Dr. Michael Lilburn Receives 2016 Charles Beard Research Excellence Award

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation recognized Dr. Michael Lilburn as the 2016 recipient of the annual Charles Beard Research Excellence Award. Dr. Lilburn is a professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at The Ohio State University and works at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, Ohio. The award is named in honor of Dr. Charles Beard, former director of the Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory and former vice president of research at USPOULTRY.

“The U.S. Poultry & Egg Association has been very supportive of our research program over the years, and I am extremely grateful for this support. Dr. Beard’s research career is impressive, and I am pleased to receive this award which bears his name,” commented Dr. Lilburn.

“Dr. Lilburn’s research program is a great example of how USPOULTRY research funds can be directed toward important applied research to find solutions to current problems faced by the poultry industry. The quality of Dr. Lilburn’s research is outstanding, and the results have been used by the poultry industry to make improvements in several areas including nutrition and hatching egg production,” remarked Dr. John Glisson, vice president of research programs for USPOULTRY.

USPOULTRY and Foundation Approve $368,642 in New Research Grants

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation approved a total of $368,642 for five new research grants at three institutions. The research funding was approved by the boards of directors of both organizations, based on recommendations from the Foundation Research Advisory Committee. The committee evaluates research proposals to determine their value to the industry and then makes recommendations to the boards for funding. Committee members are professional specialists from different segments of the poultry and egg industry who represent a variety of disciplines.

The latest research grants from each institution include:

- **Effect of Dietary Glutamine and Arginine on Metabolism Related to Muscle Myopathy in Broiler Chickens**
  North Carolina State University (research grant made possible in part by a gift from Case Farms)

- **Low-Cost Solar Heater for Poultry Barns**
  North Carolina State University (research grant made possible in part by a gift from Elton and Claire Maddox)

- **Effect of Density on the Behavior, Welfare and Performance of Turkeys and Broilers**
  North Carolina State University (research grant made possible in part by a gift from Butterball)

- **Development of Molecular Tests and an In Vitro Assay to Identify Blackhead Disease Reservoirs and Sanitation Strategies**
  University of Georgia

- **Validation of In Vivo Selective Cultivation of Probiotic Communities via Serial Transplants of the Chicken Cecal Microbiome**
  Western University of Health Sciences

USPOULTRY Foundation Allocates $230,600 in Student Recruiting Grants

The USPOULTRY Foundation awarded student recruiting grants totaling approximately $230,600 to six U.S. universities with poultry science departments and 20 other institutions with industry-related programs. The Foundation provides annual recruiting and retention funds to colleges and universities to attract students to their poultry programs. The grants were made possible by gifts to the Foundation from companies, individuals and families.

“It is important that we continue to interest bright young people to study careers in the poultry industry. We need sharp young managers to join our companies, as they may one day be the leaders of tomorrow. USPOULTRY Foundation recruiting grants play a crucial role in inspiring students to enroll in industry-related studies and in becoming future industry leaders of tomorrow,” said Sherman Miller, Cal-Maine Foods, and USPOULTRY Foundation chairman.
Texas A&M University Wins 69th USPOULTRY Foundation Ted Cameron National Poultry Judging Contest

Texas A&M University wins the High Team Overall category at the 69th USPOULTRY Foundation Ted Cameron National Poultry Judging Contest, held at Louisiana State University. LSU placed a close second. Additionally, Trent Dugas, senior at LSU, was announced high individual overall winner, and Bailey Miller, senior at Texas A&M University, finished second overall.

Eleven universities participated in this year’s competition in production judging, breed selection and market products judging, including Kansas State University, Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Ohio State University, Penn State University, Texas A&M University, University of Arkansas, University of North Georgia, University of Wisconsin-River Falls and West Virginia University. The awards were presented by Rafael Rivera, manager of food safety & production programs for USPOULTRY.

The contest is funded through a grant from Mountaire Corp. in honor of Ted Cameron, past chairman of Mountaire. The contest is part of the USPOULTRY Foundation’s comprehensive student outreach program and was established to enhance young people’s interest in the poultry industry and encourage student enrollment in poultry science and related studies.

The USPOULTRY Foundation also sponsors the annual College Student Career Program and International Student Program during the International Poultry Expo, supports National FFA and National 4-H poultry activities and funds student recruiting efforts at colleges and universities from coast to coast.

The winning Texas A&M University team (left to right): Jason Lee, Jacob Leopold, Taylor Olsovsky, Bailey Miller, Daniel Deleon, Sarah Kruse and Kyle Brown.

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Please contact me at any time to discuss how you can leave a legacy and support the Foundation as we continue to expand our service to the industry.

JOHN STARKEY
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Ensuring the Future of the Poultry and Egg Industry

Mission Statement
To support the recruitment and training of the brightest students, seek and fund scientific research, foster student scientists, and promote careers in the poultry and egg industry.