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## Upcoming Events

### **January**

25th-Mohammad Ishaq  
29th-Seminar

### **February**

2nd-Retiree Coffee  
8th-10th SAEA

## ***Rosson's Roundup***

Well, they're back-so be watchful and careful out there! I started the week with the annual departmental review. Mark Waller and I met with Drs. Hussey, Sams, Dugas, Nessler, Steele and Lunt to discuss all of the great things you are doing. It's always a pleasure to report on the programs we have and their impacts on the state, nation and world. Thanks to all of you for making our jobs easier. Your efforts are paying off and our programs are visible and having an impact! We awarded 220 undergraduate degrees in 2015 and 68 percent were employed, with most of the others expecting employment within a month or two of graduation. We also graduated 20 MAB students, and I believe that ties our highest previous total. Our MAB is now ranked 7<sup>th</sup> globally (sixth if you don't count Berkeley's PhD which always gets included for some inexplicable reason) and second nationally behind Cornell. We had nine PhD and 17 MS students graduate as well.

We have also made strides at increasing the diversity of our programs. Total female enrollment is up 50 percent since 2012, with undergraduate females up 62 percent. Our total departmental student body is now 39 percent female. Underrepresented minority (URM) enrollment is up 78 percent and URM females are up 88 percent. The department is 19 percent minority and growing. Thanks to our undergraduate, graduate and MAB staff for taking on this challenge. The results are significant and I expect these numbers to grow over the next few years.

Tuesday afternoon we said farewell to Steve Blomstedt and Liz Morrison. Steve is going back to the Texas A&M Foundation as a Major Gift Officer. He will be replaced by Mark Klemm who will lead the AgriLife Development Team, working closely with department heads and Dr. Hussey's office. Liz Morrison is also departing AgriLife and headed back closer to home at Denison University in Ohio. Her replacement has not yet been named.

Wednesday afternoon I headed to Guatemala. Unfortunately, my flight was cancelled due to volcanic eruptions near Guatemala City, so the airport was closed. You can ask John Penson about what happens under those circumstances - he and I spent an extra week in Guatemala due to volcanic eruptions in 2010.

Have a great weekend!

# “Polio Eradication & Security in Afghanistan”

Monday, January 25 at 10am, AGLS 501

In 2012, Mohammad Ishaq offered invaluable leadership, friendship and security to Texas A&M faculty and staff as manager of construction for the Nangarhar Islamic University College of Agriculture in Afghanistan.

Join the Center on Conflict and Development and the Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture in welcoming this friend of A&M during a most critical juncture for his country as well as our own.

Mr. Ishaq currently serves as Rotary’s National PolioPlus Chair for Afghanistan and has been a dedicated member of the Rotary Club of Jalalabad since its establishment in 2005, during which time he has partnered with organizations such as the Ministry of Health, USAID, WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and CDC.

## Upcoming Birthdays

<i>Sandra Norman</i>	<i>1/24</i>
<i>John Siebert</i>	<i>2/01</i>
<i>Fred Boadu</i>	<i>2/18</i>
<i>Ron Griffin</i>	<i>2/18</i>
<i>Douglass Shaw</i>	<i>2/18</i>
<i>Reid Stevens</i>	<i>2/18</i>



## Thank You!!

### FARM Assistance Team

*for hosting Friday coffee*



## Position Announcements

**PhD Research Assistantships**, Colorado State University (Fall 2016): Area of Study: Applied Food Economics and Policy and Water Economics. The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (DARE) at Colorado State University is recruiting up to two PhD students to participate in research projects in the general area of Food Economics, Marketing and Policy, Economics of Local or Regional Food Systems, and/or Industrial Organization **and** two PhD students to participate in research projects in the general area of water economics. Apply online: <http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/apply/> Specific information about the program can be found at <http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/graduate/graduate-programs/> For more information, please contact Marco Costanigro, Chair of the Graduate Program: (970) 491-6948 [marco.costanigro@colostate.edu](mailto:marco.costanigro@colostate.edu)

**Assistant Professor**, Environmental Policy at Northeastern Illinois University, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies. Tenure track, PhD is required by time of appointment. The successful candidate will play a leading role in the department’s environmental policy and management track of the Environmental Studies B.A. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy and research plan, and contact information for three references (at least one addressing teaching effectiveness) to [ges-search@neiu.edu](mailto:ges-search@neiu.edu) with subject “Environmental Policy Position.” Please attach all of your application materials as one PDF file. Priority will be given to applications received by February 1, 2016. Appointment begins August 2016. For more information please consult <http://ges.neiu.edu>.

[Click here for more position announcements](#)

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to submit articles and photos on current events

Deadline for all submissions is noon, Thursday.

Please send your information to [valnoyes@tamu.edu](mailto:valnoyes@tamu.edu)