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FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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NAFV: A Century of Service -
Looking Back on the First 100 Years

THE FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL VETERINARIANS

Vol. 12

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, JANUARY, 1955

No. 1

Mexican– U. S. Foot-and-Mouth Disease Group Congratulated by Benson

Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson December 22, 1954 congratulated the Mexican-United States foot-and-mouth disease commission on the success of its work for the eradication of the disease. For the second time, the two nations have demonstrated the effectiveness of true cooperation in the meeting the challenge of this disease.

Confirming the announcement of last April, the Secretary reiterated his intention to declare Mexico free of the disease on December 31, 1954 and expressed his gratification that the detailed inspection work of the intervening months has not shown any new outbreaks of the disease. The action to be taken on December 31 will permit the resumption of imports of livestock and livestock products which have traditionally come to this country from Northern Mexico.

This announcement follows immediately upon receipt of a favorable report and recommendation from the joint Commission which has just concluded a complete review of the program's accomplishments in Mexico City. Secretary Benson paid high tribute to the commission and especially to the director and co-director, Dr. Lauro Ortega of Mexico and Mr. Walter Thurston of the United States, for their unceasing labors in the half of the two countries. Special praise also was given to the farmers and livestock owners of Mexico who have undergone the rigors of the prevention and eradication activities. Success of the venture otherwise would have been impossible.

The Secretary's advisory committee on foot-and-mouth disease has continued to work closely with the Department on this problem. Secretary Benson thanked the members of the committee for their constant help and encouragement.

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"A mind troubled by doubt cannot focus on the course to victory."

- Phil Armstrong, writer

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Any non-uniformed veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member. Dues are \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semiannually, or by federal payroll deductions (eligibility for payroll deduction is limited to USDA veterinarians--of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS)). Uniformed veterinarians dues are \$150.00 annually. *Active duty* uniformed veterinarians- please contact the NAFV office.

Associate membership may be granted to active members when they retire from federal service. Associate members pay no dues. Associate mailed subscriptions are \$25.00 per year.

The National Association of Federal Veterinarians is a non-profit corporation and the purposes for which it is formed are to promote the veterinary profession, to improve the professional efficiency and material interests of the members, to acquaint the public with the activities of veterinarians in the federal service, and to cooperate with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the United States Animal Health Association and other similar groups with common interests.

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NAFV EVP Column

The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program

by Michael J. Gilsdorf, DVM

When I graduated from veterinary college, there was no student loan forgiveness program. I was fortunate to graduate without any debts and my wife and I paid for my veterinary education by working at various jobs while we were going to school. My wife worked as a receptionist at the veterinary hospital and I started my own firewood business (I needed a job where I could work around my school schedule). The cost of veterinary education has risen dramatically since then.

Today, a DVM degree typically costs \$28,000-\$54,000 per year for in-state tuition and fees (resident rate) or \$41,000-\$66,000 per year (for four years) for out-of-state tuition and fees (non-resident rate). In addition, the average cost of housing is reportedly \$7,000 or more per year. That adds up to an average loan of \$97,000 to \$245,000 over four years. The average Class of 2016 college graduate had \$37,172 in student loan debt with an average monthly student loan payment (for borrower aged 20 to 30 years) of \$351. Veterinarians would have 3-6.5 times higher average monthly loan payments (monthly \$1,050- \$2,275 or annually \$12,600-\$27,300). This is a major issue for the veterinary profession and greatly impacts the federal veterinary profession as well.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that the median annual salary for a veterinarian is over \$82,000 after 5-10 years in clinical practice, while the average starting salary for the typical pet-care veterinarian is over \$69,000. The starting salary for a federal veterinarian directly out of college is \$53,000 and for a federal veterinarian with one year's experience is \$63,000. The average monthly cost of living

in the United States is estimated to be about \$3,627. This adds up to an average annual cost of living of **\$40,000**. This means that new veterinary graduates (with student loans) going to work for the federal government have very little opportunity to save money because everything is going towards expenses until they can obtain salary increases. These are additional reasons why NAFV has been battling for specialty pay, and recruitment and retention bonuses in congress.

