

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AG EQUINE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER



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Little research has been conducted on indoor riding arena environments. To remedy this gap in understanding the effects on horse and human health from indoor arenas, a graduate student in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering is conducting a survey to learn more.



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- June 7-8, State 4-H Horse Contest
- June 22-24, Midsouth Pony Club Horse Trials
- June 28, UK Department of Veterinary Science Equine Diagnostic and Research Seminar Series, 4-5 p.m.
- June 30-July 7, State 4-H Horse Show
- July 28, Hats Off Day
- July 28, Rood and & Riddle Kentucky Grand Prix

Another Year and New Opportunities

One of the satisfying and unique aspects of working in a university is the seasonal changes cycle of activities. We started the month with 52 students graduating from the Equine Science and Management program on the First Friday of May. The graduates of the Equine Science and Management program are now starting the next stage of their lives, working inside or outside of the equine industry or continuing on to graduate or professional programs.

After a near record number of May Equine Science and Management graduates, a new freshmen class of 56 students has been enrolled for Fall 2018. These students will be the first group that will enter with a new curriculum. This curriculum was approved in near record time and includes changes to writing and other core classes. These changes were motivated by input received from our listening session with stakeholders during the Ag Equine Programs' Workforce Summit as well as input from students. By addressing the priorities of all of our stakeholders, we are working to both improve opportunities for the graduates and to provide crucial skills for the equine industry.

Before the start of the new academic year, we will be using the summer as a time to refocus our support of a unique and exciting industry. We are thrilled to have Savannah Robin, the new internship coordinator, starting in June. She will start immediately working with students pursuing summer internships or other opportunities in the equine industry.

However, internships are just the tip of the iceberg that includes research and service to the equine industry. Working with the Fédération Equestre Internationale, we are coming close to finalizing standards for footings. Closer to home, research is also progressing on an improved understanding of air quality in arenas. Footings and ventilation are the mundane aspects of the equine industry, but we need to also remember the excitement that brings us to our industry.

As I write this, another credible Triple Crown contender is looking toward Belmont. While our engagement

with the industry includes all breeds and disciplines, in Central Kentucky, we are all a part of the pride that our Thoroughbred breeding and sales industry produce so that these horses can compete at the top races in the world. We look forward to a productive summer working with the industry and then starting out with the next generation of future equine industry professionals in the fall. Being a part of our industry involves being a part of a worldwide effort to engage with the international equine world.

Mick Peterson Director, UK Ag Equine Programs



MASTHEAD



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University of Kentucky Shows Wild(cat) School Spirit

Source: Edited news release by Leslie Threlkeld showcasing the USEA Intercollegiate Eventing Championships at the Virginia Horse Trials (VHT).

Clearly the collegiate teams put untold hours and efforts into ensuring they are ready to produce good results, but the students also bear in mind the VHT sponsored Spirit Award, which returns the entry fees of the team deemed to have the most school spirit and team camaraderie.

The University of Kentucky team of Jackie LeMastus, Mia Fox, Elizabeth Silva-Chandley and Shannon McCall finished seventh in the team competition and were selected as the 2018 Spirit Award winners, a goal they had set for themselves following last year's competition.

"Last year we came and saw how unprepared we were. We had a good effort last minute but wanted to nail it this year," Fox said. "We set up meetings and planned every detail down to the socks. It wasn't about beating the other teams and showing off it was literally just to have fun."

The well-established UK Dressage and Eventing Team drew the riders to the school, and they were eager to show their Wildcat pride.

"We wanted to show that we're a team with a lot of spirit and we have a lot of fun and we wanted to bring that here," LeMastus said. "Our eventing team at our university has helped make our best friendships. I didn't know any of these girls before going in. It's been really cool to get to know everybody. We just have a lot of fun."



Bluegrass Equine Digest

Check out the May 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.

Click<u>here</u> to see this month's stories.

