2012 Ag Days: Food, recognition
And fun; who could ask for more?

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources award recipients were honored and more than $7,000 was raised for student groups during Ag Appreciation Weekend.

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SEMINARS

Department of Animal Science
Fridays, 12:10-1 p.m., Animal Science/Molecular Biology building, room 103
Lunch served for $4 beginning 11:50 a.m. by the Animal Science Graduate Student Association

October 5: “Teaching International Horsemanship Clinics for the American Quarter Horse Association in Europe,” Katelinn Ewing, Lindsey Hankins, Lacy Teigen, and Amy McLean, animal science department

October 12: “Wolf Reintroduction: Direct and Indirect Effects for Western Wyoming Cattle Producers,” Jordan Steele, agricultural and applied economics department

October 19: TBA, Sam Kalen, UW School of Law

October 26: TBA, Amy Radunz, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Department of Molecular Biology
Fridays, 2:10-3 p.m., Animal Science/Molecular Biology building, room 103

October 5: “Microbial Facebook: Probing Bacterial Social Networks,” Marvin Whiteley, University of Texas Austin

October 12: “Coevolution of a tRNA Modification and Codon Accuracy in the Drosophilids,” Allan Drummond, University of Chicago

October 19: “Heparan Sulfate: Light at the End of the Chain,” Jeff Esko, University of California San Diego

October 26: “Immunological Approaches against Prion Diseases,” T. Sklaviadis, Rockefeller University

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2012 Ag Days: Food, recognition (continued from page 1)

the Andrew Vanvig Lifetime Achievement Award.

Students served more than 600 during the annual Ag Appreciation Barbecue. Funds will be distributed among the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources clubs and organizations that volunteered their time and then to the Ag Day scholarship fund.

Kennedy Gauger, left, and Mark Gates representing BP America visit with Anne Leonard just prior to being recognized at halftime of the UW-Cal Poly football game.

Mark Gates represented BP America, which received the Outstanding Research Partner Award.

For more pictures, go to: www.bit.ly/agappr2012

Changing Faces, Changing Places
(effective date in parentheses)

Welcome:
Bowman, Grant: Molecular biology, assistant professor (8/21)
Brown, Donna: Academic and Student Programs, associate dean/professor (9/10)
Gaddis, JoLynn: Platte County Extension, administrative assistant (9/19)
Rakness, Michelle: Carbon County, administrative assistant (9/17)

Farewell:
Wangberg, Jim: Academic and Student Programs, associate dean/professor (9/7)
Even though he is retired and living near a scenic lake in Wisconsin, Tom Davidson finds himself returning to his hometown of Laramie, and his university, several times a year.

It isn't just that he's visiting friends or revisiting the days of his youth, though that might be part of it. But mostly, Davidson is committed to service, especially to the University of Wyoming.

Davidson graduated with a degree in agriculture in 1961. His first involvement with UW other than his degree occurred in the late 1980s, when he raised funds for the Centennial Complex, which houses the UW Art Museum and the American Heritage Center.

"I was fortunate to be there when some of these things have happened," Davidson says about the timing of his involvement with that project.

Davidson says much of his life has been shaped by circumstance, of one thing leading to another rather unexpectedly, by a series of "turning points." For instance, Davidson taught vocational agriculture at the high school in Pinedale upon graduation from UW. He recalls those days as the most rewarding work he has ever done. "We had a lot of really good kids and parents that helped with what we did," he notes.

Because of that experience, Davidson said, "Our whole lives changed." At Pinedale, he started the award-winning Wyoming Future Farmer magazine. That got him noticed, and he was offered a job in Washington, D.C., with The National Future Farmer magazine. During the next 32 years, Davidson worked in the Chicago area for major national farm and consumer magazines, including Progressive Farmer, Southern Living, Successful Farming, Better Homes & Gardens and Good Housekeeping.

"I learned by osmosis," he says of his move from voc-ag to magazine advertising sales. "Because of my agricultural background, I was able to talk to the agriculture people in a more professional manner," Davidson says.

"If somebody had walked up to me in Pinedale, Wyoming, and told me I was going to retire as Midwest manager of Good Housekeeping, well, I would have never believed it."

In spite of his successful career in magazine advertising and public relations, Davidson says he missed the satisfaction he felt working with students. Although he never wanted to return to teaching, that impulse to help students spurred his involvement with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and with the College of Business, helping to organize career centers and other student services.

On the College of Business Advisory Council, Davidson spearheaded the college's efforts to develop the Peter M. and Paula Green Johnson Career Center. As chairman, Davidson visited career centers in Wisconsin, Iowa and other states, visiting with directors "to help us be able to use their career centers for an example of what a career center should be like."

Davidson hasn't forgotten his home college, either. He says a new initiative in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources will help coaches and judging team participants with the costs of travel for these activities. "We have recently developed a student travel fund that is going to allow more students to participate and be part of it," he says.

Frank Galey, dean of the college, says, "Many of our students, department heads, and senior leadership either work with Tom directly or have benefitted from his efforts on behalf of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Helping our students succeed academically, expanding the number of internships and career opportunities for students, and working with UW Extension to provide needed programs to Wyoming students are all examples of Tom's efforts on behalf of the college."

