

March 2016

Wildcat Canter

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs Newsletter



Equine Career and
Opportunity Fair

Wildcat Canter



Bob Coleman Elected Chair

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Breeze Times, Sale Prices and Racetrack Performance

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UK Researcher Launches Equine Sports Science Initiative

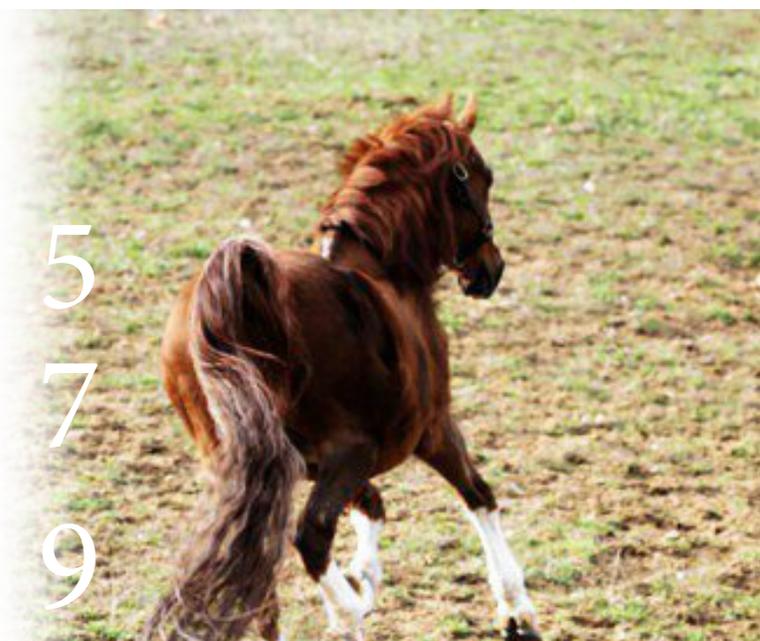
James N. MacLeod, a professor and the John S. and Elizabeth A. Knight Chair at the University of Kentucky's Gluck Equine Research Center, has launched a collaborative and research-based initiative that aims to advance the health and well-being of the equine athlete.

Other features:

**Annual Career Fair Unites College Students,
Equine Industry**

**Undergraduate Research Abroad scholarship
Recipients Announced**

Clubs and Teams Updates



Welcome

Although no one who knows me well would describe me as a “horse-person,” I have certainly had my share of life experience with the equine species across my life span, from mountain rides in the Tetons with my family to mountain rides in the Andes with UK students. Still, my main motivation for my current role is to help students grow and develop to reach their dreams. A key understanding that we came to not so long ago was that for our students to succeed, we needed to remodel our approach to advising, especially in our high enrollment undergraduate programs. As a result, our Academic Coordinator (AC) program has arisen and multiplied.

In programs like Equine Science and Management (ESMA), which expects over 100 first-year students this fall, the AC’s main focus is on student success for that particular cohort. In ESMA, as you know, Kristen Wilson is the highly-capable AC—she meets with all incoming first-year students at their very first advising session. Kristen stays in close touch with these students, making sure that any issues they encounter are dealt with promptly. She builds a personalized four-year plan for each student, records their early academic career activities, includes a sharp photo and then hands off their folder to a program faculty member. This model has proven very effective.

Another key success factor for this program has been having the right instructors working with our students; we are deeply proud of our program faculty. While I will not attempt to list every name, they are real “troopers” and have been a source of rich encouragement for our students. We must note, however, that as the program has grown, there has been considerable stress on this teaching team; we are all grateful to Dean Nancy Cox for her efforts to secure a pair of additional lecturers in the near future to help with this instructional need. Finally, Dean Cox continues to work on infrastructure needs in support of this program; she is committed to making this happen.

As for me, my greatest pleasure is seeing struggling students find their way and become truly successful. We are thrilled that so many students from all across the U.S. are choosing to become part of this program. Finally, we are delighted that evidence indicates growing international interest in our program.

