

Agriculture and Extension Faculty/Staff

Awards



Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013

3:00 p.m. ■ NDSU Memorial Union

Reception and refreshments
immediately following the awards program

NDSU

VICE PRESIDENT FOR AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Larson/Yaggie Excellence in Research Award

■ Marisol Berti

Associate Professor
Department of Plant Sciences

"Dr. Berti has global recognition as an expert in forage and biomass crop production."

Marisol Berti joined NDSU in 2009 as an associate professor.

During her research on forage management and production; bioenergy crop evaluation, management and production; and the use of cover crops in bioenergy and traditional crops, Berti has evaluated more than 16 annual and perennial crops.

As a result, the seasonal forage yield of alfalfa has increased. Her research on sorghum as a forage or bioenergy crop will improve producers' economic returns by increasing the forage yield in drought-stricken areas. She also is producing information and guidelines producers can use when markets for biomass production crops become available.

She has authored or co-authored 50 refereed journal articles, 76 publications and nine book chapters, and generated nearly \$1.7 million in grants.

Berti earned a B.S. degree from Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, and an M.S. degree and Ph.D. from NDSU.

■ Robert Brueggeman

Assistant Professor
Department of Plant Pathology

"Dr. Brueggeman is a standout scientist."

Robert Brueggeman joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2010.

Brueggeman was part of a group that identified genetic resistance in barley against Ug99, a highly virulent form

of barley stem rust. He also conducts research on other barley diseases, including net blotch and fusarium head blight (FHB). He cloned the first resistance gene against net blotch, a worldwide threat to barley.

Each spring, he travels to China to evaluate FHB nurseries, and he conducts field and greenhouse research across the state on FHB and net blotch to assist cultivar development. He also led a departmental effort to purchase an ion torrent DNA sequencing machine, which permits the sequencing of entire pathogen genomes.

His research has led to 22 refereed journal articles and 87 publications, and he has generated \$26.2 million in grants.

Brueggeman holds B.S. and M.S. degrees and a Ph.D. from Washington State University.

■ Birgit Pruess

Associate Professor
Department of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences

"She continues to be a credit to North Dakota State University."

Birgit Pruess joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2004 and became an associate professor in 2011.

Pruess has developed a significant research program in bacterial physiology and biofilms, or thick, complex colonies of bacteria. As part of her work on developing biofilm formation prevention techniques, she discovered that a substance found in chocolate in trace amounts and linked to mood enhancement could be a key to combating E. coli, a bacterium that can cause a serious foodborne illness in humans.

In addition, she is working on determining what conditions cause bacterial biofilms to form and identifying genes that will become targets of biofilm prevention efforts.

She is the author or co-author 35 refereed journal articles, 40 publications and five book chapters, and generated \$1.1 million in grants.

Pruess received B.S. and M.S. degrees and a Ph.D. from Ruhr-Universitat.

■ Scott Pryor

Associate Professor
Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

"His contributions to basic research and the biofuels industry are outstanding."

Scott Pryor joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2006 and became an associate professor in 2011.

Pryor's research focuses on converting agricultural feedstocks, including corn, field peas, straw from small grains, corn stover, switchgrass, perennial grass mixtures, whole sugar beets, sugar beet pulp, canola oil, canola meal (protein), cattle manure and ethanol stillage, to higher-value products such as ethanol, biodiesel and other biobased fuels; biobased plastics, epoxies and composites; and biogas and fertilizer.

This research is aimed at resolving the challenges of developing biobased industries in North Dakota, such as biomass storage, handling and transportation costs, and processing methods, and positioning the state to take advantage of its biomass resources.

His research has resulted in 27 refereed journal articles and 44 publications, and \$3.1 million in grants.

Pryor has a B.S. degree and a Ph.D. from Cornell University.

■ Saleem Shaik

Associate Professor
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"Dr. Shaik applies cutting-edge, quantitative techniques in his research."

Saleem Shaik joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2007 and became an associate professor in 2013.

During his research on risk, policies, technology and other key variables affecting agriculture today, Shaik uses the most highly sophisticated quantitative tools. When they are inadequate or don't exist, he develops new tools.

His most recent work addresses questions involving agricultural policy; farm real estate values; succession decisions; crop insurance; international trade; global outreach issues, including African and Asian agricultural production and poverty; and state- and district-level agricultural growth, poverty and crop insurance, specifically in India.

As a result of his work, he has authored or co-authored 28 refereed journal articles, 10 publications and three book chapters, and generated \$5.3 million in grants.

Shaik earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from Andhra Pradesh Agriculture University and a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska.

■ Kendall Swanson

Associate Professor
Department of Animal Sciences

"Dr. Swanson is a tremendous asset to our profession."

Kendall Swanson joined NDSU in 2010 as an associate professor.

Swanson's research focuses on improving the efficiency of feed utilization; reducing the environmental impact of beef cattle production systems; and assessing alternative feeding programs to reduce feed costs in finishing and backgrounding cattle, and wintering beef cow feeding programs.

His work on feeding byproducts and their influence on feeding behavior provides producers and cattle operation managers with information to help them make better nutritional decisions when purchasing and feeding cattle. His study of the underlying mechanisms that influence production efficiency will help make livestock production more sustainable and decrease its environmental footprint.

He is the author or co-author of 52 refereed journal articles, 171 publications and four book chapters, and has generated \$3.9 million in grants.

Swanson holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU and a Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky.

Eugene R. Dahl Excellence in Research Award

■ Eric Berg

Professor
Department of Animal Sciences

"His knowledge and expertise are extremely helpful for producers to understand and address industry priorities."

Eric Berg joined NDSU in 2007 as an associate professor and became a professor in 2011.

