Mission of the Graduate Studies Program

The mission of the graduate program in the Division of Animal Sciences is to provide an academic environment that results in highly competent professional animal scientists who will become leaders in academia, agribusiness and government.

About Us

The Division of Animal Science offers graduate programs leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy, areas of specialization include Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Environmental Physiology, Epigenetics, Extension, Genetics, Genomics, Meat Science, Nutrition, Production and Management and Reproductive Physiology. Species studied include: beef cattle, dairy cattle, poultry, swine, laboratory animals, and captive wild animals (through a collaborative arrangement with the St. Louis Zoo).

Our graduate program has been ranked 6th for research productivity and 8th for overall quality of degree, by the National Research Council. The University of Missouri is a member of the Association of American Universities, a prestigious organization of 62 public and private research universities in the United States and Canada.

Fifty percent of our graduates hold positions in industry, 40% in Academia and 10% are furthering their graduate education. Graduate enrollment in Animal Sciences at MU averages 60 full-time students, of which 70% are seeking an M.S. and 30% a Ph.D. More than 90% of students are financially supported.

Research Facilities

The Animal Science Research Center (ASRC) covers nearly five acres, and provides the research laboratories, classrooms and offices for the research, extension and teaching faculty of the Animal Sciences Division of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR). The ASRC has facilities for intensive study of livestock and laboratory animals. Abattoir and meat laboratories are located nearby. The South Farm of CAFNR is a 1,452 acre agriculture experiment station located approximately three miles southeast from campus. South Farm provides a field laboratory for scientific discovery, provides training facilities for undergraduate and graduate students, and supports educational experiences in production agriculture and basic sciences. South Farm and other Animal Sciences farms serve multiple disciplines including beef, dairy, swine, horse, and poultry.

For More Information Contact:
Dr. Rocio Melissa Rivera
Animal Sciences Center
Columbia, MO 65211
http://animalsciences.missouri.edu
johnsongl@missouri.edu – (573) 882-8336
http://gradschool.missouri.edu/academics/programs/animal-sciences/index.php

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Animal Sciences Faculty

Gavin Conant, Associate Professor, Bioinformatics.

Jared Decker, Assistant Professor, Extension Beef Cattle Genetics/Computational Genomics.

Christine Elsik, Associate Professor, Computational Genomics.

Jeffre D. Firman, Professor, Poultry Production and Nutrition.

Kevin L. Fritsche, Professor, Impact of dietary fats and medicinal plants on inflammation and infectious disease resistance.

Rodney D. Geisert, Professor, Reproductive Physiology-Swine.

Jonathan Green, Associate Professor, Reproductive Biology.

Darren Hagen, Assistant Research Professor, Computational Biology/Bioinformatics.

Duane Keisler, Professor, Endocrinology/Neuroendocrinology.

Monty S. Kerley, Professor, Beef Nutrition.

William Lamberson, Professor, Animal breeding and Genetics.

Carol Lorenzen, Professor, Meat Science.

Dennis Lubahn, Adjunct professor, Nutritional and herbal medicine aspects of estrogen and hedgehog signaling in reproduction and cancer.

Matthew Lucy, Professor, Reproductive Physiology, Endocrinology and Lactation.

Thomas McFadden, Division Director and Professor, Dairy Physiology.

Allison Meyer, Assistant Professor, Ruminant Nutrition/Nutritional Physiology.

David Patterson, Professor, Extension Beef Cattle Reproduction.

Randall Prather, Professor, Reproductive Physiology/Genetic Engineering.

Rocio Melissa Rivera, Associate Professor, Developmental Epigenetics.

R. Michael Roberts, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Developmental Biology.

Tim Safranski, Associate Professor, Extension-Swine Reproductive Management.

Robert Schnabel, Associate Research Professor, Genetics.

Laura Schulz, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Placental cell biology and the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD), with an emphasis on the role of leptin during pregnancy and its impact on offspring health.

Justin Sexten, Assistant Professor, Ruminant Nutrition.

Marcia Carlson Shannon, Professor, Extension-Swine Nutrition.

Michael F. Smith, Professor, Reproductive Physiology - Beef Cattle.

Thomas Spencer, Professor, Reproductive and Development Biology

Peter Sutovsky, Professor, Gamete, fertilization and Embryo Biology.

Jeremy Taylor, Professor, Genomics.

Kathy Sharpe Timms, Professor, Ovarian function, oocyte quality, embryo development and infertility; endometriosis-associated subfertility.

Kevin Wells, Associate Professor, Genetic Engineering.

Bryon Wiegand, Professor, Meat Science/Muscle Biology.