



Aerial view of Horsebarn Hill, spring 2020 (Photo Courtesy of Milton Levin)

UConn Department of Animal Science Spring 2020 Student Newsletter

A Message from the Department Head

Greetings.

It has certainly been a very strange end to the spring semester! Campus has been pretty quiet since spring break. Typically, in this newsletter, I would be focused on all of our year-end celebrations, finals, and graduation. While we have still celebrated all of the accomplishments in the 2019-2020 academic year, we are now focused on the re-opening of school in the fall and what that will look like.

However, some traditions are important to maintain. So please, join me in congratulating our graduating students in the 2-year and 4-year programs as well as those completing their M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Graduation was a little different this year, but there were still University, College and Departmental virtual celebrations.

Thanks to the faculty and staff that helped put the Animal Science 2020 graduation video together!

In addition, congratulations to the Animal Science students named as New England (3.7 GPA for all of 2019) and Homer Babbidge (4.0 GPA for all of 2019) Scholars, and to the sophomores, juniors, and seniors that were named as American Society of Animal Science Scholars (top 10% of each class). Congratulations as well to Dr. Reed for being awarded the 2019-2020 CETL Teaching Innovation Award and to Dr. Tang for being awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

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Message from the Department Head *(continued)*

Congrats to the successes of our equestrian teams. Unfortunately, the regional, zone and national competitions were cancelled this year. Although they did not get to compete at the end-of-the-year shows, the teams all had very successful seasons.

Thanks to our seniors that filled out the senior exit survey, especially the new questions on dealing with online classes and suggestions on moving forward if the quarantine extends into the fall semester. A big thank you to our staff and students at the farms that have taken great care of our animals during these trying times.

Try to enjoy the summer and I hope to see you at the Animal Science Student Welcome in the fall!

Dr. Steven Zinn

Professor and Head

Department of Animal Science



2020 Vet & Graduate School Admits

Congratulations to our seniors who have been accepted to the following veterinary or graduate schools for fall 2020:

- Atlantic Veterinary College
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Kansas State University
- Long Island University
- Midwestern University
- Ross University
- Tufts University
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Glasgow
- University of Illinois
- University of New Hampshire



'18 ANSC alumna Samantha Christian

Attention Animal Science Seniors:

We Want to Hear From You!

Where are you headed to next? Dream job? Grad school? Still figuring it all out?

Please email [Michelle](#) with your news!

Congratulations 2020 Graduates!

The UConn Department of Animal Science would like to congratulate all of our 2020 graduates! You have accomplished so many impressive things during your time here at UConn. You leave a lasting legacy for future generations of Huskies and should be proud of everything you've done. Your resilience during this difficult time is inspiring to us all! Hats off to the class of 2020!

The faculty and staff of the Department of Animal Science would like to congratulate you on your graduation in [a video for our 2020 graduates](#).

We encourage our graduates to keep in touch. Please check your email for a senior survey. Please join our [alumni Facebook page](#), let us know what you are up to and stop by when you are in town!

Congratulations and best of luck in all of your future endeavors!

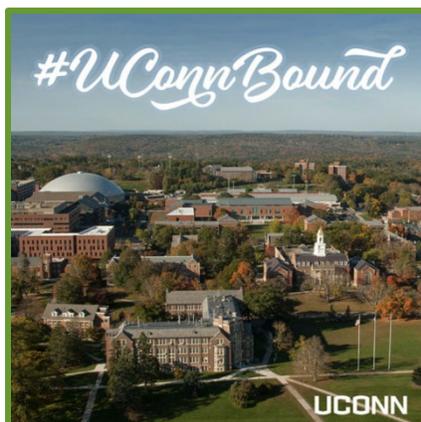


Welcome Class of 2024!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the incoming class of 2024! This admitted class is a talented group of students from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. We know that the college decision making process was slightly more stressful and complicated this year, but we're delighted that you've chosen to attend UConn. We can't wait to meet you in the fall!

Are you interested in learning more about our program? The UConn Department of Animal Science hosted a [virtual open house and barn tour](#) this spring. You can also see our [online student panel Q&A session](#) from spring 2020. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Go Huskies!



Thank You Animal Science Staff and Students!



Despite many uncertainties and changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Animal Science staff and students have been working tirelessly to ensure the highest quality of care for all of the animals on Horsebarn Hill. Spring is very busy with lambing, foaling and calving season in full swing! We appreciate all of the hard work and dedication of our essential staff and students. They continue to keep barn operations running smoothly every day as well as support critical research. Read an [article in Naturally@UConn here](#) to learn more.