Berg uses swine as a biomedical model for humans for studying the role of meat in the diet. One question he wants to answer is whether hormones in beef from implanted cattle induce early puberty in girls. He also was part of a team of experts that assessed transportation stress and its impacts on meat quality.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's market news service uses his findings for daily reporting of standardized yield of pork carcasses. His research also has resulted in safer and better meats.

He has authored or co-authored 64 refereed journal articles, 241 publications and four book chapters, and generated \$1.4 million in grants.

Berg holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU and a Ph.D. from Purdue University.

*Dahl Award nominees
continue on Page 4*

■ Mohamed Mergoum

Professor
Department of Plant Sciences

"Dr. Mergoum has been a great asset to the HRSW breeding program and our department at NDSU."

Mohamed Mergoum joined NDSU as an associate professor in 2002 and became a professor in 2008.

As a spring wheat breeder, Mergoum develops hard red and white spring wheat cultivars/germplasm for North Dakota and the north-central U.S. Breeding for herbicide resistance is another major component of his breeding program.

The cultivars his group releases dominate the region's spring wheat acreage. Producers in the region rapidly adopt the new NDSU releases, and hard red spring wheat marketers have accepted those releases readily.

As the result of his research, he has authored or co-authored 100 refereed journal articles, 111 publications and 11 book chapters, and generated \$5.4 million in grants.

Mergoum earned a B.S. degree from the Institut Agronomique et Veterinaire Hassan II, an M.S. degree from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from Colorado State University.

■ Dennis Wiesenborn

Professor
Department of Agricultural
and Biosystems Engineering

"Dennis has developed an international reputation as a solid researcher and excellent collaborator."

Dennis Wiesenborn joined NDSU in 1988 as an assistant professor and became an associate professor in 1995 and a professor in 2002.

Biofuels and other new nonfood bioproducts are a major focus of his research. He is involved in a collaborative project with high potential for providing new, high-performance soy-based materials to multiple industries. He also is in a partnership that is establishing high-yielding varieties of sugar beets as a source of industrial sugars.

His research group also established the capability to screen canola seed samples rapidly to help the NDSU canola breeder develop higher-yielding canola varieties for use in biodiesel production.

He has authored or co-authored 61 refereed journal articles, 19 publications and three book chapters, and generated \$2.5 million in grants.

Wiesenborn earned a B.S. degree from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. from Rice University.

■ William Wilson

Professor
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"Professor Wilson is one of the most distinguished economists in our profession."

Bill Wilson joined NDSU in 1980 as an assistant professor and became an associate professor in 1984 and a professor in 1991.

Wilson's primary research focus is in commodity (grains) marketing, with an emphasis on risk management and transportation issues. His most recent work includes exploring the development of genetically modified traits in a variety of grains and the associated risks and returns. He also analyzes the relationships and interdependencies among terminal market basis values for milling quality higher-protein wheat.

His research on commodity futures and options markets' behavior has been standard reference for students and researchers for years.

He is the author or co-author of 110 refereed journal articles, 228 publications and 18 book chapters, and he has generated \$9.8 million in grants.

Wilson received a B.A. degree from NDSU and a Ph.D. from the University of Manitoba.

Earl and Dorothy Foster Excellence in Teaching Award

■ Jessie Ebert

Senior Lecturer
Department of Veterinary
and Microbiological Sciences

"Jessie Ebert exemplifies quality and innovative teaching success."

Jessie Ebert joined NDSU in 2001 as a faculty lecturer and became a senior lecturer in 2008.

To meet the need for graduates who excel in communication as well as science, she gives the students in her Scientific Writing course the skills and confidence to write clearly, persuasively and engagingly about science. Her innovative approaches include having the students write short news stories and blogs for the department's website.

She also teaches Microbial Ecology and is a writing consultant for the NDSU Center for Writers. In addition, she assists graduate students and faculty with theses, dissertations and grant writing, and she conducts writing seminars and workshops.

Students say her knowledge, experience and guidance have been very beneficial.

Ebert earned a B.S. degree from NDSU, an M.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin and an M.A. degree from New York University.

■ Ryan Larsen

Assistant Professor
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"A lot of professors could learn something from Ryan's teaching methods."

Ryan Larsen joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2010.

Each year he teaches the Agribusiness Finance course, he re-evaluates it to identify opportunities for improvements. Improvements include

incorporating hands-on, interactive learning experiences, such as a virtual investment portfolio challenge, and giving students group assignments to complement individual assignments.

Larsen also has taught Principles of Real Estate and Risk Analysis. He is working with the NDSU Computer Science Department to develop a farm management simulation to provide students with opportunities to make decisions, realize the consequences of those decisions and refine the decisions.

Students say he is very knowledgeable about his subject, and his diverse teaching methods are helpful to those with different learning styles.

Larsen received a B.A. degree from Idaho State University, an M.S. degree from the University of Idaho and a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University.

■ Stacey Ostby

Instructor
Department of Animal Sciences

"Stacey is always thinking of new and improved ways to teach her curriculum for each course."

Stacey Ostby joined NDSU as an instructor in 2009 and became co-director of the Veterinary Technology bachelor's degree program in 2012.

In addition to teaching the required skills for several courses, including Introduction to Veterinary Medicine, Hospital Procedures and Information, and Ward Care, she has incorporated personal growth and professional development information. This is knowledge she feels students need to do well once they begin working. Her efforts includes teaching students to prepare a resume and do mock job interviews with faculty members.

She also revamped the courses to include visual and hands-on

learning, stimulates students to share ideas and ask questions during lectures, and shares stories of her experiences in a veterinary practice.

Students say she makes lectures interesting and presents complex concepts so they are understandable.