NAFV recently conducted a survey of members asking; "Are you currently enrolled or have you applied to get into the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program?" The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program (created in 2007 under President George W. Bush) forgives the remaining balance on Direct Loans after the graduate has made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer. So far, about 7,500 people have applied to have their student loans discharged, but fewer than 1,000 are expected to qualify this year, according to the Department of Education.

NAFV received numerous member responses about the PSLF. Several members are not in favor of this program. One reason is that they paid off their own loans. Another is that Americans owe over \$1.48 trillion in student loan debt, spread out among about 44 million borrowers. That's about \$620 billion more than the total U.S. credit card debt. They don't think the American taxpayer should be paying for these loans.

Several other members are enrolled in the program and are very supportive and had asked NAFV to

(Continued on Pg. 3, "EVP Column")

(Continued from Pg. 2, “EVP Column”)

help ensure the program remained intact after there were attempts to dismantle it. The Trump administration has proposed ending the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program for new borrowers. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that ending the program would save the government \$24 billion over the next decade.

Others tell us that they would not qualify because they earn too much to qualify. In addition, they do not feel most professionals serving would want to wait 10 years to be free of a loan debt. Another member commented that they want NAFV to advocate for a program that would have a certain amount of their loan paid off for every year or two of service.

Eliminating or changing the program would re-

quire an act of Congress. Currently, Congress is considering a rewrite of the federal law that oversees higher education. A House version of the bill would end the program for new borrowers. A Senate version is expected to be introduced this spring.

The AVMA is leading an effort to protect the loan forgiveness program for all veterinarians, as well. AVMA, NAFV, and others are advocating to keep the program. The AVMA is publishing stories from veterinarians enrolled in the program to emphasize how it is helping them.

¹ Studentloanhero.com

² <http://www.businessinsider.com/cost-of-living-single-people-2015-8>

Analysis: 2019 President’s Budget

by *Mariana C. Barros*

WASHINGTON, DC — On Monday, February 12, 2018, the Executive Office of the President released its annual Federal Budget request known as the President’s Budget (linked below).

While the President’s Budget has been a longstanding tradition carried out by each administration, ultimately it is only a request and is subject to approval by Congress. Nonetheless, the President’s Budget *does* provide insight into what the President’s Administration and its Agency Leadership will regard as priorities over the next two years.

Of particular interest to NAFV and our membership is how the President’s budget intends to address federal employee pay and benefits. In reviewing the section on the Administration’s plan to address the federal workforce, a few notes stood out. Please refer to the document linked below for the notes below.

Section 7: STRENGTHENING THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE (https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/ap_7_strengthening-fy2019.pdf).

Overall notes:

In the introduction, the importance of the role that federal employees play in civil defense was stressed and reiterated throughout. Food safety was mentioned in particular, which can be a useful point for NAFV to bring up when speaking to Agency leaders and Congressional Appropriations staff. There was also an emphasis on infrastructure and transportation development, which can be useful for us when advocating for emergency preparedness programs. The Administration has defined themselves to be committed to “reprioritizing Federal spending toward

those activities that advance the safety and security of the American people.” Both FSIS and APHIS play important roles in both safety (food, microbial, etc.) and security (import/export for example), and federal veterinarians are intricately involved in many of the programs carrying out their mission – let’s not forget that veterinarians have been identified as mission critical for the Department of Agriculture as a whole.

Federal Workforce Demographics:

As of September 2017,

Self-identified race:

- 62.9% White
- 18.6% Black
- 8.9% Hispanic
- 5.9% Asian
- 1.6% Native American/Alaska Native
- 0.5% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- 1.6% More than one race

Gender:

- 56.7 Men
- 43.3 Women

Age:

- 600,000 Older than 55— +40,000 from 2013
- 155,000 Younger than 30— -20,000 from 2013

Staffing:

The Administration did not identify a staffing ceiling or specific numbers, but it did propose a staffing decrease in different agencies (Table 7-2). While the overall proposal has a small increase in overall staffing of +0.5%, the Department of Agri-

(Continued on Pg. 4, “President’s Budget”)

(Continued from Pg. 3, "President's Budget")

culture has a proposed decrease of -8.8%. However, when NAFV met with Mr. Kevin Shea of APHIS earlier this week, he mentioned that the plan is not to fire a bunch of employees. Instead, vacancies will not be filled and will be removed from USAJobs, and current staffing will be restructured.

