Scholarships in the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences at Virginia Tech

Fred Campbell Horse Industry Student Leader Scholarship – Mr. and Mrs. Fred Campbell have been longtime supporters of equine educational programs. This generous scholarship was endowed in 1988 and is awarded annually to an outstanding student with (1) strong academic performance and (2) leadership potential and interest in the equine industry. Mr. Campbell graduated from Virginia Tech in 1953 with an Engineering degree. He later established Campbell and Associates, a successful engineering firm, where he served the industry for many years. Mr. Campbell has been an active participant at the highest levels of the equine industry, serving on the Atlantic Rural Exposition Board. The Virginia Equine Education Foundation Board, and as President of both the Virginia Arabian Horse Association and the Old Dominion Arabian Horse Association. He and his wife Jane have owned as many as 52 horses at one time. They currently own racing Arabs that are campaigned nationwide. The Campbells’ were recognized in 1995 by the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences for their contributions and Campbell Arena received its official name.

Ralph Hunt Beef Industry Student Leader Scholarship – Mrs. Dorothy Hunt Williams began this memorial scholarship in 1980 in honor of her father, Professor Ralph Hunt, who is still revered at Virginia Tech as the creator of the Animal Husbandry Department. Professor Hunt was the first Department Head of Animal Husbandry, a position he held for 28 years (1924-1951). This endowed scholarship recognizes students with a sincere interest in the beef cattle industry, high scholarship, and leadership potential. Mrs. Williams and her husband, Wyatt, own “Little Yatton”, a farm in Orange, Virginia, and have been breeders of Angus cattle.

Lou H. Dixey Beef Industry Student Leader Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was created by the complete donation of the Dixeylands Ranch Angus herd in May, 1988. The intent of the beef cattle donation by Lou and Sarah Dixey of Fairfield, Virginia, strengthened the Angus herd in the purebred beef cattle teaching program at Virginia Tech, providing the truest form of endowment to further research, teaching and public service for the Department. An endowment was established to support this scholarship specifically for scholarly students with a major interest in breeding Angus cattle and service to the beef cattle industry. The Dixeys’ currently reside in Raphine, VA.

Lorenz Neuhoff, Jr. Pork Student Leader Scholarship – The Lorenz Neuhoff, Jr. Pork Industry Scholarship was endowed by Mr. Jim Neuhoff in memory of his father, Lorenz Neuhoff, Jr. The Neuhoff family has been actively involved in the pork industry in all its phases, from packing plants to farms. Mr. Lorenz Neuhoff, Jr. was the founder of Valleydale Packing in Salem and owned a number of other packing plants. He was a Board member of the American Meat Institute for 40 years, one of the longest-serving members ever. Mr. Jim Neuhoff wished to recognize outstanding students with the potential to contribute to the fast-changing swine industry. Recipients are chosen based upon leadership potential, interest in the pork industry, and academic merit.

George W. Litton Sheep Industry Student Leader Scholarship – The George W. Litton endowed scholarship was established through donations made to recognize Professor George W. Litton with the International Saddle and Sirloin Club Portrait Award in 1980 and with additional contributions from many of his livestock industry friends. Professor Litton masterfully served as Department Head of Animal Husbandry at VPI from 1952 to 1970 and the Litton Reaves building was officially named in his honor to recognize his exemplary academic and industry service. Professor Litton was a nationally recognized stockman, writer and spokesman for animal agriculture, and this scholarship is presented in his honor on the basis of academic performance, leadership potential, need, and interest in the sheep industry.

Rocco Lamb Farms Student Leader Scholarship – Rocco Further Processing of Harrisonburg created this endowed scholarship in 1986. Rocco was one of the nation’s largest processors of poultry, eggs, and feed and pioneered bringing the integration concepts of the poultry business to the sheep industry in Virginia. Rocco was involved in the seedstock, commercial ewe flock, lamb feeding and processing segments of sheep industry. Recipients are selected based upon their leadership, service, personal characteristics, and scholarship, while also expressing an interest in the sheep industry.

