

March 2014

# Wildcat Canter

*University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs Newsletter*

***6th Annual  
Equine Career &  
Opportunities Fair  
a success***



# Wildcat Canter



## Faculty spotlight: Martin Nielsen

Martin Nielsen, veterinarian and assistant professor at the University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Center, was born in Denmark and attended the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University in Copenhagen, Denmark. After graduating from veterinary school in 2001, he practiced veterinary medicine for three years in Denmark before deciding to attend the University of Copenhagen in 2004 for graduate school. In August 2011, Nielsen came to the Gluck Equine Research Center for research in equine parasitology, which is his training and passion.



## Sixth annual Equine Career & Opportunities Fair a success

By many accounts, the sixth annual Equine Career Fair was the most successful one yet. Presented by the UK Ag Equine Programs, this year's fair was held March 4 at the Club at Spindletop. More than 40 area organizations provided career information and networking opportunities for students.



## Clubs and teams updates

Since the last issue of the Wildcat Canter, the UKET Hunt Seat team has had several accomplishments. UKET won its region (Zone 6, Region 3) which means it's competing as a team at Zone Championships on April 5 at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio.

## Other features:

UK's Jill Stowe and her OTTB Dundee generate media interest

Student professionalism series



14

*Cover photo by JoLee Willis, member of UK's Equine Careers Class and Career & Opportunity Fair planning committee*

## Spring is prime time for equine enthusiasts

In the past week or two, I have noticed daffodils bravely emerging from the “Winter of 2014.” I had never heard the term “Polar Vortex” prior to this year, and I must admit I heard it too many times in the past three months! But, as we begin to emerge from our extended, winter-induced equestrian hibernation, the daffodils of the equine world are also appearing. Spring is such an exciting time in the Bluegrass for horse people! Keeneland’s Spring Race Meet and the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event are occasions that people near and far look forward to, and of course, the Kentucky Derby isn’t far behind.



There are exciting things happening on campus, too! One of the marquee events for our students every year is the Distinguished Industry Lecture Series, which is designed to give students the opportunity to learn from our industry’s most notable contributors. This year’s event is taking place on Monday, April 21, and we are especially excited about this year’s guests. We will have not one, but TWO, industry standouts: Mr. Graham Motion, trainer of 2011 Kentucky Derby winner and 2013 Dubai World Cup winner Animal Kingdom, and Mr. Buck Davidson, who

competed for the U.S. at the 2010 World Equestrian Games and was an alternate for both the 2008 and 2012 U.S. Olympic eventing teams. You may ask, “Why have these two individuals been invited together?” You’ll have to come to find out!

As we’ve done in the past, the event will be moderated by Mr. Dan Liebman past editor-in-chief for *The Blood-Horse* magazine. During the conversation with our guests, he expertly weaves in questions submitted by students. So, think about what you would like to learn from two giants in the equine industry, and please e-mail them to [equine@uky.edu](mailto:equine@uky.edu) by April 14! We look forward to seeing you on Monday, April 21, at Seay Auditorium. The event is from 6 – 8:30 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Take advantage of what Central Kentucky has to offer equine enthusiasts this time of the year! We know that everyone is busy, but where else can you get opportunities like those mentioned here?

*Jill Stowe*  
Director, UK Ag Equine Programs

## Upcoming Events:

### April 1-11

Advising for Summer & Fall 2014 terms

### April 11

Last day to withdraw from a class for academic reasons

### April 21

Distinguished Industry Lecture Series, 6-8:30 p.m., Seay Auditorium

### April 22-May 9

Students may change majors

### April 24-27

Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event, Kentucky Horse Park

### April 25-27

Kentucky Reining Cup, Kentucky Horse Park, Alltech Arena



## MASTHEAD

### ■ Wildcat Canter Editorial Staff

Alexandra Harper, MBA, contributing writer, managing editor, layout  
Jackson Wells, ESMA undergrad and intern, contributing writer, layout  
Holly Wiemers, MA, senior editor, contributing writer

### ■ Wildcat Canter Editorial Board

Bob Coleman, PhD, PAS  
director for undergraduate studies in equine science and management, associate professor in animal and food sciences and extension horse specialist

Nancy Cox, PhD  
dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Elizabeth LaBonty, MS  
lecturer and internship coordinator

Jill Stowe, PhD  
director of UK Ag Equine Programs and associate professor in agricultural economics

Kristen Wilson, MS  
academic program coordinator



### UK Ag Equine Programs

N212 Ag Sciences Building North

Lexington, KY 40546-0091

Office: (859) 257-2226

equine@uky.edu

www.ca.uky.edu/equine

## Spring Semester Study Breaks for ESMA Students

UK Ag Equine Programs invites you to stop by our office in Ag Sciences North, Room 212, for a study break during the last week of classes. We know how hectic and sometimes stressful the week before final exams can be and sometimes you just need to take a break. We will have refreshments/treats for students from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day starting on Monday, April 28, through Thursday, May 1.

