from Salvisa, Kentucky, but jokes that he grew up at the Red Mile harness racing track in Lexington.

Southworth said some of his friends even refer to him as The King of Red Mile, which made his internship at the Kentucky Harness Horsemen's Association (KHHA) during his time in the UK Equine Science and Management program the perfect fit.

Southworth said he has loved the racing industry since he was young, and starting wagering on races before he could spell "Thoroughbred."

He learned how to read racing forms by attending races with his father when he was growing up. He rode his own horses occasionally for pleasure at home, and hot-walked Thoroughbreds at the track for trainers in Lexington.

"Hagan was the kind of student who always took initiative," said Elizabeth LaBonty, lecturer and internship coordinator. "That is something that you can't really teach and the benefits of his efforts really paid off in this internship."

Southworth knew Gabe Prewitt, executive secretary of KHHA, through the time he had spent working at the Red Mile. When the opportunity arose to intern with Prewitt at KHHA, Southworth knew it would be a great experience to learn more about how the association operates, and allow him to work with horsemen from his home track.

"It's great to assist the horsemen in things they want changed to better themselves," Southworth said. "Without the horsemen, we don't have racing; their needs are very important."

His responsibilities included answering phone calls, accepting license applications, collecting horsemen fees, organizing mail and more.

According to Southworth, his favorite part of the internship were the racing nights, where he was able to sit in the announcer's booth with Prewitt as he called the races.

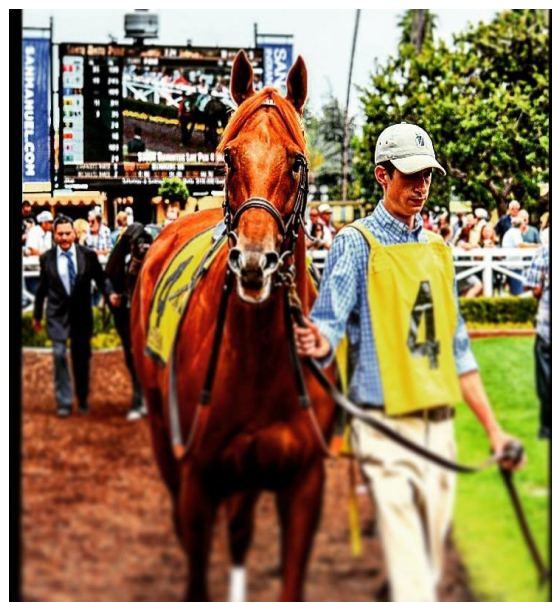
"Hagan did a variety of office tasks while at the KHHA, and essentially shadowed a lot of my daily activities," Prewitt said. "He got to hear many of the daily complaints from horsemen, the meetings with track management and I believe it opened his eyes to a side of horse racing that he wasn't as familiar with before."

"I learned how to run an association that is in place to represent a group of people, to better the game I love and the people who make it possible, the horsemen," Southworth said.

Southworth graduated in December 2015 and went to work for Bill Mott at Payson Park, a Thoroughbred training facility outside of Miami. For the winter, and will move bases to Saratoga, New York, in the summer months. In the immediate future, he plans to continue to grow his knowledge of all equine racing industries.

At some point in his future career, he said he hopes to have his own training operation, breed and sell racehorses and manage a race track like he did during his internship.

"I work 365 days of the year hands-on with Thoroughbreds, and every day is a blessing to have a job that is not really a job. It is a passion, an obsession" Southworth said. "Every day is different and every day is fun. I have a job that I truly love so I never really work. Isn't that what everyone is looking for?"



UK Ag Equine Programs welcomes executive in residence Susan Lephart

By Holly Wiemers

Susan Lephart, a seasoned professional specializing in nonprofit organizations, research foundations, grant funding and programmatic transitions, has joined the University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs' team as an executive-in-residence and research coordinator.

In her role, which began Feb. 21, Lephart will provide leadership support to further develop and implement the organization's new strategic plan and its emerging initiatives. She will also provide community outreach and will engage in sponsorship support and fundraising for infrastructure and facilities.