Denver D. Bragg Poultry Science Student Leader Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was presented by Mr. Denver D. Bragg as a gift in 1999 to support poultry science students who are involved in poultry-related activities, have a financial need, and are successful scholastically. Mr. Bragg was the first person awarded a Master’s Degree in Poultry Science at VPI in 1953, and later spent 32 years in the Extension Service. He contributed significantly to the commercial poultry industry in Virginia and to the Department of Poultry Sciences. Having received distinct honors and serving on various boards and committees throughout his tenure, Mr. Bragg retired from Virginia Tech only to embark on a new career in private industry. His main interest has always been in helping students succeed and be supported similarly to the way he had been as a student.
**William T. Bailey, Sr., Livestock Judging Scholarship** – Mr. and Mrs. William T. Bailey, Sr., of Jasper, Georgia, established this scholarship award with an endowment in 1997. Their son, Bill, Jr., was a member of the 1974 Virginia Tech Livestock Judging Team that was coached by Dr. Gary Minish. This scholarship recognizes a deserving student who has attained the highest weighted aggregate score in the spring and subsequent fall livestock judging contests. The Baileys’ are most appreciative of the livestock judging program at Virginia Tech since this activity provided a valuable learning experience that built character, instilled confidence, improved the interpersonal skills, and promoted critical thinking through decision making for their son.

**A.L. (Ike) Eller Jr. Scholarship** – This endowed scholarship was started in 1991 with a major gift from Dwight E. Houff of Mt. Sidney, Virginia, a 1961 Virginia Tech alummmus in Agricultural Education. Dr. Eller worked closely with Dwight Houff in the development of his Holly Hill Farm seedstock herds of Polled Hereford and Angus cattle and in the development of Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association bull tests and sales. Some 75 others have contributed to this scholarship endowment. The Eller Scholarships are awarded annually to Animal and Poultry Science students based on (1) academic performance (2) leadership potential and (3) service to the beef cattle industry. Dr. Eller was a member of the Department of Animal Science from 1960 to 1992 where he was the Extension Project Leader in the department and held the position of Extension Beef Cattle Specialist.

**George G. Green Scholarship** – Dr. Green was a long-time faculty member (1965-1987) who was heavily involved in undergraduate teaching, advising, and extension work in the Department of Animal Science. Along with teaching the introductory Animal Production course and Sheep Production, and serving as academic advisor to many Animal Science majors, Dr. Green was a dedicated advisor to the Block and Bridle Club. He was the guiding force behind what was the club’s major fund-raiser, the State Fair BBQ Booth. Dr. Green is remembered for his dedication to the producers, students, and alumni with whom he worked. This scholarship was endowed with funds donated by alumni, industry organizations, and friends to honor him upon retirement. Preference is given to applicants who are active members of Block and Bridle and who exemplify the characteristics of hard work and dedication to the livestock industry.

**Thomas J. & Christine W. Marlowe Freshman Scholarship** – After several years of annual giving, Professor and Mrs. Thomas J. Marlowe decided in 1992 to create an endowed scholarship fund that will continue in perpetuity. Recognizing the need for scholarships in Virginia Tech’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, they established the Thomas J. & Christine W. Marlowe Freshman Scholarship which recognizes a freshman student who has a strong interest in livestock production, a high potential for success as an Animal and Poultry Sciences major, and a personal need for financial assistance. Dr. Marlowe was a faculty member in the Department of Animal Science from 1954 to 1984 and was a dedicated teacher in animal breeding and genetics. He was also a past President of the American Society of Animal Science.

**Harry C. Wyatt Scholarship** – This endowed scholarship was initiated with donations from Mr. Harry C. Wyatt and family and was created with additional donations from many of his friends. Mr. Wyatt was Vice-President of the Norfolk & Western Railroad, Chairman of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, and an avid Hereford breeder from Elliston, Virginia. The scholarship is awarded to Animal and Poultry Science students on the basis of academic performance, leadership skills, need, and interest in the livestock industry.

**Ashe-Lockhart Scholarship** – Marguerite Lockhart established the scholarship in 1966 in memory of her late husband Ashe Lockhart, a 1911 graduate in Animal Husbandry. It was stipulated that preference be given to students in financial need or as an incentive for excellence.

