Efforts intensified to complete Hesby Atrium project

COLLEGE STATION – Efforts to raise funds needed to start and complete the renovation of the Howard Hesby Student Atrium have been stepped-up with an estimated renovation completion date of Fall 2011.

The atrium in the Kleberg Animal and Food Sciences Center will be renovated to become more student-friendly, an idea that originated with Dr. Hesby and others prior to his passing in 2005. The renovated atrium will be named in honor of Dr. Hesby, a great friend of the students.

Dr. H. Russell Cross, professor and interim head of the Department of Animal Science, said, “With the leadership of George Georgiades ’83 and Leslie Liere ’84, we have recently intensified our efforts to complete the renovation of the Howard Hesby Student Atrium.”

To date, more than $340,000 has been raised in gifts and pledges. It is estimated a total of more than $1 million will be needed to complete the project. Planners are working with the facilities planning group, a development committee, and key users of the building to determine a final design and cost.

The final design will appropriately honor Dr. Hesby’s legacy. “The atrium will reflect the three departments located in the building - Animal Science, Nutrition and Food Science, and Poultry Science. Most importantly, the atrium will be a student-centered place where faculty and students can interact, and where students will feel comfortable and comforted. We believe it will become the family room of their Aggieland home,” Cross said.

The timeline for completion is Fall 2011. “We are committed to this completion date for several reasons,” Cross said. “First and foremost, it is needed. Our students are eager to have a location where they can come together in a casual setting to study, learn, work and relax. Second, 2011 marks the 100th anniversary of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University, and Dr. Hesby was a pivotal figure in the Department and College for more than 30 of those years. Finally, our donors have been eagerly awaiting completion in order to honor the man they knew and loved.”

“When we lost Dr. Hesby in 2005, many people came forward to support this campaign to remodel the atrium in the Kleberg Center in his name and we are grateful for their generous support of this very worthy project,” Cross said.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns or wish to be involved in the current planning and fundraising efforts, please do not hesitate to call Dr. Cross at (979) 845-1543 or email him at hrcross@tamu.edu.

Wu presents two lectures at nutrition conference

SASKATOON, CANADA – Dr. Guoyao Wu, professor, University and AgriLife Research Senior Faculty Fellow, presented two invited lectures at the 31st Western Nutrition Conference held Sept. 21-23, 2010 in Saskatoon, Canada. His presentations were entitled: The J.M. Bell Memorial Lecture, “Functional amino acids: new developments and important implications for animal nutrition” and “Impacts of maternal nutrition on embryonic/fetal survival and development.”
Bazer named Outstanding Alumnus by North Carolina State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA – Dr. Fuller Bazer, regents fellow, distinguished professor and O.D. Butler Chair in the Department of Animal Science, was named an Outstanding Alumnus by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University. The presentation was made Oct. 1, 2010 at the College’s 2010 Alumni Awards Reception at the NC State University Club.

Bazer earned a doctorate in animal science from NC State and was honored because of his achievements and dedication to the Department of Animal Science.

Upcoming events

**Saddle & Sirloin Fall BBQ** (Oct. 5, 2010 - TAMU Beef Center - 6 p.m.) - For more information, contact Colton Atkins at <coltonatkins07@tamu.edu>.

**Animal Science Graduate Student Association Meeting** (Oct. 13, 2010 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge - 5:15 p.m.) - For more information, contact Lauren Hulsman at <lhulsman@tamu.edu>.

**Department of Animal Science Seminar Series** (Oct. 13, 2010 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge - noon) - Dr. Travis Whitney, assistant professor located at the Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center at San Angelo, will present “The Use of Innovative Feeds to Enhance Small Ruminant Production Efficiency and Reduce Feed Costs.” For more information, contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu>.

**Horse Judging Team Coaches and Youth Clinic** (Nov. 12, 2010 - Pearce Pavilion - 9:30 to 4 p.m.) - For more information contact Dr. Dennis Sigler or Dr. Clay Cavinder at (979) 845-7731 or visit http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/horse_judging_coaches_clinic.htm.

**2010 Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest** (Nov. 13, 2010 - Pearce Pavilion) - For more information contact Jake Franke at <jfranke@tamu.edu> or go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/10_aggiefest_ad.pdf.

**2010 Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop** (Nov 13, 2010 - Freeman Arena) - For more information contact Teri Antilley at <tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu> or go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/aggiefest_horsejudging.htm.