(Please note: All animal units are currently closed to the public to keep our staff and students safe. Please visit our [animal barn website page](#) for up to date information regarding reopening.)

Spring Foals

A sure sign of spring is the pitter patter of little hooves on Horsebarn Hill! Please join us in welcoming the new members of the UConn equine family!

- ❖ A filly nicknamed “Rona” by UVM Abington out of UC Jubilee (Morgan) - See a video [here](#).
- ❖ A filly nicknamed “Maura” by UC Domination out of UC Serenity (Morgan)
- ❖ A colt nicknamed “Doom” by Statesman’s Courage out of UC Holiday Rose (Morgan)
- ❖ A colt nicknamed “Lenny” by Jaleet out of Angelina (KWPN/Dutch Harness Horse)
- ❖ A colt nicknamed “Darwin” by DGS Replicated out of Aly’s Gold (Appendix)

The foals will be officially named and registered in early fall. Barns are currently closed to the public. Stay tuned!

Want to see more of the UConn horses? Follow “UConn Equine” on Facebook and Instagram!



Jubilee and “Rona”



“Maura”



“Darwin”



Angelina and “Lenny”



“Doom” and Rose

President Katsouleas Visits CAHNR



Dr. Sarah Reed (L), Dr. Steven Zinn (C), and President Tom Katsouleas (R) at the KDC. President Katsouleas holding a cow tie gifted from Dr. Zinn during his visit.

At the end of February, UConn President Katsouleas visited the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources to learn more about our diverse programs. During his visit, he spoke to faculty and staff members from across the college, took a tour of facilities including the robotic milking unit at the Kellogg Dairy Center and received a half-gallon of his favorite UConn ice cream, Lemon Icebox Pie. See more scenes from the visit in a [photo gallery on Naturally@UConn](#).

UConn Facilities Helps UConn Creamery

The creamery was featured in an article in UConn Today in late February. In the article, UConn Creamery manager Bill Sciturro recounts how the Facilities Operations quickly responded to a request to fix a freezer in the creamery and saved 150 gallons of ice cream mix that month. Without their timely assistance, there might have been a serious shortage of vanilla ice cream for the Dairy Bar! Read the full [article in UConn Today](#).

Traditionally, one of the ways that the Department of Animal Science expresses our gratitude for the assistance that UConn Facilities Operations provides us throughout the year is with an ice cream social in the spring. We hope to make up for that event being canceled with a sweet treat for facilities employees as soon as we can!



UConn Creamery Manager Bill Sciturro

Students Receive ASAS Awards



Congratulations to the 40 students who were selected for 2020 American Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Awards. These awards are presented to sophomores, juniors, and seniors who rank in the top 10% of their class and intend to pursue a career in animal science. Traditionally, awards are presented at a ceremony during the last week of classes with ice cream to celebrate. This year looked a little different, but we are just as proud of the hard work these students put into their academics! Congratulations all!

[Learn more about the ASAS undergraduate awards here.](#)

Club and Team Updates

While many clubs and teams had events and seasons canceled and cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic, there are a number of successes we can report for the spring!

UConn Block and Bridle Club attended the North East Student Affiliate (NESA) competition at the end of February at the University of New Hampshire. Congratulations to all of our students who participated! The UConn Block & Bridle club also held their bi-annual ham sale in March. Stay tuned for information on the fall ham sale!

The UConn Western Team had great success this spring! While the team was not able to finish the show season, they hosted the Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (IHSA) regional show here at UConn this spring and two of their riders qualified for the semi-finals. Read more in an [article featured in the Daily Campus](#). Visit the [Western Team Facebook page](#) for more news. Great job!

The UConn Equestrian Team attended the IHSA tournament of Champions in January. This invitational event was held at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia. In addition, the team finished as Reserve High Point Team for their region and had 17 riders qualify for regionals as well as a rider who qualified for the Zones competition as the Zone 1, Region 5 Cacchione Cup rider. Learn more about their season and their senior spotlights on the [UConn Equestrian Team Facebook page](#). Congratulations riders!

The UConn Polo Team had a great pre-season that was cut short before regionals. We expect this team to come back fierce this fall! Follow the [UConn Polo Facebook page](#) for updates!

The UConn Dressage Team also had a very successful pre-season with several riders who qualified to ride at Nationals. [Follow them on Instagram for future](#) news!

Congratulations to all on a great (albeit short) season!



