June 2023 Department Newsletter



Save the Date!

The annual GSI Friends and Alumni Golf Tournament will be held on September 22, 2023, at the Manhattan Country Club.

Click here for registration information.



Grain Science Researcher Develops New Tools for Cancer Research

Xiuzhi "Susan" Sun was recently featured in the K-State research magazine *Seek* for her research efforts growing various cancer cells in PepGel to study effective drug treatments. Her research shows that some shapes of cancer cells are very easy to cure, while others can develop drug-resistant behavior and present more challenges.

"PepGel is a novel tool for cancer research because it can aid in designing drugs to provide more accurate testing results," Sun said.

Read the full article here:

https://www.k-state.edu/seek/spring-2023/hydrogel-work-aids-in-cancer-research/



Clanton Shares Baking Knowledge with Kansas FACS Teachers

Aaron Clanton joined the Home Baking Association to deliver a one day workshop for 20 Kansas FACS teachers in Ottawa, Kansas. He spent the day helping them better understand the function of baking ingredients and gave them ways of teaching the science of baking as well as equipping them with information on the career opportunities in the baking industry that they can share with their students.







Summer Programs and Recruiting

The Grain Science Department has been busy with summer programs and recruiting efforts during June.

The department hosted 30 students from several local high schools that took part in K-State Salina's Upward Bound TRIO program for tours of our campus grain science facilities. They toured the feed and flour mills and worked in the Shellenberger milling lab. They learned how to make flour, sifted products, and made a "kernel in a jar" to take home. They also participated in a hands-on exercise in the baking lab where they learned about the differences in flours, created shaped dough treats to take home, and received information about potential careers in grain science.

The department also participated in Kansas 4-H Discovery Days and provided tours of the Hal Ross Flour Mill, the O.H. Kruse Feed Technology and Innovation Center, and milling and baking sessions at Shellenberger Hall for Kansas 4-H students.

GSI Admissions Representative, Casey Doyle, traveled to visit the Colorado and Illinois FFA state conventions in Pueblo, Colorado, and Springfield, Illinois, in June. Doyle says

both events were successful and that he was able to talk with more than 100 potential new students at each event to share what our department has to offer.



Kudos and Recognition

Please join us in congratulating our students who have recently successfully completed their dissertation defense or won awards.

Hee Seong Kim recently defended her dissertation, "Evaluation of whole soybean as an ingredient in extruded dog diets," on June 23. Hee Seong's Ph.D. advisor is Greg Aldrich.

Jialiang Shi (Bruce) also successfully defended his dissertation, "Preparation, structure, and digestibility of starch spherulites with different morphologies and allomorphs," on June 14. Jialang's advisor is Yong Cheng Shi.

Ruoshi Xiao has been selected to receive a DGTC scholarship at the upcoming Distillers Grains Symposium which will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, August 8–9. The scholarship is provided by Beam Suntory.

The Graduate Program Committee wishes all of our students continued success in their future endeavors.





Nicodemus Students Visit K-State

5th through 10th grade students from the Nicodemus Educational Camp visited the grain science department as part of the summer youth residential camp in June. Participants have a fun week of events and activities and learn about Kansas agriculture and the state's rich history during the camp.

The mission of the Department of Grain Science and Industry is to advance the global grain and plant-based food, feed, and bioproduct industries through scholarship, research, and outreach.

Connect With Us

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