Larry Grabau
 Associate Dean for Instruction, Academic Programs



Upcoming events/deadlines:

March 7-April 15
Advising for Summer & Fall 2016

March 28-April 19
Priority Registration for Summer & Fall 2016

April 1, CAFE Scholarship deadline
<http://academics.ca.uky.edu/scholarships>

April 1
Last day to withdraw from a class for academic reasons

April 1-15
Advising for Summer & Fall 2016

April 12, 14, 19, and 21
Equine Science and Management Senior Capstone Presentations, 8-9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Ag Sciences North Bldg., Room N-10

April 26
Senior Turn Out (CAFE event), 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

April 30
Equine Science and Management Alumni Tailgate, 9 a.m.
Kentucky Rolex Three-Day Event

May 2
AEC 320: Ag Product Marketing and Sales Student Presentations, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Plant Sciences Bldg., Cameron Williams Auditorium

May 8
Equine Science and Management Graduation Reception, 12:30 p.m.
Good Barn

MASTHEAD**Wildcat Canter Editorial Staff**

Hannah Forte, intern, contributing writer
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Holly Wiemers, MA, APR, senior editor, contributing writer

Wildcat Canter Editorial Board

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director of UK Ag Equine Programs and associate professor in Agricultural Economics

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Bob Coleman Elected Chair

Congratulations to Bob Coleman, director for undergraduate studies in Equine Science and Management, associate professor in Animal and Food Sciences and extension horse specialist, who was elected chair of the Equine Research Committee of the American Quarter Horse Association during its annual convention March 11-14, 2016.



Annual Career Fair Unites College Students, Equine Industry

More than 150 college students attended the University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs' eighth annual UK Equine Career and Opportunity Fair March 1 in Lexington, Kentucky

The free event provided college students the chance to meet prospective equine industry employers and to learn about potential volunteer, internship and part-time and full-time employment opportunities. In addition to booths from area equine businesses, attendees participated in sessions led by industry professionals, who offered tips and one-on-one career advice. Those sessions included graduate school, careers in the Thoroughbred and Sport Horse industries as well as marketing and business careers.



Breeze Times, Sale Prices and Racetrack Performance

Jill Stowe, UK Ag Equine Programs director and associate professor in the University of Kentucky's Department of Agricultural Economics, and Marion Robert, former master's student in agricultural economics and current doctoral student at the French National Institute for Agricultural Research, teamed up to investigate factors that explain prices paid for 2-year-old Thoroughbreds sold at undertack sales, with a focus on breeze times' influence on auction prices.

In their study, they used data from all 2013 U.S. Thoroughbred 2-year-old in training sales. While many academic studies have focused on price analysis in yearling markets, the 2-year-old market is one that researchers have not yet investigated. This market is different from the more common yearling market for a few reasons. First, the 2-year-old in training auctions occur just a few months prior to a horse's first start on the racetrack. Second, and the focal point of this study, is that before interested buyers bid on the horse, they have the opportunity to watch the horse "breeze," or run a short distance on a racetrack that is timed. Breeze times provide a new type of relevant information to potential buyers prior to the sale, in addition to the horse's action and running style.

Stowe and Robert found that a horse's breeze time is the most statistically significant factor in explaining auction prices. All else equal, the estimated market value for a horse's ability to run a furlong one-fifth of a second faster is about \$8,000 at select sales and about \$24,000 at nonselect sales, which translates to averages of about \$40,000 and \$120,000, respectively, for a horse that can run a furlong 1 second faster.

Other factors known to be important in explaining yearling prices were also influential in determining 2-year-old prices, such as whether the horse was born earlier in the year or whether the horse was sold at a select sale. Pedigree quality was also important, with sire stud fee and dam produce records entering into the pricing equation. One additional result of interest is the significant premium (nearly \$30,000) buyers are willing to pay for horses by freshman sires, which suggests recovery in the market when buyers become willing take risks on progeny from sires of unknown producing quality.

The paper is titled "Ready to Run: Price Determinants of Thoroughbreds from Two-Year-Olds in Training Sales" and is forthcoming in a future issue of *Applied Economics*.

UK Researcher Launches Equine Sports Science Initiative

Holly Wiemers

James N. MacLeod, a professor and the John S. and Elizabeth A. Knight Chair at the University of Kentucky's Gluck Equine Research Center, has launched a collaborative and research-based initiative that aims to advance the health and well-being of the equine athlete.

Named the Equine Sports Science Initiative (ESSI), the program will center on racing and other elite athletic disciplines.