# Tips for having a successful advising appointment

## How to schedule an advising appointment:

- To make an appointment, you will need to log onto myUK and click the MyInfo tab.
- Then click on my appointments, select College of Agriculture and then select your assigned advisor.
- Then register for a time to meet with your advisor that best works with your schedule.

## How to prepare for your advising appointment:

- Check myUK for any holds on your account (besides your advising hold). If you have holds (library, parking tickets, alcohol.edu, etc.), take the necessary steps to remove the hold. You will not be able to register if there is a hold on your account.
- Review the Equine Science and Management Major Sheet at <http://www.uky.edu/registrar/Major-Sheets/MS1314/agr/eqm.pdf> to identify what classes you should be considering enrolling in for the fall semester.
- Review the Degree Planner (APEX) through myUK, a great way to track your academic progress.
- Check out the Summer and Fall 2014 schedule of courses for class times and course pre-requisites. These can be found at [https://myuk.uky.edu/zapps/slcm\\_coursecatalog/](https://myuk.uky.edu/zapps/slcm_coursecatalog/).
- Make a list of possible course selections.
- Write down questions you may have.

## Take an active role in the advising process:

- Be on time for your appointment.
- Come prepared to give the advising session your full attention, meaning cell phones and other electronic devices are silent and away.
- Don't bring friends, parents or significant others to your appointment.
- Don't interrupt or lurk while another student is meeting with your advisor.
- Bring your list of possible courses.
- Bring a writing instrument and paper to take notes.
- Ask questions if you don't understand something.
- Take notes and keep copies of your advising material in a folder.
- Bring your calendar to sign up for another advising appointment to finalize your four-year plan of study.



## Equine Science and Management alumni update

Since the official implementation of the Equine Science and Management degree program at UK in 2009, we have graduated close to 100 students. Over the past year, we have been working hard to connect with our graduates and find out the role they are currently playing within the equine industry. Of the 86 percent of graduates we've been able to connect with so far, we've learned:

Seventy two percent are currently employed within the equine industry. These graduates are working in the areas identified below:

- Riding/training/showing (horse racing trainer, Saddlebred trainer, groom)
- Medical (vet tech, pharmacy tech)
- Management (yearling division foreman, office manager, operation manager)
- Marketing/public relations (media services coordinator, writer, marketing)
- Non-profit/associations (breeds records, program coordinator)
- Sales (pharmaceutical sales, yearling sales prep)
- Professional Services (real estate)

Twenty-one percent have received additional schooling including graduate/professional school, vet school and the Darley Flying Start Program.

Seven percent are employed, but not within the equine industry and have sought jobs in the areas of law enforcement, human pharmaceutical sales, and local sales positions for national-based companies.

## Upcoming alumni events

Saturday, April 12 - ESMA Alumni Tailgate at Keeneland - All ESMA alumni are welcome to hang out, reconnect, bring a friend and enjoy a day at the races with fellow equine graduates and faculty and staff. Catered lunch will be provided on The Hill adjacent to Keene Barn and Entertainment Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP by Friday, April 4 to [equine@uky.edu](mailto:equine@uky.edu) or 859-257-2226.



## UK Leader in Residence event connects horses, education

Lissa Pohl

Source: News release

Debbie Anderson, co-founder and executive director of Strides to Success, spoke at the 2014 W. Norris Duvall Leader in Residence event March 24-28. Strides to Success is an equine assisted learning facility located in Plainfield, Ind., that connects horses with kids, adults and veterans for educational purposes and life skills development.

Hosted by the Center for Leadership Development in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, the Leader in Residence program brings to the UK campus nationally and world renowned leaders who are known for their ethical style of decision making and for their focus on youth leadership development

Anderson has been professionally involved in the horse industry for more than 35 years. She has more than 10,000 hours of experience with equine assisted learning and equine assisted psychotherapy work, serving hundreds of schools, mental health providers and corporate leaders. During the past several years, she has focused on assisting equestrian centers in the United States and abroad in partnering with elementary and secondary schools to develop equine assisted learning programs.

During the weeklong event, Anderson shared her expertise with UK students and faculty, local school district officials and private colleges on the topics of curriculum development, economic sustainability for equestrian centers through diversification of services and the challenges of running an equine assisted learning facility, among other topics.

