**Meeting Minutes**

**NC 1029 Annual Meeting**

**October 30th, 2017**

**Stations represented:** Purdue, Iowa State Univeristy, UC Davis, University of Florida, Ohio State University, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, Oregon State University, Tarleton State University, Rutgers University, Kansas State University, Washington State University, University of Maryland (13)

**Participants**: Gaskill, Croney, Erasmus, Minton, Johnson, Tucker, Horback, Makagon, Blatchford, Miller-Cushon, Wickens, Proudfoot, Pairis-Garcia, Siegford, Swanson, Endres, Udell, Jones, Katz, Hulbert, Adams-Progar, Dennis

**Minutes:**

Start 12:05 by Katy Proudfoot

Quick welcome and introduction of Margo Holland for an update from NIFA

Margo Holland ( NIFA) - links to programs mentioned will be sent out

-Make sure everyone is signed up for NIFA subscription service including RFAs, press releases, etc.

-When using search options, they are usually species or animal production as a topic area and not animal welfare/well-being specifically. Do not have that ability now to search for AW, hope to have it in the future.

-Will send a link to access fact sheets.

-Budget for fiscal year 2017 – in continuing resolution through Nov. AFRI program for 2016 the A1251 – Animal Well-being – able to make 3 awards – heat stress , probiotic , optimizing immunocastration

-Award total $1.65Million – 16.6% success rate

-This year process closed July 17 in the process of evaluating submissions

-Wanted to make sure everyone was aware of funding opportunities – critical Agriculture research and extension CARE – awards funding up to $300K for short term/applied projects. RFA deadline passed

-Exploratory program – geared toward proof of concept – where don’t have a lot of preliminary data for AFRI. Can request up to $100K. Need LOI, no deadline. Outline in one page.

-Number of different stakeholder opportunities. Had a session in Kansas and Atlanta. Another stakeholder meeting is planned, will provide Katy with link to provide stakeholder input at anytime. Video recording s / transcripts of webinar will also be available on website – link will be sent.

-Partnership opportunities with other countries through AFRI? They are working on making these easier.

-Article on well-being will be sent to Katy suggesting a reduction in regulation and policies for animal research. Asking congress to do away with regular inspections. Interested in what we have to say. Thinks that this group should weigh in on it. Wanted to know if we think we should weigh in on it or not.

-NIFA needs to show impact in order to maintain the programs.

-Hatch reports – need them to prepare dossiers for congress on impact of animal well-being funding

- She will send out instructions

Katy Proudfoot

-Intro and reminder about annual reporting

Annual report – sent out a example of last year and objectives. Accomplishments, impacts of your work

Deadline Dec 8th.

Future meeting – talked about electronic meeting every other year. Next year is in person. Talked about timing with another conference next year such as ISAE or animal welfare judging contest.

Purdue –

Erasmus. Effects of stocking density on welfare and behavior collaborations with Pen state and others. Also working with laying hens types of wire. Follow up work on welfare. Follow up work on behavior and activity levels under different stressors. Environmental enrichments in farrowing crates – on going.

Gaskill. Thermal stress assessment in sows. Looking at FAS guidelines. No recommendations for older animals. Looking at behavioral preferences in different thermal stresses

Croney. Most non-agricultural related. Field metrics for animal welfare. Cognitive and Concept learning in pigs. In Collaboration with Fair Oaks. Human animal interactions. Large group housing. Establishing good metrics for pain and lameness in horses. Focus – early recognition. Public perception of animal welfare. Pork, poultry, dairy cattle. 3rd party auditor training for auditors for dogs

Ernie Minton.

-Associate dean for research and graduate programs and experiment station at Kansas University

-Work in stress physiology of livestock.

-Project is good through 2021, so renewal will be 2020.

-The more opportunities that we have to get together face to face, the better.

-Ernie and Margo discussed impacts

Anna Johnson – Iowa State

-Collaborative higher education grant funded

-With Susanne Millman, Gerard Danielson, etc – at Ohio with Katy and Monique

-1 credit courses Veterinary courses – contemporary use of animals in research – IACUC, animal welfare act, USDA/APHIS, euthanasia, etc

-To create online case study database, etc.

-Develop animal welfare hands on rotations for senior vet students

UC Davis

Kristina Horback

-Currently working primarily with swine

-Enrichment – point source objects – oral EE

 -Group Sows, piglets, boars

-Social network analysis

-Personality Traits, temperament, behavioral syndromes. Evaluating consistent personality traits in sows.

-Interaction with humans, environment, etc.

-Affective state, coping style, vocalization, cognitive bias work. Especially between different breeds

-Expanding to sheep, cattle and poultry

Maja Makagon

-Keel bone damage in laying hens

 -risk factors of perches

 -rearing systems on keel bone damage risks

-On farm assessments of commercial duck welfare

-Environmental Enrichment work

 -motivation aspects

Richard Blatchford

-Collaborating with Cal Poly

 -Correlation between palpation, X-ray, ultrasound, and post-dissection measures.

