

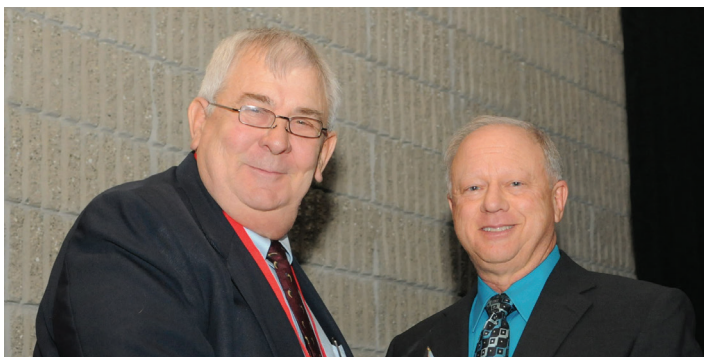
PARTNERS in Poultry

A SPECIAL BRIEFING FOR KEY FRIENDS OF THE U.S. POULTRY & EGG ASSOCIATION

Dr. William Merka Receives 2017 Charles Beard Research Excellence Award

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation are proud to recognize Dr. William Merka as the 2017 recipient of the annual Charles Beard Research Excellence Award. Dr. Merka is a professor emeritus in the Department of Poultry Science at the University of Georgia in Athens, Ga. The award is named in honor of Dr. Charles Beard, former director of the USDA Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory and former vice president of research at USPOULTRY.

The USPOULTRY Foundation Research Advisory Committee selected Dr. Merka for this prestigious award based on his exceptional research on determining methods to screen, filter, recycle and safely discharge poultry processing wastewater. In addition, Dr. Merka's research expanded the knowledge on how to effectively compost broiler litter and layer manure for land application. Dr. Merka served as primary investigator or co-investigator on 10 research grants funded by USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation. The results of his extensive research form a significant part of the basis for processing wastewater and poultry litter and manure management practices today and have had a positive economic impact on the poultry industry.



Dr. William Merka (left) and Dr. Travis Ciagainero, CEVA, chairman of the Foundation Research Advisory Committee

USPOULTRY and Foundation Approve \$388,992 in New Research Grants

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation have approved \$388,992 for five new research grants at five 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 are awarded to the following institutions:

Characterization of a Virus as the Possible Cause of Superficial Pectoral Myodegeneration and Sclerosis (SPMS), North Carolina State University (research grant made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Case Farms)

Validating Current Broiler Welfare Auditing Programs and Advancing Enrichment, Iowa State University (research grant made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Ozark Mountain Poultry)

Enhancing the Antimicrobial Efficacy of Organic Acid Blends to Kill Salmonella enterica and Campylobacter jejuni on Broiler Skin, Alabama A&M University (research grant made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Ingram Farms)

Fate and Effect of Peracetic Acid in Poultry Processing Wastewater Treatment Systems, Georgia Institute of Technology (research grant made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Cargill)

Cage-Free Housing: Northern Fowl Mite Impact on Laying Hens, Purdue University (research grant made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Cal-Maine Foods)

Top FFA Poultry Evaluation and Food Science and Technology CDE Teams Attend 2017 IPPE

As part of the USPOULTRY Foundation's ongoing initiative to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students and to promote careers in the poultry and egg industry, the top finishing teams of both the National FFA Poultry Evaluation and Food Science and Technology Career Development Events (CDE) and their advisors were invited to the 2017 International Poultry Expo (IPE), part of the International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) in Atlanta, Ga. The opportunity for the teams was made possible by an endowing Foundation gift from Tyson Foods, Cargill and Prestage Farms. Poultry industry leaders, Summer Lanier, public relations director for Prestage Farms, Inc., Tracy Morris, vice president of human resources for Perdue Farms, Inc., and Bill Ricken, vice president of operations raw poultry for Tyson Foods, Inc., participated in a program that informed the students about the multitude of career opportunities in the industry. Additionally, students had an opportunity to visit the vast trade show floor to see the exciting technology used by today's modern, sustainable poultry industry.

Louisiana State University Wins 70th USPOULTRY Foundation Ted Cameron National Poultry Judging Contest



Louisiana State University won the 70th USPOULTRY Foundation Ted Cameron National Poultry Judging Contest. The winning LSU team (left to right): Dr. Dennis Ingram, professor and coach; Karen Robbins, assistant coach, David Smith, Nicole Cutrer, Kurtlyn Givens, Chris Harris, Trent Dugas, assistant coach, and Brandon Cheron, assistant coach.

The LSU team won the High Team Overall category. Penn State University placed a close second. Additionally, Kurtlyn Givens was the high individual overall winner, and David Smith finished second overall. Both are from LSU.

Ten universities participated in this year's competition in production judging, breed selection and market products judging: Kansas State University, Louisiana State University, Mississippi 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. Barbara Jenkins, USPOULTRY vice president of education and student programs, presented the awards.

The contest is made possible by an endowing foundation gift from Mountaire Corp. in honor of Ted Cameron, founder of Mountaire. It is part of the USPOULTRY Foundation's comprehensive student outreach program, 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, National FFA and National 4-H poultry activities, and funds student recruiting efforts at colleges and universities from coast to coast.

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YOUR LEADERSHIP can make the difference

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**
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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.*