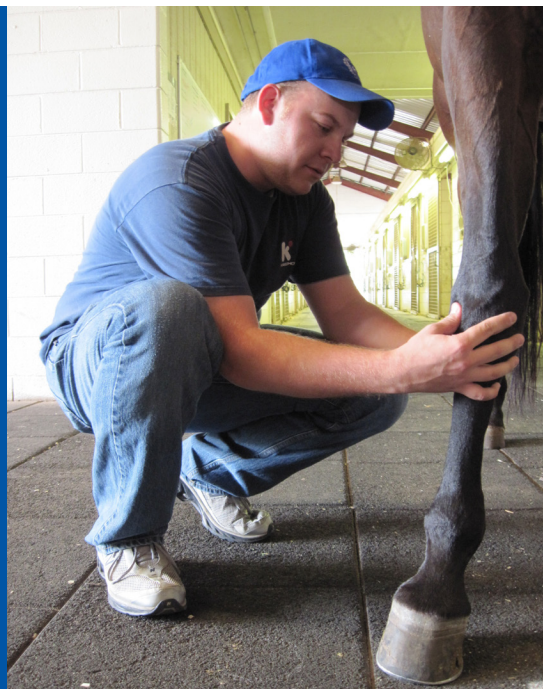
The Leader in Residence program was sponsored by the W. Norris Duvall Endowment for Youth Leadership, Ethics and Service. The endowment's mission is to support programs that reinforce the importance of integrity, ethical behavior and a sense of civic engagement through service-oriented leadership initiatives for Kentucky's youth and college students.

---

### Check out the March issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest at [www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/bed](http://www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/bed)



Our deepest sympathies as we mourn a tragic loss in our equine and UK community this past weekend. One of our alums, a remarkable young man and tremendous horseman leaves us. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Harry Hubbard Johnson, Jr., known to all of us as “Hub.”



## UK hosts workshops to increase professional success in the workplace, classroom

*Stephen West*  
Source: UKNOW

The University of Kentucky College of Communication and Information will be offering a set of educational workshops June 23-27, 2014, uniquely designed for those looking to enhance their careers as professionals and as educators.

The 21st Century Communication Skills for Success in the Workplace and the Classroom academy capitalizes on the “10 Skills That Will Get You Hired” as outlined by the 2013 National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) found in Forbes Magazine.

Workshop topics will focus on specific communication and information skills, including teamwork and decision-making, effective formal and informal communication, development of multimodal presentations and responsible social media usage.

All participants will spend their mornings attending workshop sessions. Educators will continue instructional design training in the afternoon focusing on communication curriculum development while business professionals are free to leave at lunch and will be offered supplemental webinars. The deadline to register for the Summer Academy is May 15, 2014. The registration form and payment information can be found at <http://ci.uky.edu/icr/summeracademy>.

For additional information or questions about the academy, please contact Sarah Kerksmar at [sarah.kerksmar@uky.edu](mailto:sarah.kerksmar@uky.edu) or 859-257-9589



## Equine-related courses offered in Fall 2014

Advising season is in full swing. Below are the equine-related courses that will be offered in the Fall 2014 semester. Please check the online course catalog for more information. If you have any questions, please contact your assigned advisor or Kristen Wilson at [kristenwilson1@uky.edu](mailto:kristenwilson1@uky.edu) or 859-257-4610.

Course	Day/Time	Pre-requisite
<b>GEN 109-001</b> - Tools and Tack in the Equine Industry (2 credits)	Mon & Wed - 4 p.m.-4:50 p.m.	None
<b>EQM 101</b> - Intro to the Horse and Horse Industry (2 credits)	Section 001-Tues & Thurs 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.  Section 002-Tues & Thurs 3:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.	None
<b>EQM 205-001</b> -Equine Career Prep (1 credit)	Monday- 1 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.	None
<b>AEC 300-001</b> -Equine Marketing	Wednesday - 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	ECO 201
<b>GEN 300-010</b> - Equine Investments (3 credits)	Tuesday- 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.	ECO 201/Junior Standing
<b>ASC 310</b> - Equine Anatomy (2 credits)	Monday (Lecture)- 1 p.m. to 1:50 p.m. Tuesday (Lab)- 1 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.	ASC 101
<b>ASC 311</b> - Advanced Equine Evaluation ( 1 credit)	Tues & Thurs- 3:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.	ASC 310
<b>ASC 320</b> - Equine Management (3 credits)	Section 001- Mon & Wed (Lecture) 10 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.  Tues (Lab) - 1 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.  Section 002- Mon & Wed (Lecture) 10 a.m. to 10:50 p.m.  Wed (Lab)- 1 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.	ASC 101
<b>EQM 490</b> - Equine Capstone	Section 001- Tues & Thurs 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.  Section 002- Tues & Thurs 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Senior Standing
<b>VS 307</b> - Genetics of Horses	Tues & Thurs- 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.	BIO 148, BIO 152, CHE 107, and CHE 113
<b>VS 500</b> - Advanced Equine Reproduction	Tues & Thurs - 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.	ASC 364

