Book on Howard Hesby completed

COLLEGE STATION – A book written by students, colleagues, friends and family of Howard Hesby is now complete and can be ordered. The book, “Big Hands, Big Heart” is a tribute to the Texas A&M Animal Science professor who believed in helping students just as much outside the classroom as in it. It is estimated he helped more than 15,000 students during his 35 years at Texas A&M and this book shares the stories from many of those he advised.

The book project, spearheaded by Chris Boleman, Texas 4-H and Youth Development Director, is a 300 page compilation of personal stories written about the impact Hesby made on individual lives. All proceeds from the book will go towards the Howard Hesby Atrium Project in the Kleberg building which houses the Animal Science department.

When the Kleberg facility was built in 1975, an animal science student lounge was provided on the first floor. This area was removed in 2004 to provide administrative offices for a new department in the building. Not long after that, Howard Hesby and others worked to find another suitable area for animal science students to study, congregate and network, and the idea of renovating the atrium to make it more student-friendly was born. Shortly after that, Dr. Hesby passed away. He was a great friend of students in the department and it was determined that it would be appropriate to name the planned atrium after him, now known as the Howard Hesby Student Atrium.

With each $25 gift donation to the atrium project, you will receive a book in return. Checks should be made payable to Texas A&M Foundation and on the memo line indicate Howard Hesby Student Atrium Fund, account number 0573410. Orders should be mailed to Amanda Mendoza, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2140 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-2140. Please include how many books are requested, and your name, address, email and phone number.

For additional information on ordering books and contributing to the Hesby Atrium project contact, Monica Delisa, Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Senior Director of Development, 979/847-9314 or m-delisa@tamu.edu.

For more information on the atrium, visit http://animalscience.tamu.edu/about/hesby_atrium.htm.
Megan Minten receives Procknor Award at Physiology of Reproduction luncheon

Dr. Tom Spencer (left) and Dr. Tom Welsh (right) present the 2010 Mauro Procknor Memorial Award to Megan Minten (center).

COLLEGE STATION -- The Department of Animal Science Physiology of Reproduction held their annual Holiday Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on December 8 at the College Station Community Center. Approximately 33 faculty, staff, graduate students, student workers and guests gathered for a barbecue brisket and sausage meal.

Megan Minten was presented the 2010 Mauro Procknor Memorial Award. The Mauro Procknor Memorial Award is presented annually to a graduate student that best exemplifies excellence in academics and research, patience in teaching, and innovation in the laboratory.

The award was established in memory of Dr. Procknor who received a doctorate in physiology of reproduction under the direction of Dr. Paul Harms in the 1980s. Shortly after his graduation, Mauro was killed in a traffic accident near his animal research station in his home country of Brazil. His fellow students established the Procknor Memorial Award in 1986.

Megan is a master of science student working under the direction of Dr. Tom Spencer on the topic of genetic control of fertility in beef heifers. She is a native of Minnesota and earned her bachelor’s degree in animal science in 2008 from North Dakota State University.

Kyle Segner wins Z.L. Carpenter Award

COLLEGE STATION – Kyle Segner, a master of science student from Fredericksburg, Texas, received the Z.L. Carpenter Outstanding Graduate Student Award on December 17, 2010.

Segner is working under the direction of Dr. Rhonda Miller and Dr. Jeff Savell.

The Carpenter Award is given to a graduate student who excels in the three areas of Dr. Carpenter’s work at Texas A&M University: teaching, research and Extension/public service.

For a complete list of previous winners, go to http://meat.tamu.edu/carpenter/carpenter.html.

Congratulations Animal Science Graduates

The Department of Animal Science congratulates the students who graduated from Texas A&M University on December 17, 2010 with degrees in animal science.

This includes 58 undergraduate students earning a bachelor’s degree in animal science. Completing graduate studies were:

- James William Dickison, doctorate, ANSC
- Laura Lee Caldwell, master of agriculture, ANSC
- Robynne Ryan Gomez, master of science, ANSC
- Brittany Anise Laster, master of science, ANSC
- Laura Leigh May, master of science, ANSC
- Giesele Angelica Montano Pedrose, master of science, ANSC
- Isaac Daniel Olvera, master of science, ANSC
- Andrew Nathan Orsak, master of science, ANSC
- Jeremy Scott Redmond, master of science, physiology of reproduction
- Chase Anthony Runyan, master of science, ANSC
- Jordan Elizabeth Shields, master of science, animal breeding
**Satterfield gives in depth seminar at international equine meeting**

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND – Dr. Carey Satterfield, assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science, presented an in depth seminar at the American Association of Equine Practitioners annual meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland, this December. The seminar entitled, “A Review of Fetal Programming: Implications for Horse Health” was designed to inform veterinary practitioners of the potential long-term health consequences associated with a poor uterine environment during pregnancy. Mare nutrition was a central theme to the seminar with data highlighting the consequences of both undernutrition as well as obesity on foal development. In addition, the impact of early life events on neonatal learning and stress response was also discussed.

