



# Friends of Animal Sciences Bulletin

November/December 2006 - Volume I, Issue II

## From the President's Desk

### Hello Alumni and Friends!

Your Board has certainly been busy in the last month or so. On page 4 is an update of the progress of our committees. In addition, we have added the following committees:  
 Campaign Committee  
 Annual Meeting Committee  
 Historical Committee

If you would like to join one of these groups, please let me know ([heidithomsen@aol.com](mailto:heidithomsen@aol.com)).

We have also developed a brochure to assist in promoting the Friends of Animal Sciences group and increasing memberships. Color copies will be made to be distributed at functions such as the annual awards banquet, Dr. Martin's retirement party, etc.

A copy of this brochure is attached to the distribution of this bulletin.

The group has also developed a mission statement, goals, tasks

and targets for the upcoming year (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008). A copy of this document is also attached.

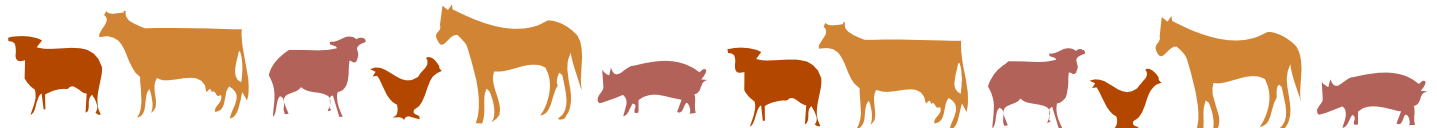
In addition, our group has a new logo as shown at the top of this page.

A number of activities will be occurring in April. More information on these functions is provided on page 2 and further details will be provided in a subsequent bulletin.

Dates to Remember		
Event	Date	Location
Board of Directors Meeting	April 13, 2007 2:00-3:00 PM	Alumni Center – Regency Room
Annual General Membership Meeting	April 13, 2007 3:00-4:00 PM	Alumni Center – Regency Room
Social Time	-----	To be announced in the January/February bulletin.
Department Awards Presentation	-----	To be announced in the January/February bulletin.
E.L. Martin Recognition	-----	To be announced in the January/February bulletin.
BBQ and Student Awards	-----	To be announced in the January/February bulletin.
E.L. Martin Retirement Party	April 14, 2007 5:30-9:00 PM	Clarkston Golf and Country Club

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# Friends of Animal Sciences Bulletin

## April Meetings and Celebrations

On April 13<sup>th</sup> the Board will conduct its first annual Board meeting. During this meeting, the Board intends to have a signing party during which the by-laws will be officially signed into affect.

Directly following the Board meeting will be the general membership meeting.

Following the general membership meeting will be the Departmental

Awards presentation, recognition of Dr. Martin's retirement and the annual BBQ and student awards.

On April 14<sup>th</sup> a retirement party for Dr. Martin is being planned at the Clarkston Golf and Country Club beginning at 5:30 PM. Funds for a scholarship in Dr. Martin's name are being solicited. To donate, please use the form on the last page of the bulletin and indicate ELM Scholarship on the form.

More details on the above events will be provided in the coming months.

Please note that the weekend of April 13<sup>th</sup> is Mom's Weekend so you will need to make your travel arrangements early. Dr. Dodson has sent out a list of lodging facilities that you may find helpful.

## Research Matters

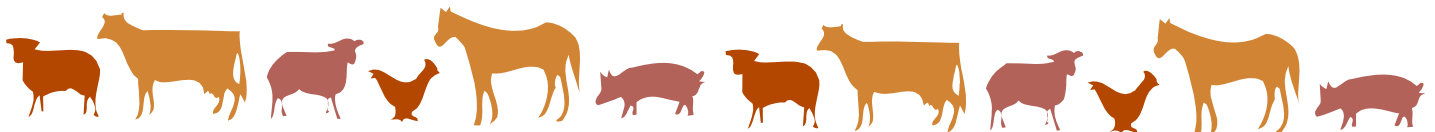
### Animal Science Research Matters (Dr. Dodson Laboratory)