## UK's Jill Stowe and OTTB Dundee generate media interest

*Cosequin presents OTTB Showcase: A New Life for Dundee*

Jen Roytz

Thoroughbreds have a reputation of being hot and high strung, at least on the track. They embrace the “go” and detest the “whoa.” Dundee, a big-boned son of Medaglia d’Oro, could not be less like that stereotype. Bred in New York, Dundee only raced four times – twice at 2 and twice as a 3-year-old – but he could only be bothered to keep running in two of those outings. To read the entire story, visit, <http://www.paulickreport.com/features/ottb-showcase/cosequin-presents-ottb-showcase-a-new-life-for-dundee/>.

## New Vocations Announces 2014 Ambassadors; UK's Jill Stowe and her OTTB Dundee are one duo named

*Blood-Horse Staff*

New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program has announced its 2014 ambassadors selected to represent the organization and help promote retired racehorses in second careers.

Launched earlier this year, the ambassador program is offered to equestrians who have adopted a horse from New Vocations and wish to assist the organization in educating the equestrian community on the athleticism, heart and versatility of retired racehorses.

New Vocations originally expected to start with 10 ambassadors. But with the overwhelming response of adopters who applied to participate by submitting photos and videos on why they would be the ideal ambassador, the program decided to increase the number to 16 for 2014.

"We are extremely pleased to have 16 highly qualified equestrians promote racehorse adoptions in their chosen discipline this year," said Anna Ford, New Vocations program director, in a release. "On any given day we have over 70 horses in our program needing a new home, so it's crucial that we continue to seek ways to educate the public about our program and the versatility of retired racehorses."

This year's Thoroughbred ambassadors are: New Vocations Thoroughbred Jill Stowe and Dundee; Laura Vorwerk and Sam P; Alexandra Gainer and Gone Ballistic; Peggy O'Neill and Patty Wagon; Abigail Gentry with Bridlemeup and Chanttoomuch; Laura Norton and Angel's Tune; Mary McDonald and Russian Ally; Monica Vollmer and Yankee Wonder; and Nicole Schimweg and Tina H.

Each ambassador will be responsible for promoting New Vocations at various events and shows throughout the year by handing out program literature, displaying banners and wearing New Vocations apparel.

Ambassadors will have their own individual blog page on the New Vocations website where they can post about their show experiences as well as share photos and video clips taken at the events. Their equine partners will have an equally important mission to represent retired racehorses as top athletes capable of successfully competing in a variety of disciplines.

The disciplines that will be represented this year include: dressage, eventing, hunter/jumpers, endurance, saddleseat and driving.



# Faculty spotlight: Martin Nielsen

Alexandra Harper

Martin Nielsen, veterinarian and assistant professor at the University of Kentucky Gluck Equine Research Center, was born in Denmark and attended the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University in Copenhagen, Denmark.

After graduating from veterinary school in 2001, he practiced veterinary medicine for three years in Denmark before deciding to attend the University of Copenhagen in 2004 for graduate school. In August 2011, Nielsen came to the Gluck Equine Research Center for research in equine parasitology, which is his training and passion.

“The Gluck Equine Research Center is the leading equine research institution in the world. I came here because of the excellent research environment and unique research facilities and resources available here,” Nielsen said.

Nielsen grew up with Icelandic Horses. His parents owned a stud farm which had training, boarding and a riding school. Nielsen worked as a riding instructor, trainer and farrier for many years prior to veterinary school. Among other things, he lived a full year in Iceland working with horses.

Some of Nielsen’s current research projects include evaluating risk of colic in association with certain parasites, analyzing growth rate data in foals under different deworming regimens, studying the interaction between deworming and vaccination in horses, evaluating antibody responses to deworming and evaluating ultrasonography as a tool for monitoring worm burdens in foals. He recently returned from Tennessee, where he finished a study evaluating possible resistance to larvicidal deworming regimens.



Nielsen has also just wrapped up a crowdfunding project to raise research funding for equine parasitology. The crowdfunding concluded with a total of \$6,000 in funds raised. Nielsen and his team will be spending the money on generating more data on certain naturally-occurring bacteria’s ability to kill parasites.

To learn more about Nielsen, visit <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/gluck/NielsenMK.asp> and to learn more about his crowdfunding project, visit <http://equineparasitology.ca.uky.edu/>.

You can also follow him on Twitter @MartinKNielsen.

## Internship helps student land her first after-college job

Alexandra Harper



Gabrielle Russum, a senior equine science and management major from Saratoga, N.Y., came to the University of Kentucky because of its location.

