

Wildcat Canter

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AG EQUINE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER



**Congratulations to Our
Recent Equine Science and
Management Graduates**

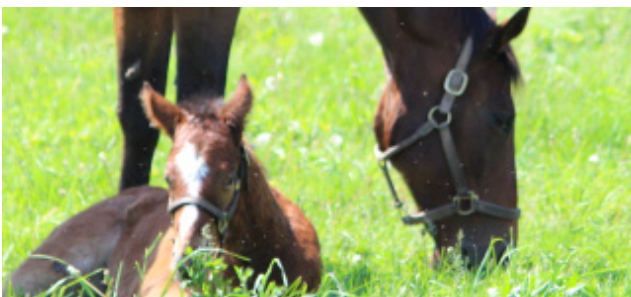
JANUARY 2019



USET Foundation Awards Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant to Ryan Keefe- PAGE 6

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation has awarded the 2019 Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant to eventer Ryan Keefe of Sandy Spring, Maryland.

"It's a really big honor to be chosen for the [Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant] because I know that a lot of other great riders before me have received it," said Keefe. "It definitely feels good to have the support of the USET Foundation and other people behind the grant who believe in me."



Congratulations to Our Recent Equine Science and Management Graduates- PAGE 8

University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management graduates, their families and friends, as well as equine faculty and staff enjoyed a graduation celebration at Spindletop Hall immediately following commencement on Friday, Dec. 14. In total, 18 graduates were honored with a celebration of their life-changing accomplishment over a lunch program. Stories were told, gifts were given and guests proudly watched as each student was recognized.



UK Celebrates 27 Years of Partnership with Lloyd's of London- PAGE 12

Lloyd's of London and the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment celebrated more than a quarter-century partnership in support of the horse industry. Representatives of Lloyd's recently presented a \$50,000 check to UK for continued funding of the international publication, the Equine Disease Quarterly.



Other Features

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The Importance of Gaining Horse Industry Experience in College-Page 11

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- February 22, Last day to change major
- February 28, Last day to apply for an August degree

Welcome

As we return to classes after a holiday-filled break, our focus changes from food, family and fun to the future. Graduation for some is just around the corner, and for others the pressure to find summer internships and other opportunities is increasing. I hope you will take a moment to sit back and reflect on what is best for you... now and in the future.

It is very easy to go with the first opportunity (job, event, internship, class, etc.) that presents itself, even if it isn't a good fit. After all, it will fulfill your requirements and it is stress-free. Why not take advantage?

On the other hand, it can be hard to see the advantage of an opportunity that requires extra effort or one that comes with grunt work. No one really likes to scoop poop after all. This predisposition to follow the "path of least resistance" happens in all areas of our lives – jobs, classes, even friendships. However, is it the right path for you?

As an undergraduate sophomore, I decided I wanted to study abroad. The plan was to go with a friend on an equine trip to Ireland. To my disappointment, I discovered this trip didn't work with my four-year plan. What WAS possible was very different. Less than three months after deciding to go abroad, I was on a plane with no family, friends or colleagues, heading to Perth in Western Australia. For five months, I traveled the coast of Western Australia, became a certified rescue diver, led horseback rides into the outback, took (and passed) classes and widened my world perspective. This was the best gamble of my undergraduate career and it would not have happened if I wasn't willing take a risk. This trip impacted me in a life-long way. It gave me the confidence to work in Ireland after graduating with my master's degree. It gave me the knowledge and experience to handle different perspectives and develop my own self-worth. I developed the patience and perseverance needed to ride-out and overcome homesickness and exhaustion. It helped me understand that psychologically and physically there are days when you are the head trainer ... but every day requires at least a little bit of poop scooping.

As students at UK, you are uniquely placed to take a few risks. Many opportunities available to you now will be gone after graduation. When you look back at your undergraduate career, will there be one defining experience, one event that made the entire process worthwhile...or will it all be a blur of expectations and requirements?

