



## College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Newsletter

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ 5/1 Last Class Day
- ◆ 5/2-8 16-Week Final Exams
- ◆ 5/3 Commencement Ticket Pick-Up Ends
- ◆ 5/4 MS Trail Ride @ Hunewell
- ◆ 5/6-7 Extra Graduation Ticket Distribution
- ◆ 5/9 National CDE Contest
- ◆ 5/11 COAES Commencement
- ◆ 5/27 Memorial Day, University Closed
- ◆ 10/19 Annual Alumni Homecoming Breakfast
- ◆ 10/19 Grand Opening—Animal & Plant Sciences Center

The end of the regular school year is here. It has been a busy and eventful year and we are excited at all the progress we have made. In this edition of our newsletter, you can find our COAES Honors recognition for faculty, staff and student winners. Clubs and teams have been active as usual and several have updates to share. There is a great update on our Bobwhite research and news of a tree dedication in honor of Mr. Carl Chumney.

We are pleased to announce that President Dominick Dottavio and his cabinet approved \$3 million in new funding to accomplish significant repairs and updates at the Agriculture Center. Planning has already started to bring about the transformational changes this funding will allow. We will continue to update you as the several projects get underway and are finished. We are very excited at the positive effects this will bring to our teaching, research, and outreach at the Center. Along with our new construction projects, this will transform the Agriculture Center into one of the best in the nation.

Spring is the time of major college events in addition to the regular activities. A great deal of coordination and team work is needed to bring it all to a successful completion. We have a strong team in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. They did a fantastic job of managing the many events and activities while delivering the high quality education we are known for. Thank you!!

#### **Updates on our building projects:**

**Animal and Plant Center:** Rain has hindered some aspects of building at the Animal and Plant Sciences Center. Luckily, crews could be shifted to other parts of the project and we are still on time for a mid-June substantial completion of the complex. We should be moving into the fully finished building by July 15, plenty of time to be ready for fall semester. Just this morning, we had a dozen concrete trucks lined up to pour concrete for the parking lot. Progress!!!

**Farm Equipment Shop.** The last touches and additions are being completed!

WSD



DEAN'S CORNER

Please submit articles, pictures and ideas to [jcamp@tarleton.edu](mailto:jcamp@tarleton.edu)



# Honor's Celebration—Alumni & Friends



**Mike Moncrief**  
Lifetime Achievement Award

On April 27th, the College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences hosted its annual recognition event to celebrate outstanding alumni, friends, faculty, staff & students of the college.

[Learn more about this event](#)



**Gary Moore**  
Dean's Award



**Clay Ewell**  
Service Award



**Eduardo Gonzalez**  
Service Award



**Calvin Hudson**  
Service Award



**Jeff True**  
ASVT Alumni Achievement Award



**Donald Beard**  
Trailblazer Award



**Jeff Goodwin**  
WSES Alumni Achievement Award



**Agricultural Education Alumni Association**  
Outstanding Philanthropist Award



**Shelby Armstrong**  
Rising Star Award



**Meats Team Alumni Association**  
Outstanding Philanthropist Award



# Honor's Celebration—Faculty, Staff & Students



David Frazier\*

Faculty Excellence in Student Success Award



T. Wayne Schwerter\*

Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award



W. Brandon Smith

Outstanding Junior Faculty Award



Curtis Langley

Engaged Faculty Award



Lea Ann Kinman

Barry B. Thompson Service Award



Donald McGahan\*

O.A. Grant Excellence in Teaching Award



Desa Rowe  
Horizon Award



Kim Hart\*  
Impact Award



Susan Keith  
Enhancing the Student Experience



Cheyenne Holt  
WSES Outstanding Undergraduate



Morgan Knight and Ondrea Edwards  
AGCS Outstanding Undergraduates



Skylar Elmore  
ASVT Outstanding Undergraduate



Callie Zoeller and Seth Hamby  
WSES Outstanding Graduates



Bailey Vickers, Amanda Rohan & Braelyn Moltz  
AGCS Outstanding Graduates



Russell Carrell  
ASVT Outstanding Graduate

\* Denotes University level award recipient



# University Faculty & Staff Awards

On April 22nd, Tarleton hosted the annual University Faculty & Staff Awards Banquet. Out of the eleven faculty and staff members honored, four of them were faculty and staff members of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Congratulations to all recipients! [Press Release](#)