Block & Bridle Club at the 2020 NESA meeting



UConn Western Team fall 2019



UConn Equestrian Team seniors spring 2020



UConn Polo Team spring 2020



UConn Dressage Seniors spring 2020

Outstanding Undergraduates



Kathleen Atkinson

ANSC student **Kathleen Atkinson** was selected to receive the 2020 Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Nutmeg Section undergraduate scholarship. Learn more about the [Nutmeg Section of IFT](#). Congratulations Kathleen!



Meagan Goodridge

ANSC undergraduates, **Meagan Goodridge** and **Annushka Sewrathan** were selected to receive UConn IDEA Grants for the 2020-2021 academic year. These grants provides students with the opportunity to work on self-designed, innovative research projects. Learn more about their grant projects for the coming year on the [Naturally@UConn blog](#).

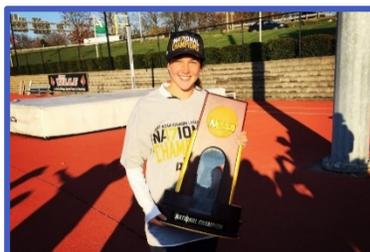
Two of our undergraduates, graduating senior **Lauren Soranno** and rising senior **Victoria Albright**, were featured on the [Naturally@UConn](#) blog and on UConn Today this semester.

As a student at UConn, Lauren worked on a research project with Dr. Sarah Reed. She also enjoyed being a mentor for the Animal Science First Year Experience course and all of the hands on experiences she had during her time here at UConn. Lauren graduated this May and will be attending veterinary school at Colorado State University this fall. [Read Lauren's article in UConn Today](#).

Victoria is a member of the UConn Field Hockey Team and has participated in a number of additional activities including the CAHNR spring semester study abroad program in Cuba. She plans to attend graduate school after graduation. Read [Victoria's article on Naturally@UConn](#).



Lauren Soranno



Victoria Albright



Annushka Sewrathan

Graduate Student Travel Awards



Brandon Smith

ANSC Ph.D. student **Brandon Smith** (Dr. Kristen Govoni) was selected to receive the Allen Tucker Travel Scholarship from the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS). Read more about Brandon and this award on the [ASAS website](#). Congratulations Brandon!



Lang Sun

ANSC Ph.D. student **Lang Sun** (Dr. Dennis D'Amico) was awarded two travel awards during spring 2020. She received a 2020 UConn RNA Salon Travel Award and a spring 2020 UConn Doctoral Student Travel Fellowship. Learn more about the [UConn Doctoral Student Travel Fellowship here](#). Congratulations Lang!

Faculty News



Dr. Abhinav Upadhyay

Dr. Abhi Upadhyay received a \$148,874 grant from NorthEast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NE-SARE) that will investigate the potential of novel ultra-fine bubble technology in enhancing the safety of eggs and fresh produce. The three year project will also conduct training, on-field demonstrations and outreach to educate the farmers on the use of the novel technology. Congratulations to Dr. Upadhyay!



Dr. Sarah Reed

Dr. Dennis D'Amico was featured in an article on UConn Today entitled "Giving Good Bacteria an Edge in Making Cheese." [Read the article here.](#) Dr. D'Amico was also selected to receive the New York Farmers Medal. Great work Dr. D'Amico!



Dr. Dennis D'Amico

A big congratulations goes out to **Dr. Young Tang** on his tenure and promotion to Associate Professor!

Dr. Sarah Reed was selected for the 2020 UConn Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Teaching Innovation Award. Read more in an [article on Naturally@UConn.](#) Congratulations Dr. Reed!



Dr. Jenifer Nadeau

Dr. Jenifer Nadeau was selected for an award through the UConn Scholarship Facilitation Fund Program for a study entitled "Investigating the Effect of Strongyle Load on Hematology in Horses". [Learn more about this program here.](#) Great job Dr. Nadeau!



Dr. Young Tang

Dr. Cameron Faustman developed and taught a new class this spring entitled "Science and Policy Considerations for Meat as Food." Read more in an [article on Naturally@UConn.](#)



Dr. Cameron Faustman

Alumni News

ANSC alumna **Victoria Tritch** has accepted a position as the new Assistant Animal Control Officer for Montville, CT.

Congratulations Victoria!