The Administration has signaled its intent to reform federal employee compensation, basing this off of the perception that federal employees are paid more compared to their private industry educational equivalent. They cited the Congressional Budget Office and their reporting of federal employee pay, which found that employees with a high school diploma or less make approximately 17% more than those in private industry. However, this same report is cited saying those Master's and Professional degrees are actually undercompensated in federal service. Also, graphs used from the Bureau of Labor Statistics illustrate that an increasing majority of full time employees in the federal government have a

Master's degree or higher, which means that the portion of the workforce which is "over"-compensated as compared to private industry is decreasing and will continue to decrease.

This proposal also lays out drastic changes to federal employee benefits including decreasing the amount the government pays into annuity funds so that it is equal to the employee's contribution, reducing or eliminating COLA for existing and future retirees, and proposes a transition into a leave system that codifies all leave under one category. For a full list of the proposed changes please refer to pages 70-73. The proposal also includes the financing of a committee that looks into how to keep attractive benefits. NAFV staff will be working on these issues through coalitions, etc. to prevent any decreases in benefits or workforce.

We would love to hear your thoughts on the document linked and the notes above. Do you have any further notes to make or suggestions on strategic planning? If so, please contact nafv@nafv.org.

Bovine Tuberculosis Trace Investigation Identifies Infected Kalamazoo County Herd - Public Meeting Scheduled for March 7, 2018 in Hickory Corners

Source: www.Michigan.gov

LANSING – A trace investigation from a bovine tuberculosis (TB) infected herd in Ottawa County has led to the identification of a bovine TB positive roping cattle herd in Kalamazoo County, Michigan. The Ottawa County cattle, which originated from a bovine TB infected herd in Indiana, had spent time at a Kalamazoo County farm. All the cattle on the Kalamazoo County farm were removed and two were found infected with bovine TB.

"The thorough investigation done by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture staff allowed us to find this herd quickly," said Jarold Goodrich, DVM, acting assistant state veterinarian. "We were able to remove the exposed animals for testing in a rapid manner and will be working to identify any other farms that may be involved."

Whole genome sequencing, which is a specific test that can identify the DNA of the TB bacteria, was used to confirm that the bovine TB found in the Ottawa County infected animals was similar that of an infected Indiana herd. The type of bovine TB that has been found in both cattle and white-tailed deer in the northeastern Lower Peninsula of Michigan is not related to the herds in Ottawa and Kalamazoo counties.

In 2016, Indiana identified two beef herds and one white-tailed deer as bovine TB positive, all within Franklin County. Currently, Indiana is one of six

states – Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas and Michigan – with infected herds.

As a part of MDARD's response, a three-mile surveillance area has been established around the affected farm in Kalamazoo County. Farms within this special surveillance area will have six months to complete bovine TB testing. These farms will be identified by MDARD and notified through individual letters.

An informational meeting to discuss this finding of bovine TB and the surveillance area is scheduled for:

Wednesday, March 7, 2018, at 7 p.m.

Kellogg Biological Station Academic Building Auditorium

3700 E Gull Lake Dr., Hickory Corners, MI 49060

More national information can be found on the [USDA's bovine TB webpage](#). Additionally, information on bovine TB in Indiana can be found on the [Indiana State Board of Animal Health's webpage](#).

Source: <http://bit.ly/2FEfmog>

REMINDER:

NAFV members, reminder that our generic login information for the NAFV member-only portal is no longer active. For access to our member-only forum along with the NAFV Continuing education portal, please email nafv@nafv.org.

