

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

AG NEWS

VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 1 • WINTER 2018



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

2017 Ag Day Game Recognition,
page 10.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I open this letter with words of wisdom, see large-letter quote, from the Cheshire cat in Alice in Wonderland.

A strong strategic plan is the cornerstone of knowing where you want to go. Over the past two years the University of Wyoming and each college within the university has worked to reassess our goals, programs, and vision to develop a strong five-year strategic plan.

The college's plan and the university's plan are now complete. Both are available on our websites, and I encourage each of you to review the summary sheets for each plan. As the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources within a land-grant university, we were careful to listen to you along this journey. We hope our plan reflects the input we received from alumni, stakeholders, and donors and reflects your vision for the college.

Our mission is to "Improve the quality of life for people in Wyoming and the global community through implementing the land-grant model of teaching, research, and extension." Our vision for our land-grant college of agriculture is to support a thriving agricultural industry (including natural resources, people, and communities) through integrating quality education, innovative research, and impactful engagement.

We will focus on these four areas to meet this goal.

1 We will do all we can to ensure student success. We plan to recruit quality Wyoming and regional students, ensure efficient transfer from community colleges, help students identify and pursue relevant degrees, and provide students access to excellent hands-on "experiential" learning opportunities. Hands-on opportunities include internships, travel abroad, and laboratory/field work.

2 For the state, we will focus on finding solutions to contemporary issues affecting Wyoming through high-quality research and

creative scholarship, responsive service, and statewide extension/engagement.

The linchpin of this process is developing stronger links between students, faculty and staff members, and you, our constituents, to then build programs around relevant state and regional needs.

3 To provide the best and most relevant service to the state, we will work to ensure sustained excellence through a positive environment within which we can study, work, and live. We will strengthen support for high-quality research, teaching, extension, and leadership. Recruiting and retaining high-performing faculty and staff members and seeking solutions to modernize facilities and infrastructure will allow the work to prosper.

4 Lastly, we will work hard with you to find the resources to help us grow in our plan's mission-linked areas of distinction.

The plan will do no good if left sitting on a shelf gathering dust. College leadership sees this as a living document and, together with key faculty members, has outlined metrics to measure our progress toward meeting the four focus area goals.

The web address for the university's strategic plan "Breaking Through: 2017–2022" is www.uwyo.edu/strategic-plan. A link to the college plan is on our main home page at www.uwyo.edu/uwag. Please let us know what, if any, of

the plan resonates and how we might partner with you to achieve our common goals. Comments can be sent via email to agrdean@uwyo.edu or by mail to Ag Dean's Office, Dept. 3354, 1000 E. University Ave., Laramie, WY 82071.



Dean Frank Galey

“ ‘Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?’

‘That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,’ said the Cat.

‘I don’t much care where —’ said Alice.

‘Then it doesn’t matter which way you go,’ said the Cat.

”

Lewis Carroll —
Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland

A stylized, handwritten signature of Frank Galey in black ink.

Dean Frank Galey
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources



Students and faculty members gave money to construct O'Bryan's fountain memorial in 1926. The fountain, built in 1927 and originally fed by an artesian spring, was renovated last year

Ag student's death in 1922 commemorated with campus fountain but memorial and legacy faded with time

Snows of 95 winters have passed over the gravesite, topped only by grass in Laramie's Greenhill Cemetery.

There is no marker. If not for a memorial fountain greeting those treading onto and off the University of Wyoming campus, no one would know of 23-year-old Lowell O'Bryan, who died in 1922 when Prexy's Pasture really was a pasture and remnants of real cowboys were visible but fading into the Old West.

O'Bryan's tale winds its way through cross-country travels with his family in covered wagons, his enrollment and accomplishments in the college, and to a memorial fountain dedicated in his honor in 1927, reconditioned and rededicated this past fall.

He died trying to prevent other students from injury.

Years of Laramie sun and weather had timeworn the fountain and in 2015, archivist Leslie Waggener and Rick Ewig of the American Heritage Center

asked their First-Year Seminar class members if they were interested in finding money to repair the fountain. More than \$1,500 was raised and thanks to the efforts of UW's facilities engineering project manager Charles Jahner, the monument was repaired. A ceremony last September rededicated the memorial that divides the sidewalk leading west to 9th Street from Old Main. Members of O'Bryan's family attended.



Sparks family history quest

Questions about Lowell O'Bryan following the rededication ceremony on campus last September set Kate Ferry, his niece, on a search for answers.