“I attended a very small all-girls, private school my entire life and I knew I wanted to try something completely different for college. The University of Kentucky, due to both its size and my passion for horses, was a no brainer,” Russum said.

Russum’s first introduction to horses was when her parents hired a pony ride for her 4th birthday party. She then started riding horses at 5 years old and has ridden horses recreationally and competitively since then.

“The experiences I have every day being in the ‘Horse Capital of the World,’ the connections I’ve made during my four years in Lexington and the equine science and management program wouldn’t have been possible anywhere else,” Russum said.

Russum wanted an introduction to pharmaceutical sales in the equine industry, so she chose Equi-Force Equine Products, a nutritional supplement company as her internship site for a semester.

“Gabby’s personality is a great fit for sales,” said lecturer and internship coordinator, Elizabeth LaBonty. “This internship was an excellent stepping stone for her career.”

“I am interested in equine pharmaceutical sales as a career and that had a huge effect on my decision,” Russum said. “Working for an equine nutritionist and starting out selling a basic equine supplement line seemed like a step in the right direction.”

Russum was a personal assistant to equine nutritionist Amy Gill and a sales representative for Equi-Force Equine Products, an equine feed supplement line created by Gill. While on internship, Russum learned to market, sell and complete transactions for Equi-Force, pack and ship internationally and deliver products locally to customers.

When asked what main thing she learned from her internship, Russum said, “Horse supplements, how many different ones there are on the market, what exactly they do and how to choose the best one for your horse.”

This past month, Russum accepted her first job for after graduation. Thanks to her experience with Equi-Force Equine Products, she was able to land a sales position with MediVet America, a locally-based animal stem cell technology company.

# Thoroughbred trainer Graham Motion and three-day eventer Buck Davidson, Jr. team up for UK lecture series

Holly Wiemers

Two equine industry titans will team up for University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs' next Distinguished Industry Lecture Series. H. Graham Motion, trainer of the 2011 Kentucky Derby winner Animal Kingdom, and Bruce "Buck" Davidson, Jr., an eventer who competed for the United States at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games and was an alternate for both the 2008 and 2012 U.S. Olympic teams, will speak April 21 at 6 p.m. EDT in the Ag Science Building's Seay Auditorium on the UK campus.

Sponsored by Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, the event is free and open to the public.

"We are thrilled that Mr. Motion and Mr. Davidson are willing to so generously give of their time and expertise to provide this unique opportunity for our students and community to learn from not one, but two of the industry's most respected individuals. In addition, we are looking forward to discovering the common theme between two seemingly different equine sports, racing and eventing," said Jill Stowe, director of UK Ag Equine Programs and faculty member in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Department of Agricultural Economics.

Motion captured the 137th Kentucky Derby in 2011 with Team Valor's Animal Kingdom, who would also go on to run second in the Preakness Stakes and win the 2013 Dubai World Cup. Motion, a native of Cambridge, England, moved to the U.S. when he was 16. His father was a U.S. representative for the British sales company Tattersalls. Motion worked for Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard and as an assistant to Bernard (Bernie) P. Bond before taking out his own trainer's license. He has since saddled more than 1,000 winners. Motion currently resides in Fair Hill, Md., with his wife and two children and operates a public stable, Herringswell Stables, in Lewisville, Pa. His official website can be found at <http://www.hgrahammotion.com>.

According to his official bio, Davidson, the son of eventing legend Bruce Davidson, Sr., has been in the saddle since birth. He is recognized as an outstanding athlete, horseman, competitor, trainer, coach and clinician. He runs a training and competition facility during the winter in Ocala, Fla. and during the summer in Riegelsville, Pa. His students range from young riders and adult amateurs to professionals. He will be competing in the 2014 Rolex Kentucky Three Day Event. His accomplishments include the 2013 Pinnacle Trophy for highest placed U.S. rider at Rolex KY CCI, top ranked rider in the U.S. in 2011, 2011 Pan American Team member and second ranked rider in the U.S. in 2010 and 2009. His official website can be found at <http://www.buckdavidson.com>.

"This lecture series has always featured distinguished leaders and practitioners of the equine industry. For this series, we have a true 'dream team,' invited by Dr. Stuart Brown of our sponsoring organization. Dr. Brown and our speakers are linked through respect for and admiration of the late Christine Comella Brown, an eventer who was the wife of Dr. Brown, and who we are very proud to say was a UK alum," said Nancy Cox, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment dean.

The Distinguished Lecture Series began in the fall of 2009 and has become a signature event of UK Ag Equine Programs. It is designed to showcase important figures from the equine industry in an informal setting. Dan Liebman, past editor-in-chief for The Blood-Horse magazine, has interviewed all of the participants during the event.

