

2017

ESS SYMPOSIUM

Minneapolis, MN ■ May 30 – June 2



2017 Equine Science Society Symposium AWARD WINNERS



Outstanding Educator Award

This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated excellence in the area of equine education, either to students or persons in the horse industry.

2017 recipient: **Dr. Shannon Pratt Phillips**

Dr. Shannon E. Pratt Phillips is an Associate Professor of Equine Nutrition in the Department of Animal Science at North Carolina State University. Pratt Phillips received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Guelph in Nutritional Science. Her Master of Science is from the University of Kentucky and her Doctor of Philosophy is from the University of Guelph, both focused on equine nutrition and exercise physiology. She joined the faculty at NCSU in 2006 where she teaches in the field of equine science and nutrition, both via traditional face-to-face classes and online. She received the North Carolina State University Outstanding Teacher Award in 2013, the Gertrude Cox Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching and Learning with Technology in 2014, and was elected as a North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Teacher Fellow in 2014. Her field of research focuses on glucose metabolism, insulin resistance and obesity in horses as well as nutrient requirements of equine and canine athletes. She is a member of the Equine Science Society, North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, American Society of Animal Science, American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition and the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists. She is a Past-President of the American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition and is currently on the Board of Directors for the Equine Science Society.

Josie Coverdale Award for Outstanding Young Professionals

This award recognizes an individual under the age of 40 with less than 10 years of service in academia or industry, who has made meritorious contributions to equine science, in teaching, research, public service or industry. This award was renamed in memory of Dr. Josie A. Coverdale.

2017 recipient: **Dr. Holly Spooner**

After completing her Ph.D., Holly Spooner was named Assistant Professor and Extension Horse Specialist at West Virginia University, developing a new undergraduate equine program and revitalizing extension programming. In 2012, Dr. Spooner was recruited to Middle Tennessee State University as Associate Professor in the Mary Miller Chair in Equine Health. She now directs the nation's only M.S. program in Horse Science. Dr. Spooner has advised 20 M.S. students, who applaud her mentorship and passion. She continues to conduct research on nutrition and exercise interventions to improve performance of the equine athlete, with more than 35 manuscripts and abstracts. She remains involved in public service, having overseen establishment of MTSU's Center of Equine Recovery for Veterans, a therapeutic horsemanship program. In addition, she led the first national conference focusing on uniting higher education with equine-assisted activities and therapies in 2014. Dr. Spooner coaches the MTSU Stock Horse Team, which was named the ASHA National Champions in 2016. Her industry involvement includes serving 9 years on AQHA's Equine Research Committee, as an AQHA and POAC judge, and on the board of the Tennessee Stock Horse Association and Tennessee Pony of the America's Club. She enjoys showing POA's with her husband, Scott, and their daughters, Grace and Gentry.

AFIA Award in Equine Nutrition Research

This award is designed to stimulate research excellence in equine nutrition.

2017 recipient: **Dr. Brian D. Nielsen**

Dr. Brian D. Nielsen is a professor in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University working in equine nutrition and exercise physiology. He completed his B.S. in Animal Science at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls and received his M.S. and Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. He has been an author on 53 peer-reviewed journal articles, 23 book chapters and invited reviews, and 174 conference papers and abstracts. He has given 44 invited international talks and 50 invited national talks. He has authored 65 popular press publications with 40 of the articles dealing with nutrition. He has received \$1.736 million in research funding and is an active member of the American Society of Animal Science and the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists. He served as President of the Equine Science Society – an organization that presented him with the “Outstanding Young Equine Professional Award” in 2001. Additionally, he was awarded the “Outstanding Teacher Award” at the Midwest Section of ASAS and ADSA in 2005, and the ESS and ASAS “Equine Science Award” in 2010. Besides having served on the editorial board for the Journal of Animal Science, The Professional Animal Scientist, Comparative Exercise Physiology, and the Journal of Istanbul Veterinary Sciences, he became a Diplomat in the American College of Animal Nutritionists in 2001, has served on the Nutrition Discipline Committee for the American College of Animal Sciences since 2014, and served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the Nutrient Requirements of Horses (2007).