Tarleton President F. Dominic Dottavio, Dr. Sharon Tiffany Bowers (COE), **Dr. David Frazier (COAES)**, Dr. Dustin Edwards (COST), Dr. Syed Hussain Jafri (COBA), **Dr. T. Wayne Schwertner (COAES)**, **Dr. Donald McGahan (COAES)**, Dr. Christopher Higgins (COST) and Dr. Karen Murray, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

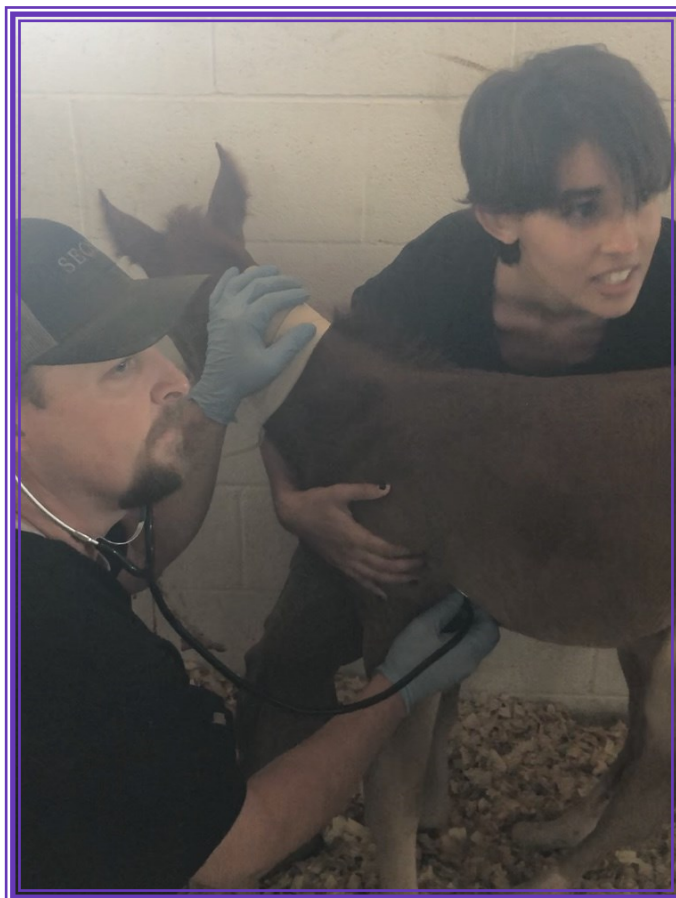


The university's staff awards were also presented to (bottom image, 1-r) Mark Eakin (Rodeo Activities), **Kim Hart** (Agricultural Center), Lacie Harris (Grant administrator for the Associate Dean of Research) and Ashlee Rather (Academic Advising).



# Hands-On Curriculum

The first TSU foal “BabyRuth” was born April 17<sup>th</sup>, Wed morning at 1:45am as part of the Foaling Management class! Students watch and foal out the mares, give an initial evaluation of the foal and mare post foaling, then assist the vet (Dr. Dustin Dorris) with a follow-up evaluation while administering IV Plasma to the foal the next day.



Learn more about Animal Science & Veterinary  
Technology Equine Special Topics Courses





## Tarleton Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society hosted Chronic Wasting Disease Workshop

By Sara Beth Bogan, undergraduate Wildlife, Sustainability, and Ecosystem Sciences

One of the main goals of the Tarleton Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society is to offer students valuable experience in their field of interest. This past March we teamed up with Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) to educate and certify our members on Chronic Wasting Disease. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a neurologic disease that effects hoof stock such as White-tailed deer. Members attended a two-hour training that included a lecture and wet lab lead by Dr. Pete Fincher and Mrs. Laura Leal, TAHC. After attending, members became certified in postmortem sample collection; a valuable skill for students pursuing careers in the wildlife and wildlife veterinary field.