That quest included searching through files, folders, and boxes, obtaining government records, and yielding contradictions. For example, Lowell's father died the same year as Lowell, 1922. Reports in 1922 listed Willard Robinson (who owned the house in which Lowell was living at the time of his death) married to Sada. Curious, Kate obtained her grandmother and Robinson's California marriage license (they did marry later.)

"I find all this interesting," she says. "The marriage date being 1924 is nearly two years after grandfather and Lowell died. It is curious that all of the news articles say Robinson was Lowell's step-father."

There have been other contradictions and questions, which led her to say, "This adventure makes me realize how history can be unreliable."

And, Kate says the families favored cremation and why Lowell was buried rather than cremated is another unknown. Why no marker was installed also remains a mystery.

She also has a "what if?" Kate found a photo of Lowell and his fiancée, Esther Drube. Esther was the older sister to Kate's mother – if Lowell had lived, two sisters would have married two brothers (Lowell and Douglas).

Family members at Lowell O'Bryan's unmarked gravesite in Laramie's Greenhill Cemetery. There are two other unmarked graves in the four-plot site.

Prior to the rededication, Waggener wanted to show O'Bryan family members as much as possible about his history in Laramie. She learned he was buried in Greenhill Cemetery adjacent to the campus.

"I thought I should check that out before the family got here so I could show them where he is buried," she recalls.

She and her husband, Robert, could not find the grave in the specified section. A cemetery worker showed them.

"Come to find out it is an unmarked grave," says Waggener. "I thought, 'Wow. There is a monument to him on campus but no monument for his gravesite. Just grass.'"

Lots of Covered Wagon Time

O'Bryan may have had more prairie miles in the West by the time he enrolled at UW than most of his peers. Born in Santa Rosa,

California, September 7, 1899, to Sada and Leon O'Bryan, he and Douglas, his younger brother by two years, and family traveled to South Dakota in two covered wagons – one with household goods and the other carrying books, says Kate Ferry, the lone surviving daughter of Douglas and niece to Lowell. She attended the memorial rededication ceremony.

Sada was a graduate of California Polytechnic State University, keen on education. For reasons unknown, the family traveled in wagons BACK to California, where the boys went to school for one year then traveled BACK to South Dakota. The family moved from Butte, South Dakota, to Laramie in 1920 or 1921, says Ferry.

"Lowell and Douglas were on horses their entire lives," she says.

Lowell only wanted to cowboy, but Sada insisted he pursue a higher education.

O'Bryan seemed to flourish. In 1921, the agriculture club selected O'Bryan as vice president. The yearbook carries a photo of the group.

The January 4, 1922, *Laramie Republican* reported O'Bryan had the county agent near Fort Collins collect 10 dairy cows and bring them to Laramie where O'Bryan began operating a dairy in connection to his course work. Class members built a barn, and the feeding programs were used as a basis for the course in feeding. The *Rock Springs Rocket* on May 19 wrote the students had developed

a milk route for deliveries throughout Laramie.

The January 14 edition of the Laramie paper then carried another story of O'Bryan building a poultry house, buying 100 hens, and was trying out feeding rations. The amount and type of feeds were used again for course work.

Died Trying to Prevent Student Injuries

Then, a new UW president arrived October 1922.

Arthur Griswold Crane left the president position at a college in Edinboro, Pennsylvania. The following is from information compiled by UW history Professor Phil Roberts and published in WyoHistory.org about O'Bryan and the celebration.

Roberts relates a group of students decided to greet the new president in Western style. The students, with the help of faculty advisers with familiar last

names – Samuel Knight and John Corbett – planned to ambush the new president. They would dress as cowboys and meet the president's automobile as it made its way down Telephone Canyon (now Interstate 80) onto the Laramie Plains.

Ferry told those at the dedication ceremony Lowell had put horses out on Prexy's Pasture that morning. "He had to get up early and get them off so he would not be fined," she relates.

Nine masked men on horses and joined by 50 more cowboys dressed in Western attire ordered what must have been a surprised Crane out of the car and into a stagecoach where he was joined by (another familiar last name) outgoing UW President Aven Nelson and board of trustees chairman W.C. Deming. Crane's family continued on to Laramie in the car.