APHIS Administrator Announces New Associate Administrator**APHIS Stakeholder Bulletin, 02/08/2018**

Dear Stakeholders:

I'm pleased to announce that beginning tomorrow Dr. Michael Watson will join me and Mike Gregoire in the Administrator's office filling behind Dr. Jere Dick as Associate Administrator. Dr. Watson will work in close coordination with Mike Gregoire, who also serves as Associate Administrator, to carry out the Agency's day-to-day operations, work with stakeholders and employees, and oversee the activities of every APHIS program area and support unit.

For the past six months, Dr. Watson has been serving as Associate Deputy Administrator for APHIS' Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services, and I've asked Dr. Mark Davidson, Associate Deputy Administrator for Veterinary Services (VS) overseeing National Import Export Services, to take over that position.

As Administrator I've long believed that talented senior leaders have the ability to fill many different roles here at APHIS regardless of the focus of their degrees or professional background. Dr. Watson has a doctorate in plant pathology but two years ago he took over as MRPBS' Human Resources Division Director and has done an outstanding job. And Dr. Davidson has spent the past 19 years with Veterinary Services; he will now be responsible for our internal business operations. Above all, we need strong leaders who can assess the needs of the Agency, identify challenges and support the Agency as we work together to achieve our mission. I'm confident in the ability of Dr. Watson and Dr. Davidson to do just that.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Watson has worked for several different Federal offices. Before joining APHIS' Biotechnology Regulatory Services in 2003, he worked for USDA's Agricultural Research Service, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration. After 7 years with BRS, he moved to Plant Protection and Quarantine, where he served in several roles before being named Associate Deputy Administrator. Dr. Watson's diverse knowledge of APHIS programs and services is just what we need in the Administrator's office. He knows many of our stakeholders and has a solid understanding of the support and services our employees need to be successful in their jobs.

Before joining APHIS in 1998, Dr. Davidson spent two years with USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. He has held positions with VS in the field, in the regional office in Fort Collins, CO and at headquarters. While animal health has been his primary focus, Dr. Davidson has become adept at financial management, acquisition and asset management, human resources and more in order to successfully address disease outbreaks and effectively manage VS' expansive import/export portfolio.

I look forward to working closely with Dr. Watson and Dr. Davidson in their new roles, and I've included their biographies for a more complete history of their careers. I'm pleased we were able to move quickly to fill several APHIS Management Team vacancies resulting from the recent retirements of three longstanding Agency leaders. In case you missed my message last week, I announced Ms. Cheryle Blakely as the new Deputy Administrator for International Services and Ms. Janet Bucknall as the new Deputy Administrator for Wildlife Services.

Sincerely,



Kevin Shea
Administrator

RAZORS

According to Wikipedia a razor, in philosophy, is a principal that allows one to “shave off” unlikely explanations for a phenomenon. Razors go back to the ancient Greeks, though not under that title, and occur to the present. They are short simple statements that explain and help lead to a correct conclusion.

The most famous of these is Occam’s Razor, from the 1300s. It states that to resolve any problem, the simplest explanation is usually the correct one.

Another example is Hanlon’s Razor, very applicable to modern life and working conditions. It states that one should never attribute to malice, that which can be explained by stupidity.

Hitchen’s Razor states that what can be asserted without evidence, can be dismissed without evidence. Great for political arguments.

Here are two newer ones:

- Hughes’ Razor (#1). Believing something, however fervently, does not make it true.
- Hughes’ Razor (#2). Loving someone does not make him/her into a good life partner.

Bill Hughes, NAFV General Counsel

Millennial Column: Is It Worth It?

Before entering the wonderful profession of being a Veterinarian, a long and arduous path must be conquered. Hours of studying, volunteer work, and due diligence is needed just to be eligible to apply for admission. After finally being accepted and completing a vigorous curriculum you are then part of the elite. Becoming a veterinarian in today’s world is taking more work and money as our profession advances into the future of medicine and technology. But is it worth it?