- KTOB Foundation Invests in Equine Research at Gluck Center
- Crowdfunding Hormone Therapy Research
- Indoor Arenas and Horse and Human Health
- Female Equestrian Community Formed
- Mineral of the Month: Iron

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College of Agriculture Food and Environmen

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DRESSAGE AND EVENTING TEAM

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EQUESTRIAN TEAM

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HUNT SEAT TEAM

President: Mackenzie Mentzer, uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com Facebook: UKY Equestrian Team

WESTERN TEAM

President: Sydney Hull, sydney.hull@uky.edu Facebook: UKY Western IHSA Team

POLO TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, rogerbrown@uky.edu Dr. Jamie MacLeod, jnmacleod@uky.edu President: Ben Lynch, benjamin.lynch@uky.edu Facebook: U of Kentucky Polo

R.E.A.D. CLUB

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RODEO TEAM

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SADDLE SEAT TEAM

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> <u>Click here to</u> <u>access contact</u> <u>information</u> <u>for these clubs.</u>

UK Ag Equine Programs Graduation Reception

By Hailee Adams

Another semester is in the books at the University of Kentucky and, for some students, this marked the final chapter of their time here. While graduation can be a bittersweet time -- saying goodbye to friends, moving wherever a degree takes one and counting the days until student loan repayment begins -- it is also an accomplishment that calls for celebration.

UK Ag Equine Programs honors graduates with a reception every semester to commemorate their accomplishments. This year's reception was held in the E.S. Good Barn. The Equine Science and Management Program had 52 students graduate, which is the largest graduating class to date. There was also a record-breaking 235 people in attendance, including students, family and friends as well as equine faculty and staff. Attendees enjoyed a catered lunch from Sonny's Barbeque while waiting for the program to begin.

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Dean Nancy Cox welcomed graduates and their families. Bob Coleman, associate professor within the program, shared a few remarks about each student as they were recognized and gifted with a UK Ag Equine Programs goody bag.

After graduation, UK's ESMA alums pursue careers in many different aspects of the equine industry, each paving their own way a diverse industry. We asked each of our graduates to share a remark about their time at UK and what they are planning now.



Erica Bischoff

Originally, from Richmond, Indiana, Bischoff graduated with a dual degree in Equine Science and Management and Psychology. She chose to come to UK for the equine program. Her favorite memory of her time at UK was learning to lunge horses at Maine Chance Farm during EQM 105. Bischoff plans to become a PATH International certified therapeutic riding instructor and work at Central Kentucky Riding for Hope.



GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

Courtney Bruget

Originally, from Brandon, South Dakota, Bruget chose to come to UK after falling in love with the state and the school, as well as the equine program. Bruget's favorite memories were from her time showing on the UK Equestrian Team, as she got to meet new friends and ride a lot of different horses. She plans to move back to South Dakota until she has a job lined up.

Carolina Caceres

Caceres is originally from Bogota, Columbia, and chose to come to UK because she wanted to be surrounded by a strong equine business community. Her favorite memory from attending UK was touring Gainesway Farm and learning about the racing industry. She plans to travel for a month before beginning her job as an assistant manager at an equine performance center in Ocala, Florida.

Alessandra Campana-Emard

Originally from Orlando, Florida, Campana-Emard chose to attend UK because of its equine program and the opportunities in the horse

industry in Lexington. Her favorite memories from UK were getting hands-on experience with horses and livestock in her classes and

getting to work for Amanda Adams, a faculty member and researcher at the Gluck Equine Research Center. She will be working for the United States Equestrian Federation as a chemist in its Equine Drug Testing and Research Laboratory.

Rachel Causey

Originally, from Cumming, Georgia, Causey chose to come to UK "For the horses of course!" Her favorite memory from her time at UK was when a bull was running loose on campus her freshman year. After graduation, Causey plans to work in the equine industry.









Kaelyn Chick

Originally, from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Chick chose to attend UK for its agriculture program. Her favorite UK memory is all of the "wonderful times" she had hanging out with her roommates and best friends. After graduation, she will be attending the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Nathan Cole

Originally, from Ocala, Florida, Cole chose to come to UK for its equine program and the many opportunities the farms in the area provided. His favorite memories from his time at UK were the classes, people and the Johnson Center. Cole will be entering the Coast Guard after graduation, and plans to return to the horse industry after he serves.