Victoria Tritch

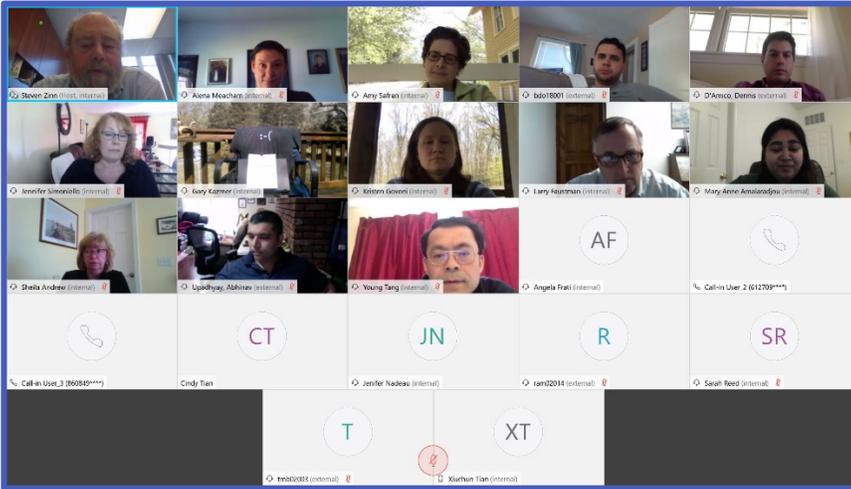
Calling All Alumni!

Are you an Animal Science alumni? We would like to hear from you! Please send your news to [Michelle](#). We would love to feature you in the next edition of the newsletter!

Scenes from Spring 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic may have altered our view this spring, but it won't break the spirit of Animal Science!

The College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources has put together a [website with resources for the COVID-19 pandemic](#). In addition UConn Extension has provided a wide variety of resources on their website including a [video on how to maintain hygiene around animals](#).



A new kind of faculty meeting!



UC Holiday Rose and her colt watching commencement



Staff member Michelle Lewis' dogs Bristol and Mack helping out in her home office



The Kellogg Dairy Center and Poultry Units after a May storm – Photo Courtesy of Milton Levin

Have a Safe and Happy Summer! 

Compliance Corner

REMINDER:

Faculty, Staff, Graduate and Undergraduate Students:

If you will be working with animals this summer it is more than likely you will require Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) training.

It is required for personnel listed on protocols, Independent Study students, riding teams, and student barn employees.

Initial IACUC training (#1 below) is required to be received in person.

Retraining is required annually for most and every 3 years for PI's.

There are multiple options available for annual retraining:

1. Complete the online IACUC training course on CITI on their website: www.citiprogram.org. [Instructions for online CITI training can be found here.](#)
2. Complete the Biological Safety Considerations in Farm Animal Research and Production course on Husky CT available through the link below:
<http://web2.uconn.edu/ehs/training/schedule/BioTrainingSchedule.php#162>

If you are interested in working at the barn units or in an Animal Science lab, be sure to check out the [Compliance Corner](#) page.



Still scratching your head?

Contact Sharon!

Sharon.Aborn@UConn.edu

UConn Department of Animal Science Spring 2020 Student Newsletter

Give a Gift...

ANSC Students and Faculty Welcome Your Support!

Many donors choose to honor a loved one or friend with a gift to support UConn in their name. Perhaps the gift is in memory of someone who loved UConn's animals, from an alumnus who attended the Department of Animal Science, or in honor of an inspirational professor.

If you would like to donate to the Department of Animal Science, you can do so one of three ways:

1. Donate online by clicking [here](#) and click the black "Donate" button on the right. Under "Additional Instructions About My Donation," indicate desired fund from list below.
2. Donate by mail using the form [here](#). Under the "Designation of Your Gift" section, check "Other" and indicate desired fund from list below.
3. Donate via phone by calling (800) 269-9965 or (860) 486-5000.

Please be sure to indicate which fund you would like to donate to:

- Animal Science Department Fund
- UConn Morgan Horse Breeding Program Fund
- Randy Knight Memorial Fund
- Samantha Calzone Memorial Scholarship

For more information, contact Jennifer Simoniello by email at Jennifer.Simoniello@UConn.edu, via phone at (860) 486-1088 or by mail: University of Connecticut, Department of Animal Science, Attn: Jennifer Simoniello, 17 Manter Road, Unit 4040, Storrs, CT 06269-4040.

The Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation dedicated to UConn. Donors to the Foundation have the right to request in writing that their identity be anonymous.



*President Katsouleas and Dr. Zinn
surveying Horsebarn Hill*



*"Officer" Tildy visits the Behavior and Training
of Domestic Animals class spring 2020*