Ostby holds a B.S. degree from NDSU.

■ Deirdre Prischmann-Voldseth

Assistant Professor
School of Natural Resource Sciences
(Entomology)

"Deirdre is a tremendous teacher and adviser."

Deirdre Prischmann-Voldseth joined NDSU in 2008 as an assistant professor.

After teaching the General Entomology course for just one year, Prischmann-Voldseth completely revised it. Instead of the traditional emphasis on insects as problems, the course now focuses on the universal importance of insects in the world as beneficial, scientific models and environmental indicators; their role in human culture; and the challenges they present to agriculture and human health.

She also updated the Principles of Insect Pest Management course. In addition, she makes entomology more accessible, relevant and engaging by using examples from regular life and interdisciplinary studies, and reinforces these messages through multimedia.

Students say she does a good job of relating what she teaches to the real world.

Prischmann-Voldseth has a B.A. degree from Alfred University, an M.S. degree from Oregon State University and a Ph.D. from Washington State University.

H. Roald and Janet Lund Excellence in Teaching Award

■ Marc Bauer

Associate Professor
Department of Animal Sciences

"He is a wonderful instructor and mentor."

Marc Bauer joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 1996 and became an associate professor in 2002.

Bauer's research program in ruminant nutrition enables him to stay abreast of current industry issues; introduce applied, real-world problems in the classroom; and challenge students to create solutions to producers' problems. The courses he teaches include Digestive Physiology and Fundamentals of Animal Nutrition.

He continually updates course material, interweaving foundational knowledge with novel information gained through sound science and incorporating new teaching methodology. He also led efforts to revamp the curriculum. This has resulted in more streamlined degree plans, and better-defined emphases and options for students.

His students say he makes his classes interesting, and he is willing to answer their questions and help them succeed.

Bauer earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Nebraska and a Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky.

■ Penny Gibbs

Associate Professor
Department of Veterinary
and Microbiological Sciences

"Dr. Gibbs is an innovative teacher, inspiring learning in her students."

Penny Gibbs joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2002 and became an associate professor in 2011.

Gibbs' use of innovative teaching methods led to her incorporating

more real-life scenarios in the form of research experiences and assignments into the Bacterial Genetics and Phage course, rather than teaching from a textbook and requiring students to memorize material. She also offers research experiences in her lab.

Other courses she has taught include Advanced Bacterial Genetics and Phage, Molecular Microbiology Techniques and Pathogenic Microbiology. Gibbs also stays up to speed in her field of expertise so she can pass her knowledge along to her students.

Her students say she is a passionate, caring instructor who creates a comfortable learning environment and cares about them.

Gibbs holds B.S. and M.S. degrees and a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia.

■ Robert Goos

Professor
School of Natural Resource Sciences
(Soil Science)

"Not many teachers care about their students as much as he does."

R. Jay Goos joined NDSU in 1980 as an assistant professor and became an associate professor in 1986 and a professor in 1997.

During his long career, Goos has taught four core soil science courses, including Introduction to Soil Science and Soil Fertility and Fertilizers for undergraduates and the graduate-level Soil and Plant Chemical Analysis course, and team taught two other soils courses, as well as two general agricultural courses with colleagues.

He also has improved the lecture section of the Introduction to Soil Science course, and he always is

looking for ways to enhance the students' laboratory experience.

His students say he is able to relate to them and make them feel involved in the subject.

Goos received B.S. and M.S. degrees from South Dakota State University and a Ph.D. from Colorado State University.

■ Robert Hearne

Associate Professor
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"His dedication and willingness to help students succeed is unsurpassed."

Robert Hearne joined NDSU in 2002 as an assistant professor and became an associate professor in 2008.

Hearne teaches the Microeconomic Theory course, which forms the foundation for the department's M.S. program, and Natural Resource Economics, which attracts many nonmajors. He continually updates course material and assignments to reflect current environmental policy.

He also helped develop a B.S. program in agribusiness at the University of Belize; led a study tour of agriculture in Brazil; and is involved in the department's recruitment, admissions, orientation and policy review efforts.

His students say his creative, outside-the-box thinking help them grasp new ideas without making them feel they are inadequate learners, and his presentations hold their interest.

Hearne has a B.A. degree from Georgetown University, an M.S. degree from the University of Kentucky and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota.

■ Kirk Howatt

Associate Professor
Department of Plant Sciences

"Dr. Howatt simply is the ideal example of an excellent weed science educator."

Kirk Howatt joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 1999 and became an associate professor in 2006.

Howatt uses hypothetical and real situations to encourage student discussion, and helps students demonstrate their understanding of core concepts and examine the relationships among chemical and environmental factors. Courses he has taught include Principles of Weed Science, Advanced Weed Science, and Herbicide Action and Fate.

He also coordinates the Crop and Weed Sciences program, which grew from about 80 students in 1999 to 231 in 2013; advises 35 to 45 students; and is involved in curriculum reviews and improvements.

His students say he takes the time to listen to them, challenges them and is dedicated to their success.

Howatt received a B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin, and an M.S. degree and a Ph.D. from Colorado State University.

■ Elton Solseng

Instructor
Department of Agricultural
and Biosystems Engineering

"Elton understands and can relate to our students very well."

Elton Solseng joined NDSU as a technician in 1972 and became an associate in 1974 and an instructor in 1976.

His experiences of growing up in a farming community and knowledge of machinery help him bring practical examples to the students in his courses, including Fundamentals of Agricultural Systems Management and Tractors and Power Units. He provides the students with ample opportunities for hands-on learning, which helps him teach them the theoretical knowledge they also need.