Roberts relates Crane did not seem to enjoy the welcome. Photographs show him neither smiling nor waving. They moved from stagecoach to car on the east edge of Laramie and proceeded to the grandstand at the fairgrounds, about where Washington Park is now. After a ceremony, in which two cowboys rode bucking horses, the crowd moved to the campus.

O'Bryan was not among them.

He had been riding out the horses earlier that morning – making them buck until they stopped. One broke toward a fence, and O'Bryan, fearing it might break through and injure a group of students, attempted to dismount, the saddle slipped under the horse, and O'Bryan was pummeled by hooves.

The junior agriculture student was dragged for at least 30 feet and sustained severe head trauma. He had lain for eight days in the house in which he had been living,

continues page 9



From left, O'Bryan family friend Judy Eastman; Nicole O'Bryan, Lowell's grandniece and daughter of Kate Ferry; Valli Barrioz, Lowell's grandniece; Rick Ewig, past associate director, American Heritage Center; Ben Wetzel, UW student and 2017–18 president of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming; Kate O'Bryan Ferry, Lowell's niece; Leslie Waggener, archivist, American Heritage Center; UW President Laurie Nichols; Tracy Graves, wife of Doug Graves; Darlene Carreto, 2015 UW freshman in the first-year seminar class; Doug Lowell Graves, Lowell's grandnephew.

Memorial renovation team

Those recognized for their work on the O'Bryan plaque, repairing the stone, and planting flowers, in addition to engineering project manager Charlie Jahner:

- Fred Synnestvedt, equipment shop manager
- Kevan Thompson, coordinator of landscape services
- Masons Kenneth Le Jeune, Paul Bernaski, and Derek May
- Sandblasters Duane Fortson, James Conant, Gabrielle Espinosa, Brandon Busick, and Russell Austin

Educational focus why more Beef Cow Symposium,

More than 700 attended the Range Beef Cow Symposium last November in Cheyenne, drawn by the information geared toward producers.

The conference is a joint effort coordinated by the extension programs of South Dakota State University, Colorado State University, the University of Nebraska, and the University of Wyoming.

The symposium – held every other year and rotated through the extension programs – offered more than two days of user information, something Steve Paisley says separates the symposium from other livestock conferences.

“We made it a point to gear it toward producers,” says Paisley, UW Extension beef specialist. “There are not a lot of academic presentations, not a lot of

UW Extension beef cattle specialist Steve Paisley, left, and extension livestock specialist Scott Lake. Paisley was instrumental in helping organize and coordinate the Range Beef Cow Symposium. The symposium rotates among extension services at Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Colorado.



than 700 attend Range organizers say



Justin Derner is an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management in addition to his rangeland specialist position with the USDA-ARS.

literature cited. We spend a lot of time selecting speakers who are going to communicate well with ranchers.”

Speakers are recognized leaders in the industry with no hidden agendas and have the producers’ best interests in mind, he says.

“There are a lot of livestock meetings out there, but this is one of the few remaining producer-based. They can come and learn something from this they aren’t going to learn anywhere else.”

He says he hopes producers took home some optimism.

“There’s still opportunity for profitability and improvement in production,” Paisley says.

Ditto, adds Mike Day, who presided over morning sessions the first day.

“The biggest (benefit) is new ideas,” says Day, head of the Department of Animal Science, which hosted the event. “Am I doing what I can to be the most efficient? The most profitable? They might go home and not change a thing, but they know what some of the options are and what the impacts are.”



Professor Mike Day, head of the Department of Animal Science, was the "Ramrod" during the Industry Issues Section of the Range Beef Cow Symposium.



Greg Hanes with the U.S. Meat Export Federation gives an international trade update.



‘Promoting Pollinators On Your Place: A Wyoming Guide’ now available

The team that produces *Barnyards & Backyards* magazine also produces longer, more in-depth publications. The new publication “Promoting Pollinators On Your Place: A Wyoming Guide” is one of these.

This guide is available at University of Wyoming Extension county offices and select conservation district, Wyoming State Forestry Division, and weed and pest control district offices. Hard copies are limited, so contact local offices to see if available. An electronic version of the publication (and additional pollinator resources) is at bit.ly/wypollinators.

The guide provides information on various pollinators in Wyoming, their life cycles, and ways to promote their well-being. Promoting crop pollination with pollinators is also covered. The guide includes an introduction to beekeeping in Wyoming.

Also available at the link are online-only, additional appendices providing more pictures of bees and butterflies, further information on hardy flowers for pollinators, and an example pollinator seed mix for larger pollinator plantings.