On several occasions, we have described the ability of lipid-containing adipocytes, obtained from the subcutaneous fat depot in beef cattle, to proliferate in vitro. While it is quite possible that this is strictly an in vitro observation, we have termed this physiological transition, adipocyte dedifferentiation. We, and others are presently evaluating the plasticity of progeny cells to reform lipid-containing adipocytes or other cell types. Presently, we are focusing our research on cells derived from only one fat depot, but we would like to extrapolate our work to other adipose depots. Further, we are presently seeing the dedifferentiation in the in vitro environment, only, and the elucidation of similar cell reversions occurring in vivo must wait until we have generated cellular assessment tools (markers) that might be employed in either in vivo or, possibly, in an

in situ system. Our observations to date lead us to several possible explanations regarding possibilities for mature adipocyte dedifferentiation. First, mature fat cells may not necessarily be fully differentiated cells and may actually be preadipocytes, adipofibroblasts, or fibroblasts that possess the ability to assimilate large quantities of lipid while remaining non-differentiated. Previous research has demonstrated that normal preadipocyte differentiation into lipid-laden mature adipocytes can be depot dependent. Why, then is it not possible for some of these cells to contain lipid, but not be fully differentiated? A second possibility is that these cells are more \*stem cell-like\* and are not only able to proliferate but might be more \*plastic\* and have the ability to form other cells types (myocytes, chondrocytes, osteocytes). Lastly, the possibility exists that we have identified a cell type residing in adipose tissue that may be an entirely new cell of the mesodermal lineage. We are

devising single cell genomics/proteomics approaches to help us to learn more about the dedifferentiation process. Regardless of the determination of the final cell type, we believe that knowledge of the regulation of the dedifferentiation event, in vitro, will add to our understanding of adipose tissue biology. We think that this may prove to be an emerging area of cell physiology and may amend present thinking about tissue renewal capabilities. We consider this research relevant for a number of animal production regimens, and for human medical diseases including obesity, diabetes, lipodystrophy, and hypertension. Research funding for this new project will be solicited for this project at the National Institutes of Health and at the USDA.

Due to shortage of space, the list of recent publications to support this concept were not published but are available upon request from Dr. Dodson ([dodson@wsu.edu](mailto:dodson@wsu.edu)).



# Friends of Animal Sciences Officers



**President: Heidi Thomsen**

Class of 1992 BS. I was born and raised in Olympia, Washington on a hog farm. I still live on the farm where my brother raises cattle and hogs, however my career has taken a different path from my

education, as I am a Senior Budget Analyst with the state of Washington. I am actively involved in the Thurston County Fair where I serve on the Thurston County Fair Board of Directors. In addition, I

also serve as vice president on the Thurston County Fair Foundation Board, which I assisted in establishing in 2004.



**Vice President: Marvin Hoekema**

Class of 1996 BS. I own a consulting business (Dairy Decisions Consulting, LLC) that is based in Visalia, CA with a nationwide presence. I was active in Dairy Club and CUDS and

currently using the knowledge gained at WSU in my consulting practice after some grad work at the Univ. of Florida. My interests are business development, coaching, and financial

improvement. I stay busy traveling and always enjoy meeting and working with new people and personalities.



**Secretary: Barb Zawlocki**

Class of 2002. I reside in Poulsbo, WA, which is a ferry ride away from Seattle. I grew up in this area and was very active in 4-H. I am married (Matt) and have three

children, two girls, Kristina 15 and Madeleine 10, and an energetic little boy, Trey, who is four-years-old. I am currently pursuing my MS in Secondary Education with

an emphasis in Biology through Old Dominion University (graduate in 2007). It is my hope to expand the local high school's FFA program, which currently focuses on aquaculture.

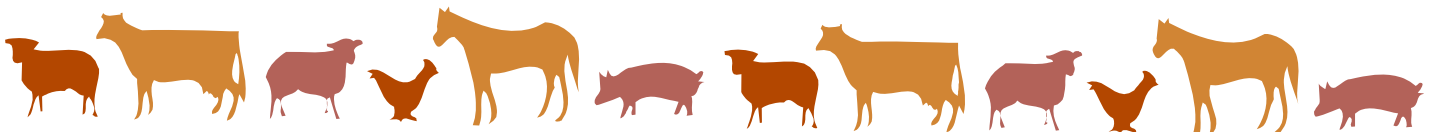


**Treasurer: Jennifer Homan**

Class of 2001 BS. I got a second BS from WSU in Neuroscience before returning to the Seattle area to gain employment in the Biotech

Industry as an Animal Technician. While I was at WSU I helped reinstate the Pre-Med Club; first as Treasurer and then as Vice-

President. I am honored to help get this alumni organization up and running.



# Friends of Animal Sciences Bulletin

## Committee Reports

### **Mission/Goals/Tasks Committee:**

The Mission/Goals/Tasks Committee consists of Rich Meyer, Brian Treasure, Mike Hackett, Dr. Mike Dodson and Heidi Thomsen.

In early October the committee drafted up the Friends of Animal

Sciences' mission statement, goals, tasks and targets for the upcoming year (July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008).