I encourage you to find the experience or opportunity that will impact you in a life-long way. Don't get stuck in the rut of comparing yourself to others. Go outside your comfort zone, explore your options and take risks. Find your moment.

*Colette Tebeau,
Pre-Vet Academic Coordinator, Animal and Food Sciences*





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Ag Equine Programs College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

N212 Ag Sciences Building North
Lexington, KY 40546-0091
Office: (859) 257-2226
equine@uky.edu
www.uky.edu/equine

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USET Foundation Awards Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant to Ryan Keefe

Source: *Chronicle of the Horse*

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"It's a really big honor to be chosen for the [Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant] because I know that a lot of other great riders before me have received it," said Keefe. "It definitely feels good to have the support of the USET Foundation and other people behind the grant who believe in me."

The Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant is awarded through the USET Foundation Amanda Pirie Warrington Fund. Keefe, this year's winner, has demonstrated her talent at many of the nation's top CCI1* and CCI2* events. At just 18, and a freshman at the University of Kentucky, Keefe has piloted her top mount, Flintstar, to a number of impressive finishes, including winning the Virginia Horse Trials CCI1* in 2017 and finishing 11th overall at their first CCI2* at Fair Hill International in [Maryland] 2018.

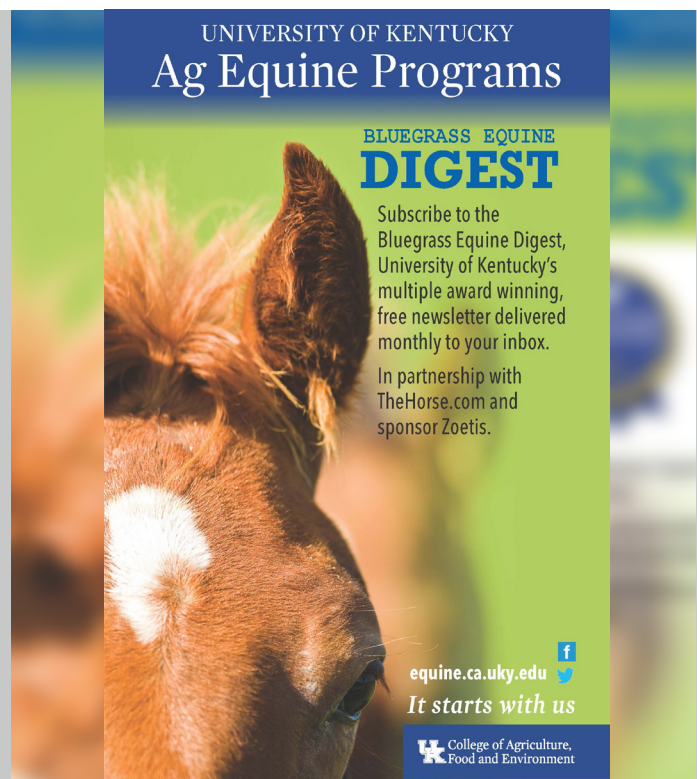
To read the entire article, click [here](#).

Bluegrass Equine Digest

Check out the January 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 [here](#) to see this month's stories.

- Abortion in Kentucky Broodmares
- UK, Lloyd's of London Partnership Continues
- 2019 Pastures Please!! Workshop Scheduled



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Ag Equine Programs

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DIGEST

Subscribe to the Bluegrass Equine Digest, University of Kentucky's multiple award winning, free newsletter delivered monthly to your inbox.

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It starts with us

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment



Emily Nelson, '15
Catalog Writer, The Jockey Club

By Samantha Geller

Where is home for you?

Nelson was born and raised in Lexington, Kentucky.

How did you first become involved in the horse industry?

I was involved in the horse industry even before I was born. My dad is a farrier and held various positions in the industry. I never rode horses; my love has always been in racehorses.

What were your career goals before graduation?