The seminar was accompanied by publication of an in depth review article published in the meeting’s annual proceedings. This publication was a collaborative effort with Drs. Guoyao Wu and Josie Coverdale, both in the Texas A&M University Animal Science Department, serving as contributing authors. The international meeting was attended by over 2,200 veterinarians and over 2,000 vendors.

**Bryan Agado attends policy analysis workshop**

Bryan Agado, graduate student in physiology of reproduction, and Sara Lawhon, CVM, pathobiology, recently attended part one of a two part Policy Analysis Workshop in conjunction with the Hispanic Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment Program led by Dr. Manuel Piña Jr., Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications. The Policy Analysis Workshop is directed Dr. James Richardson, Department of Agricultural Economics. The students received an overview of the policy implementation process at the national level. They also picked a specific policy topic that they will present during a mock congressional hearing in front of a professional review board during the second part of the conference in January 2011. Agado is jointly mentored by Drs. Ronald D. Randel, from the Department of Animal Science in Overton, and Tom Welsh, Department of Animal Science.

**Former student news...**

**Gillespie earns veterinarian of the year award**

Dr. Joe C. Gillespie of McCook, Nebraska, a former student in the Department of Animal Science, recently received the Dairy Quality Center’s 2010 Veterinarian of the Year Award during the American Association of Bovine Practitioners annual conference held this year in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As an undergraduate student, Gillespie was a member of the 1987 National Champion Wool judging team, the 1988 National Champion Meats judging team and the 1989 Livestock judging team. Gillespie completed his bachelor’s degree in Animal Science in 1990. He concurrently was a physiology of reproduction graduate student (master of science, 1993; in Dr. Tom Welsh’s laboratory) and a veterinary medicine student (D.V.M., 1995). Congratulations, Dr. Gillespie!

**Apply for Southern Great Plains Dairy Consortium Teaching Program by Feb. 15**

The deadline to apply for the Southern Great Plains Dairy Consortium Teaching program has been extended to February 15, 2011. The (SGPDC) is a multi-university, interagency organization established to meet the educational and research needs of the rapidly expanding dairy industry in the Southern Great Plains. The Consortium provides a formal structure for coordinating teaching, research, extension and diagnostic service programs. The teach program was created specifically to address the need to improve the availability of dairy science education at universities in the Southwest and to ensure the growing dairy industry a well qualified pool of prospective employees for future employment. To apply for the program, go to http://sgpdct.tamu.edu.
**Upcoming events**

**Equine Hoof Care and Shoeing Short Course** (January 3-6, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, contact Dr. Dennis Sigler at <dsigler@tamu.edu> or go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/equine-repro-short-course.htm.

**Equine Reproductive Management Short Course** (January 11-13, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, contact Dr. Martha Vogelsang at <m-vogelsang@tamu.edu> or go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/equine-repro-short-course.htm.

**Southwest Beef Symposium** (January 18-19, 2011 - Amarillo Civic Center) - For more information, contact Dr. Bruce Carpenter or go to http://swbs.nmsu.edu/.

**The Department of Animal Science and Anipro Xtraformance Feeds** will host a reception at the 2011 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and NCBA Trade Show on February 3, 2011 from 5:30 to 7:30 at the West Club Lounge of Invesco Field, Denver, Colorado. For more information, contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu>.

**Texas Animal Nutrition Meeting** (February 17, 2011 - Stephenville, Texas) - For more information, contact Dr. Ellen Jordan at <e-jordan2@tamu.edu>.

**Western Dairy Management Conference** (March 9-11, 2011 - Reno, Nevada) - For more information, go to http://www.wdmc.org/.

**Rambouillet Ram Test Field Day and Sale** (March 18, 2011 - Sonora AgriLife Research Station) - For more information, contact Dr. Frank Craddock at <b-craddock@tamu.edu>.

**Mid-South Ruminant Nutrition Conference** (April 20-21, 2011) - For more information, contact Dr. Ellen Jordan at <e-jordan2@tamu.edu>.

**National Meat Goat and Hair Sheep Symposium** (May 27-29, 2001 - San Angelo) - For more information, contact Dr. Frank Craddock at <b-craddock@tamu.edu>.