The draft was sent out to the Board for review on October 13th,

changes were incorporated and adopted by the Board at the end of October. A copy of the mission statement, goals, tasks and targets is attached.

### **Budget Committee:**

The Budget Committee consists of Marvin Hoekema, Jennifer Homan, Joe Niemann and Dr. Mike Dodson. The committee is

diligently working on developing a budget for the upcoming year.

Plans for possibly providing a

general scholarship in 2008 are in the works if the donations and dues from memberships allow.

### **Newsletter Committee:**

The Newsletter Committee consists of Rich Lewis, Dr. Doug McFarland, Darla Marks, Dr. Paul Kuber, Barb Zawlocki and Dr. Mike Dodson. The committee developed an E-mail distribution list for the newsletter and bulletin which greatly simplifies distribution.

The committee is proposing that the Friends of Animal Sciences newsletter be combined with the Department's newsletter in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Included in this distribution will be an envelope to encourage donations. Members of the committee will be meeting with Dr.

Gaskins to discuss the proposal of combining the two newsletters.

A document that details the history of the Friends of Animal Sciences has been written and will be included in the 1st newsletter that will be distributed in March or early April.

## **Status Update on Other Projects:**

### **Website:**

Marv Hoekema has graciously offered to design a website for the Friends of Animal Sciences. He plans to:

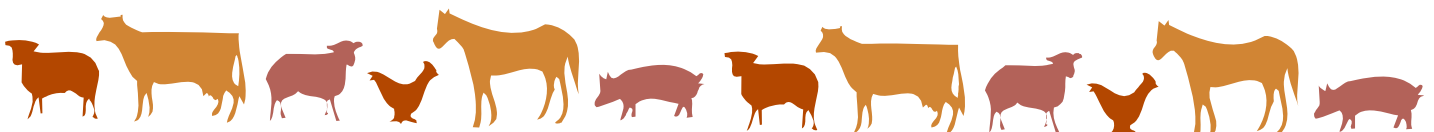
- develop a look/feel that the Board is comfortable using for the website,
- sort out and purchase a domain name the group agrees to, and
- purchase and develop the

scripts for a login-based community that supports user listing and database tracking for users to enroll and participate in the Friends of Animal Sciences' site.

The database is expected to be fully searchable for registered users and also support photo upload.

### **Logo:**

Emily Purbaugh has been diligently working on developing a logo for the Friends of Animal Sciences. At the end of October, the Board chose the logo shown on the 1st page of this bulletin from several that Emily crafted.



# Friends of Animal Sciences Spotlight



**Douglas C. McFarland (Alumnus)**

Doug McFarland is a native of Connecticut, receiving his BA Degree in Biology from Southern Connecticut State University. Following graduation he worked as a laboratory technician in the Department of Physiology at Yale University for one year. He then moved to Pullman, Washington in 1972 to pursue his MS Degree in Chemistry with C. A. \*Bud\* Ryan working with plant protease inhibitors. Following graduation in 1975, Doug moved to Corvallis, Oregon to work with the USDA/ARS in the Botany and Plant Pathology Department at Oregon State University. In the summer of 1976 he returned to Pullman to pursue his doctorate and work as a lab technician for Dr's. Craig Coon and Merton

Pubols in the area of poultry nutrition and metabolism. Several years later Doug also worked in the laboratories of Dr's. John McNamara, Phil Senger, and Mike Dodson. After completing his Ph.D. in Nutrition in 1984, he continued to work in the McNamara and Dodson labs and taught the non-ruminant nutrition class. In 1986, Doug accepted an Assistant Professor research and teaching position in the Department of Animal and Range Sciences at South Dakota State University (SDSU) in Brookings. He was promoted to Professor in 1997. Doug feels very fortunate to have received an excellent and broad-based education at WSU. In particular, the skills he gained in muscle biology and cell culture

techniques from Mike Dodson allowed him to quickly develop a successful research program in poultry skeletal muscle development at SDSU Doug currently teaches graduate courses in Metabolism and Animal Growth and Development. He has also taught graduate courses in Vitamins and Minerals and in Monogastric Nutrition. As part of the departmental management team, Doug oversees the graduate and research programs within the department. Doug and his wife Sandy (Ishimaru) have two sons, Nathan (18) and Ian (16). Doug and Sandy are both active in the Boy Scouts leadership in Brookings. Doug is also active in the Masons and the Shriners and enjoys bagpiping.