Solseng works closely with local industries, takes his students on industry tours and brings in guest speakers to ensure that his students get exposure to the newest technology.

His students say he is a hardworking and caring teacher who wants to see them succeed.

Solseng earned an associate degree from the University of Minnesota, and B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU.

William J. and Angelyn A. Austin Excellence in Advising Award

■ Thomas Gustad

Instructor
Department of Veterinary
and Microbiological Sciences

"His years of experience and quality advising are tremendously valuable to the college."

Thomas Gustad joined NDSU in 1986 as a research specialist and became an instructor in 2001.

Gustad is well-versed in the current curriculum guide and understands the need to adjust the suggested course schedule because of students changing their major. As the primary summer orientation adviser for the department, he advises at least one to three freshman or transfer students at each session.

He also is an ambassador for the department. He works hard to get new students into the correct course rotation and enroll in courses that will fulfill the curriculum requirements. In addition, he advises graduate students and three student organizations.

His advisees say he is a caring adviser, and his insight, experience, professionalism and guidance have been invaluable to their successes as students.

Gustad received a B.S. degree from South Dakota State University and an M.S. degree from NDSU.

*Austin Award nominees
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■ Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

Professor
Department of Plant Sciences

"Her endless efforts and content of character are truly exceptional."

Harlene Hatterman-Valenti joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 2000 and became an associate professor in 2007 and a professor in 2013.

The number of her advisees has grown to the point that Hatterman-Valenti advises about half of the horticulture undergraduates. She also has been the major adviser for one Ph.D. and 12 M.S. graduate students. She develops email lists of her advisees so she can provide them with information on registration, internships and activities quickly.

In addition, she is a faculty mentor for the First Year Experience program for students, female STEM students and new NDSU faculty; reaches out to prospective and transfer students; and provides students with information about national scholarships.

Her advisees say her guidance, encouragement, support, feedback and enthusiasm have been invaluable to them.

Hatterman-Valenti earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Nebraska and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

■ Tara Swanson

Lecturer
Department of Animal Sciences

"Tara is always willing to help a student with any situation or problem."

Tara Swanson joined NDSU in 2006 as a lecturer.

Swanson's knowledge of academic procedures and policies, as well as resources available on campus, such as the Career Center and resume workshops, make her a great resource for the students she advises. Although she officially advises an average of 16 undergraduate Equine Science majors each semester, she unofficially is an adviser to Equine Science minors and students from outside of the department.

She informs her advisees about internship opportunities and especially encourages those who never have left the state to secure an internship away from home. She also serves as adviser to the Horsemen's Association and coaches the equestrian team.

Her advisees say she always is willing to answer questions, guide them in the right direction and find classes that fit into their schedule.

Swanson holds a B.S. degree from the University of Nebraska.

■ Cheryl Wachenheim

Professor
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"Cheryl believes that every student has the potential to succeed."

Cheryl Wachenheim joined NDSU as an assistant professor in 1998 and became an associate professor in 2003 and a professor in 2010.

Although Wachenheim officially advises about 25 undergraduates, she informally advises many others who seek her guidance. To stimulate the students' intellectual and personal growth, she encourages them to participate in co-curricular activities, seek internships and take classes of interest that may be outside their comfort zone.

She also has been the major adviser for eight graduate students and a committee member for another 28 graduates, and has advised the Agribusiness Club, CERES Women's Fraternity, Collegiate Farm Bureau, CAFSNR Honor Commission and National AgriMarketing Association student chapter.

Her advisees say she cares deeply about them and does everything she can to help them.

She has a B.S. degree from the University of Minnesota, and an M.S., M.B.A. and Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

Myron and Muriel Johnsrud Excellence in Extension/Outreach Award

■ Carrie Knutson

Extension Agent
Grand Forks County

"Carrie recognizes the importance of the experiential learning model in her work."

Carrie Knutson joined NDSU as an Extension agent-in-training in Walsh County in 2006 and became an agent in Grand Forks County in 2007.

Knutson has developed innovative ways to connect experiences that youth and adults have in 4-H with their daily lives. As part of that effort, she created electricity and science learning trunks that provide innovative, hands-on science learning activities for youth.

She also has been involved in multiple horticulture and healthy lifestyle programs. That includes collaborating with Lutheran Social Services and the Global Friends Coalition to help New Americans from Bhutan grow their own food. In addition, she partnered with the WIC program in Grand Forks to give preschoolers an opportunity to grow fruits and vegetables with the aim of encouraging the children to eat more produce.

Knutson earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU.

AGSCO Excellence in Extension Award

■ David Franzen

Extension Soil Specialist
School of Natural Resource Sciences
(Soil Science)

"David's impact is not only substantial regionally but nationally and internationally."

Dave Franzen joined NDSU as an assistant professor and Extension soil specialist in 1994 and became an associate professor in 2000 and a professor in 2006.

Franzen's work on precision farming and nutrient zone-directed fertilizer applications has provided significant benefits to wheat, dry bean, soybean and sugar beet producers. He has shared his knowledge through more than 700 presentations to growers and agricultural industry personnel, 300 news releases and 45 Extension publications.

He was instrumental in developing the North Dakota Certified Crop Advisers certification program, which trains crop advisers in the latest and most effective agricultural management practices. He also organizes the annual Soil and Soil Water Workshop, which attracted 225 attendees in 2013, and judges the North Dakota 4-H and FFA land judging contest.

Franzen holds B.S. and M.S. degrees and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

■ Thomas Kalb

Extension Horticulturist
Department of Plant Sciences

"Dr. Kalb has developed highly effective collaborative Extension educational programs."

Tom Kalb joined NDSU as Extension horticulturist in 2008.