Nelson was enthusiastic to begin working in the industry and said, "My career goals before I left college were to work in the Thoroughbred sales industry. I chose this path because the buying and selling of Thoroughbreds always has interested me especially in relation to how prosperous the Thoroughbred industry is as a whole."

Where are you currently employed?

Nelson currently works at The Jockey Club Information Systems in Lexington, Kentucky, as a catalog writer.

What are your current job responsibilities?

Nelson writes pages for the sales catalogs for the majority of the Thoroughbred sales in North America. Her responsibilities include making sure that the page has the correct and most updated information about the pedigree of the selling horse. This involves her researching and tracking down foreign race records, making sure that the page abides by the rules of each sale and giving the buyer as much information as possible about the selling animal.

What led you to this position?

As soon as the position came available Nelson said she immediately knew she wanted to apply.

What advice do you have for current equine students?

Nelson said, "I would say make as many connections as you can and learn as much as you can. Always go the extra step to reach out or talk to someone in the industry. Work an internship and be a sponge. Absorb as much information as possible. There is so much information and different sides to the industry- everyone you meet within it can offer you a piece of knowledge."

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Ag Equine Programs
 College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Congratulations to Our Recent Equine Science and Management Graduates

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Name: Leah Ayau

Hometown: Amherst, Virginia

Why UK: Ayau chose UK due to its location in the heart of the equine industry and the equine program.

Post Grad Plans: “After graduation I immediately moved to Miami, Florida, and worked at Gulfstream Park as an assistant trainer to Anthony Quartarolo for a month. I just relocated to Hot Springs, Arkansas, for the Oaklawn Park race meet. I have 10, soon to be 12, of our 30-ish horses there. I am assistant trainer and I exercise ride as many of them as I can.”

Memory: Ayau’s favorite memories are the variety of horse-related activities she participated in during her time at UK.



Name: Kaycie Bowen

Hometown: Franklin, Kentucky

Why UK: Bowen chose UK for its equine program.

Post Grad Plans: She is now working at Three Springs Animal Hospital in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Memory: Her favorite memory is being a member of the UK Saddleseat Team.



Name: Claire Burnham

Hometown: Houston

Why UK: “I chose to come to UK because Dr. Coleman told me to go to Texas A&M. But really, I was just excited about the program and the opportunities that came with it.”

Post Grad Plans: Burnham is working for UK in the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering and is in the process of applying for graduate school.

Memory: “My favorite memory from my time at UK is probably just spending time in class with my friends learning about the things I love.”





Name: Sidney Cardwell

Hometown: Frankfort, Kentucky

Why UK: I decided to come to UK because I was given a spot on its dance team my freshman year and couldn't pass up the chance to cheer for my favorite basketball team.

Post Grad Plans: Cardwell is currently the Equine Operations Coordinator at the Kentucky Horse Park. She also coaches a competitive All-Star dance team.

Memory: My favorite memory from college is going to Keeneland with my friends. From early morning workouts and breakfast to meeting Bob Baffert at the sales, every memory I have at Keeneland is amazing.



Name: Lauren Fleming

Hometown: Plainfield, Illinois

Why UK: "I chose to come to UK because of the horses. When I came to visit the campus, I just absolutely fell in love with Kentucky."

Post Grad Plans: Fleming is working full-time at Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital with veterinarian Heath Soignier for the second time and hopes to start veterinary school in the fall.

Memory: "My favorite memory at UK would have to be Keeneland. There really is nothing more exciting than going to the races with your friends."



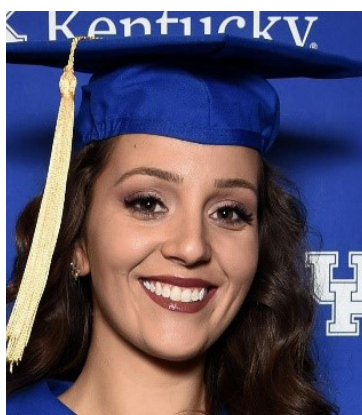
Name: Caitlin Fortier

Hometown: Cumming, Georgia

Why UK: "I chose to come to Kentucky because I wanted to be around horses and to learn more about them. The major was not offered at any school in Georgia and I wanted to be able to pursue learning about horses."