Davidson's efforts on behalf of UW can be seen across the campus. In 1995, upon the passing of his father, James Davidson, he established the James and Blanche Davidson scholarship, honoring his father's contributions to the sheep

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Financial protection UW Consumer Issues Conference theme

Major consumer financial protection issues will be covered during the 12th annual Consumer Issues Conference Wednesday-Friday, Oct. 3-5, at the Wyoming Union on the University of Wyoming campus.

This year’s theme is “Consumer Financial Protection: Who’s in Charge?”

Attendance is free for UW students and employees. Regular registration is $65; the cost for senior citizens and active military members is $55.

Exhibitors and those with academic or project posters are welcome to attend, said organizers.

Conference highlights include a viewing of the movie “Inside Job” followed by a discussion at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Details, registration and the full schedule are at http://www.uwyo.edu/cic.

The conference features speakers on major consumer financial protection issues across three tracks: banking and payment issues, regulatory and legal issues and investing issues.

Keynote speakers are:

Richard Alderman, director of the Consumer Law Center, University of Houston

Lori Stiegel, senior attorney, Commission on Law and Aging, American Bar Association

Holly Petraeus, Office of Servicemember Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Tahira Hira, senior policy adviser to the president, Iowa State University

Conference sponsors include the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming, University of Wyoming Extension, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Academic Programs’ Office, President’s Office – UW Foundation, College of Law Dean’s Office, College of Business, Department of Management and Marketing, Department of Economics and Finance, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, UW Financial Management Association, Wyoming Geriatric Education Center and the Albany County Tourism Board.

For more information, contact Cole Ehmke at 307-766-3782 or by email at cehmke@uwyo.edu.

Publications


Davidson receives UW Alumni Association Medallion Service Award (continued from page 3)

industry. The elder Davidson was a long-time shepherd for UW.

Tom Davidson’s other accomplishments include:

- Assisting with the development, underwriting, and marketing of UWyo magazine and Barnyards and Backyards, a College of Agriculture and Natural Resources publication. With ad sales in his blood, he is a volunteer sales rep for the latter magazine, generating more than $80,000 in revenue over the last six years.
- Creating a Cowboy Joe Pony scholarship and program of donor support for student pony handlers.
- Revitalizing the Ag Appreciation Day barbecue to benefit student groups.
- Creating the Cowboy Joe Pony apparel sold in the UW Bookstore with proceeds benefitting student groups and programs.

Davidson grew up on property that was the UW Livestock Farm, now the Wyoming Territorial Prison grounds, in west Laramie. As a junior at UW, he was named Outstanding Member of the Alpha Tau Alpha Honorary Association for students in agriculture, and was its president in his senior year. He ran track and played basketball at UW, and says he still has friends from those days.

It was through playing high school basketball he noticed his future wife Ann (Graham) Davidson (BS’62) who was at that time a cheerleader for the high school in Rock Springs. “I was very much aware of her,” he notes.

“What’s really special about being on these UW boards is that Ann and I meet some of the best people; we’re working with the top people in the state. There’s no way I could be receiving this award if it had not been for her.”
Many boards struggle with how to run meetings effectively,” says Daniels. “It is often difficult to balance the needs and ideas of all the board members and have constructive discussion and then move into the decision-making mode. This is a common struggle for all types of boards, including government and nonprofits.”

Daniels co-taught ethics and designed methods to make the training more interactive. Educator Tara Kuipers, based in Park County, taught how to make meetings more effective. Lawyers in the Attorney General’s office provided sessions on public meetings, public records and rulemaking, and the anatomy of an investigation.

Schelhaas had approached UW Extension to take advantage of expertise in providing interactive education and working or interacting with her, however, recognize she has been and continues to be the true backbone of our extension office.”

Wrote another, “She makes everyone in our office feel welcome and appreciated. She is the heart of our office, and we would be lost if we did not have her.”

UW Extension has offices in every county and the Wind River Indian Reservation. The award recognizes extension secretaries for outstanding contributions and accomplishments and is awarded each year during ESCAPE. Freese worked at the Wind River Indian Reservation extension office then moved to the Fremont County office, where she worked for 25 years.

Community development educators assist Attorney General licensing board training

UW Extension educators are transforming bored training to board training for volunteers conducting public business in Wyoming.

Community development educators aim to help volunteer board members more efficiently conduct the public’s business.

Educators partnered with the Office of the Attorney General in August to provide training to licensing boards in Wyoming. The intent was to introduce new board members to their responsibilities and make new members and existing board members more aware of the laws that govern them and provide tools to be more effective, says Julie Daniels, UW Extension educator.

Ryan Schelhaas, senior assistant attorney general apparently liked the results of the Cheyenne training.

“The board members enjoyed the training and continually commented that they appreciated the new interactive format and use of real-life scenarios as it facilitated the sharing of ideas, opinions, thoughts, and questions,” Schelhaas notes. “The training allowed for many great discussions among attendees and presenters, which required everyone to really think about the information being presented and apply it to real-life scenarios.”