Previous series speakers included Keeneland's Nick Nicholson in November 2009, accomplished equestrienne Nina Bonnie in April 2010, Keeneland's Ted Bassett in April 2011, Zenyatta owners Jerry and Ann Moss in September 2011 and Olympian Reed Kessler in November 2012.



Thoroughbred trainer Graham Motion, left, and eventer Buck Davidson

Photo: Motion photo courtesy of Maggie Kimmitt, Herringswell Stables; Davidson photo courtesy of Tara Katherine Photography

# Student Professionalism Series

Elizabeth LaBonty, Lecturer and Internship Coordinator

*The University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management Undergraduate Degree Program strives to not only educate you about equine science, but also to prepare you for your future career. Part of this preparation includes classroom guest lectures, hands on labs, requiring an internship before you graduate, exposing you to numerous industry related careers, and most recently, we have added a series called the Student Professionalism Series to the Wildcat Canter. The Student Professionalism Series will offer insights and tips to help you effectively prepare for, find, apply to and obtain the career of your choice. This month we will be exploring workplace communication.*

Can you hear me now?

If there is one thing industry professionals tell me they look for in employees more than anything else, it's communication skills. Very rarely do I hear complaints about other qualities as much as I do lack of good communication. Employers will teach you the specific horsemanship techniques they want you to use, but what they expect you to know before you're hired is how to write well and speak professionally. So how do you do that?

You don't have to be Shakespeare...

Writing well is not an elusive quality. No one is expecting you to be able to write a book, but they are looking for you to have correct spelling, good grammar and accurate punctuation. Emails need to be properly addressed and appropriate titles used. Don't write like you text. Leave out slang words, use complete sentences and learn to love paragraphs (they help organize your thoughts). Every time you write something, whether it be an email, a report, an update or a summary, take time to proofread it. Check dates and times for accuracy, make sure names are spelled correctly and make tools like spell check and grammar your friend. Good writing is not flowery or confusing. It is simple, clear and organized. Taking some extra time to pay attention to the details and proofreading can be all the difference between something that makes employers cringe and something that makes them proud.

Tell it like it is...

Good oral communication is the most important quality for good bosses and good employees to have. Research has proven time and time again that it's not what you say, it's how you say it. It's one thing to use words like sucks, stupid and 'sup at home or with your friends, but there is no place for them in the workplace. Speaking politely and respectfully with your coworkers and to bosses will get you a long way professionally. Speaking confidently, choosing to talk positively about your job instead of complaining and asking questions at the appropriate time and place are skills that all of us can improve on.

Be a vault...

One of the most admirable and rare communication skills is confidentiality. Everyone admires, respects and values someone that they can talk to and know it won't be repeated. Having someone you can vent to, confide in and trust is great, but being such a person is even better. Don't gossip. Don't repeat things you've heard or share things you were told and others will take notice.

Good communication skills require a conscious effort to develop and a great deal of practice to perfect. But they are worth it. Employers look for them, bosses notice them and coworkers value them. If there is one thing you do while at UK, I would encourage you to make an effort to work on building good communication skills.



## Outside the barn: bump, set, spike!

*Kristen Janicki*

Believe it or not, some of us do have a life outside the barn. Yeah, I know, hard to imagine having time to do anything else between catering to your horse's every need and planning your trips to the hospital competition schedule. Plus, you have to keep up with the news on Eventing Nation, and don't you really need to shop for a new pair of paddock boots? Anywho, this blog will be focused on those interesting stories or talents outside the barn. So, let's dive right in to our first EN Outside the Barn Celebrity!!

Name: Dr. Jill (Burness) Stowe

Current Residence: Jessamine County, Kentucky

Hometown: Corrales, New Mexico

Childhood: Eventing and Dressage were always close to Jill's heart. She competed three wonderful horses and describes them as follows:

To read the entire blog visit <http://eventingnation.com/home/outside-the-barn-bump-set-spike/>

## Elizabeth LaBonty recipient of the Teacher Who Made a Difference Award

On April 26 at the UK Student Center, Elizabeth LaBonty, lecturer and internship coordinator for UK Ag Equine Programs in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will join other educators from campus to receive the 16th Annual Teacher Who Made a Difference Award from the College of Education.

LaBonty was nominated by Josh Duckworth, a student in the College.

The University of Kentucky College of Education Teachers Who Made a Difference Program got its start in 1998 as part of the College's 75th anniversary celebration. In its 16 years, more than 1,600 educators have been honored. The main purpose of the event is to give individuals the opportunity to honor an educator who made a difference in their lives AND to invite those educators to a program at the University of Kentucky during which they are honored.