This is the question I get asked by students younger than me who aspire to be in my place. I graduated from Texas A & M University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2017. After working as a relief vet upon graduation, I heard about opportunities with USDA. I moved directly into the FSIS family and I do still think it’s worth the effort, but I have had my doubts. The cost of completing the pre-requisites and veterinary school together are astonishingly high. I am currently holding a debt of well over 150k just like many new veterinarians coming directly out of school. Others are carrying a burden much higher. Although most say that this debt can’t be that bad because as a doctor you must make tons of money, I wish that were the case for us.

The starting pay for most new veterinarians is not what the general public imagines. Of course our salary is above the average in the United States, however with the drowning debt that comes with the title, the pay is subpar to what our knowledge and skills can offer. Many still have to live month to month and the thought of savings is still in the distant future as our interest builds on high loans.

With all this being said, I don’t intend to discourage our profession from the younger community, I hope to build its worth with the public and world. Whether you work with the USDA, in general practice, or any other function that can utilize the skills we veterinarians have to offer, we as a whole have to build our value with the public. Becoming a veterinarian was my dream as a little kid and now I get to live it every day.

I never did it for the money, although having a little more to support a new family would be very nice. We have one of the best professions in the world and I hope that as time progresses we get to a point where the thought of high debt and low pay won’t push back on individuals aspiring to be where we are today. FSIS has provided me with a great opportunity to progress in my career and I couldn’t be happier with my choice of becoming a veterinarian! I hope others with the same desire choose to take this path because no matter the difficulty, the reward, in my opinion, is much higher.

Dr. Harry J. Malinski



On Wednesday, January 31, 2018 the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. Sonny Perdue attended the 2018 International Processors & Producers Expo in Atlanta, GA. While there he visited each USDA display booth to include the FSIS booth. Dr. Angela McIntyre, NAFV Atlanta Coordinator chatted with him for a brief moment.

Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine

The University of California, Davis welcomes applications for the Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM) Program in the School of Veterinary Medicine. The MPVM is a 1-2 year graduate professional master degree open to veterinarians and other medical professionals. Since 1967, the pioneering program's more than 900 graduates have excelled worldwide in leadership, academic, and research positions with universities, private industry, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, and governments.

Our modernized MPVM curriculum offers core courses in epidemiology concepts, study design, research, leadership, ecosystem health, and infectious disease epidemiology as well as statistics. Elective options allow students to explore zoonotic disease, food safety, diagnostic test evaluation, spatial analysis, mathematical modeling, disease ecology, and many more. Coursework in 'One Health' is available for students interested in public health and conservation at the interface of human-animal interaction. In addition to didactic instruction, students write a thesis on research they undertake during the course of the program. We support our extensive course offerings and student research with a large, diverse, vibrant faculty including new hires in epidemiology, wild life, food animals and poultry health, and a wealth of adjunct contributors from state and federal management agencies and organizations. Instruction commences in early August each year.

Requirements for entry into the program include a minimum 3.0 GPA, as well as a TOEFL score of 85 or higher for non-English speakers. The application deadline is January 15th each calendar year. Interested applicants can learn more about admission requirements and explore financial aid options at <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/mpvm/admission/admissioninfo.com>

Send inquiries to the MPVM Coordinator, Tami Ali (tali@ucdavis.edu); or the MPVM Chair, Dr. Ashley Hill (aehill@ucdavis.edu).