"It is an honor and privilege to work with the outstanding team of the UK Ag Equine Program and I look forward to partnering with their existing leadership to further develop and implement the proposed 2015-2020 strategic plan that they have worked so thoughtfully to create," Lephart said. "In getting started, I am most excited about my role in helping to implement the strategic plan inclusive of relevant metrics for each of the identified goals. My three priorities in this new position are the emerging initiatives identified within the strategic plan, along with community outreach to leverage resources that will advance and market the program to more of an international level, and engaging in sponsor support and fundraising for much needed programmatic facilities and infrastructure.

"Additionally, my background and passion for research and all things equine makes this such a synergistic fit for me, so I will naturally be interested in the continuing successes and growth of the outstanding research program for which the program is so well-known," she said.

"Susan has worked over the past 16 years in various positions within nonprofit organizations. She created a nonprofit foundation which focused on advancing the careers of promising research scientists through private funding of orthopedic research. As executive director of that foundation, she provided oversight of grant funding at several academic institutions and has provided guidance in developing assessment tools, strategic planning and programmatic transitions," said Rick Bennett, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's associate dean for research and director of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. "Her wealth of experience will be a great asset to our programs."

Lephart earned her doctorate in exercise physiology/sports medicine from the University of Pittsburgh, her master's in health and physical education from East Tennessee State University and her undergraduate in health and physical education from Furman University.



Annual career fair unites college students, equine industry

By Holly Wiemers

The University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs will host its eighth annual UK Equine Career and Opportunity Fair from 4:30 to 7 p.m. EDT March 1 at Spindletop Hall in Lexington.

The free event provides college students the chance to meet prospective equine industry employers and to learn about potential volunteer, internship and part-time and full-time employment opportunities. In addition to booths from area equine businesses, attendees can participate in sessions led by industry professionals, who will offer tips and one-on-one career advice.

“I always love this event,” said Elizabeth LaBonty, lecturer and internship coordinator in UK’s Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program. LaBonty’s equine careers class is planning the event. “The students work so hard putting it together and the interaction between students and the industry is always rewarding to watch.”

Informational sessions will allow participants to explore opportunities related to graduate school, careers in the Thoroughbred and Sport Horse industries, as well as marketing and business careers. Food and drinks will also be provided, as will a shuttle service to and from campus for UK students.

“The UK Equine Career and Opportunity Fair is an outstanding opportunity for students to network and learn about the vast array of opportunities available within the equine industry. There will also be focused career track sessions led by several industry experts,” said Olivia Lowe, a junior Equine Science and Management student who is helping plan the event.



Some of the confirmed participants include Central Kentucky Riding For Hope, Hagar Equine Medical Institute, Keeneland, Kentucky Equine Management Internship, Kentucky Equine Humane Center, Kentucky Horse Park, Kentucky Quarter Horse Association, Life Adventure Center of the Bluegrass, Makers Mark Secretariat Center, New Vocations, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, UK Ag Equine Programs, UK Animal and Food Science Graduate Association and the United States Equestrian Federation.

Students and potential employers who would like more information about the UK Equine Career and Opportunity Fair may contact Elizabeth LaBonty at 859-257-2226 or email equine@uky.edu. There is also an event Facebook page, University of Kentucky Equine Career Fair, which provides up-to-date information. For more information about UK Ag Equine Programs, visit <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/>.

UK Ag Equine Programs hosted equine showcase, breeders’ short course

By Hannah Forte

More than 185 attendees came to the University of Kentucky Equine Showcase and Kentucky Breeders’ Short Course Jan. 29-30 at Fayette County Extension Office. Topics were presented by researchers in the UK Ag Equine Programs as well as veterinarians from Hagar Equine Medical Institute and Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital.