Under Kalb's leadership, NDSU Extension initiated a series of weekly statewide Web conferences involving

a team of state specialists and county-based educators to share expertise on emerging pests and empower local educators to address these issues.

He established the Dakota Garden Expo to bring NDSU's horticultural resources to central and western North Dakota. He also helped create Dakota Growing, a popular television show; works with other Extension staff to deliver a weekly radio broadcast; regularly contributes TV and newspaper stories; provides approximately 20 workshops a year throughout the state; and established a team of more than 500 families to evaluate promising vegetable and flower varieties.

Kalb received a B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. degree from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

■ Mohamed Khan

Extension Sugar Beet Specialist
Department of Plant Pathology

"Mohamed's programming illustrates teamwork, creativity, cooperation and relationship to research."

Mohamed Khan joined NDSU as an assistant professor and Extension sugar beet specialist in 1999 and became an associate professor in 2005 and a professor in 2011.

Khan uses annual grower surveys, face-to-face meetings with growers and agriculturists, and grower needs reports to plan, develop, conduct and evaluate educational programs on sugar beet production practices. He also conducts research and interprets research results.

Khan and other AGSCO Award nominees continue on Page 10

He has made presentations at more than 150 seminars and 170 plot tour demonstrations, and authored or co-authored more than 200 publications. He also uses NDSU's "Crop and Pest Report" and his weekly sugar beet radio program, which airs on several North Dakota and Minnesota stations, to provide updates to producers during the growing season.

Khan earned a B.S. degree from the University of Guyana, an M.S. degree from the University of Bath and a Ph.D. from Clemson University.

■ Glenn Muske

Extension Rural and Agribusiness
Enterprise Development Specialist
Center for Community Vitality

"Glenn is a most knowledgeable and accessible resource for businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the state."

Glenn Muske joined NDSU in 2010 as the Extension rural and agribusiness enterprise development specialist.

Muske helps entrepreneurs start and expand businesses and build networks by providing them with information and access to resources locally, regionally and nationally. He reaches them through newsletters; news releases; interviews with local, regional, national and international news media; a weekly news column; publications; and social media.

To assist Extension agents, he writes news releases they can use to help their audiences with business development and expansion.

In addition, he is a member of a research team that is studying the effects of the oil boom on family-owned businesses, and has conducted numerous workshops, created a Web page for small businesses and co-produced three Zmags.

Muske has B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

■ Peggy Netzer

Extension Agent
Burleigh County

"Peggy takes a creative approach to her programming and makes adjustments to best serve her audience."

Peggy Netzer joined NDSU as an Extension agent in Burleigh County in 2009.

Netzer develops and delivers programming in healthful eating, food safety, cooking, physical activity and food resource management to low-income citizens in Burleigh County and the Mandan area. She constantly searches for innovative ways to engage the audience.

She helped develop an online tracking program for On the Move to Better Health, a core NDSU Extension nutrition education program for youth. During the devastating flooding in the summer of 2011, she provided displaced families with information on food safety and how to get emergency food assistance. She also has worked with local food banks and other agencies to develop programs to help clients stretch their food dollars in healthful ways.

Netzer earned an M.Ed. degree from the University of Minnesota and a B.S. degree from Upper Iowa University.

■ John Nowatzki

Extension Agricultural Machine
Systems Specialist
Department of Agricultural
and Biosystems Engineering

"John's passion for the industry comes through very clearly."

John Nowatzki joined NDSU in 1994 as a water quality specialist and became a geospatial technology specialist in 2003 and an agricultural machine systems specialist in 2006.

Precision agriculture is a primary focus of Nowatzki's educational efforts.

He collaborates with other NDSU and University of Minnesota Extension specialists to present online seminars and field days, and coordinates other seminars and events, including field demonstrations and associated educational presentations at the annual Big Iron Farm Show in West Fargo.

He is co-leader of eXtension's Map@Syst community of practice, which provides a website on geospatial technology, and he developed and maintains an extensive website on agricultural machinery. He also led the development of the "Farm Fuel Budget" smartphone app and is involved in evaluating and demonstrating new technology, such as crop sensors.

Nowatzki received B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU.

■ Frayne Olson

Extension Crop Economics/
Marketing Specialist
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"Frayne is a very smart, very precise economist who always provides excellent, up-to-date fundamental market data."

Frayne Olson joined NDSU in 1987 as a farm management specialist and became assistant director of the Quentin Burdick Center for Cooperatives in 1996 and crop economics/marketing specialist in 2008.

Olson conducts Extension educational programs in crop market outlook and price analysis, crop marketing strategies, the economics of contracting, risk management and farm management. He shares his expertise with about 4,500 people each year through conferences, seminars and producer meetings.

He also provides crop marketing outlooks and analysis for local, regional and national news media;

helps plan the annual Crop Insurance Conference and design program content; provides support and educational opportunities for marketing clubs; and is involved in a project to develop financial stress tests for North Dakota farmers.

Olson holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

■ J.W. Schroeder

Extension Dairy Specialist
Department of Animal Sciences

"J.W. has dedicated his career to tireless support of the dairy industry in the state."

J.W. Schroeder joined NDSU in 1975 as an assistant agent in Pembina County and was an agent in Oliver, Ward and Bottineau counties before becoming an assistant to the Extension director in 1991, Extension dairy specialist in 1992, assistant professor in 2000 and associate professor in 2006.

Schroeder's support of North Dakota's dairy industry includes developing and leading the Dairy Cow College meeting series; providing workforce safety training; and making presentations to dairy producers.

He also is involved in multistate dairy-related initiatives such as the I-29 Extension Dairy Consortium and eXtension's DAIReXNET, which provides a Web-based resource for dairy producers and allied industry partners. In addition, he has shared his expertise through numerous articles, reports and other educational material, including 34 Extension publications.