Aimee Collins

Originally, from Marietta, Georgia, Collins chose UK for its equine major and the opportunities living in the Horse Capital of the World would bring. Her favorite part of her time at UK was becoming close with all of her ag professors due to the small class size. She plans to become a pharmaceutical rep or work for Kentucky Equine Research.

Catlyn Cornelius

Originally, from Vandalia, Ohio, Cornelius came to UK because it had the best equine science program. Her favorite memory of UK was participating in Dance Blue, which she did twice. After graduation, Cornelius will be moving to Key West, Florida, to pursue a degree in business diving and technology with hopes of becoming a scuba diving Instructor.









Kaylee Cross

Originally from Boca Raton, FL, Cross chose UK because the Equine Program suited her better than the school she transferred from. Her favorite UK memories were going to Cats games and Dr. Coleman's capstone class. After graduation, she will continue working at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital.

Michaela DeNardo

DeNardo chose UK because it is at the epicenter of the Thoroughbred universe and she would have access to so many valuable networking opportunities. When asked what her favorite memory was while at UK, she said there were too many to name. DeNardo will be working for Breeders' Cup Ltd. and plans to apply to law school with the goal of practicing equine law.

Olivia Dombi

Originally, from Marietta, Geordia, Dombi chose UK because she loved the campus, opportunities for involvement and being able to combine all of that with her passion for the equine industry. Her favorite UK memory was getting a behind-the-scenes tour of Rupp Arena with her sorority. After graduation, she will be continuing her job as an insurance agent with Family Heritage.

Craig Hendricks

Originally, from Ottawa, Kansas, Hendricks chose to come to UK to pursue an education with horses in the Horse Capital of the World. His favorite memory from his time at UK was taking Dr. Fernanda Camargo's Health and Diseases class, as she "often said something hilarious" and he learned a lot from the class. After graduation, Hendricks will be attending graduate school at UK and pursuing a master's in biomechanics and exercise physiology.









Sherry (Alex) Jackson

Originally, from Mountain Brook, Alabama, Jackson chose UK for its equine program and the opportunities it offered in the local equine industry. Her favorite UK memory was her equine internship at Shawhan Place, as she had almost no racing industry experience. Jackson said she got to learn a lot and had a lot of fun on the job. After graduation, she will be staying at UK for one more year to earn her MBA.

Dominique Lien

Originally, from Chatsworth, California, Lien chose UK to study in the Horse Capital of the World. Her favorite memory from her time at UK was tailgating in the bowl. After graduation, she will be working for Reese Koffler-Stanfield at Maplecrest Farm.

Jennifer Manning

Originally, from Setauket, New York, Manning chose to come to UK because of its equine program and because she fell in love with Lexington. Her favorite UK memory was her study abroad trip to Ireland last year. She will begin her job as a professional rider for Roberts Stables in Wilmington, Ohio.

Anna Montero

Originally, from Arlington, Texas, Montero chose to come to UK for its equine program, but stayed for the wonderful people and supportive atmosphere in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Her favorite memory from UK was when she got to see real snow her freshman year. She learned how to sled at Willy T, eat snow cream and enjoy how gorgeous the campus looked. After graduation, Montero will be staying in Lexington as a full-time therapeutic riding instructor at Central Kentucky Riding for Hope.







GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

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Emily Murphy

Originally, from Cary, North Carolina, Murphy chose to come to UK because of its equine program and the variety of internship opportunities within the horse industry in Lexington. Her favorite memory from her time at UK was going to Big Blue Madness her freshman year. After graduation, she will be applying to pharmacy schools and she plans to get her PharmD/MBA.

Caitlyn Nolasco

Originally from Nicholasville, Kentucky, Nolasco chose UK as a lifelong Wildcat fan, daughter of a UK Alumni and for its equine program. Her favorite memories from UK are from the ASC 101 class. She cherishes the memories she made during labs and field trips for the class, as well as having Dr. Silvia as her professor. The class made her excited about the program she chose and ready to take on UK. She will be travelling the U.S. in a camper, and then attending graduate school to become a licensed psychologist. She hopes to use this degree to work in equine assisted psychotherapy, focusing on at-risk youth.