**E. A. and H. H. Livesay Scholarship** – This senior Animal Science Scholarship was established in memory of Dr. and Mrs. E. A. Livesay in 1973. Dr. Livesay (1889-1977) graduated from Virginia Tech in 1912 with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and later earned a M.S. degree in this Department. He became Head of the Department of Animal and Veterinary Science at West Virginia University and was named a Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science. Financial need to a needy and deserving senior is the basis of this award.

**Animal and Poultry Sciences Scholarship** – This endowed scholarship was initiated in the mid 1980’s. Recognizing the need to support the development of future leaders in animal agriculture, this scholarship began with the support of several faculty and industry leaders. Selection criteria include student activities and academic accomplishments. The recipients must be a rising sophomore, junior, or senior.
K. C. and Polly Williamson Scholarship – K.C. Williamson served this department for 32 years (1952-1983) as an Extension Animal Scientist working in the area of livestock marketing. His awards were numerous from the Virginia Cattle Industry, American Society of Animal Science, and the Virginia Tech Alumni Association. This scholarship is awarded on an annual basis to an undergraduate student in Animal and Poultry Sciences based on academic achievement, financial need, and interest in pursuing a career in the livestock industry.

Richard S. Ellis, IV and Roy A. Meek, Jr. Scholarship – The Roy A. Meek, Jr. Scholarship (established in 1992) and the Richard S. Ellis, IV Memorial Scholarship (established in 1995) were combined in 1998 into one endowed scholarship. The original scholarships honored Mr. Meek and Mr. Ellis for their exemplary career of leadership and service to the livestock industry and to their strong interest and support of the Department of Animal Science and of young people seeking a career in Animal Science. Preference is given to students with demonstrated leadership potential and service in the livestock industry and scholastic achievement.

William Earl Browning Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was funded in 1997 by a gift from William A. Hazel, owner of Huntley Farm in Broad Run, VA. Earl Browning is a professional farm manager and for many years has been manager of Huntley Farm. He is a 1963 graduate in Animal Science at Virginia Tech. Mr. Browning is an outstanding leader in the livestock industry in Northern Virginia, and has served in many leadership capacities, including President of the Fauquier County Farm Bureau. The annual scholarship is awarded based on financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular leadership and those who exhibit an interest in livestock and the pursuit of a career in production agriculture.

Owen Thomas, Jr. Memorial Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was funded in 1996 by gifts from Mr. Thomas’ two sons, Owen III, and Charles W., and two grandsons. Owen Thomas, Jr. was a prominent breeder of purebred livestock in Round Hill in Loudoun County. He bred registered Angus cattle, Hampshire sheep and Shropshire sheep. He was an outstanding leader in many livestock and agricultural organizations. The scholarship is awarded based on financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular leadership and those who exhibit an interest in livestock and the pursuit of a career in production agriculture.

Charles W. Thomas Memorial Scholarship – An estate gift was received in February, 2004, from Charles W. Thomas, Jr. of Round Hill, VA (Loudoun County) for the purpose of a further contribution to the Owen Thomas, Jr. Memorial Scholarship. Preference for the scholarship is given, firstly, for financial need; secondly, for academic achievement; and thirdly, for extracurricular leadership.

Virginia Pork Industry Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was started in 1989 with a gift from the Virginia Hog Trade Show, and major gifts from the Virginia Pork Industry Board. The scholarship is awarded to students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership potential, have been and continue to be, an active participant in club and other community activities, have achieved an outstanding collegiate record, and show a keen interest in the swine, and/or other livestock industries.

Mary Howe diZerega Memorial Scholarship – This memorial scholarship was endowed in 2003 by the family of Mrs. Mary Howe diZerega. Mrs. diZerega was a 10th generation cattle farmer who supervised every aspect of her Oakdale Farm, a performance-tested Charolais herd, which was started in 1968 in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Upperville, VA. Her keen interest in genetics and persistence for quality helped to build an exceptional herd of purebred Charolais. Mary Howe served as a leader in many local, state, and national cattle organizations, including being elected by her peers as President of the American-International Charolais Association (AICA) from 1999-2000. She was a 1998 Block and Bridle Honor Awardee and was a 2003 AICA Hall of Fame Inductee. This endowed scholarship recognizes students, preferably young women, who are preparing for a profession in breeding and raising beef cattle. Selection criteria include leadership skills, need, character, and academic achievement.