Genetic Testing at Gluck is new name for Animal Genetic Testing and Research Lab

By Jenny Evans

The University of Kentucky Animal Genetic Testing and Research Laboratory has been renamed Genetic Testing at Gluck to better align with its mission to offer the highest quality DNA testing combined with personalized customer service while discovering the genetic basis for traits and diseases in the horse.

Part of the Department of Veterinary Science in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Genetic Testing at Gluck relocated to the UK Gluck Equine Research Center in 2009 after being housed in the Dimock Animal Pathology Building for 23 years. The lab was also formally known as the Parentage Testing Laboratory and before that as the Horse Bloodtyping Laboratory. It is one of three laboratories associated with public universities in the United States. The other two are at the University of California, Davis and Texas A&M University.

“The Genetic Testing at Gluck laboratory will continue the tradition of providing both excellent service and research expertise to the equine community,” said David Horohov, chair of the Department of Veterinary Science, director of the Gluck Equine Research Center and Jes E. and Clementine M. Schlaikjer Endowed Chair.

Under the leadership of Kathryn Graves, the lab offers genetic tests including DNA typing, parentage analysis and color gene and disease mutation testing. The lab serves over 40 horse breed registries by confirming parentage prior to registration, offering customized service to meet the needs of each association. However many individual owners and breeders utilize the lab's testing services as well. The lab is the only one still offering traditional blood typing for parentage. Blood typing services also include antibody screening and crossmatching for neonatal isoerythrolysis (NI, acute hemolytic of the newborn caused by ingestion of antibodies in the mare's colostrum and milk that are directed against the neonate's red blood cells).

DNA technology began replacing blood typing for parentage verification around 1994, providing owners with a more convenient sample submission process as mane hair samples could be used instead of blood samples.

“The laboratory has been part of the evolving technology in genetic identification of horses during its 30 years of existence, from labor-intensive blood typing to the streamlined and automated genotyping using DNA from a few hairs,” Graves said.

With the sequencing of the horse genome in 2007 came the development of more tests for genetic diseases such as junctional epidermolysis bullosa (also known as JEB, commonly found in Saddlebreds), overo lethal white syndrome (OLWS, a concern in Paint horses) and dwarfism (a mutation found in Miniature Horses). The test for JEB was developed at the lab while the test for the dwarfism was discovered at the Gluck Center in the laboratory of Ernie Bailey.

Other tests available at the Genetic Testing at Gluck laboratory can determine the presence of mutations in genes linked to coat color such as the E locus gene, which controls presence of red or black hair; the Agouti gene, which determines whether a horse is bay or black; the Cream Dilution gene, responsible for palominos and buckskins; Champagne Dilution; Silver; Gray; Sabino; and Tobiano. The mutations responsible for the champagne, tobiano, and sabino color patterns were discovered at the Gluck Center in Bailey's laboratory.

“Exciting possibilities exist for the discovery of additional variations in the genome that extend beyond color mutations, including genes that affect performance, growth, temperament, and disease susceptibility. Technology is moving forward at a rapid pace, which will allow us to mine genetic information faster and more affordably,” Graves said.

While the main focus of Genetic Testing at Gluck is on horses, the lab also offers canine DNA genotyping and parentage testing and hereditary juvenile cataract mutation testing.

“We plan to take advantage of every opportunity to expand the tests we offer and most importantly to continue our research efforts to discover new mutations in horses and other animals here at the Gluck Center,” Graves said.

For additional information on the tests offered, including pricing and how to submit samples, visit www.ca.uky.edu/gluck/AGTRL.

UK lecture series presents conversation with accomplished equestrienne Misdee Wrigley Miller

By Holly Wiemers

Misdee Wrigley Miller, winner of two American Saddlebred world horse championship titles and the first rider to win the three-gaited “grand slam,” as well as a Team USA member at the 2014 World Equestrian Games in combined driving, spoke at the University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs’ Distinguished Industry Lecture Series Feb. 9 in the Gluck Equine Research Center’s auditorium on the UK campus.

Nearly 100 people turned out to hear the talk, which was sponsored by Hagyard Equine Medical Institute.