Daniels says community development educators work with county-appointed boards, nonprofits, and associations such as the Wyoming Association of Municipalities, Wyoming County Commissioners Association, and Wyoming Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers.

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Daniels' experience in helping boards.

“It’s hard to work in groups,” she says. “Anytime you put people together, they tend to avoid conflict, and it becomes more difficult to make decisions.”

Kari Gray, Governor Matt Mead’s chief of staff, thanked those attending on behalf of the governor for their service to the state. The Wyoming governor’s office said such training is important.

“The men and women serving on boards and commissions commit a tremendous amount of time and responsibility for the benefit of others,” said Mead. “Board training helps people do the very best job possible and helps them get the most out of their time.”

Schelhaas says one person attending the training in Cheyenne said they had planned to come and go during the training but ended up staying the entire day.

“Julie and Tara helped us turn somewhat dry topics into an effective and refreshing training that board members wanted to be part of and stay until the end,” he says.

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Derner is an adjunct assistant professor and Schuman an adjunct professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management.


Community development educators assist Attorney General licensing board training (continued from page 5)

Proposals Submitted

Baumgartner, Robert: $17,327 to Agrigenetics, Inc. for “Evaluation of Experimental Seed.”

Jarvis, Donald, and Xiao-Wen Cheng: $176,875 to National Institutes of Health (NIH) for “Construction of Baculovirus-cell Systems for Low Cost Vaccine Production.”

Langer, Pamela, Brenda Alexander, and Matthew McEchron: $5,000 to University of Washington for “Multicourse Collaboration in Presentation of Clinical Correlate Learning Modules (CCLMs): A Proposal to Enhance First-year Medical Student Learning through Topic Integration and Active Participation.”

Liberles, David: $997,992 to National Science Foundation (NSF) for “Innovation: Bringing Biochemistry and Evolution into Models for Comparative Genomics,” and $847,008 for “Gene Duplication and the Evolution of Enzyme Specificity.”

Obour, Augustine, and Thomas Foulke: $368,904 to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for “Enhancing the Economic Viability of Camelina as a Bio-feedback: Optimization and Demonstration of the Production System and Bioproduction Development.”

Stahl, Peter: $82,080 to Cameco, Inc. for “Phytoremediation of Selenium Contaminated Soil.”

Stahl, Peter, Michael Curran, and Caley Gasch-Salava: $1,151 to Arctech, Inc. for “Actosol Humic Organic Product: Impacts on Plant Establishment and Soil Development.”

Tanaka, John: $60,000 to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for “Human Footprint of Wind Energy and Related Resources.”

October 4: Savvy Parenting Webinar Series: Protecting Your Child’s ID Online, 12:10 p.m., online webinar (www.uwyo.edu/ces/money)

October 5: Preserve the Harvest – Intent to Ferment, 5:45 p.m., UW Extension office, Albany County Fairgrounds, Laramie

October 19: Global Perspectives proposals due by 5 p.m. to the Agricultural Experiment Station, aes@uwyo.edu, via department heads/chair/directors

November 1: Financial Literacy Webinar Series: Consumer Fraud, 12:10 p.m., online webinar

For a statewide calendar, please access the ag collegeWeb site at www.uwyo.edu/UWAG/
Monies Awarded

Adamovicz, Jeffrey, and William Laegreid: $218,000 from Wyoming Livestock Board (WLB) for "Brucellosis Testing, Regulatory Serology and Other Brucellosis Related Services."


Brown, Donna: $5,000 from USDA National Resources Conservation Service for "Student Engagement Networking Drive (SEND) Program."

Gatlin, Jesse: $264,294 from NIH for "Mechanics of Bipolar Mitotic Spindle Assembly."

Kniss, Andrew: $4,500 from BASF Corporation for "Weed Science Research in Agronomic Crops," and $11,000 from Monsanto Company for "Graduate Assistantship Support for Sugarbeet Research."

Liberles, David, and Liang Lui: $127,112 from NSF for "Collaborative Research: Developing a Probabilistic Model for Gene Family Evolution."

Miller, Myrna: $11,643 from WLB for "Comparison of Bluetongue Virus Serotype 17 Vaccines in Sheep."

Miller, Myrna, and William Laegreid: $31,000 from USDA NIFA for "National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) Diagnostic Laboratory Testing for Animal Diseases of High Importance."

Schumaker, Brant, Myrna Miller, Amy Krist, and Scott Shaw: $20,000 from WHFW for "The Relevant Vectors of Elacophora schneideri in Wyoming."

Stahl, Peter, Ann Hild, Gary Beauvais, and Dorothy Tuthill: $38,000 from BLM for "Survey of Biotic Soil Crusts on BLM Lands in Wyoming."

Yao, Chaoqun: $20,000 from WLB for "Trichomoniasis in Wyoming Beef Cattle."

Zhu, Meijun: $408,315 from NIH for "Maternal Obesity, AMPK and Development of Fetal and Neonatal Gut."