Post Grad Plans: Fortier currently works as a kennel tech at two dog boarding facilities and hopes to earn a vet tech license. She plans to work as a vet tech in an equine hospital and eventually would like to move back to Kentucky.

Memory: My favorite memory of being at UK was the equine classes. I always enjoyed those classes and being able to learn more.



Name: Taylor Maher

Hometown: Hebron, Kentucky

Why UK: "I knew I wanted to work with horses and I figured that going to school in the "Horse Capital of the World" would be the best way to make connections and find a job."

Post Grad Plans: After graduation Maher plans to build her resume by experiencing all that she can.

Memory: Her best memories were making friends and enjoying the classes that she took. She said, "Enjoying your major made it a lot easier to go to class."

Name: Madison Maavere

Hometown: Cherokee County, Georgia

Why UK: Maavere chose UK for its equine program

Post Grad Plans: Maavere recently accepted a position at the Culpeper Farmers CO-OP as an equine sales specialist. "For now, I am excited to start my position with CFC Farm & Home, and long term I look forward to running a farm program focusing on equine wellness education and rescuing, rehabbing and re-homing horses," she said.

Memory: "My favorite part about being at UK is the amazing relationships I made."



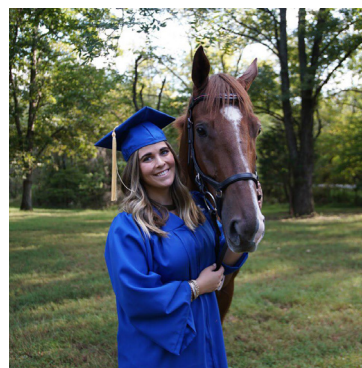
Name: Jordan Poff

Hometown: Lagrange, Kentucky

Why UK: I chose to come to UK because I have always been a huge UK fan and because of its equine program

Post Grad Plans: My plans after graduation are to start working and gaining more experience in the equine industry. I will be starting my new job as an equine insurance adjuster at RJ Ketch Equine.

Memory: I have too many memories to pick a favorite, but I definitely think that one of the top ones would be getting through freshman year with a new group of friends and eating at the Ag Deli every morning with them after ASC 101. Definitely going to miss moments like that!



Name: Clint Saxton

Hometown: Waynesboro, Georgia

Why UK: Saxton chose UK because it was a major SEC school in the Horse Capital of the World.

Post Grad Plans: Saxton is working at The Thoroughbred Center in Track Management, an opportunity that came through his internship there.

Memory: Looking back on his time at UK, he said, "The major SEC college was able to give me many memories with sporting events and friends I made through the program. It also gave me a larger network of connection in the equine industry."



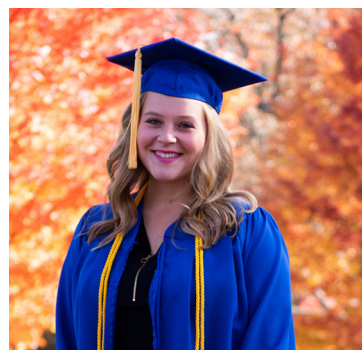
Name: Haley Zynda

Hometown: Shelby Township, Michigan

Why UK: I came to UK because it was one of the only universities that offered a four-year equine degree as opposed to a certificate. Now, four years later, I plan on entering the dairy industry but horses and Kentucky's horse industry still holds a dear place in my heart.

Post Grad Plans: Since graduation Zynda has been working at a farm store to fill her time and resume. She will soon start a master's degree program at The Ohio State University in dairy cattle nutrition.