Visit www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/index.html for more useful information on a wide variety of topics.



Wyoming 4-H'er wins Denver stock show catch-a-calf competition



4-H'er Kyle Despain, right, of Laramie receives the grand champion catch-a-calf flag from National Western Stock Show CEO Paul Andrews. The University of Wyoming this year expanded its presence at the annual National Western Stock Show. Visit bit.ly/UWotNWSS to see photos compiled by student Mackenzie Holmberg, an intern at this year's show.

Albany County 4-H'er Kyle Despain and his market steer entry won the Catch-A-Calf competition at the National Western Stock Show, Rodeo and Horse Show in Denver in January.

Despain competed against 34 other 4-H'ers and entries from Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

Despain attends Laramie High School and is the son of Becky and Johnathan Despain. He is a member of the Critter Creek 4-H Club.

"I can tell you he is one of the nicest, most humble young men," says Mary Louise Wood, Albany County 4-H educator. "He's always willing to help others and is a true hard worker. He is a great representative of what the Catch-A-Calf program is all about."

The market animals are judged on rate of gain, quality of fitting, and carcass quality, according to stock show information. The exhibitor is judged on showmanship, their record book, and a personal interview.

Individually, Despain won the showmanship competition, was second in the live placing class with the steer, and second in sponsor relations. He placed third in the overall production phase and was fifth in record books and in interviews.

Ag Student continued from page 5

owned by Dr. Willard Robinson. He was attended to by not only Robinson but also another doctor, Dr. E.M. Turner, several nurses, and other doctors in consultation, according to reports at the time by the student newspaper.

The young man never regained consciousness and died eight days later Tuesday, October 10, 1922. A company of ROTC cadets escorted the body to the cemetery and fired three volleys of shots.

As a medical aside, Crane would later write the "History of Physical Reconstruction", an official medical history.

Memorial History

Waggener relates what happened then. Students and faculty members raised money in 1926 to build the monument, a fountain fed by an artesian spring and at the site of the current Biological Sciences Building. The fountain was moved in the 1960s when the Biological Sciences Building was constructed and put in storage until 1994, when it was moved to its current location west of Old Main.

The fountain memorial had become weathered and in need of refreshing, leading to the First

Year Seminar class efforts. Most of the renovation funds were raised through a GoFundMe site, says Waggener.

Even several weeks after the dedication, O'Bryan's gravesite still bothered Waggener.

"Me being me, I thought, 'How much does it cost to place a monument, and is that something we ought to raise money for so there is a marker for him at the cemetery?'" she asked. "I would love if we had a collaborator for that."

College honors award recipients during Ag Appreciation Weekend

The college's award recipients were recognized at the dean's banquet and on the football field during Ag Appreciation Weekend last fall.

Martin Winchell, managing director for Schneider, one of the largest wholly-owned foreign transportation and logistics firms in China, and weed scientist **Philip Stahlman**, who built a national and international reputation studying glyphosate-resistant crops, were honored as outstanding alumni by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The *Wyoming Livestock Roundup* was the Research/Outreach Partner Award recipient, Pinedale native **Kurt Feltner**, who has benefited the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station, received the Legacy Award, and **Tex Taylor**, a professor and 32-year member of the agricultural and applied economics department, received the Andrew Vanvig Lifetime Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award.

Complete stories and photos are at bit.ly/2017agcollege.



Ag Day Barbecue servers Callie Klinghagen, left, and Reba Dorsett representing the Pre-Vet Club.



Outstanding alumni award recipient Martin Winchell and Wyoming Livestock Roundup managing editor Saige Albert



Legacy Award recipient, and Pinedale native, Kurt Feltner



Outstanding alumni recipient Phil Stahlman



Vanvig award recipient Tex Taylor



From left, Colby Hales, assistant coach; Connor Madsen, Wheatland; Kyle Cavey, Berthoud, Colorado; Kassi Renner, Lovell; Zane Mackey, Torrington; Amanda Hartman, Denton, Montana; Garrett Barton, Poway, California; Ty Shockley, Wheatland; Paige Aylward, Dickens, Nebraska; Tyler Bauer, Johnstown, Colorado; Lucas Stalcup, Ashland, Montana; Caleb Boardman, coach

UW Livestock Judging Team records best finish in 30+ Years

The 2017 University of Wyoming Livestock Judging Team finished eighth at the North American International Livestock Exposition in November in Louisville, Kentucky. This marks the first top-10 finish at the national championship in at least 30 years, says coach Caleb Boardman.