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

9 CFR Parts 416, 417, 500, 590 and 591 | [Docket No. FSIS-2005-0015] RIN 0583-AC58

Egg Products Inspection Regulations

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is proposing to amend the egg products inspection regulations by requiring official plants that process egg products (herein also referred to as "egg products plants" or "plants") to develop and implement Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems and Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (Sanitation SOPs) and to meet other sanitation requirements consistent with the meat and poultry regulations. FSIS is proposing to eliminate those current regulatory provisions that are inconsistent with HACCP, Sanitation SOPs, and the proposed sanitation requirements. FSIS is also proposing to specify in the regulations that official plants are required to process egg products to be edible without additional preparation to achieve food safety. In addition, FSIS is proposing to: Provide for generic approval as part of the prior label approval system for egg products; make changes to labeling requirements for shell eggs consistent with those in the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) regulations; require special handling instructions on egg products; eliminate the requirements for prior approval by FSIS of egg products plant drawings, specifications, and equipment; incorporate egg products plants into the coverage of the "Rules of Practice" that the Agency follows when initiating administrative enforcement actions; and change the Agency's interpretation of the requirement for continuous inspection in agency law. FSIS is also announcing that it is seeking public comment on draft guidance designed to help small and very small plants producing egg products to meet the new regulatory requirements being proposed in this rulemaking. Should the rule become final, FSIS intends to finalize this guidance.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 13, 2018. FSIS is providing a longer comment period than typical for this proposed rule because of the magnitude of the proposed action and the need to provide for possible public meetings on the proposed action.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION
SERVICE WASHINGTON, DC 12-18 2/26/18 FSIS NOTICE
INSTRUCTIONS FOR KIDNEY DISPOSITIONS IN POULTRY CARCASSES**

I. PURPOSE This notice announces that FSIS is updating instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP) for kidney dispositions in poultry carcasses at slaughter establishments. The instructions in this notice replace the poultry kidney disposition criteria set out in FSIS Directive 6100.3, Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Poultry Inspection, Section IX. H. The new kidney disposition criteria are to be applied upon receipt of this notice and following correlation by the FSIS supervisor with IPP performing poultry slaughter inspection duties.

II. BACKGROUND Historical carcass and visceral organ disposition guidance was based principally on an abundance of caution associated with quality concerns and poultry physiology. A less restrictive approach to organoleptic post-mortem inspection of carcasses and visceral organs is now advantageous to remain current with inspection methods that focus on food safety. Final disposition of poultry carcasses and visceral organs with diseases and conditions is to be based on grossly visible lesions that IPP (and establishment sorters) can observe. While microscopic findings derived from histopathology can provide additional information on flock conditions, a final disposition on carcasses and visceral organs is usually not to be based exclusively on these laboratory reports when they are available. When necessary, the Public Health Veterinarian (PHV) combines the organoleptic inspection information with available laboratory information in making a diagnosis and disposition per FSIS Directive 10,230.6.

USDA Opens New Office in Vietnam to Help Facilitate Increasing Agricultural Trade

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, 2018 -- The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) recently celebrated the opening of its new office in Hanoi, Vietnam. The office will play a vital role in helping expand the United States' \$2.5 billion-dollar agricultural export market in Vietnam.

"Growing agricultural trade between the United States and Vietnam means new opportunities for American producers," said Greg Ibach, USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs. "With this increase in trade comes increased pest and disease risk, and our in-country expertise will ensure the safest trade possible, while still providing greater options for U.S. consumers. Having an APHIS office in the heart of Hanoi will not only help maintain existing markets, but foster new opportunities for American farmers who set the worldwide standard for food production."

"Vietnam is one of the fastest-growing global markets for U.S. farm and food products, currently ranking as our 11th-largest customer," said USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Ted McKinney. "The expansion of USDA's presence in Vietnam is a clear indication of this country's importance as a U.S. trading partner. The on-the-ground technical expertise of the APHIS team will be an important complement to the trade policy and market development work being done by our Foreign Agricultural Service staff at the USDA Office of Agricultural Affairs in Hanoi, as well as our

office in Ho Chi Minh City."

The APHIS Hanoi office will maintain technical working relationships with their Vietnamese counterparts to resolve any concerns associated with the science-based standards both countries employ to prevent the introduction of animal and plant pests and diseases. By doing so quickly and locally, APHIS can help keep trade moving and benefit the producers and economies of both countries.

U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Daniel Kritenbrink, APHIS Deputy Administrator Cheryle Blakely, and Vietnam's Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Tran Thanh Nam formally opened the office at a ceremony alongside guests representing the U.S. agricultural industry, the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and officials from the USDA Offices of Agricultural Affairs in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, including Agricultural Counselor Robert Hanson.