Favorite UK Memory: "My favorite memory from UK was my time as a pledge trainer for Block and Bridle. I loved welcoming freshman into the College of Ag and helping them find their place at school," she said.



Congratulations to our other graduates as well...

Lindsay Beals
Anna Intartaglio
Jordan Moore

Laura Davis
Dakota Isaacs

Eddie Harvey
Alexandra Kokka

From our students...some of the pieces written in a provocative new course

By Holly Wiemers

An important part of the mission of our program includes undergraduate education, specifically with our Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program. A new class that piloted this spring – taught by Camie Heleski, a faculty member and lecturer within the program – is one designed to present provocative, often controversial issues that are current to the equine industry.

In EQM 305, Equine Industry Issues, students are introduced to topics, heard from speakers, researched information and communicated about industry issues in written and oral formats. The course is designed to expose students to hot button issues in the industry and encourage them to research and formulate well-communicated opinions about those issues. One avenue made available to this course is publishing some of those stories here. Here one of the written pieces that emerged from students in this course. They are meant to be provocative and sometimes controversial.

The Importance of Gaining Horse Industry Experience in College

Guest blog by Hannah White, student in EQM 300 during Fall 2018

"That's really what I needed today: a healthy dose of productivity. Thanks for your help," said my roommate.

It was past midnight and we had just gotten back from the barn. I had been helping her pack for the Thoroughbred Makeover, which was now only a day away. When she said "productivity," my mind jumped to all the schoolwork I had not even started: review for an exam the next morning, studying for a biology quiz and even writing this paper.

This flood of stress brought up a frequent thought. It can be a struggle to balance success at college while maintaining involvement in the horse industry. While college is essential for a successful career, it is also important for undergraduate students to gain industry experience starting as soon as possible.

Getting equine industry experience is time consuming, so it is important to draw a line on hours spent working. Research done by Lauren Dundes and Jeff Marx (2006) claims that students working less than 15 to 20 hours will have better grades. According to the same study, a student's chance at graduating in four years is also improved if the student works less than 15 hours a week. In conclusion, they claimed that 10 to 19 hours per week was the optimum time for a student to work. This also increased students' time studying as well as their grade point average. They continued that it is, "possibly due to an increased discipline and appreciation for the value of an education." (2006)

This discipline and appreciation shows through in time management as well. The well-known rule is that a student should spend three hours in out-of-class work for every credit hour attempted. For students that work, this is an unreasonable goal. For example, a student that works 20 hours a week and takes 15 credit hours is expected to study 45 hours a week. This totals 65 hours a week spent working or studying. That is more than a full-time job and it does not even include time for sleep, family and other important self-care.

Sixty-five hours a week is an overwhelming thought. Recently, while talking to an industry professional, I found an answer to this conundrum. Out-of-class studying can be converted into real life application. She told me how she would find relationships between the materials in her classes and whatever she was doing at work or in the barn. While cleaning stalls, she would mentally apply class material from Equine Anatomy to the horse in the stall with her. At her web design internship, she not only gained experience for her career, but also could talk to her boss about the business management topics she was studying in Agricultural Economics. Even though she was not officially studying for her classes, this process decreased the amount of time she had to spend with her textbooks. This was an ingenious way to manage study and work time.

Beside improved time management, industry experience can also introduce students to prospective future jobs. According to the National Association for Colleges and Employers, 90 percent of interns who returned for a second time were offered a job. This is not all. The same report showed that nearly 52 percent of all interns accepted a full-time position from the company they interned with.

Another plus to working for industry experience is the networking opportunities. According to the Merriam Webster Dictionary, networking is "the exchange of information or services among individuals, groups or institutions." Networking in my experience is not as much a formal activity but more of a friendly, ringside chat at a horseshow, asking questions to a trainer after a clinic or even being an open ear to a new face in the industry.