Nationally, 138 contestants represented 29 universities at the contest. In addition to eighth overall, the team finished fifth in performance cattle, sixth in swine, eighth in overall beef, and ninth in reasons. The total scores posted, as well as those in cattle, hogs, and reasons, are the highest on record for UW.

The team was led by Zane Mackey and Garrett Barton, who both finished in the top 30 overall. Barton tied for second in swine reasons and was fifth overall in swine.



From left, Sam Rothrock, Chesterfield, Missouri; Tanner McClure, Riverside, California; Jory Goetz, Fruita, Colorado; teaching assistant Julia Wickerath, Ellensburg, Washington; Rayne Benson, Laramie; Robin Ferguson, Gordon, Nebraska; coach Lacey Lindsay

UW Horse Judging Team finishes a winning season

The University of Wyoming Horse Judging Team earned fifth at the National Reining Horse Association Collegiate Judging Contest in Oklahoma City November 30 – UW's best performance ever at that competition. The team's top individual was Tanner McClure of Riverside, California, who placed 15th.

At Quarter Horse World Show, November 12 in Oklahoma City, the team placed eighth. Rayne Benson of Laramie was 14th out of 66 competitors.

The team earned fifth at the All American Quarter Horse Congress October 18 in Columbus, Ohio. Robin Ferguson of Gordon, Nebraska, was ninth high and Benson 15th high individual at the Quarter Horse Congress out of 66 competitors.

With Jennifer Ingwerson-Niemann on leave this fall, UW graduate Lacey Lindsay coached the team.

Mortar Board selects four as 'Top Profs'

Four from the College and Agriculture and Natural Resources were honored as “Top Profs” by members of the University of Wyoming’s senior honor society.

Members of the Cap and Gown Chapter of Mortar Board selected professors who have positively influenced their lives at UW. These professors go beyond normal classroom expectations to help their students succeed.

Listed are UW Mortar Board students and their hometowns, along with their Top Profs and the professors’ disciplines:

- Laramie – Mary Freeman, **Donal O’Toole**, veterinary sciences
- Rock Springs – Katie Jacobs, **Kristin McTigue**, family and consumer sciences
- Sheridan – Lachlan Brennan, **Peter Thorsness**, molecular biology
- Story – Mendi Maes, **Rachel Watson**, molecular biology

“Top Prof” is a great event, as it allows students to recognize the faculty who have had an impact on their lives,” says Christine Wade, an associate professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, and an adviser to the UW chapter. “Faculty are especially honored to be recognized as ‘Top Profs’ because they are chosen by the students.”



Donal O’ Toole



Kristin McTigue



Peter Thorsness



Rachel Watson



Ben Rashford



John Ritten



Roger Coupal



Windy Kelley

College part of regional \$6 million biofuel, carbon capture modeling project

Agricultural economists in the college will generate models of what economies in the Upper Missouri River Basin might look like if raising biofuels and carbon capture technologies were implemented.

They are part of the four-year, \$6 million National Science Foundation project working with Montana State University and the University of South Dakota to determine if changes in commodity production and capturing carbon are sustainable, or even feasible, in the basin.

Researchers across several UW departments and centers are involved. **Ben Rashford**, associate professor and head of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, is leading the UW effort in economic modeling. Others from the department are Associate Professors **John Ritten** and **Roger Coupal**, research scientists **Amy Nagler** and **Anna Clark**, and graduate student **Eilish Hanson**.

Also involved are **Windy Kelley**, Regional Extension Program coordinator for the USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub; Shannon Albeke, ecoinformatics research scientist with the Wyoming Geographic Information Science Center; and associate professor Robert Godby and Dayana Zhappassova, Ph.d. student, in the UW Department of Economics and Finance.

The group includes more than 31 private, state, and federal institutions and more than 50 people. Project organization began last year. The project’s website is <http://waferx.montana.edu/index.html>.

Each university is receiving \$2 million. UW’s role is developing the economic models.



From left, UW Extension Associate Director Kelly Crane, UW Extension specialist Scott Schell, Professor Alexandre Latchininsky, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Frank Galey, and Associate Dean and Director of UW Extension Glen Whipple.

Grasshopper management team nets UW Extension Creative Excellence Award

Team members who develop innovative grasshopper control methods for public use have received the University of Wyoming Extension Creative Excellence Award.