Wrigley Miller is a fourth generation horsewoman who owns and operates Hillcroft Farm with her husband in Paris, Kentucky, as well as a farm in Sarasota, Florida, where they raise American Saddlebred and Thoroughbred horses.

In addition to her accomplishments in the Saddlebred horse world, including being named a United States Equestrian Federation Equestrian of Honor in 2015, Wrigley Miller has also competed in the top echelons of the sport of combined driving. In 2014, she was part of a team representing the United States in the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy, France, where the U.S. team finished fourth.

The Distinguished Industry Lecture Series began in the fall of 2009 and has become a signature event of UK Ag Equine Programs. It is designed to showcase important figures from the equine industry in an informal setting.

Previous series speakers included Keeneland’s Nick Nicholson, accomplished equestrienne Nina Bonnie, Keeneland’s Ted Bassett, Zenyatta owners Jerry and Ann Moss, Olympian Reed Kessler, a double header featuring both Thoroughbred trainer Graham Motion and three-day eventer Buck Davidson and reiner Shawn Florida.

The event was recorded and can be viewed on the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment’s YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/6Ksu2HLIFfg>.



Bluegrass Equine Digest



Check out the February issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest, a free, monthly electronic newsletter dedicated to providing up-to-date information on equine research from the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in collaboration with TheHorse.com and sponsored by Zoetis. This month's stories can be found at http://www.thehorse.com/enews/bluegrass-equine-digest/PDF/BED-Feb2016.pdf?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=bluegrass-equine-digest&utm_campaign=02-28-2016.

- Steps to Improve Pasture Management
- Animal Genetic Testing and Research Lab Gets New Name
- A Revire of the Many Faces of Placentitis
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UK Equestrian Team Hosts January Horse Show

The University of Kentucky IHSA Equestrian Team has developed a tradition of hosting the first IHSA Horse show of the spring semester and 2016 was not an exception. The team held two hunt seat shows and three western shows at Lakeside Arena. The hunt seat shows had eight teams from the region, while the western show had six teams competing.

The shows were well-attended and luckily the weather held, allowing all teams good travel and a not-too-cold-to-ride-in arena. Thanks to Lakeside Arena and Mr. Bruce Brown, who worked through his construction and allowed the team to have a western show on Friday night, which allowed the hunt seat group to prepare and work horses for the Saturday show, which started with the over fences classes.

The team greatly appreciates all the support it received from donors, those who send horses and family and friends who came out to help and cheer on our riders. Because UK rides with coaches who are not at UK, the team relies on outside horses to make the show a reality. This year, there were more than 60 horses used at the show and lots of student effort to care for the horses at Lakeside. To all the students who came early and stayed late to care for the horses, a big thank you.

To coaches Diana Conlon and Bennie Sargent, thanks for your efforts in managing the shows and coaching the team!

The team had 35 riders competing at Regionals Feb. 27 at Morehead State University for the right to represent the region at Zones for hunt seat and Semifinals for the western riders. Results for the UK IHSA Horse Show are:

Hunt Seat

Jan. 30

- High Point Team, UK; Reserve High Point Team, Midway University
- High Point Rider, Samantha Geller, UK; Reserve High Point Rider, Julie Dettman, UK

Jan. 31

- High Point Team, Morehead State University; Reserve High Point Team, UK
- High Point Rider, Julie Dettman, UK; Reserve High Point Rider, Ivy Creahan, MSU

Western

Jan. 29

- High Point Team, University of Kentucky; Reserve High Point Team, UofL
- High Point Rider, Sydney Hall, UK; Reserve High Point Rider, Nick Clay, MSU

Jan. 30

- High Point Team, UK; Reserve High Point Team, UofL
- High Point Rider, Taylor Ferguson, UofL; Reserve High Point Rider, Elyssa Smith, UK

Jan. 31

- High Point Team, University of Cincinnati; Reserve High Point Team, UofL
- High Point Rider, Taylor Ferguson, UofL; Reserve High Point Rider, Sydney Hull, UK



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