Kennedy Peters

Originally, from Miamisburg, Ohio, Peters chose UK to experience the horse racing industry hands-on. Her favorite memory from her time at UK was meeting all of her best friends. She plans to pursue a job in Thoroughbred sales and/or breeding.

Katey Poe

Originally, from Live Oak, Florida, Poe said she chose UK because its equine program is one of the most notable in the country. Her favorite UK memory was her time spent at the immunology lab at the Gluck Equine Research Center. Poe will be working as an equine specialist for Tribute Nutrition.









Rebecca (Becca) Puglisi

Originally, from New Milford, Connecticut, Puglisi chose to come to UK because she wanted to be as involved with horses as she could. Her favorite memory from UK was interacting with all of the "wonderful faculty that supported me during my four years at the university and wanted the best for my future." She will be working for the UK Plant and Soil Science Department.

Meghan Riviello

Originally, from Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, Riviello chose UK because she wanted to work with horses and she thought there was no better place to be exposed to the industry than Lexington. Some of her favorite UK memories were exposing her non-horse friends to all of the equine activities in Lexington, such as the horse shows, Keeneland and the Kentucky Three Day Event. She will be continuing with her position at Miramonte Equine based in Nicholasville, Kentucky, where she will work as their assistant trainer and sales coordinator.

Shelby Rivkin

Originally, from Canton, Georgia, Rivkin chose to attend UK because of the beautiful campus and the great pre-vet opportunities. Her favorite UK memories consist of going to football tailgates, State Street and Keeneland with her friends. She hopes to attend veterinary school in Georgia.

Emma Sanchez

Originally, from Louisville, Colorado, Sanchez chose UK because the equine industry in Lexington provided many opportunities. Her favorite UK memory is shearing a sheep in a lab with Dr. Ely. After graduation, she will be attending Colorado State University Veterinary School.









GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

Elaine (Lainey) Sullivan

Originally, from Pembroke, Massachusetts, Sullivan chose to come to UK for a new and exciting experience. "I was excited to learn more about the equine program and the Lexington area and I fell in love with the campus and community," Sullivan said. Her favorite memory while at UK was meeting all of her friends who have become a large part of her life and experience as a UK student. Sullivan hopes to gain a job within marketing and agriculture.

Kaitlyn Rutowski

Originally from Baltimore, MD, Rutkowski chose to come to UK for the Equine Program and so she could learn as much as possible about horses. Her favorite UK memory was all the wonderful time spent with the friends she made while attending school. After graduation, she plans to return to Maryland and pursue a career rescuing neglected and abandoned horses.

Kelly Thomas

Originally from Cincinnati, OH, Thomas chose UK for the Equine Program. Her favorite memory at UK was when she was a TA for ASC 101 lab, where she got to dissect a 55 pound calf out of a uterus. She is not sure what she is doing after graduation just yet.

Emma Tilghman

Hailing from Stamping Ground, KY, Tilghman chose UK because she had just moved to Kentucky and wasn't quite ready to leave. Her favorite part about her time at UK was her involvement in greek life and the Equine Science and Management major, as she said it made the large campus feel smaller. After graduation, she will be working as an EMT and then she hopes to apply to Medical School.







Blair Turnbull

Originally from Weston, MO, Turnbull chose UK because it was in the heart of horse country. Her favorite UK memory was when she showed and sold Maine Chance Farm's first Select July Sale yearling, whose name was Scarlett. After graduation, she plans on attending graduate school to become an agricultural teacher.

Elizabeth-Anne Van Arsdall

Originally from Georgetown, KY, Arsdall chose UK because it had a great Equine Program and she liked Lexington. Her favorite part about her time at UK was her involvement in UK's Wesley Foundation, as she met many wonderful people and created cherished memories. After graduation, she will be getting married and attending Asbury Theological Seminary in the fall.