Members of the UW Extension Entomology Grasshopper Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team, Alexandre Latchininsky, Scott Schell, John Connett, Douglas Smith, Cindy Legg, and Lee Noel, have applied entomological research to forecasting and control.

UW entomologists began to explore efficient, economical, and less hazardous methods for grasshopper control in the 1990s under the leadership of Professor Jeff Lockwood. Now their integrated pest management methods have been adopted in 17 Western states and in countries from Mexico and Argentina

to Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, and Australia, notes UW Extension Associate Director Kelly Crane, who presented the award in Laramie in December.

The team issued an early warning in 2010 for a significant grasshopper outbreak in Wyoming. They established a communication strategy and delivered training and information to more than 900 landowners and various public agencies through workshops and public meetings.

State-level grasshopper response in Wyoming was the largest in the U.S. According to USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-Plant Protection and Quarantine program, methods developed by the team resulted in protection of nearly six million acres. Savings

to Wyoming were estimated to be \$11.6 million.

In a letter of recommendation, Professor Furkat Gapparov of the Uzbek Institute of Plant Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources stated, “In order to protect rangeland and crops from severe losses to locusts and grasshoppers, most countries are using tons of toxic pesticides applied to millions of hectares. This is costly, often inefficient, and has enormous negative impact on human health and the environment.

“For two decades, Dr. Latchininsky’s team has provided worldwide leadership developing creative, efficient, economically viable, and environmentally acceptable strategies for locust and grasshopper management,” he says.



From left, Bret Hess, associate dean of research in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station director; Enette Larson-Meyer, professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; and Dean Frank Galey



Frank Galey, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Wei Guo, assistant professor in the Department of Molecular Biology; and Bret Hess, associate dean of research and Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station director

Larson-Meyer, Guo earn Agricultural Experiment Station research awards

A University of Wyoming professor advancing understanding of nutrition's role in the performance of casual exercisers to elite athletes and an assistant professor seeking to improve meat quality by investigating prenatal influences in livestock have received research awards from the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station (WAES).

"I am always impressed by the quality of nominations we receive for these awards. I also find it interesting that this year's winners utilize livestock species to study human health, and in both cases, their research has implications for both livestock and humans," says Bret Hess, associate dean of research in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and WAES director. He and Dean Frank Galey presented the awards in December in Laramie.

Enette Larson-Meyer of the Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences earned the Outstanding Research Award for her investigations on how diet and exercise influence skeletal muscle metabolism, energy balance, and the prevention of obesity. Her research has explored how nutrition influences the

health and performance of active individuals at all stages of life and levels of performance.

She has also explored the influence of vitamin D on health and human performance and exposing animals to sunlight as a way to increase the nutritional value of pork and other animal foods.

Larson-Meyer served on the 2011 International Olympic Committee Sports Nutrition Consensus Panel and is active in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the American College of Sports Medicine. She is author of the book "Vegetarian Sports Nutrition: Food Choices and Eating Plans for Fitness and Performance." She joined the University of Wyoming in 2005.

Wei Guo in the Department of Animal Science received the Early Career Research Award. A major research focus of the Guo laboratory is fetal programming or how physiological characteristics of the developing fetus can be influenced by environmental events with lasting effects. Guo is studying the life course impact of fetal programming on striated (skeletal) muscle development and function.

continues page 17

PROGRAM RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING STAFF, FACULTY

College staff and faculty members received recognition during the dean's Employee Recognition Program in December.

The Agricultural Experiment Station also presented its outstanding faculty and student research article awards for *Reflections* magazine (see page 18).

Dean Frank Galey presented **Kelly Greenwald**, an administrative assistant at the James C. Hageman Sustainable Agriculture and Research

Extension Center near Lingle, and **Marissa Gannon**, an accounting associate in the Department of Molecular Biology, with his outstanding employee awards.

Students recognized outstanding teachers and advisers in the college. Senior lecturer **Rachel Watson** in the Department of Molecular Biology received the Lawrence Meeboer Agricultural Classroom Teaching Award. Assistant Professor **Chian Jones Ritten** in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics was

presented the Outstanding Adviser Award.

Associate Professor **Anowar Islam** in the Department of Plant Sciences and **Mary Martin**, University of Wyoming Extension educator based in Teton County and serving northwest Wyoming, received Outstanding Educator Awards. Nominations are reviewed by a committee of a dean's office representative, an academic department head, and a previous award recipient, with final recommendations to the dean.