Jack S. Copenhaver Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was established in 1992 by Jack Copenhaver who played a vital role in guiding the livestock and farm operations for the Department of Animal Science at Virginia Tech. His professional career spanned 39 years (1946-85) during which time he developed the purebred sheep flock at Blacksburg and contributed significantly to the practical research beneficial to the Virginia sheep industry. When one thinks of Jack Copenhaver, the VT sheep flock, Eastern Stud Ram Sale, ram testing, Animal Industry Day, Little International, and Animal Production labs come to mind. The Block and Bridle Club has permanently name their outstanding junior award the “Jackson S. Copenhaver Award”. Recipients are selected based on grade point average (>2.75), financial need, good character, and beef cattle or sheep interests.
Dr. Arden N. Huff Equine Scholarship – This scholarship was endowed in 2004 by alumni, friends, and associates of Dr. Huff’s in honor of his contributions to the equine youth of Virginia. Dr. Huff served the Department of Animal Science as the Extension Horse Specialist from 1955 to 1989. Award winners are selected on academic progress, financial need, and contributions toward the understanding and practices of the use and care of the horse. Participation in clubs, activities, evaluation teams, 4-H and/or FFA, which help develop the practical skills required, shall also be considered.

Teresa “T” McDonald Memorial Equitation Scholarship – This non-endowed fund was created by Bill McDonald in December, 2014 in memory and in honor of, his loving wife, T, for her dedicated service and leadership to the VT Equitation Program. Scholarship awards shall be made to undergraduate students participating in the equitation program at Virginia Tech.

Emily Jane Hilscher Memorial Scholarship – This scholarship was established in memory, and in honor of, Emily Jane Hilscher who died during the tragic shooting at Virginia Tech on 16 April 2007. Emily Jane was a freshman at Virginia Tech, majoring in Animal and Poultry Sciences. Growing up in the rural community of Rappahannock County, Virginia, Emily was an accomplished rider who became a member of the Virginia Tech equestrian team in the spring of 2007, as well as a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. She showed great promise as an intercollegiate rider having a strong work ethic, a positive attitude, and a great deal of determination. It was Emily’s ‘passion’ or ‘spirit’ that caused people around her to sit up and take notice. It is that ‘passion’ that is sought in those eligible for this scholarship. Candidates are nominated by departmental staff and faculty and must be at least a rising sophomore. Special consideration is given to students participating in VT equestrian activities.

Robert B. and Martha W. Delano Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was created in 1994 by Robert and Martha Delano and friends in order to recognize the continuing need for endowed scholarships to benefit APSC students. Mr. Delano is a 1945 graduate of Virginia Tech and a past president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

C. Gordon Thornhill Scholarship – This endowed scholarship was established in 2010 by Mr. Thornhill, a proud Virginia Tech alumnus and graduate of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in Animal Sciences. This scholarship recognizes outstanding leadership and academic performance in students with preference given to Animal and Poultry Science students enrolled in the Production-Business Option who have an interest in agricultural marketing.

Annalee Marshall Memorial Scholarship - This scholarship was established in memory, and in honor of, Annalee Sanford Marshall, who died from a tragic automobile accident in December, 2012. Annalee’s parents established this endowed fund in memory of their beloved daughter. Annalee was a junior at Virginia Tech majoring in Animal and Poultry Sciences with a concentration in pre-veterinary studies, a Dean’s List student, and a member of the equestrian dressage team. Prior to attending Virginia Tech, she and her horse, Splash, received numerous awards in eventing and jumping. She was also artistic and won awards for her drawings and paintings and enjoyed creating artwork as presents for family and friends. Annalee was an active member of To Write Love on Her Arms, a non-profit movement dedicated to presenting hope and finding help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury, and suicide. Recipients shall be out-of-state students with a concentration in pre-veterinary studies and/or equine studies and will be chosen on the basis of academic merit and leadership potential.