"I think of ESSI as a multidisciplinary collaboration within UK Ag Equine Programs that includes scientists, clinicians, pathologists, regulatory veterinarians and others focused on making progress for equine athletes on important health challenges by generating new knowledge," MacLeod said. "Discussions and debate about the many issues that impact the health and welfare of equine athletes are valuable, but to really move forward, we need to generate new knowledge and new understanding through science."

Current research projects include establishing a national database of equine athlete pathology, which has attracted involvement from the Jockey Club; bone density studies; articular cartilage repair research; and research into a slew of "omics:" genomics, transcriptomics (the study of the complete set of RNA transcripts that are produced by the genome), proteomics (large-scale study of proteins, particularly their structures and functions), and the emerging field of metabolomics (systematic study of the unique chemical molecules that specific cellular processes generate).

As an initiative through a land-grant university, ESSI will be committed to disseminating new knowledge across the spectrum of horse professionals and to the general public. There will also be student learning and research opportunities.

Founding members of ESSI working with MacLeod include Emma Adam, a researcher from the Gluck Center; Katie Garrett, a veterinary practitioner from Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital; Jennifer Janes, assistant professor of anatomic pathology from the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; Laura Kennedy, pathologist from the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory; Chip Johnson, equine veterinary practitioner; and Megan Romano and Mary Scollay, from the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission.

Undergraduate Research Abroad Scholarship Recipients Announced

Andrea Gils Monzon, Gail Hairston

Source: Mar 29, 2016, UK Now

The University of Kentucky Office of Undergraduate Research within the Division of Undergraduate Education and UK Education Abroad recently awarded \$5,000 for the spring 2016 Undergraduate Research Abroad Scholarships (UGRAS) to junior biology student, Holden Hemingway; senior equine science student, Haley Reichenbach; and senior English and philosophy double major, Alexander Parmley. All three awardees will be conducting independent research projects abroad this summer.

“UGRAS gives students the opportunity to participate in original, cutting-edge research and promotes interaction with international scholars through immersion in the research environment,” said Evie Russell, assistant director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, Division of Undergraduate Education.

Reichenbach is taking her research to Denmark where she will work with a professor at Aarhus University. Reichenbach will investigate the effects of pregnancy on Holstein cows’ feeding behavior. Her research project is titled “Feed Intake and Feeding Behavior of Cows at Calving.”

The UGRAS is awarded each March to undergraduate students interested in independent research projects abroad. To submit a proposal, applicants must have previously conducted research at UK with a faculty member, be highly recommended by said faculty member; and participate in an eight-week research abroad program. Find more information about this scholarship here.

About UK Education Abroad

UK Education Abroad is a unit of the UK International Center. Its primary responsibility is to facilitate high quality, academically sound and experientially rich study abroad, research abroad and intern abroad programs for University of Kentucky students. More information about the International Center can be found at <http://www.uky.edu/international/>.



Bluegrass Equine Digest



Check out the March issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest, a free, monthly electronic newsletter dedicated to providing up-to-date information on equine research from the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in collaboration with TheHorse.com and sponsored by Zoetis. This month's stories can be found at http://www.thehorse.com/enews/bluegrass-equine-digest/PDF/BED-Mar2016.pdf?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=bluegrass-equine-digest&utm_campaign=03-27-2016.

- UK Ag Equine Programs' Researcher Launches Equine Sports Science Initiative
- Eastern Tent Caterpillar Egg Hatch Begins in Central KY
- Equine Leptospirosis Vaccine
- The Grass Guide: Alfalfa
- MicroRNS in Pregnant Mares

Stay connected with your fellow alums. Find and join the new alumni Facebook page:
University of Kentucky Equine Alumni



Clubs and Teams

Equestrian Team

Hunt Seat Team

UK Equestrian Team Hunt Seat Riders going to Zones

The Hunt Seat portion of the UK Equestrian Team is heading north this weekend to Willow Brook Farms in Plymouth, Michigan, where the team will be competing in Zones for the right to continue to Intercollegiate Horse Show Association nationals, which will be May 5- 8 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. Representing UK will be riders who qualified at Regionals in their respective individual classes, along with riders who make up the UK team which qualified for Nationals by being the Regional High Point Team. Congratulations and good luck to the UK riders.