Dean Frank Galey and Kelly Greenwald, outstanding employee award



Marissa Gannon, outstanding employee award



Anowar Islam, outstanding educator award



Mary Martin, outstanding educator award



From left, Rachel Watson, Lawrence Meeboer Agricultural Classroom Teaching Award, Rob Ziegler, pre-vet student and representing students, and Chian Jones Ritten, outstanding adviser award

UW Extension Honors Excellence

University of Wyoming Extension educators received awards during the organization's annual training conference in December on the Laramie campus.



Vicki Hayman

Hayman receives UW Extension's highest honor

Vicki Hayman, Weston County nutrition and food safety educator for the northeast area, was awarded

the Jim DeBree Excellence in Extension Award – UW Extension's highest honor.

Whether handing out recipes and food samples at farmers markets, teaching menu planning and how to read a nutrition label, or team teaching food safety practices with the local health inspector, Hayman engages with people to help them improve their lives.

"Vicki includes innovative approaches and multiple teaching styles to expand her audience and increase program impacts," says nominator Denise Smith, nutrition and food safety educator in Niobrara County.

As a member of extension's Healthy Eating Focus team, Hayman teaches food preparation skills, Dining with Diabetes and other Chronic Diseases, and the Real Food program, all with hands-on learning and resources to ensure healthy changes last after classes end.

Publications and curricula co-developed or authored by Hayman include *Cooking It Up!*, *Diabetes-Healthy Recipes Everyone Will Love*, *Cooking It Up! Friendly One-Pot Meals from Your Pressure Cooker*, the Real Food curriculum, Calcium Science Investigation (CSI) curriculum, and the Wyoming 4-H Fabric and Fashion Manual.

Hayman promotes interaction and cooperation among agencies and organizations through a variety of roles, says Smith. These include adviser, coalition member, facilitator, and liaison.

Hayman joined UW Extension in 1997 and is based in Newcastle.



Megan Brittingham

Goshen County 4-H educator honored for inventive programming

Innovative programming and working across generations

are among reasons Goshen County 4-H educator Megan Brittingham received the Newer Employee Award from the University of Wyoming Extension.

She joined UW Extension in 2010. Nominators say Brittingham successfully works with ages teen to senior citizen and includes all members of groups in starting and evaluating programs.

She worked with local businesses and the local school district to start a chick-hatching project in eight Goshen County elementary classrooms. She determined which breeds would be most successful and obtained the necessary equipment. The project extended beyond the school year with students seeing their hatched chickens at the county fair.

She also spearheaded creation of the Wyoming 4-H Theater Camp. Extension educators worked with college theater departments to bring theater and arts education into the Wyoming 4-H Program.

Larson-Meyer, Guo continued from page 15

His long-term goals are to develop therapeutic strategies for striated muscle diseases and improve meat quality and quantity in livestock. His program has attracted more than \$1 million from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the American Heart Association. Guo joined the University of Wyoming in 2013.



Sara Fleenor

Diversity efforts gain Crook, Weston County 4-H educators extension honor

4-H educator Sara Fleenor in Crook and Stacy Buccholz in Weston County were recognized by the University of Wyoming Extension for their diversity education efforts with the Diversity Enhancement Award.

The two worked with teen 4-H leaders to create workshops and menu ideas that incorporated cultural diversity at the Crook-Weston County 4-H Summer Camp.

4-H'ers were able to experience different countries and learn about cultures, global challenges, and participate in hands-on activities while they learned.

Buccholz joined extension in 2008 and Fleenor in 2012.



Stacy Buccholz



Beth Barker

Service to Cent\$ible Nutrition Program earns Coordinator of Year Award

Cent\$ible Nutrition Program (CNP) educator Beth Barker serving Lincoln and Uinta counties received the program's Coordinator of the Year Award.

CNP director Mindy Meuli says Barker is a standout team player. Barker has served on numerous state committees, trained new employees, helped recruit participants for two multi-state research projects, and began covering another county in addition to her home county, Uinta.

She did this while graduating 62 adults and 279 youths in the two counties, notes Meuli.



From left, Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station Director Bret Hess, Associate Professor Randa Jabbour, and Dean Frank Galey

Research paper awards

Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station Director Bret Hess during the dean's recognition program in December presented two awards for outstanding faculty research papers in the station's *Reflections* magazine.