Tarleton WSES students learn about Chronic Wasting Disease and how to perform necropsies.



## Tarleton Entomological Society



Students from the Tarleton Entomological Society attended the Entomological Society of America's Southwestern Branch Annual Meeting (co-joined and sponsored by the Society of Southwestern Entomologists) held in Tulsa, Oklahoma and competed in the annual Linnaean Games, a trivia contest in the field of entomology between undergraduate and graduate teams from academic institutions. This was Tarleton State University's second participation in the contest after a long hiatus, and competed favorably against Texas A&M's graduate team. Undergraduate students Camille Carrey, John Garcia, and Haley Vincze presented posters at the conference, and undergraduate student Hannah Walker gave an oral presentation.

## Tarleton Dairy Judging Team

The Tarleton Dairy Judging Team competed in the Southern Spring National Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest in Stillwater, Oklahoma on April 11, 2019 and not only won the contest but all five individuals competing placed in the top 10 individually.

Results as follows:

- 1st Place Team Overall
- Kendall Johnson - 1st Place Individual
- Autumn Lippy - 2nd Place Individual
- Calvin Morgan - 3rd Place Individual
- Breanna Bowen - Tied for 6th Place Individual
- Taylor Pursley - 10th Place Individual

The team will travel to Richmond, Utah to compete in the Western Invitational Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest on May 15, 2019. Thank you to all our generous sponsors and supporters cheering us on!





## Student Leadership Council

On April 9th, the COAES Leadership Council hosted Representative Charlie Stenholm at their meeting. He shared his career experiences related to agriculture, education, and politics, and imparted many leadership lessons along the way. The Leadership Council consists of representatives from each team and organization in the college and is advised by Dr. Waddell. Please contact her for more information on membership for your group.



## Alpha Zeta—Texas Gamma Chapter

On April 6, the Alpha Zeta—Texas Gamma chapter at Tarleton State University inducted 27 new members to their 2019 class. Alpha Zeta is a national agriculture honor society that requires students to be in the top 40% of their ag-related program by GPA and have upstanding character. The outgoing officers were also honored (Lacy Wood—Chancellor, Kaitan Price—Censor, Heather Bucy—Scribe, and Kira Klank—Treasurer/Chronicler). The new 2019-20 officers were initiated (Mollie Herrmann—Chancellor, Taylor Frey—Censor, Erin Frey—Scribe, Grace Franke—Treasurer, and Shyann Pack—Chronicler).

Alpha Zeta is advised by Dr. Waddell



2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Members



2019-2020 New Members



# Student Organizations



## Equestrian Team

Congratulations are in order for the Tarleton Equestrian Team!! Natille Barnett and Chloe Cummins qualified for the IHSA Nationals in Syracuse, NY. Bob Cacchione, the founder of IHSA, being a good sport taking a picture with Natille and Chloe, and their unofficial team mascot Bean the sloth.



On April 23rd, the Tarleton State University Dairy Club elected officers for the 2019-2020 year:

President - Ellen Schilderink (not pictured)

Vice President- Ashlyn Terpstra

Treasurer - Autumn Lippy

Secretary - Calvin Morgan

Risk Management Officer - Billie Nail (not pictured)

Public Affairs/Student Govt Rep - Breanna Bowen

Event Coordinator - Taylor Pursley

Congratulations officers!!



## Wild-caught Northern Bobwhite Released on Private Property in Erath County

By John Palarski, MS Student, Wildlife, Sustainability, Ecosystem Sciences, Tarleton State University

During the first week of March 2019, three teams of Tarleton State students set out to trap wild bobwhites from west and south Texas. Over the course of that week, 167 bobwhites were captured (78 female, 89 male) from south and west Texas and translocated immediately to the release site. Upon release, these bobwhites are expected to begin their breeding cycle. Telemetry efforts are underway to monitor dispersal, survival, and reproduction. There are 111 radio-marked individuals (68 female, 43 male) that are monitored 3-4 times weekly during the course of the breeding season. Active nests will be located in order to gauge nesting success and reproductive output.