Cheyenne Zoechling

Originally from Encinitas, CA, Zoechling chose to come to UK for the beautiful campus and city, the people and the large horse community. Her favorite UK memory was taking EQM 105, as she loved the hands on experience and teaching that Brian Cassil and Dr. Mary Rossano provided. After graduation, she hopes to return to California and become a trainer.

Congratulations to our other graduates as well...

Lindsay Beals Julia Christopher Abigail Fielder Eric Jepson Shelbie Parker Allison Strecker Kayla Watson Caitlyn Benedetto Joslyn Cope Eddie Harvey Ashley Lowe Anna Paterek Annabel Williams Daniel Bloom Jr. Olivia Desch Rachel Henry Christine May Katherine Sowa Rachel Winnenberg

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT







UK Research Will Gauge Effect of Indoor Arenas on Horse and Human Health

By Holly Wiemers

Little research has been conducted on indoor riding arena environments. To remedy this gap in understanding the effects on horse and human health from indoor arenas, a graduate student in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering is conducting a survey to learn more.

Master's degree candidate Staci McGill intends to gather information on how environmental exposures and arena design impacts heat transfer, air quality and the health of both horses and riders. The survey will be available through July 24 <u>here.</u>

The survey asks owners, managers and riders about air quality, conditions, arena footing, and associated health outcomes in horses and humans. It also includes questions about arena design, such as footing, maintenance, number of windows and doors, the arena environment and if horses are stabled in the same building.

"I am a rider who has always been conscious of the fact that our horses are athletes. We ask them to do so much for us, and yet I've seen so many who are coughing or tripping and just not performing to the best of their ability," McGill said. "I wondered if the environment they are in affects them, and I wanted to learn more."

According to McGill, the survey will examine if there are common characteristics or designs used in the construction of indoor riding arenas, determine what ventilation is used, and if there are areas of concern from a health perspective. The accumulated date will ultimately result in advice on better design to provide the healthiest environment for horses, riders, trainers, instructors and spectators of equine sports.

Morgan Hayes, livestock systems extension specialist and McGill's advisor, said, "We suspect there are some common environmental challenges in arenas like dust levels and moisture management. Quantifying the percent of arena owners and occupants with environmental concerns will assist with prioritizing research needs."

Another of McGill's committee advisors, Mick Peterson, director of UK Ag Equine Programs, explained the importance of the research.

"In spite of the association of horse arenas with human and equine health, they continue to be built based on experience rather than science. This engineering research will help inform efforts within the industry to develop a more systematic understanding of the materials and designs of equine arenas," he said.

Kimberly Tumlin, is also one of McGill's master's degree committee members.

"Environmental and occupational health are fundamental aspects of public health, and this research touches on both in the equestrian population. I am delighted to collaborate on a project that will provide a framework

to potentially improve health outcomes across both occupational and recreational use of indoor equestrian arenas," said Tumlin, assistant dean in the UK College of Public Health. "This survey combines one of the first lines of assurance of environmental and occupational health, the design and engineering controls to minimize or eliminate environmental exposures. The participants in this survey will help us understand how design factors impact health outcomes, particularly in temperature and respiratory exposures."

McGill's area of concentration is livestock systems engineering and controlled environment engineering. Other advisors on McGill's committee include Joseph Taraba, bioenvironmental engineering extension specialist, and Bob Coleman, extension horse specialist.



photo by Bob Coleman

KTOB Foundation Invests in Equine Research at UK Gluck Center

By Jenny Evans

The Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Foundation announced that it will invest \$250,000 in the University of Kentucky Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center. The gift will be matched by the university and will enable the Gluck Center to renovate an equine infectious disease research laboratory.

The KTOB Foundation and the Gluck Center will also create a partnership facilitating a joint response in the event of an equine crisis. The renovated laboratory is essential to that response.

"Over the years, the support received by the Gluck Equine Research Center from the KTA/KTOB has proved invaluable and essential to our world-renowned faculty in fulfilling our mission to enhance the well-being of the equine," said Stuart Brown, veterinarian and chair of the Gluck Equine Research Foundation Board. "This most recent contribution will continue to allow us to sustain this commitment in meeting the challenges that face our stakeholders, whenever they may occur, in caring for their horses on a daily basis."