-Website – [www.ucdlayinghenassessment.com](http://www.ucdlayinghenassessment.com) (in collaboration with Cassandra Tucker)

 -(audio gives walk through of how to use website, or can contact Richard)

 -Helps train auditors

 -Animal based measures

– Information and testing for bird health, signs of discomfort

-Live Bird Market Welfare

 -Starting to be a target of animal rights groups – trying to get back to the source of the birds

 -With CA Department of Food and Agriculture - voluntary group to track disease risk throughout the state. Members interested in expanding to adding a welfare checklist

 -Create and track welfare recommendations for the CA live bird market, both producers and stores

Cassandra Tucker

-Disbudding wounds in calves – length of healing time and sensitivity during healing under different disbudding protocols

 -Developed tissue scoring system

 -Monitoring epithelial recovery under different systems and force applied

 -Utilizing preference tests

-Co-chairing update to the ag-guide

-With PAACO and Dean foods– developed dairy auditor training

-Joy has edited a series of books. “Advances in­­­­\_\_\_\_welfare” – should be coming out early next year

University of Florida

Wickens

-Novel approach for looking at behavior and well-being in horses.

-Comparison of fresh air and ammonia in air, showing that horses preferred fresh air

-Behavioral assessment of horses during training in therapeutic riding centers, temperament, human-horse interaction.

-Long term response/success in new role as a therapy horse

-Law enforcement training – welfare assessment in cattle and horses

-Interested in talking to Kristina Hornbeck on collaborations

Emily Miller-Cushon

- Facility set up for group housing with auto feeder

-Social behaviors in dairy calves- cognition in facial discrimination

- Regrouping and subsequent regrouping, impact on cognition tasks

- How calf adapts to group after weening

-Social interaction with health status

-Collaborative – behavior of group house sows – social behavioral data

-Collaborative – heat stress early in life and in utero – long-lasting effects of activity.

-Teaches 2 classes in welfare and a graduate course

Cassandra Tucker – would be interested in doing something around teaching for the next meeting

Tarleton State University

Barb Jones (texas bwjones@tarleton.edu)

-Past research - Behavioral gait change characterization and detection using precision dairy monitoring technologies

-Evaluation of four different calf hutch types on hutch temperature/humidity and calf growth performance.

-Evaluation of heat abatement systems on 6 different dairy farms

-Would like to get back into lameness

-Teaching 9 credit hours per year

Ohio State

Monique Pairis-Garcia

-Identifying feeding behavioral patterns and frequencies, including abnormal and inappropriate behavioral patterns utilizing alternative feeding system

-Facility design and group size

-Training program for euthanasia on farms. Ability to ID compromised pigs,

Katy Proudfoot

-Sleep in dairy cows – behavior, production, sleep quality, etc. sleep deprivation

-Calving behavior – pasture study – natural maternal behavior (dairy)

-Veal calf behavior and welfare – health at arrival, mitigation of cross-sucking, understanding husbandry practices

 -looking for collaborations especially on the transportation part

Michigan

Janice Swanson

-Chair of the department

-Working on higher education grant with Candice.

-Returning to faculty position.

-Published book chapter in managing agricultural animals in biomedical and research environments

- Wrapped up the coalition for sustainable animal supply project this year

Janice Siegford

-Welfare judging work, competition up-coming

-Social phenotypes to genotypes – swine

-Heritability in social aggression in pigs

-Automated tracking systems

-More realistic behavioral modeling

-Individual level swine behavior and personality work

-Poultry – laying hen behavior in aviary systems

-Strain effect on behavior in aviary systems (brown vs. white)

-How much perch width they need when sitting on a perch

-Influence of rearing on subsequent behavior

Minnesota

Endres

-Tail biting pigs – effects of personality

-Group housed calf behavior

-Can’t hear through the phone. Missing information –Even through the backup audio, I cannot understand most of the audio. I ran it through 2 filters (I won’t lie and say I tried exhaustively). I do have old people ears, so I can send you the audio if you like.

Oregon

Monique Udell

-Behavior and welfare in companion and captive wildlife species

-Starting more work with agricultural animals

-Pigs in nutrition study – teaching students to do behavioral and cognitive testing and ee design as well as welfare assessment

-Students had to follow a socialization protocol

Rutgers

Larry Katz

-Director of Rutgers cooperative extension

-Self-enurination in goats

-costly signaling

-can housing contribute to or help eliminate this behavior

-endocrine profiles, preferences, etc

-Female preference

-Social dominance among males

Washington State

Amber Adams-Proger

* Cattle - Lesions and warts impacting feeding behavior
* Pest birds on dairy
* Pathogen and behavioral aspects of research
* Working with a falconer

Kansas State

Lindsey Hulbert

-Fit bits on the ears of minipigs

 -validated oral/nasal/facial behaviors

-In-pen approach test for mini boars

-Timing of activity

-Concussion treated minipigs

-Working on behavioral test, preference, etc

-Environmental Enrichment

-Grooming behavior

-Automated rumination monitoring system/digestibility studies

University of Maryland

Rachel Dennis

-Quail – genetic strains – EE effects on cannibalism

-Peripheral nerve mapping

-Behavioral and HRV on overweight ponies

-Heat stress work

-Light and timing of lighting exposure

-Brain-gut-microbiome impacts on behavior

Marte – 1st time in our group

-Working in cattle welfare quality assessment

Finished reports at 4:20

Katy Proudfoot – wrap-up

We should be getting information from Margo

Need to file report

Include impacts and pubs due Dec 8th

Next year’s meeting? We should figure this out by email