American Society of Animal Science – Equine Science Society Equine Science Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of extension, research, teaching, or agribusiness in the equine industry. This award is formally presented at the annual ASAS meetings.

2016 recipient: **Dr. Josie A. Coverdale**

Dr. Josie A. Coverdale (born in Jefferson, IA and raised in Krum, TX) earned degrees from Texas A&M University (B.S., Animal Science; 1998) and Iowa State University (M.S. and Ph.D., Animal Nutrition; 2000 and 2003, respectively). Dr. Coverdale was an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia (2003-2006) and joined Texas A&M’s Department of Animal Science in 2006. She was promoted to Associate Professor in 2012 and Equine Science Section Leader in 2015. A February 2016 traffic accident led to the premature passing of Dr. Coverdale. Her research focused on fetal programming, promotion of foal health, and the gut microbiome. She also studied nutraceutical modulation of synovial inflammatory molecules associated with arthritis. Dr. Coverdale taught graduate and undergraduate equine science and animal nutrition courses and mentored over 25 graduate students. She presented nutrition information to equine producers in the U.S. and abroad. Dr. Coverdale was an outstanding representative of the American Society of Animal Science.

2017 recipient: **Dr. Paul Siciliano**

Dr. Paul Siciliano is Professor in the Department of Animal Science at North Carolina State University where he teaches courses in equine management and conducts research in equine nutrition. Siciliano received a B.S. from The Ohio State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. He was a faculty member in the Department of Animal Science at Colorado State University from 1996 to 2006. He is recognized as one of the leading equine nutritionists in the US and has 53 peer-reviewed publications; obtained over \$750,000 in grants; given 147 invited presentations and trained 27 graduate students. Dr. Siciliano has been elected to numerous leadership roles by ESS membership including 20 years Past President, President, Vice President, Program Chair for the national meeting, Secretary/Treasurer, and as a member of the Board of Directors (2000-2005). He also served as a member of the National Research Council Committee on Nutrient Requirements of Horses (2004-2007).

Fellows of the Equine Science Society

This award recognizes distinguished service to the horse industry and to the Equine Science Society over an extended period of time.

2017 recipient: Dr. Kathleen P. Anderson

Dr. Kathy Anderson has been Extension Horse Specialist for the University of Nebraska with teaching and extension responsibilities since 1991. She has built a highly respected, visible and comprehensive equine program bridging youth development, horse owner education, and development of undergraduate students. It is common for her to develop relationships with youth during their 4-H years, advise them as undergraduates, and then assist them on their post-graduation career paths. Dr. Anderson's innovations in adult education, multi-media resources and undergraduate courses are nationally recognized. She received the ESS Outstanding Educator Award (2011), the ASAS-ESS Equine Science Award (2014), and the UNL Holling Award for Teaching Excellence in Ag & Natural Resources (2011). Her recognition as a leader is further evidenced by her past presidency of the American Youth Horse Council. Anderson is an extension and teaching professional who has used innovative methods to promote and deliver educational activities. Each program is an expression of her commitment to provide a quality educational experience to participants of all ages. Her contributions to undergraduate students are alone meritorious; however, when her contributions to youth through her national and state extension programming are added, the educational innovations and resources are truly distinguished.