Individual Riders competing are:

- Walk Trot, Hillary Ambrose
- Open Jumping, Julie Dettman
- Open Flat, Julie Dettman
- Intermediate Jumping, Hannah Hollinger
- Novice Flat, Ashley Lowe
- Open Flat, Jessica Pierce
- Novice Jumping, Brittany Strube

UK Team riders include: Leah Ayau, Dakota DeCuffa, Julie Dettman, Molly Ernst, Morgan Etienne, Katherine Murphy, Kelsey Riordan and Taylor Wienold.

Coached by *Diana Conlon Olive Hill Sport Horses*

Western Team

UK Equestrian Team Western riders at Semi Final Championships

The weekend of March 19 and 20, students from UK's Equestrian Team showed at the Western Semi-final Championships. This show was held at the Miller Coliseum in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. A total of 33 schools from across the U.S. competed for the opportunity to move on to Nationals, which will be held May 5-8 at the Kentucky Horse Park. The UK team was represented by Sydney Hall, Jamie Henley and AnnMarie Kadnar. Sydney Hall qualified in both the Open Horsemanship and Open Reining. In reining Sydney was 6th out of 16 riders and in Horsemanship she was 4th out of 16 riders. This 4th place finish qualifies her for Nationals. Jamie Henley and AnnMarie Kadnar both qualified in Novice Horsemanship with Jamie bringing home a 6th place finish. The UK riders rode well in tough completion. Congratulations to the all members of the team for a great season and thanks to Bennie Sargent, the coach for all his time and effort with the team.



Rodeo Team

The UK Rodeo Team will begin traveling to various college rodeos starting this week.

- 3/31 - 4/2: East Mississippi Community College - West Point, Mississippi
- 4/7 - 4/9: University of Arkansas - Monticello - Monticello, Arkansas
- 4/14 - 4/16: University of Tennessee - Martin - Martin, Tennessee
- 4/21 - 4/23: Northwest Mississippi Community College - Senatobia, Mississippi
- 4/28 - 4/30: University of Arkansas - Cossatot - Texarkana, Arkansas

The UK Rodeo Team will have a booth set up at Ag Awareness day on Wednesday, April 6 from 11 a.m.-2p.m. if anyone would like to come and talk to members of the team. On April 9, the team will be co-hosting Cowboy Up For A Cure Rodeo at Alltech Arena alongside FarmHouse Fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta.



CLUBS AND TEAMS DIRECTORY

DRESSAGE AND EVENTING TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, jill.stowe@uky.edu
 President: Elizabeth Lampert, eala229@g.uky.edu
 Facebook: UK Dressage and Eventing

HORSE RACING CLUB

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence, llawrenc@email.uky.edu
 President: Madison Scott, ukhorseracingclub@gmail.com
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Horse Racing Club

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

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 President: Haley Dowty, uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com
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WESTERN TEAM

President: AnnMarie Kadnar, annmariekadnar@uky.edu
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POLO TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, rogerbrown@uky.edu
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 Facebook: U of Kentucky Polo

R.E.A.D. CLUB

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 President: Sarah Sivinski, ukyreadclub@gmail.com
 Facebook: READ Club

RODEO TEAM

Advisor: Monty Ott, monty.ott@uky.edu
 President: Jarret Martinez, ukrodeoteam@gmail.com
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Rodeo Team

SADDLE SEAT TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, mary.rossano@uky.edu
 President: Andrew Slater, UkSaddleSeatTeam@gmail.com
 Facebook: UK Saddleseat Team 2014-2015Group)

Presented by:



Cowboy Up For A Cure

RODEO

HOSTED BY:
ALPHA GAMMA DELTA,
FARMHOUSE, AND
UK RODEO TEAM

APRIL 9TH 7:00PM GATES OPEN AT 6PM
THE KENTUCKY HORSE PARK ALLTECH ARENA
TICKETS @ WWW.COWBOYUPFORACURE.ORG



COWBOYUPFORACURE



@COWBOYUP_RODEO



Spring Hunter Pace



Sunday, April 24, 2016

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Masterson Station Park

3051 Leestown Road, Lexington, KY

HUNT*PLEASURE*JUNIOR

See entry form for division descriptions.

Prizes for divisions and best costume attire.

Concession will be available.

Coggins required***All fences optional***ASTM/SEI helmets mandatory

Pre-registration appreciated, but not required.

Teams of 2-4 riders please.

Contact * Hannah Forte * 615-440-3388 * hannah.forte@gmail.com