APHIS' international mission is to protect and promote U.S. agricultural health through internationally-based animal and plant health expertise. APHIS' International Services staff supports USDA's mission through its 29 international offices by facilitating safe agricultural trade, ensuring effective and efficient management of internationally-based programs, and investing in international capacity-building through various training programs abroad to enhance technical, administrative, and diplomatic skills and competencies.

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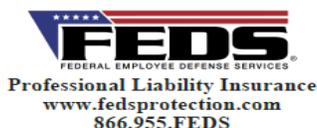
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ENROLL ONLINE NOW**

In Memoriam: Dr. Saul T. Wilson

Source: Tuskegee University

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (February 2, 2018) – The Tuskegee University family as well as the veterinary medical profession and public health community lost a trailblazer, accomplished and respected academician, visionary leader in the control and eradication of public health diseases and dedicated veterinarian, Professor Emeritus Saul T. Wilson, Jr., DVM, MPH. Dr. Wilson passed on Feb. 1 after suffering a brief illness. He is survived by his daughter, Adrienne, a Tuskegee alum; two grandsons, Ryan and Damien; one brother, Sherald; one sister, Mary Elizabeth; and a host of other family members, friends, and colleagues. His was pre-deceased by his wife, Alva Marian.

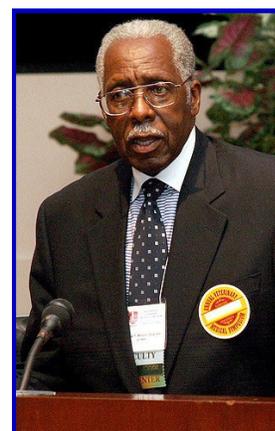
Wilson was a member of the first pre-veterinary medicine class at Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) and was among the second class of Tuskegee veterinary school graduates and received his DVM degree in 1950. After graduation, Wilson began his career with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a field veterinarian, working on the Mexico-US Foot-and-Mouth Disease Eradication Commission.

After serving in the US Army Veterinary Corps from 1952 to 1954 and receiving his MPH degree from the Harvard School of Public Health in 1955, Wilson returned to the USDA. His responsibility increased as he trained, managed and directed domestic and international programs for the control or eradication of animal diseases important to trade or human health. In 1990, the USDA paid tribute to his efforts

and designated the "Saul T. Wilson, Jr. Scholarship Program" to attract students from underrepresented groups in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) workforce to careers in veterinary medicine and biological sciences.

After retiring from the USDA, Wilson returned to his alma mater and served faithfully as a professor of epidemiology and director of the Center for Tropical Animal Health (international program in veterinary medicine). He retired from Tuskegee University in 2015 but continued to serve in a consultant role. His actions have inspired veterinary students to practice public veterinary medicine.

"The College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is mourning the loss of another veterinary trailblazer, Professor Emeritus Dr. Saul T. Wilson, Jr. He has ended his earthly journey of love, commitment and dedication to Tuskegee University, but the impact he has made locally, nationally and globally is so significant, that his name will be forever remembered and noted in history as one of the greatest in veterinary medicine," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the CVM.



Dr. Wilson was a long-time NAFV member and served on the NAFV Board of Directors while still an active member.