Schroeder holds a B.S. degree and Ph.D. from NDSU and an M.S. degree from Colorado State University.

Charles and Linda Moses Staff Award

■ Joel Bell

Research Specialist
School of Natural Resource Sciences
(Soil Science)

"Joel is a very strong performer within the Soil Science Department."

Joel Bell joined NDSU in 1991 as a research specialist.

Bell, who conducts and supervises laboratory and field work for research projects the assistant professor of soil health conducts, has been a significant contributor to many of the Soil Science Department's programs.

His responsibilities include implementing methods in the laboratory and field to quantify biological, physical and chemical indicators of soil health and land management practices, and evaluate soil salinity/sodicity, as well as assisting in training graduate and undergraduate students. He is a co-author of 10 publications.

The department also relies on him to trouble-shoot problems with specialized instrumentation such as the solid sample carbon analyzer; build, repair and maintain electronic equipment such as temperature and moisture sensors; and modify or repair soil sampling and field plot research equipment, and small engines.

Bell earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from NDSU.

■ Robert Bertsch

Web Technology Specialist
Agriculture Communication

"Bob has created a vision for how NDSU Extension can thrive in the digital age."

Bob Bertsch joined NDSU as a Web technology specialist in 2008.

Bertsch provides leadership in supporting and training faculty and staff in content creation on websites, blogs, social media and other platforms. That includes leading training and support for the Ag Content Management System, which hosts more than 200 Agriculture and Extension websites. He provides support to Agriculture administration and departments on Facebook pages, offering guidance on increasing Agriculture and Extension's reach, encouraging engagement and helping them understand Facebook metrics.

He provides leadership in the use of mobile and online technologies for workplace learning to make sure faculty and staff possess the work skills to keep them relevant in the digital age. He also was instrumental in the development of the NDSU Extension Disaster Recovery Log and Winter Survival Kit smartphone apps.

Bertsch holds a B.A. degree from Limestone College.

*Moses Award nominees
continue on Page 12*

■ Chad Deplazes

Research Specialist
Department of Plant Sciences

"Chad has been a real asset to our research and education program."

Chad Deplazes joined NDSU in 2008 as a research specialist.

Deplazes' main duties are to assist the Extension agronomists in conducting applied agronomic research on winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, soybeans, dry beans and corn, and support the agronomists' key educational programs. This includes obtaining land for planned research, designing the field layout of experiments, establishing research and demonstration plots, ensuring that research plots are well-maintained, collecting data, and assisting in training graduate students on how to manage their research plots and collect data.

In addition, he helps organize demonstrations for Extension meetings and field days, summarizes data, assists in preparing research reports, and manages part-time employees. He also maintains research equipment; adapts or builds equipment if necessary; trains students in the proper use of the equipment; and ensures the research work is done safely.

Deplazes received a B.S. degree from NDSU.

■ Austen Germolus

Laboratory Manager
Department of Animal Sciences

"His hard work and commitment to agriculture cannot be questioned."

Austen Germolus joined NDSU as interim Meat Science Laboratory manager in 2007 and became the manager and a research specialist in 2008.

Germolus manages the Meat Science Laboratory's slaughter plant operations, meat processing/fabrication,

and distribution and sale of meat products. He also supervises the meat processing facility's employees, and makes sure the lab complies with U.S. Department of Agriculture rules and regulations on humane animal harvest, meat processing and food safety.

He also has taught three courses per year on red meat fabrication and processing; serves as a guest lecturer; facilitates Extension workshops in the lab; works with faculty, staff and graduate student researchers as a research technician; and is responsible for the undergraduate labor force. In addition, he is one of the four core managers and an instructor for the Extension BBQ Boot Camp program.

Germolus has a B.S. degree from NDSU.

■ Kenfrey Mbuba

Information Systems Professional
Veterinary Diagnostic Services

"Ken is as close to irreplaceable as anyone we have employed in the lab."

Kenfrey Mbuba joined NDSU as a custodian and resident assistant in 1998 and became a system administrator in 2000 and an information systems professional in 2008.

As database administrator, Mbuba is responsible for maintaining the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory's computer network and information processing resources; coordinating computer equipment purchases, deployment and disposal; maintaining the lab's network services; monitoring and coordination information technology security systems and procedures; and developing and maintaining the lab's internal and external websites.

In addition, he assists with maintaining computerized laboratory instruments and data collection systems; assists lab staff with information technology use

issues; trains lab personnel; troubleshoots hardware, software and use problems; identifies areas where the automation of laboratory and office processes can be helpful; develops and maintains information technology disaster recovery plans and procedures; and assists with quality assurance initiatives.

Mbuba earned a B.S. degree from NDSU.

■ Linda Parmer

Microbiologist
Department of Veterinary
and Microbiological Sciences

"Linda combines an ambitious work ethic with uncanny organizational skills."

Linda Parmer joined NDSU as a researcher in 1982 and became a microbiologist in 1985.

Parmer coordinates materials for the microbiology laboratory teaching program, prepares the teaching labs and serves as an important resource for student training, as well as helping other staff and faculty who use the equipment in the teaching lab. She also provides technical assistance to researchers, graduate students, other departmental staff and faculty, and trains and supervises undergraduate students.

In addition, she is one of the instructors for the Introductory Microbiology Laboratory course, and supervises the media and reagent preparation room, and the time-slip and work-study employees. Having been in the department longer than any of the current faculty and staff, everyone in the department relies on her experience, wisdom and institutional memory.

Parmer earned a B.A. degree from NDSU.

