

PSU Dept. Dairy, Animal Science Names Distinguished Alumnus

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — The Penn State University Department of Dairy and Animal Science has announced its recipients of two annual recognitions for distinguished alumnus.

Joseph J. Knapka, of Brookeville, Md., and George Shook, of Madison, Iowa, were recognized respectively as the department's distinguished alumnus of animal science and alumnus of dairy science.

The Penn State University Department of Dairy and Animal Science recognizes alumnus whose career and life achievements and involvements characterize some of the best attributes held in regard by the PSU Dairy and Animal Science Department.

Distinguished Animal Scientist
Knapka, a prominent animal

scientist, earned national acclaim for his development of open-formula animal diets at the National Institute of Health (NIH), where he has worked since 1967. He currently serves as special assistant to the director of Veterinary Resources at the NIH's National Center for Research Resources.

In addition to his affiliation with a number of organizations — the National Cancer Institute; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and National Center for Toxicological Research, among others — Knapka also has worked with NASA on animal projects in space. He has served on the editorial boards of six scientific journals and spent three years as a lecturer at Georgetown University School

of Medicine, in the mid-1980s.

He earned a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry science in 1958 while at Penn State University. As a student, he lived and worked at the beef barn, competed on judging teams, and belonged to several organizations, including Block and Bridle Club. He was the 1956 Champion Angus Showman and editor of the 1957 Little International catalog.

Knapka went on to the University of Tennessee to earn a master's and doctoral degree in animal nutrition.

Through the Pan American Health Organization, Knapka also has worked with scientists internationally to improve the quality of biomedical research in developing South American countries and republics of the former Soviet



Dr. George E. Shook
Distinguished Alumnus

ty. He received a degree in dairy science from Penn State University in 1963.

As an undergraduate, he served as president of the Dairy Science Club, and for three years played baritone horn in the Penn State Blue Band. He also was a member of the Coaly Society.

He earned his master's and doctoral degrees from University of Wisconsin and joined the faculty there in 1967. He became department chair in 1990.

His studies of somatic cell count and clinical mastitis led to the recent publication of national sire evaluations for somatic cell score. The scoring system is now being used nationwide.

He has also made important contributions to the accuracy of Dairy Herd Improvement Association production records. He developed test interval adjustment factors — long known as Shook Factors — that are used to estimate an animal's production in the first and last months of lactation.

Shook also developed AM/PM adjustment factors which improved the accuracy of an estimate of a cow's 24-hour production from a single sampling at a morning or evening test.

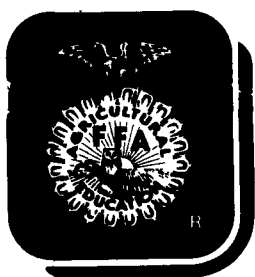
The AM/PM test program is becoming the predominant production test program nationwide because it allows DHIA personnel to test more herds at less expense and more convenience for the herd owner.

Union. He is scheduled to lecture in Sweden and Estonia this spring about the nutrition of animals used in biomedical research.

He and his wife Dorothy live in Brookville, while a daughter Cindy and family live nearby. A son, John, 1988 graduate in animal production, lives in Meadville, Pa. Knapka said he visits his mother at the family farm near Benton. He said that, after he retires from government service, he would like to manage a small herd of Maine-Anjou cattle with his son.

Distinguished in Dairy Science

George E. Shook, currently professor and chair of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Dairy Science, grew up on a Guernsey farm in Clarion Coun-



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Shook and his wife Nancy celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary last year and both have sung in the Madison Symphony Chorus for 22 years, also performing in the chorus in four productions of the Madison Opera. The couple has a 10-year-old son Kynan, and their two oldest children, Karina and Kent, are undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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