Kathryn Crawford Wheat, a professional speaker and author, agrees. She said, "Networking is simply starting a conversation with no destination in mind." (2015)

Even though networking may not have a destination in mind, college should. Even though it may be difficult to find a time balance, there are ways to properly integrate class material into work experiences. The opportunities for future employment from doing internships or being a proactive networker is irreplaceable. These two themes within experience can help students focus and put purpose behind what they are learning in college. Even the late night that I spent helping my friend prepare for the Thoroughbred Makeover added tools to my bag of experiences. Hard work and dedication are needed in any aspect of the industry. There is no reason to wait for the industry to come to us. The best time to build experience is now.

UK Celebrates 27 Years of Partnership with Lloyd's of London

By Aimee Nielson

Lloyd's of London and the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment celebrated more than a quarter-century partnership in support of the horse industry. Representatives of Lloyd's recently presented a \$50,000 check to UK for continued funding of the international publication, the Equine Disease Quarterly.

"We are very pleased to be associated with the Quarterly, an acknowledged source of very valuable information on issues of direct concern to equine stakeholders worldwide whether in performance, breeding or recreational sectors of the industry," said Patrick Talley, U.S. Central Regional Director for Lloyd's America. "I am especially proud of the long-standing nature of the support Lloyd's has provided and the commitment of Lloyd's to ensuring the dissemination of up-to-date information on matters of equine health and welfare of value to equine industries around the world."

"Lloyd's of London insures much of the world's most valuable bloodstock, and we are delighted to support the University of Kentucky and this publication, that enhances knowledge and horse welfare within the United States and worldwide," said David Ashby, Managing Director and Principal Bloodstock Underwriter with Amlin, and chair of Lloyd's Livestock Committee.

The Equine Disease Quarterly is a joint publication of UK's Department of Veterinary Science, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center.

"The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is very grateful to Lloyd's of London for its long-standing support of the Veterinary Science Department since 1985 and of the Lloyd's Equine Disease Quarterly for 27 years," said Dean Nancy Cox. "Thanks to Lloyd's support, this publication has achieved iconic status across the international equine industry for which we are deeply grateful."

The award-winning publication provides timely and authoritative reports on some of the most important issues facing the equine industry. The Quarterly reaches more than 14,500 readers in 100 countries. Available in digital and print format, its articles regularly are reprinted in scientific and worldwide, lay equine publications.

Lloyd's Equine Disease Quarterly is available to subscribers at no charge. Alan Loynachan and Peter Timoney of the Department of Veterinary Science are co-editors. Recent issues are available [here](#). For more information about the Department of Veterinary Science and the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center, click [here](#).

Lloyd's of London is a 329-year-old insurance market whose members underwrite risk on a direct and reinsurance basis in more than 200 countries. As a global leader in specialty insurance, Lloyd's remains committed to supporting equine research and providing the insurance coverage essential to the health and well-being of horses and the prosperity of equine industries worldwide.



Pat Talley (Center Right), Regional Director, U.S. Central Lloyd's America, gives Dr. David Horohov (Center Left), Chair, Department of Veterinary Science, a check on behalf of Underwriters at Lloyd's, London to support publication of the Equine Disease Quarterly from the Department of Veterinary Science, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment at the University of Kentucky. Also pictured are Dr. Peter Timoney (Left), Professor, Veterinary Science, and Bill Wallace (Right), VP Administration and Finance Lloyd's America. Photo by Steve Patton

SAVE THE DATE

Horse Industry Safety Summit

April 23, 2019

7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

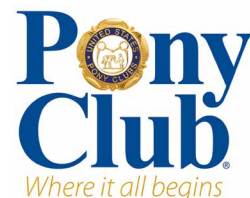
UK's Spindletop Hall, Lexington, KY

This conference will bring together scientific findings and practical experience, from the world's top horsemen and women, on issues regarding safety around horses.



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[For more information and to register.](#)



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N212 Ag Sciences Building North
Lexington, KY 40546-0091
Office: (859) 257-2226
equine@uky.edu
www.uky.edu/equine