■ Viviana Rivera-Varas

Research Assistant
Department of Plant Pathology

"Viviana is an expert mycologist and exemplary laboratory manager."

Viviana Rivera-Varas joined NDSU as a lab assistant in 1995 and became a research assistant in 2001.

Rivera-Varas is responsible for planning and executing all of the department's lab and greenhouse experiments and collecting data. In addition, she plans, designs and implements new experiments. She is involved in all aspects of the potato and sugar beet research program, from identifying new pathogens to data management to training graduate students, many who consider her an unofficial adviser.

As part of her work, she found three new pathogens, all of which impact North Dakota agriculture and generated national interest. She is a co-author on 23 refereed journal articles, three book chapters and one Extension publication. She has been instrumental in developing international project connections in Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and China.

Rivera-Varas received a B.S. degree from the University of Chile and an M.S. degree from NDSU.

Donald and Jo Anderson Staff Award

■ Kamie Beeson

Information Processing Specialist
Department of Plant Sciences

"Kamie is very aware of what it takes to be a member of a very large department."

Kamie Beeson joined NDSU as information processing specialist in 2010.

Beeson provides Web service, graphic assistance and information processing support for all faculty, researchers, technicians, staff and graduate students in the department. That includes managing the department's Web pages; working with faculty to design, publish and update coursework; and assisting faculty with their online course delivery. She also recently helped develop a departmental Facebook page.

In addition, she generates the annual departmental newsletter; creates, edits and prepares reports, forms and other documents; collaborates with other office staff to maintain and update contact information for alumni; and provides backup support in the office as needed.

■ Paulann Haakenson

Information Processing Specialist
Department of Agribusiness
and Applied Economics

"Paulann possesses a rare combination of being competent, efficient, responsible and personable."

Paulann Haakenson joined NDSU in 1997 as an information processing specialist.

Haakenson is the conference planner for events such as the Northwest Farm Managers Association meeting, assists with research by collecting and recording crop and livestock price data from several sources and conducting Web searches, and maintains the department's Web pages.

She also operates the audio-visual software and hardware specialists use to provide distant educational opportunities; creates posters, charts and tables for workshops and conferences; maintains databases for direct mailings and evaluations; handles conference registration; makes charts and graphs for Extension specialists' PowerPoint presentations and publications; and enters data for farm financial summaries and farm commodity databases.

■ Jerie Little

Administrative Secretary
Department of Veterinary
and Microbiological Sciences

"Jerie is the heart and soul of the department."

Jerie Little joined NDSU as an administrative secretary in 2005.

As the first person students, prospective students and their parents may see in the department, Little gets them oriented on what they need to do and helps students with advising arrangements.

As well as a receptionist and secretary, she serves as the department's computer resource person; manages the departmental inventory for all equipment and reference books; orders and manage all office supplies; approves and inputs bills electronically for the department and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory every other week; and handles travel arrangement and travel reimbursement forms. In addition, she has helped set up events for the NDSU chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta.

*Anderson Award nominees
continue on Page 14*

■ Linda McCaw

Administrative Assistant
Agriculture Communication

"Linda is an indispensable part of the Ag Comm team."

Linda McCaw joined NDSU as administrative assistant/conference coordinator/Ag Consortium scheduler in 2008.

McCaw provides support for a staff of 25, maintains departmental records, recommends and oversees departmental procedures, oversees office equipment, manages the department's equipment checkout program, creates and maintains the department's listservs, hires and coordinates assignments for work-study students, and oversees checkout of the 4-H educational trunks.

In her conference coordinator role, she works closely with conference committees to schedule workshops, obtain speakers, plan meals, and develop a conference Web page and online registration for the annual statewide Extension/Research Extension Center and biennial support staff conferences. As an Ag Consortium videoconference master scheduler, she trains users on video-conference scheduling procedures and troubleshoots problems.

■ Cindy Olson

Administrative Assistant
Ramsey County

"Cindy is a great asset for our local programming efforts."

Cindy Olson joined NDSU as an administrative assistant in 1994.

Olson's efforts to recruit and work with volunteers, order supplies, take class registrations, help with state matches and organize county awards nights have gained the county's shooting sports program state and national recognition.

Her other responsibilities include maintaining computer data files for producer/group/4-H mailings; performing clerical duties such as searching files and ordering supplies; maintaining current listings of publications and other educational materials; preparing handouts, brochures and other material for local educational programs; maintaining the county Extension Web page; helping plan 4-H programs such as pancake breakfasts, recognition events and Achievement Days; and maintaining ledgers for county 4-H, Extension and Lake Region Extension Roundup programs.

Rick and Jody Burgum Staff Award

■ David Haasser

Graphic Designer
Agriculture Communication

"Dave's creativity shines through his Ag Communication graphics work."

Dave Haasser joined NDSU in 1997 as a graphic designer.

Before beginning a project, Haasser consults with clients on the use of materials, their intended audiences and deadlines, then designs and produces original graphics, drawings, illustrations and layouts for print and Web distribution.

His work includes creating illustrations for Dickinson Research Extension Center director and Extension livestock specialist Kris Ringwall's weekly BeefTalk column, other news releases and North Dakota AgMag. Other projects for which he has developed illustrations and done the layout include emerald ash borer publications and fliers, Gearing Up for Kindergarten, Navigating Romantic Teen Relationships and the Talking to Children about Money curriculum. He also has designed newsletters, flood preparation and cleanup publications, and a variety of 4-H publications.

■ James Moos

Maintenance Mechanic
Department of Agricultural
and Biosystems Engineering

"Jim's contributions to the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering are numerous and invaluable."

Jim Moos joined NDSU as a lab equipment mechanic in 1975 and became a maintenance mechanic in 1992.