## WUKY's 'UK Perspectives' features Ag Dean Nancy Cox

*Kathy Johnson*

Source UK NOW

WUKY's "UK Perspectives" focuses on the people and programs of the University of Kentucky and is hosted by WUKY General Manager Tom Godell. On Friday, March 14, Nancy Cox, new dean of the College of Agriculture, Food & Environment, discussed the significance of the College's recent name change and her plans for its future.

To listen to the podcast interview from which "UK Perspectives" is produced, visit <http://wuky.org/post/looking-forward-uk-college-agriculture>.

"UK Perspectives" airs at 8:35 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. each Friday on WUKY 91.3, UK's NPR station.

# Sixth annual Equine Career & Opportunities Fair a success

Alexandra Harper

By many accounts, the sixth annual Equine Career Fair was the most successful one yet.

Presented by the UK Ag Equine Programs, this year's fair was held March 4 at the Club at Spindletop. More than 40 area organizations provided career information and networking opportunities for students.

More than 250 college students from UK and 21 other colleges around the United States were in attendance, with more than 32 states and one country represented. Students enjoyed appetizers and drinks while gaining valuable networking experience.

Participants talked one-on-one with local businesses to learn about internships, jobs and volunteer opportunities. The fair also held interest sessions with industry leaders in the areas of graduate school, the Thoroughbred industry and pharmaceutical sales.

New this year was the addition of local farms and boarding facilities.

One student who filled out the survey commented, "The venue is beautiful, people were very nice and the opportunities varied well."

Vendors who participated said they were equally pleased with the event. Starlee Smith from Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital said, "It is a very important part of the equine undergraduate education to be exposed to different business opportunities in the equine industry. I was delighted to see the addition of riding stables this year and the change in venue was also an improvement because it gave everyone more room to wander freely."

This year's Equine Career fair was organized by Equine Science and Management students in the Equine Event

Planning class led by instructor, Elizabeth LaBonty, lecturer and internship coordinator.

"This is one of those events that always surprises me," LaBonty said. "Just when I think it can't get any better, it always does. The class this year was incredibly professional and had great ideas. Moving to Spindletop Hall was also a much better fit. All in all it went fantastically!"

Some of the organizations that participated included Antebellum Farm, Blue Water Sales LLC, Central Kentucky Riding for Hope, Cornerside Stables, Darley Flying Start Program, DeLima Stables, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, International Center for Equestrian Ministries,

Irish National Stud, Isidore Farm, KBC International Horse Supplies, Keeneland, Kentucky Equine Humane Center, Kentucky Equine Management Internship,

KESMARC, Kentucky Horse Council, Kentucky Horse Park, Kentucky Horseshoeing School,

Kentucky Quarter Horse Association, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, Inc./Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders, Inc., Kentucky Thoroughbred Farm Managers' Club, League of Agriculture and Equine Centers, Life Adventure Center of the Bluegrass, Makers Mark Secretariat Center, Masterson Station, Miramonte Equine, North American Racing Academy, New Vocations, Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, Stable Meadows and United States Equestrian Federation.



**"Just when I think it can't get any better, it always does."**

Elizabeth LaBonty





# Equine Programs Office welcomes newest member

*Jackson Wells*

Hello Wildcat Canter readers! My name is Jackson Wells, rider on the UK Equestrian Team (UKET), sophomore at UK, major in Equine Science and Management and minor in English composition. My newest endeavor is right here, interning in the UK Ag Equine Programs Office as its newest communications and student relations intern!

While growing up in Rockford, Ill., I had two skills in my favor: riding horses, and writing simple pieces. I really started to sharpen my writing skills during my teenage years, but horses have always been a much larger part of my life.

I have been in the saddle since I was 4 years old, and have loved the equestrian world ever since. My mare, Hannah, lives at Robert Murphy Stables with the rest of the UKET horses. Hannah and I have been practicing with each other for the past four years, and in that time, I have trained her in dressage. Currently, Diana Conlon, (the UKET coach) is working with Hannah and me on our jumper skills over cross rails.

Riding for UK's Equestrian Team has been a phenomenal experience, and is one that has showed me new and exciting areas of the horse world that I never knew existed. I am very excited to write for the *Wildcat Canter*, and to highlight the current and interesting stories that are happening from UK here in the "Horse Capital of the world," Lexington, Ky.



## engAGer- UK student body newsletter

In this issue, you will find an article on career development and enrichment, a student involvement spotlight and some upcoming dates for events around the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Stay up to date with information and events from around the college by following us on social media! To view the newsletter, please visit <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=14d2c12fa5cac6a256cfc8390&id=920d7d6846>.