Furthermore, a spring “whistle count” will be conducted to assess overall abundance at the release site. Those surveys will begin in the next few weeks. Last year’s whistle counts yielded a low abundance (less than one rooster per stop). We expect this number to rise post release and are excited to hear the chorus of whistling roosters once again at our release site.



*Pictured from left to right: WSES undergraduate full-time field technicians, Molly Koeck, Elizabeth Brogan, Cody Carter, and Brandon Consalus having fun while working hard.*

*(photo credit Elizabeth Brogan)*

Findings from this study will be used to inform quail managers on best management practices for reintroducing wild bobwhites. We will evaluate effects of source population (west vs. south Texas) on survival, dispersal, and reproduction post-translocation. Strategically, our release site serves as great reintroduction location as we continue to re-establish bobwhite populations further east in Texas.

[A video of these efforts can be found on the WSES or Tarleton Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society Facebook Pages.](#)

Restoring bobwhites to former ranges is no easy task. It takes a large, collaborative effort to do so. We could not do this without the help of many individuals and organizations. We thank Park Cities and Cross Timbers Chapters of Quail Coalition, Jim and Barbara Salter, the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch, and Tarleton State Wildlife, Sustainability, and Ecosystem Sciences Department for facilitating this project. Bradley W. Kubečka, Ph.D. student and Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy member is a former WSES, Tarleton State University undergraduate who is providing technical and biological guidance. We also thank our four full time technicians, Molly Koeck, Elizabeth Brogan, Cody Carter and Brandon Consalus for assistance in trapping and monitoring radio-marked bobwhites. In addition, we thank Wyatt Bagwell, Avery Smith, Kathryn Burton, Caitlin Elliot, Ricky Garibay, Daniel Wilcox, and Josh Stone for their assistance during trapping. Lastly, we thank our “Quail Donors” for allowing us to trap on their property to gather birds for this effort.



*WSES undergraduate Brandon Consalus holds a newly radio-marked female bobwhite.*

*(photo credit Elizabeth Brogan)*

Dr. Heather Mathewson, Assistant Professor, Wildlife, Sustainability, Ecosystem Sciences, Tarleton State University, and Dr. Dale Rollins, Executive Director, Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation are the Co-Principal Investigators on this project.





## Texas Dairy Matters

*Higher Education Supporting the Industry*

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

Mackenzie Powell, a Senior Animal Production major, authored an article published in Texas Dairy Matters.

*“The effect of heat stress on reproduction and fetal development”*

Heat stress negatively affects dairy cattle in many ways when temperature humidity index is 68 and above. Some negative effects include: lowered milk production, reduced reproductive performance, lower feed intake, and increased culling. Several environmental factors cause heat stress, such as, high temperature, high humidity, and radiant energy (sunlight). Heat stress also causes producers and the United States dairy industry to lose an estimated \$900 million each year. With reproduction and milk production being vital parts in the dairy industry it is important to keep cows at their highest potential.

[Read complete article](#)



## Tarleton professor quoted in Forbes article

Barbara Jones is the director of the Southwest Regional Dairy Center at Tarleton University in Stephenville, Texas. She studies cow comfort in dairy farms and technology in dairy systems. “Precision technology is a really rapidly growing [area of technology] we can use it to prevent disease and make really timely and informed on-farm decisions.” Read the [Complete Article](#)

On April 17th, more than 50 Tarleton State Alumni, now serving as Ag-Science teachers in public schools all across Texas, gathered in Wisdom Gym during the Area FFA Career Development Events Contest awards ceremony hosted by the College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences. Tarleton prepares and graduates more Ag-Science educators than any university in the U.S., and we’re proud of you all for making lasting impacts on our nation’s future ag producers and leaders.







## Chumney Tree Dedication

On April 26th, a live oak tree was planted on campus in honor of Mr. Carl Chumney's 41 years of teaching in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Tarleton's Collegiate FFA donated the tree.

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