Moos provides technical assistance for research projects, including constructing and installing test equipment in field plots, harvesting grain from field plots and collecting air samples to be tested for air quality. To assist Extension faculty, he has fabricated displays showing energy-efficient building construction techniques and the installation of drain tile, and constructed equipment to collect water quality samples.

He also serves as a lab teaching assistant for the Agricultural Mechanics and Power Units courses, assists faculty with lab setup for the Agricultural Power course, and builds displays and equipment used in teaching labs.

■ Robert Nudell

Research Technician
Department of Plant Sciences

"He is passionate about North Dakota agriculture, and his dedication and enthusiasm continue to inspire his co-workers."

Robert Nudell joined NDSU as an area housing supervisor in 1985 and became a custodian in 1993 and a research technician in 2002.

Nudell prepares the fields, and plants, manages and harvests all the experiments in Marisol Berti's forage and biomass program.

During the winter, he coordinates the milling and processing of forage and biomass samples and organizes them for quality analysis in other labs.

He also organizes and leads the work of graduate and undergraduate students, teaching them good field plot and data-handling techniques; organizes the forage, biomass and cover crops field days for Berti's activities; assists with other research projects in the department; and helps maintain departmental equipment.

■ Brandon Ostby

Research Technician
Department of Animal Sciences

"His contribution to NDSU and the Animal Sciences Department has been significant."

Brandon Ostby joined NDSU as a research technician in 2009.

Ostby has a variety of assignments in the livestock units and farming enterprises, including operating and maintaining crop and forage equipment; seeding, harvesting and handling grain; cutting, baling, hauling, chopping and storing forage; assisting the beef manager with duties such as daily cattle feeding, calving, calf processing, treating sick calves, repairing and maintaining the beef facility, and research; and assisting with sheep shearing.

He also uses his carpentry, welding and fabrication skills to make repairs to Animal Sciences facilities; collects data and finds other ways to improve the NDSU Farm Unit's productivity; and does general farm labor, such as hauling manure, emptying lagoons and mowing ditches.

■ Danelle Walker

Account Technician
School of Natural Resource Sciences
(Entomology)

"Danelle is one of the most important and influential assets of the School of Natural Resource Sciences."

Danelle Walker joined NDSU as an assistant office manager in 2003 and became an account technician in 2006.

Walker assists in developing annual budgets; prepares reports and balance sheets; and handles direct-payment vouchers to vendors, travel expense vouchers for faculty and staff, and billings and other financial paperwork for faculty in the Department of Entomology, and Natural Resources Management and Range Sciences programs.

She also manages appropriated, grant and local monies for faculty and staff, which allows faculty to concentrate on their research, Extension efforts and teaching. Her advice to principal investigators on the appropriate uses of their grants provides them a better chance of using their money efficiently.

2012 Award Recipients

Larson/Yaggie
Excellence in Research

*Tom DeSutter,
School of Natural Resource
Sciences – Soil Science*

Eugene R. Dahl
Excellence in Research

*Anna Grazul-Bilska,
Animal Sciences*

Earl and Dorothy Foster
Excellence in Teaching

*Siew Lim,
Agribusiness and Applied Economics*

H. Roald and Janet Lund
Excellence in Teaching

*Janice Haggart,
Veterinary and Microbiological
Sciences*

William J. and Angelyn A. Austin
Excellence in Advising

*Rachel Richman,
Veterinary and Microbiological
Sciences*

Myron and Muriel Johnsrud
Excellence in Extension

*Reid Redden,
Animal Sciences*

AGSCO Excellence in Extension

*Brad Brummond,
Walsh County Extension*

Charles and Linda Moses
Staff Award

*Kirk Anderson,
School of Natural Resource
Sciences – Entomology*

Donald and Jo Anderson
Staff Award

*Sandy Erickson,
Veterinary and Microbiological
Sciences*

Rick and Jody Burgum
Staff Award

*Nels Olson,
Hettinger Research Extension Center*

2013 Faculty/Staff Award Nominees

Larson/Yaggie
Excellence in Research Award

Marisol Berti
Robert Brueggeman
Birgit Pruess
Scott Pryor
Saleem Shaik
Kendal Swanson

Eugene R. Dahl
Excellence in Research Award

Eric Berg
Mohamed Mergoum
Dennis Wiesenborn
William Wilson

Earl and Dorothy Foster
Excellence in Teaching Award

Jessie Ebert
Ryan Larsen
Stacey Ostby
Deirdre Prischmann-Voldseth

H. Roald and Janet Lund
Excellence in Teaching Award

Marc Bauer
Penelope Gibbs
R. Jay Goos
Robert Hearne
Kirk Howatt
Elton Solseng

William J. and Angelyn A. Austin
Excellence in Advising Award

Thomas Gustad
Harlene Hatterman-Valenti
Tara Swanson
Cheryl Wachenheim

Myron and Muriel Johnsrud
Excellence in
Extension/Outreach Award

Carrie Knutson

AGSCO
Excellence in Extension Award

David Franzen
Thomas Kalb
Mohamed Khan
Glenn Muske
Peggy Netzer
John Nowatzki
Frayne Olson
J.W. Schroeder

Charles and Linda Moses
Staff Award

Joel Bell
Bob Bertsch
Chad Deplazes
Austen Germolus
Kenfrey Mbuba
Linda Parmer
Viviana Rivera-Varas

Donald and Jo Anderson
Staff Award

Kamie Beeson
Paulann Haakenson
Jerie Little
Linda McCaw
Cindy Olson

Rick and Jody Burgum
Staff Award

David Haasser
Jim Moos
Robert Nudell
Brandon Ostby
Danelle Walker