# Clubs and teams updates

## Equestrian Team

### HUNT SEAT TEAM

Since the last issue of the Wildcat Canter, the UKET Hunt Seat team has had several accomplishments. UKET won its region (Zone 6, Region 3), which means it is competing as a team at Zone Championships on April 5 at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio. The team had 14 people qualify individually for regionals, some in more than one class. According to the team, everyone rode great at regionals and the team is now sending the following people to zones: Autumn Allaire, Novice Flat ; Lucy Hart, Open Flat and Jumping; Hannah Hollinger, Novice Flat ; Sara Kate Long, Walk-Trot; Rachel Porter: Open Flat and Jumping; and Alexa Prettyman, Intermediate Jumping.



UKET at Regionals

Lucy Hart was also the leading Open Hunt Seat rider in the region, meaning she has secured a spot at nationals competing in the Cacchione Cup. UKET would also like to recognize its seniors: Stephanie Augustine, Matthew Brown and James Wilson for a great IHSA career and wish them the best of luck in the future. They will be missed as teammates and friends.

### Western Team

Congratulations to the entire UK Western team for a fantastic season! This great group of Western riders qualified as a team for the semi-finals, which will take place in Findlay, Ohio. In addition, seven individuals qualified in their respective categories. After semi-finals, the top two riders and top team will qualify for nationals, a prestigious horse show in Pennsylvania, where the top collegiate equestrians compete from across the country. Follow us on Facebook at University of Kentucky Western IHSA Team and get updated lists of our Wildcat Equestrians' placings during semi-finals and nationals. Also, be sure to look for our booth at Rolex during the Reining Cup and meet our fantastic team!

### Polo Team

The women's Polo Team recently won first place against the University of Michigan and Michigan State, which allowed them to advance to regionals. They also won best playing pony and best playing string. Three team members were awarded All-Star, which is given to the four best players in the tournament. The men and women's team competed at the University of Virginia March 21-23 and competed against several teams in the SE regional tournament.

### READ Club

The next meeting will be April 15 at 7 p.m. in N10 of Ag Science North. Officer elections will be held during part of the meeting.

## CLUBS AND TEAMS DIRECTORY

### DRESSAGE AND EVENTING TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, [jill.stowe@uky.edu](mailto:jill.stowe@uky.edu)  
 President: Aileen O'Brien, [aileen.obrien216@gmail.com](mailto:aileen.obrien216@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: UK Dressage and Eventing

### HORSE RACING CLUB

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence, [llawrenc@email.uky.edu](mailto:llawrenc@email.uky.edu)  
 President: Jake Memolo, [jake.memolo@uky.edu](mailto:jake.memolo@uky.edu)  
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Horse Racing Club

### EQUESTRIAN TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman, [rcoleman@email.uky.edu](mailto:rcoleman@email.uky.edu)

### HUNT SEAT TEAM

President: Haley Dowty, [uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com](mailto:uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Equestrian Team

### WESTERN TEAM

President: Kelsie Winslow, [winslow.kelsie@gmail.com](mailto:winslow.kelsie@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Western IHSA Team

### POLO TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, [rogerbrown@uky.edu](mailto:rogerbrown@uky.edu)  
 President: Gates Gridley, [joseph.gridley@uky.edu](mailto:joseph.gridley@uky.edu)  
 Facebook: U of Kentucky Polo

### R.E.A.D. CLUB

Advisor: Dr. Kristine Urschel, [klur222@uky.edu](mailto:klur222@uky.edu)  
 President: Virginia Stilwell, [virginia.stilwell5@uky.edu](mailto:virginia.stilwell5@uky.edu)  
 Facebook: READ Club

### RODEO TEAM

Advisor: Elizabeth LaBonty, [elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu](mailto:elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu)  
 President: Chelsea Reumont, [chelsea.reumont@uky.edu](mailto:chelsea.reumont@uky.edu)  
 Facebook: University of Kentucky Rodeo Team/Club

### SADDLE SEAT TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, [mary.rossano@uky.edu](mailto:mary.rossano@uky.edu)  
 President: Nicole Laroussa, [uksaddleseatteam@gmail.com](mailto:uksaddleseatteam@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: UK Saddleseat Team 2013-2014 (Group)

# University of Kentucky

## Ag Alumni Mentoring Program



Do you want to explore careers and options for your future?

Eager to gain professional networking and communications skills?

Do you have the desire to enhance your visibility in the job market and polish your professional image?

**Let us match you with a Professional Mentor through our Ag Alumni Mentoring Program!**

### Who Can Apply?

**Fall 2014 Sophomores - Recent Graduates (May 2014)**

**Application Deadline is March 28.**

**Email me for an application**

**[amanda.saha@uky.edu](mailto:amanda.saha@uky.edu)**

Student participants will be notified in April regarding selections and will be matched with an Alumni Mentor during the summer months. Kick off will occur in September and program runs through May 2015 with lots of opportunities for quality interactions for you and your Mentor.