Associate Professor Randa Jabbour received recognition for her paper quantifying alfalfa weevils and their predators in the Big Horn Basin.

Associate Professor Dan Wall received the award for his article detailing myxobacteria social behaviors and how it recognizes and exchanges beneficial material through cellular contact.

Graduate student Lee Noel received the Outstanding Student Paper award for his article examining environmentally safe grasshopper control. His adviser was Professor Alex Latchininsky.



Kristy Michaels

Fresh produce efforts in Big Horn County draws UW Extension recognition

A nutrition educator who helped establish a community garden in Greybull to donate fresh produce in Big Horn County received the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program's (CNP) Linda Melcher Award.

Kristy Michaels received the honor named for Melcher, a past CNP director, who developed the program in Wyoming. The award goes to an educator who embodies the spirit and essence of CNP, notes Mindy Meuli, CNP director.

"With little direction and a lot of motivation and a vision, Kristy played a key role in developing a community garden that donated more than 310 pounds of fresh produce to organizations serving low-income people in Big Horn County," says Meuli.



Marilou Vaughn



Krista Brown



Michelle Hans



Beth Barker

Youth nutrition education program effort reaps UW Extension honor

Cent\$ible Nutrition Program (CNP) educators who updated and expanded a curriculum implemented in elementary schools across the state received the organization's Community Impact Award.

Grazing with Marty Moose is the program's curriculum for second and third graders. The educators helped incorporate new materials and activities into the curriculum and trained other educators on the program.

Educators and their home counties are Marilou Vaughn, Fremont; Krista Brown and Michelle Hans, Natrona; and Beth Barker, Uinta.

CNP director Mindy Meuli says the curriculum was updated in 2016 and implemented last year.

"Without the hard work and creative ideas of this group, this new Marty Moose program would not have been possible," she says.



Kelly Pingree

Wind River efforts prompt Educator of the Year award

Cent\$ible Nutrition Program educator Kelly Pingree received the program's Educator of the

Year award.

Pingree serves the Wind River Indian Reservation.

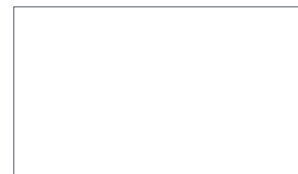
CNP director Mindy Meuli notes Pingree's program had 79 graduates and a 44-percent increase in participant physical activity last year. The CNP curriculum has 17 hands-on lessons.

Meuli says Pingree serves on the Shoshone Cultural Foods project committee, is planning a gardening project in partnership with the Eastern Shoshone 477 Program, and has helped with a number of policy, system, and environmental changes at the Warm Valley Senior Center.



College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Department 3354
1000 E. University Ave.
Laramie, WY 82071



AG NEWS

Editors: Steve Miller, Chavawn Kelley • Designer: Tanya Engel
The University of Wyoming is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution

Please accept my/our gift to the University of Wyoming in the amount of:

☐ \$125 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ Other _____

This gift is designated for:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ College of Agriculture & Natural Resources | ☐ Student Professional Development & Travel |
| ☐ AES ☐ LREC (Laramie) ☐ PREC (Powell) | ☐ Student Scholarships |
| ☐ SAREC (Lingle) ☐ ShREC (Sheridan) | ☐ Rodeo Annual Fund |
| ☐ College of Ag Dean's Fund | ☐ Dept. of _____ (support) |
| ☐ International Study Opportunities | |
| ☐ Other (please specify) | |

Online: Make a payment online using our secure service: www.uwyo.edu/giveonline

Phone: Call the University of Wyoming Foundation during normal business hours:
(307) 766-6300 or (888) 831-7795.

Mail: Send a payment by mail to UW Foundation.

- ☐ Please send me information about planned giving (wills, trusts, etc.).
☐ Yes, UW is named in my will.
☐ My company matches my gifts. I have included a form from my company.

My preferred email address: _____

My preferred phone number: _____



1200 East Iverson Street
Laramie, Wyoming 82070
(307) 766-6300 • (888) 831-7795

N11GA

Thank you!

*Your gift is tax deductible
as provided by law.*

Issued in furtherance of extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Glen Whipple, director, University of Wyoming Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

Persons seeking admission, employment, or access to programs of the University of Wyoming shall be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, political belief, veteran status, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact their local UW Extension office. To file a complaint, write to the UW Employment Practices/Affirmative Action Office, University of Wyoming, Department 3434, 1000 E. University Avenue, Laramie, WY 82071.