Rosson’s Roundup

The 2016 Corrigan-Goddard Foundation Entrepreneurial Dreams Symposium activities occurred this week for our AGEC 425 Rural Entrepreneurship students. More than 200 entrepreneurs and other professionals, including numerous AGEC 425 Survivors and other former students participated. At the Tuesday afternoon poster session at The Thomas G. Hildebrand, DVM ’56 Equine Complex, Alex Schulman, West Paschal, and McKenna Zacek were selected by the mentor expert participants as best understanding and communicating their business ideas and the economic and financial viability thereof. On Wednesday morning, the event continued, with Alex Schulman, Grant Oelsen, and West Paschal identified as having the best presentations and Q&A dialogues with the mentor expert panel. More than $75,000 in scholarships were awarded Wednesday afternoon, including recognition of Brianna Saenz as the most serious and sincere student in regards to beginning her business and Alex Schulman as Agribusiness Entrepreneur of the Year.

At the dinner Tuesday evening, Porter Garner III ’79 of the Association of Former Students welcomed our former students to campus and expressed his appreciation for our department’s partnering with AFS on fostering the Aggie Network. Todd Staples ’84, past Texas Agriculture Commissioner, currently President of the Texas Oil and Gas Association, and a member of our department’s Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry, provided keynote remarks. Todd emphasized entrepreneurial spirit and Aggie core values in his comments.

A special feature of the evening program was the induction of two new members into the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry -- John Miller ’90 by Ed Smith ’73; and Mark Miller ’87 by Jimmy Dodson ’74. These new inductees bring the membership of the Registry up to a total of 86. Patrick Williams ’91 of the Texas A&M Foundation joined us to announce the donation of a major gift to the department by Robert ’46 and Doris ’70 Kensig, to support recognition of the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry members. Robert was a member of the Registry and appreciative of the actions of Dr. Timm to enhance our department’s prominence. Following Patrick’s remarks, David Gardner of David Gardener’s Jewelers introduced his custom-designed lapel pin honoring the Registry members. Department Head Parr Rosson ’71 and former department head John Nichols then presented the pins to the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry members in attendance, including Paul Bierschwale ’02, Matt Bobbitt ’99, Steve Cooper ’78, Bill Corrigan ’01, Jimmy Dodson ’74, Murray Edwards ’73, Lynn Elliott ’73, John Miller ’90, Mark Miller ’87, James McGrann ’73, Gary Richardson ’76, Jimmy Roppolo ’69, Ray Smaistrla ’85, Ed Smith ’73, Todd Staples ’84, Joe Swinbank ’74, Troy Thompson ’89, Brian Weiner ’65, Robert Whitson ’74, and John Zacek ’82. On Wednesday, additional presentations were made to Registry members Hunter Goodwin ’96, Mark Humphrey ’82, and Ben Novosad ’75.

During the Symposium lunch on May 4, Hunter Goodwin ’96, himself an AGEC 425 Survivor and principal in the locally-based Oldham-Goodwin Group, challenged all of the Symposium’s participants to chase their entrepreneurial dreams while being true to themselves and their network.

Benjamin Knox ’90 of Knox Gallery joined us both Tuesday and Wednesday to provide insightful and encouraging remarks to our young and old entrepreneurs while recognizing Staples and Goodwin with prints of two of his signature paintings.

Thanks to all of our faculty and staff who have instructed and assisted all of the AGEC 425 students during their time in our department and who assisted with this event – you and the students have represented our department very well.
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 valnoves@tamu.edu

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The 2016 Grand Challenges Mini-Symposia are approaching, May 18-19. The requested RSVP date is May 13, so please use the link below to respond if you plan to attend. Themes center on Vector Biology, Climate Change Adaptation and Global Water Issues.

http://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/2016grandchallenges/

Performance evaluations for non-faculty employees are due by May 31, 2016. The Department internal deadline is Monday, May 20, 2016 in order to finalize the online process by the 31st. A matrix showing evaluation time periods, forms, and due dates is in the Performance Management section at: http://agrilifest.tamu.edu/documents/evaluation-matricies.pdf Thank you for your cooperation!

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**UPDATES:** Thomas Fillebeen will be on campus May 17-20 and will be arranging visits with many faculty as a follow up to his interview a couple of weeks ago. His wife, Amelie, will join him Thursday and Friday while they look for housing prospects in the area. Please welcome them to the Department.

Craig Carpenter will begin his position in the Department as Assistant Professor and Extension Economist-Community Economics and Business Development on June 1. Please welcome Craig as well.

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**Upcoming Birthdays**

- Gary Williams 5/6
- Donna Adcock 5/13
- Donna Chester 5/20
- David Anderson 5/23
- Shahriar Kibriya 5/27

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**Position Announcements**

**Open Rank Professor: Livestock Marketing and Risk Management.** The Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is seeking candidates for a twelve month, tenured or tenure-leading faculty position with an appointment of 60 percent extension and 40 percent research. The position is one of a three-person cluster hire that will focus on production, marketing and risk management decision-making by commercial agriculture and agribusiness firms along with addressing issues in the public sector. Requirements include a PhD in Agricultural Economics or related field at the time of hire. To view the complete position details and apply for this position, go to the UNL Employment web site: http://employment.unl.edu. Search for requisition number F_160094 and click on “Apply to this job”. Attach a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, transcripts, and contact information for three professional references. Review of applications will begin on August 17, 2016. For more information please contact the Search Committee Chair, Azzeddine Azzam, by calling 402.472.3401 or by email at aazzam1@unl.edu.

**Ag Econometrician.** USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service is seeking an econometrician to help build and maintain a set of regional, national, and world dairy sector models. We are striving to rebuild the leading dairy sector models in USDA, in order to support regulatory review and USDA's monthly and annual dairy market projections. We use SAS, but would consider any talented econometric modeler. Under the new USDA rules this is only posted for a week. To apply go to: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/437638000/

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**Click here for more position announcements**

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