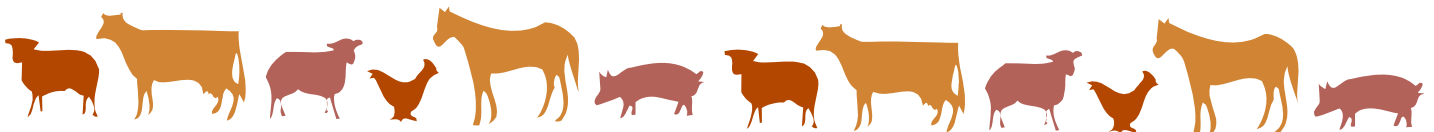


**Jason Mann (Faculty)**

Jason E. Mann recently joined the faculty at Washington State University in the Department of Animal Sciences where he specializes in meat processing and food safety. A native of Illinois, Jason received a BS in Animal Science from the University of Illinois in 1998. He then attended the University of Nebraska, where he worked for Roger Mandigo in the area of meat processing and received an MS in Animal Science in 2001. While pursuing his MS at Nebraska, Jason also had the

opportunity to serve as a food safety extension specialist assisting meat and food processors in Nebraska and South Dakota with food safety and processing related issues. This extension work sparked an interest in food microbiology. Jason relocated to Lubbock, Texas, where he conducted food safety research in the lab of Dr. Mindy Brashears at Texas Tech University. Jason received a Ph.D. in Animal Science, with an emphasis in food microbiology in

May of 2006. Past research includes processed meat quality, pre-harvest food safety, and meat process validation, whereas future research will focus on meat process validation, gene expression of food borne pathogens and the use of novel non-meat ingredients in processed meats. Jason & his wife Karen, a faculty member in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, are happy to be on board and are enjoying the Pacific Northwest and all it has to offer.



# Friends of Animal Sciences Spotlight



**Emily Purbaugh (Current Student)**

Emily Purbaugh was raised with her older brother in Gig Harbor, Washington after being born in Kenna, West Virginia. Working at a veterinarian's office, at Washington State University (WSU), and in a zoo has fueled her passion for a career in veterinary medicine. Emily chose veterinary medicine as a young child and this desire has been nurtured by the knowledge that is presented every day in her classes and experiences. Being drawn to animals since she was very young, Emily learned to race dog sleds in Alaska at age 12. That experience triggered a desire to provide health care for animals. The sight, smell, and atmosphere that were created

by the team of dogs caused a feeling of excitement to work with animals as a career. By age fifteen Emily was volunteering and soon working and job shadowing with different veterinarians in her community. Emily's desire to learn more about animal care has been consistent throughout her professional and student career. Being a student at WSU in the Animal Science department has inspired her enthusiasm for knowledge about the pieces and mechanisms that work in an animal to bring about life. Her nickname in the Animal Science Department is \*Smiley,\* which reflects her intense love of learning and desire for a never-ending stream of

challenging information about animals. Job shadowing with the local zoo and aquarium veterinarian while in high school gave Emily the opportunity to see the sort of demanding and diverse veterinary practice that she might like to have. An alternate career pathway evolved after working with and learning about domestic farm animals at WSU. Her current career goal is to become a zoo veterinarian or work with wild or exotic animals in another setting. While also at WSU, Emily also likes to participate in many other extracurricular activities. She is an active Cougar fan, swim instructor, head lifeguard, and a member of the Triathlon Club.

## Friends of Animal Sciences Odds & Ends

### **Call for Pictures and Alumni Information:**

Alumni are asked to send in a good quality digital picture and a small 200-300 word biography of themselves to [dodson@wsu.edu](mailto:dodson@wsu.edu). Where possible alumni will be included in the Spotlight articles appearing in the bulletin.

In addition, Dr. Dodson and Emily Purbaugh have put together a bulletin board in the Animal

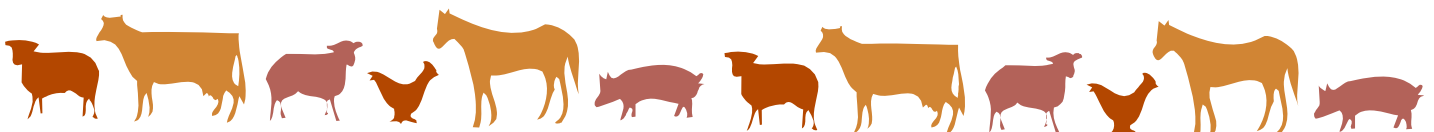
Science Department showing the Board members and other alumni. They would like to add your picture and information to this bulletin board.