2018

Federal Veterinary Workforce

January 2018

Annual Report by the National Association of Federal Veterinarians

*US Uniformed Service Rank	0-1	0-2	0-3	0-4	0-5	0-6	0-7			Other Rank / Rank Unknown			
CC		LTJG	LT (\$	LCDR	CDR	CAPT	ADM	ADM/ASG					
GS or GM Grade or Equivalent Band	9	11	12	13	14	15	SES/SL/ST/16-18	Members/Consultants				***AD***	
													Line Total
US Dept Agriculture													
(Please see pay band row for FSIS)	AP03	AP04	AP05 /5S	AP06/6S	AP11	AP12	AP13	AP14	AP15	Other	5S	6S	
FSIS		53	744	190	29	7		1					1,024
APHIS							1						1
APHIS-Policy & Program Development					1			1					2
APHIS-International Services		1	1	4	3	6	2	2					19
APHIS-Plant Protection & Quarantine				11	2								13
APHIS-Veterinary Services		9	261	108	178	28	11						595
APHIS-Animal Care		2	58	19	6	3	2						90
APHIS-Wildlife Services		1		1	1	1							4
ARS	1	1	10	15	2	15	4						48
NIFA (formerly CSREES)				0		4	2						6
Forest Service					1	1							2
TOTAL USDA	1	67	1,074	348	223	65	22	4	0	0	0	0	1,804
Dept Health & Human Services													
FDA-GS			3	55	34	19	1	3				11	126
FDA-CC					1	3				12			16
NIH-GS				9	4	7				5			25
NIH-CC					3	6	1			58			68
CDC-GS						1		6	64	5	17		93
CDC-CC			6	5	13	15			7	8			54
IHS-CC					1								1
ASTDR-CC					1								1
OS/ASPR-GS						1							1
OSSI					1								1
USPHS (not included in total since they are reflected in their agency assignments)			6	5	17	24	1					96	149
TOTAL DHHS	0	0	15	74	75	76	3	9	71	88	17	107	535
Environmental Protection Agency													
EPA- Commision Corps										2			2
EPA- Veterinarians			3	4	1	4		8					20
TOTAL EPA	0	0	3	4	1	4	0	8	0	2	0	0	22

Federal Veterinarians Protect and Improve Public and Animal Health and Welfare

VETERINARY HAPPENINGS

Notify NAFV of Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, Awards, Retirements, etc. for members not listed in the "Veterinary Happenings" column so they may be included in a future issue. The following information was received by NAFV.

USDA APHIS Members

Dr. Kenneth R. Scheel, MSU '86, Elkton, VA, Retirement, 08/31/2017
Dr. Donald E. Evans, KSU '77, Auburn, KS, Retirement, 09/10/2017
Dr. Thomas J. Brignole, CSU '83, Olympia, WA, Retirement, 12/31/2017
Dr. Deborah L. Brennan, TEX '78, Athens, GA, Retirement, 12/31/2017
Dr. Barbara Bischoff, OSU '98, Plain City, OH, Retirement, 12/31/2017
Dr. Joseph Anelli, ARA '84, New Market, MD, Retirement, 01/27/2018

USDA FSIS Members

Dr. Dan P. Dutulescu, BUO '80, Davis, CA, Retirement, 09/29/2017
Dr. Daniel T. Leonard, ISU '84, Merville, IA, Retirement, 12/29/2017
Dr. Ulysses G. Whitworth, TUS '76, Durham, NC, Retirement, 12/31/2017
Dr. Pat Basu, BEN '67, Alexandria, VA, Retirement, 01/3/2018

Welcome New Members

Dr. Anne Martin, FSIS, GS-12, KSU '81, Hoisington, KS, 11/28/2018
Dr. Satish Rathee, FSIS, GS-12, LAH '98, Jasper, IN, 11/29/2018
Dr. Tina K. Winn-Thomas, FSIS, GS-12, TEN '83, Clarksville, TN, 01/01/2018
Dr. Kathryn Shapero, FSIS, GS-12, MSU '16, Boise, ID, 01/01/2018
Dr. Marie Gemmell, FSIS, GS-11, SRG '15, Toma, WI, 01/01/2018
Dr. Karen Fieser, FSIS, GS-12, MO '99, Millersville, MO, 01/01/2018
Dr. Gary A. Rorenberger, FSIS, GS-12, ISU '93, Aberdeen, SD, 01/01/2018
Dr. Jason Sulwer, FSIS, GS-12, ROS '00, Brooks Park, OH, 02/04/2018
Dr. Heather Bopes, FSIS, GS-11, ISU '17, Waterloo, IA, 02/20/2018
Dr. Courtney Baldwin, FSIS, GS-12, MIS'08, Roanoke, AL, 02/24/2018

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