Lesley Gleason
Program Coordinator & Academic Advisor
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Lesley Gleason, ’09 currently serves as the Program Coordinator and Academic Advisor in The Department of Poultry Science. In this position she is responsible for undergraduate advising, recruitment, coordinating departmental programs, and overall communication with the students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders of the department. She also serves as an organization advisor for the Poultry Science Club and the Aggie Leadership Council. Lesley graduated from Texas A&M University in December of 2008 with her B.S. in Poultry Science. In May of 2011, she completed a M.S. in Educational Leadership Studies with an emphasis in College Student Development from Oklahoma State University. In May of 2015, Lesley accepted the Program Coordinator position in Poultry Science and has been there ever since. In 2013, Lesley was named a Fish Camp Namesake in 2013 and she was named the “Advisor of the Year” for the Recognized Student Organizations at Texas A&M in 2014. Lesley and her husband, Kevin, live in Franklin and have two daughters, Avery Grace (3) and Hallie Rose (1).

Allyson Spears
Program Coordinator & Academic Advisor
allyson.spears@tamu.edu

Allyson Spears, is originally from Brentwood, California; and currently serves the undergraduate and graduate students in The Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M University as a Program Coordinator. She enjoys being able to create connections with students and help further their career opportunities. She also serves as an advisor for the Poultry Science Club and the Aggie Leadership Council. Allyson graduated from Texas A&M University in 2018 with her B.S. in Agribusiness. Throughout her undergrad she was involved in countless Student organizations as well as the Texas A&M Wool and Livestock Judging team. In November of 2018, she joined the Department of Poultry Science. In addition to her full-time position at the University she is also the co-owner of a small antique and vintage decor business (Junk ‘N Disorderly) and an Agriculture Advocate business (Ag Chicks). Allyson also enjoys spending time with her family, dogs, and cattle.
Dr. Craig D. Coufal  
Associate Professor & Extension Specialist  
ccoufal@poultry.tamu.edu

Dr. Craig D. Coufal is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M University and currently serves as Associate Department Head for Extension and Extension Program Leader for Poultry Science. His extension and applied research program focuses on poultry litter and waste management, development of strategies and management practices to minimize the potential for environmental impact from poultry production systems, and egg sanitization. He teaches three undergraduate courses in the Department of Poultry Science, Commercial Egg Production, Animal Waste Management, and Poultry Judging, and is the coach of the department’s collegiate judging team. Prior to joining the Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M in 2008, he was an Extension Specialist with the Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department from 2006 to 2008. Dr. Coufal received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Poultry Science from Texas A&M University. Dr. Coufal’s industry experience includes an internship and full-time position with Cal-Maine Foods, Inc.

Dr. Morgan Farnell  
Associate Professor  
mfarnell@tamu.edu

Dr. Morgan Farnell is an Associate Professor with the Texas A&M University Poultry Science Department. He received a B.S. in Agri-Business from Southern Arkansas University. Dr. Farnell received a M.S. in Poultry Science and a Ph.D. in Veterinary Microbiology from Texas A&M University where he focused on pre-harvest food safety and avian immunology, respectively. He has worked for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department and now currently in the Texas A&M Poultry Science Department as an Associate Professor, with a research and teaching appointment. He teaches a graduate level immunology class (POSC/VTMI 649), an undergraduate avian sciences laboratory (POSC 302) and leads a study abroad group to Mexico (POSC 444) each year. The Farnell’s have two teenage boys who are actively involved in Boy Scouts. He has served as a BSA Pack/Troop Treasurer and Assistant Scoutmaster for seven years and is a Wood Badge recipient.
Virtual Poultry Institute, 2020
Presenter Biography

Dale Hyatt
Lecturer
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Dale Hyatt has been a beloved staff member of The Department of Poultry Science for 34 years. He served as the manager of the Poultry Research Center for most of that time but has now transitioned to a lecturer in the department teaching POSC 201: General Avian Science. That course has grown to an average enrollment of 400+ student each semester! Many youth across Texas know Dale as a poultry judge as he has over 40 years’ experience in judging shows on local, county, and state levels. Dale also served as the Superintendent for both the HLSR Poultry Show (for 22 years) and the San Antonio Poultry Show. In addition to show birds, Dale has also been very active in assisting with the Poultry Judging CDE Contests. He has been a member of the National FFA Poultry Committee for over 20 years. Not only is Dale knowledgeable about all things poultry, he is one of the most influential people in many Poultry Science student’s lives. In his free time, Dale likes telling jokes and playing Bingo!

Dr. Audrey McElroy
Interim Head & Professor
amcelroy@tamu.edu

Dr. Audrey McElroy is a Professor, Broiler Extension Specialist, and Interim Head in the Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M University. She has a three-way appointment including, conducting intestinal health research and advising graduate students, teaching undergraduate courses, and providing educational programming for the commercial poultry industry. She is a native of south Texas and earned her BS, MS, and PhD degrees in Poultry Science at Texas A&M University. She was a Professor at Virginia Tech for 15 years and spent time in a technical service role for Merck Animal Health prior to joining the faculty at Texas A&M. Her research is focused on improving poultry intestinal health through nutritional strategies. In her days away from work she contributes her time and money to her kids show lamb and goat projects and travel to shows across Texas.
Dr. Katie Burchfield
Veterinarian
katieburchfield20@gmail.com

Dr. Katie Burchfield is graduate of Poultry Science and veterinary school from Texas A&M University. She first became exposed to the poultry industry through family owned farms in North Carolina and FFA in high school. Katie chose Poultry Science as an avenue to veterinary school and as a way to stay connected to agriculture. During her undergraduate education, Katie quickly decided that she wanted to pursue poultry medicine as a career. Fast forward to post vet school, Katie now resides in Athens, Georgia as a Masters of Avian Medicine resident. Upon completion of the 18 month program, she plans to work in the industry with broilers and broiler breeders. In her free time, Katie and her husband Juan enjoy hiking the magnificent trails in their new state and playing fetch with their Labrador named Tyson.