The Gluck Equine Research Center is the only scientific institute in the United States with nearly all of its faculty conducting full-time research in equine health and diseases. It is critical that its scientists be on the cutting edge of technology and ready to respond to any crisis that may occur in the industry, as it did with its rapid response to Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome.

"As the custodian of funds raised during the Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome in 2001, our sole mission is to immediately respond to an existential threat to the breeding industry in Central Kentucky," said Jimmy Bell, president of the KTOB Foundation. "Maintaining world-class research in infectious disease infrastructure at the UK Gluck Equine Research Center is imperative to being prepared for a future emergency."

The foundation has been an important partner of the college for many years.

"The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment appreciates the long-term partnership with the KTOB Foundation. KTA/KTOB is a trusted advisor to our college in our quest to serve and support Kentucky's signature industry," said Dean Nancy Cox. "This gift helps our research program in the most foundational way by providing the kind of laboratory technologies that drive research innovations."

"This grant from the KTOB Foundation enables us to update our facilities to better position the Gluck Center to recruit world-class researchers in the area of infectious diseases," said David Horohov, department chair and Gluck Equine Research Center director. "This partnership will also lead to the establishment of an annual stakeholders meeting to discuss potential emerging threats and how to respond in the event of an emergency."

KTA/KTOB President Pope McLean Jr. said the association will repay the KTOB Foundation over a short period to maintain \$500,000 in the event of an emergency similar to MRLS. No further grants will be made during this vesting period.

"Both the gift and repayment are consistent with our dual mandate to promote and protect the Thoroughbred industry in the Commonwealth of Kentucky," McLean said.

The mission of the Gluck Center, a UK Ag Equine program in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, is scientific discovery, education and dissemination of knowledge for the benefit of the health and well-being of horses. The Gluck Center faculty conducts equine research in seven targeted areas: genetics and genomics, immunology, infectious diseases, musculoskeletal science, parasitology, pharmacology/toxicology and reproductive health. Their continuing efforts build upon a tradition of excellence in equine research dating back to 1915. For more information on the Gluck Center, click here.



Equine Science and Management

Spring 2018 Dean's List

Aimee Snow Alexis Schwartz Amanda Putorek Amber Roher Anne Wilferth Ashley Lowe **Audrey Johnson** Autumn Cooper Averie Levanti Blair Turnbull Caitlin Nolasco **Caroline** Petrine **Casey Wallace Chloe Bellerive Claire Burnham**

Craig Hendricks Darby Cease **Dominique Lien Elaine Sullivan Elizabeth Burwell** Elizabeth Boladian **Emily Murphy Emily Sklar Emma Sanchez Erica Bischoff** Gabrielle Bissell Grace Vazquez Grace Camp Haley Zynda Hanna Darrow

Equine Science and Management

Spring 2018 Dean's List

Hannah Smither Jenna Bryant Joanna Ricci Jordan Poff Jordan Thomson Jordan Parker Julia Christopher Julie Dettman Justin Pedoto Kaelyn Chick Kari Sletten Katelin Teague Katey Poe **Katherine Sowa** Katherine Ritz

Kathryn Simmons Kelly Thomas **Kerri** Peters **Kiley Moore** Lauren Fleming Mackenzie Johnson **Madeleine Richards Madison Maavere** Margaret Rumbaugh Maria Hyrcza MaryGrace Hartzog Meghan Kennerly Meredith O'Connell Michaela DeNardo Natalie Cicala

Equine Science and Management

Spring 2018 Dean's List

Nathan Cole Olivia Desch Rachel Causey **Rachel Winnenberg Riley Drumm Riley Zimmerman** Ryann Mahaney Sabryn Szczepanski Samantha Bussanich Samantha Geller Samantha Laurel Samantha Winslett

Sarah Turri Shannon Clancey Shawn Easterbrook Shelbie Parker Sherry Jackson Sydney Cooper Szu Yuan Ke Tatiana Sushko **Taylor Cordovano Taylour Butler** Trevor Martinelli

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