2017 recipient: Elizabeth A. Greene

Dr. Elizabeth A. Greene, known to all of us as Betsy, started her studies as an undergraduate at Morehead State University. She received an Associate of Applied Science and Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from Morehead. She received a Master's degree from the University of Arizona and a Ph.D. from Kansas State University. She was hired as an Equine Extension Specialist at Washington State University in 1993, spent 15 years in Vermont and is now back at a familiar location, the University of Arizona. Betsy's accomplishments are vast; her enthusiasm, infectious; her work ethic, tireless. Her contributions to the horse industry include national leadership with USEF, Vermont Horse Council, ESS, American Medical Equestrian Association, United States Eventing Association, and the American Association for Horsemanship Safety. While at Washington State she developed a video on Helmet Safety that is still the industry standard today. "Everything Equine," a four-day educational event and consumer trade show featuring more than 70 seminars and demonstration events that was attended by over 8,500 people each year, which Betsy developed, became the premier horse event in Vermont. Her involvement with HorseQuest pioneered the way equine specialists and others work collaboratively in real-time across state lines in the development of equine content and programs to benefit horse owners throughout the world. Betsy's advocacy to raise awareness of the issues facing the horse industry, promote solutions and provide educational opportunities has been an underlying current of her contributions to the field of equine science.

Distinguished Service Award in Equine Science

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of equine science. The award is the most prestigious honor that the Equine Science Society can bestow upon one of its members.

2017 recipient: **Dr. Ann Swinker**

Dr. Ann Swinker has provided 42 years of commendable service to the equine industry, with 27 years as an Extension Horse Specialist in Pennsylvania and Colorado, following 15 years as a County Agricultural Agent in Pennsylvania. She developed a strong research and extension program focused around the needs of her clientele, including management and environmental issues. Specifically, her program has focused on stable air quality, small acreage management, manure management, and equine behavioral and reproductive issues. Dr. Swinker has been successful in garnering more than \$2.3 million in funding. She has been a prolific author of over 150 publications, abstracts, and proceedings and over 750 popular press articles. She has successfully mentored 13 graduate students and served on 15 additional graduate student committees. Dr. Swinker is also has given thousands of invited papers, abstracts and oral presentations nationally and internationally. In addition, she has averaged nearly 30 equine educational workshops, presentations and clinics each year of her career. Dr. Swinker has worked tirelessly to maintain and support a thriving horse industry in her state and community. The American Horse Council recently recognized her with their highest honor, the "Van Ness Award." She has also been recognized with the "Colorado Horse Person of the Year" and three different "Distinguished Service Awards." Dr. Swinker has made meritorious and significant contributions to the equine industry and has successfully disseminated equine information to horse owners and professionals throughout the U.S. and world.

Graduate Student Competition – Equine Biosciences Section

1st place: **Caroline Loos** – *University of Kentucky*

2nd place: **Jill M. Bobel** – *University of Florida*

3rd place: **Caitlin J. Wenzel** – *Mississippi State University*

Graduate Student Competition – Exercise Science Section

1st place: **Jennifer L. MacNicol** – *University of Guelph*

2nd place: **Kalley Fikes** – *Texas A & M University*

3rd place: **Chelsea A. Nowlin** – *Michigan State University*

Graduate Student Competition – Genetics Section

1st place: **Elaine M. Norton** – *University of Minnesota*

Graduate Student Competition – Nutrition Section

1st place: **Taylor L. Hansen** – *University of Florida*

2nd place: **Patricia Ochonski** – *The Pennsylvania State University*

3rd place: **Morgan B. Pyles** – *University of Kentucky*

Graduate Student Competition – Production & Management Section

1st place: **Amanda M. Grev** – *University of Minnesota*

2nd place: **Katie L. Kaufman** – *Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*

3rd place: **Devan N. Catalano** – *University of Minnesota*

Graduate Student Competition – Reproductive Physiology Section

1st place: Kristin Klohonatz – *Colorado State University*

2nd place: Meaghan M. O’Neil – *Texas A & M University*

3rd place: Kelli A. Davis – *Colorado State University*

Graduate Student Competition – Teaching & Extension Section

1st place: Abby E. Neu – *University of Minnesota*

2nd place: Tayler L. Hansen – *University of Florida*

3rd place: Monique R. Hovey – *Murray State University*

Undergraduate Student Competition

1st place: Rhiannon M. Sehl – *Michigan State University*

2nd place: Morgan J. Askins – *Western Kentucky University*

3rd place: Emily J. Rosenthal – *South Dakota State University*

★NOTE: photos of award winners and various conference events can be found on Google Drive at z.umn.edu/ESS17photos