Please E-mail a picture of yourself along with the following information to Dr. Dodson:

**Name:**  
**Class of:**  
**Degree specialty:**  
**Occupation:**

If you don't have a digital picture, please go ahead and send the above information and a photograph of yourself to be included on the bulletin board to:

Department of Animal Sciences  
Washington State University  
Attention: Dr. Mike Dodson  
117 Clark Hall  
P.O. Box 646310  
Pullman, WA 99164-6310



# Friends of Animal Sciences Bulletin

## Status Update on Donations and Memberships:

### Donations:

Donations are continuing to come in. As of October 18th, the amount received in donations and memberships is \$3,050.

With the first of the new year approaching, it is time to begin to think about the tax man. If you need to reduce your taxes a bit, please remember that a donation to the Friends of Animal Sciences is deductible.

### Memberships:

The following people have joined the Friends of Animals as members:

#### In State:

Brian Treasure - (BS, 1973). High School Ag Teacher and owner of a garden and feed store, Vancouver.

Dianne Appel \* (BS, 1974). Family farming of wheat, barley, Suffolk and Icelandic sheep. Colfax.

Beverly Benedict - Soap Lake, WA. Nearly 80 years young.

Richard Lewis \* (BS, 1986, MS, 1995). Administrative Manager of

the Sociology Department, WSU. Pullman

Richard Meyer - (BS, 1968). President, Washington Farms Inc. Federal Way.

Ron Nelson - (BS, 1966). Broker/Owner: Nelson Insurance, Tumwater.

#### Out of State:

Doug McFarland - Professor, South Dakota State University

Lee McDowell - Archer, FL. Past recipient of Departmental Award: 2001 Distinguished Graduate: Science, Education, Technology.

Paul Humes - Professor and Administrator/Leader, LSU; Baton Rouge, LA.

Kyle Okumura - MS student in growth biology/animal science, University of Hawaii.

Beckie O'Reilly - (BS, 1996; MS, 1999), Castro Valley, CA.

Dorothy Smith - (BS, 1976). Oak

Ridge, TN.

The following people have joined as **Lifetime members:**

Dr. Mike Dodson - Professor, WSU.

Heidi Thomsen - (BS, 1992). Olympia.

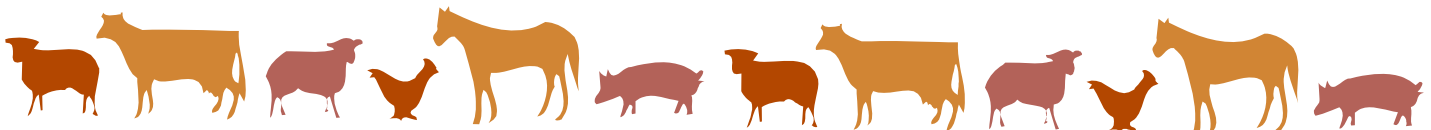
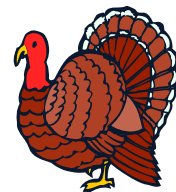
Paul Patterson - (BS, 1979, MS, 1982). Professor, Penn State University.

Steven D. Aust - (BS, 1960). Professor, Utah State University.

**\*Please note that as of July 1, 2007 dues will be required in order for an individual to be a member of the Friends of Animal Sciences alumni association.**

The membership application form is attached. Please note that all annual memberships paid now will be effective through June 30, 2008.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
and  
Happy Holidays!



# Friends of Animal Sciences Washington State University Membership Application Form

## MEMBERSHIP TYPES

### Annual Memberships:

\$25 Individual

Please check one:

Alumni

Affiliated

Student

Associate/Honorary

\$200 Business

### Lifetime Memberships:

\$500 Individual – may be paid over the course of one year.

Please check one:

Alumni

Affiliated

Student

Associate/Honorary

\$2,000 Business

**Donation: \$**

### Membership Categories:

**ALUMNI:** Any person who has received an Animal Science degree from Washington State University.

**AFFILIATED:** Any faculty member of the WSU, Department of Animal Sciences or any faculty member who is in association with the WSU, Department of Animal Sciences.

**STUDENT:** Any student who is currently enrolled in a WSU, Department of Animal Sciences' class.

**ASSOCIATE/HONORARY:** Any person who does not qualify for the previous categories and is in support of WSU, Department of Animal Sciences, either by monetary means or volunteering his/her time, effort or skills, as deemed by the Board of Directors.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
First/Middle or Maiden/Last Name or Name of Business

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

First WSU Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Did not graduate from WSU

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check (Payable to Friends of Animal Sciences)

VISA  Master Card  AMEX  Discover

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION (optional)

Employer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Return your completed application with payment to:

Department of Animal Sciences  
Friends of Animal Sciences Fund  
Washington State University  
117 Clark Hall  
P.O. Box 646310  
Pullman, WA. 99164-6310

