The history of the Tennessee Walking Horse is rooted deep within the walls of MTSU Horse Science. One of the most prominent personalities is that of Hey Dare, a 28 year-old Tennessee Walking Horse stallion who was born in the MTSU barn. During his performance days, Hey Dare was successfully shown in the flat-shod pleasure classes. He then went on to sire many nice horses that have gone on to be successful in flat-shod versatility classes including reining, trail, western riding, dressage, and over fences. Hey Dare continues to benefit the Walking Horse community by being a wonderful teaching tool in the classes taught by Dr. John Haffner. In the equine reproduction courses offered by MTSU, students learn collection and handling methods of stallions, using Hey Dare to hone their skills. Out of about 50 horses here at MTSU, 18 are Walking Horses. These horses play roles in other classes like the basic horsemanship and CERV (Center of Equine Recovery for Veterans) courses taught by Sarah English.

Students who have shown interest in working with the Tennessee Walking Horses have also been given the opportunity to show. WHOA, Walking Horse Owners Association, hosts the International Walking Horse show at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum each summer. This past year, undergraduate Wes Plunkett showed The Haig, otherwise known as Kramer, at the International, who is sired by Seve out of a Hey Dare mare.

Continued on Page 2
Alumni Demi Potts showed a Seve filly at the International in 2013 and 2014. Barn manager, Jessica Schultz, has succeeded in the show pen at the International with Hey Cowboy and Shesa Summer Breeze, or “Daphne,” in the reining classes.

Seve is the second Tennessee Walking Horse stallion housed at the MTSU barn. Standing at MTSU since 2008, Seve, owned by Dr. Barbara Utermark from Georgia, has been an integral part of the breeding program.

The current location and facility of the MTSU Horse Science program, opened in 2003, is credited to the generous donation of John C. Miller, a breeder and admirer of the Tennessee Walking Horse. The development of the Walking Horse breeding program at MTSU is focused on producing a few foals each year that will then either be sold or put into the riding program. Two of the primary broodmares are daughters of Hey Dare, who each produced a foal this year and are already in-foal for 2016.

Income produced from breeding fees and selling the foals helps support the growth of the program. Along with the breeding, riding, and showing involvement of the Tennessee Walking Horse, Dr. John Haffner hopes to conduct future research involving these horses.

MTSU students have had opportunities to work with various community organizations from the surrounding areas. One of these occasions was teaching a series of mini-clinics to Saddle Up! in the spring. Located in Franklin, Saddle Up! is the oldest and largest program in the region, devoted to working with children and youth who have disabilities. This program is Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International accredited, ensuring that it meets the highest of standards concerning the quality and safety of equine assisted curriculum. Saddle Up! now serves over 180 children and youth from the surrounding communities. Headed by faculty member, Sarah English, students have taken turns creating a short demonstration or lecture to present to instructors at Saddle Up!, serving as continued education for those who are certified. These clinics have also been open for the community to participate, but still maintained a focus on EAAT (Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies) instruction. Topics have included nutrition, health care, conformation, trailering, and fundamentals of horsemanship and the adaptability to different riders.

The clinics quickly gained popularity, leading to MTSU becoming the host location for future events next year.
This past summer, MTSU was selected along with two other universities, Sam Houston State University and Louisiana State University, to teach the 2015 AQHA International Horsemanship Camps. The student group selected to participate in this opportunity was a mix of undergraduates, Seneca Ewing and Delaney Rostad, and graduates, Helen Hardy, Ariel Herrin and Andrea Rego. Dr. Holly Spooner served as the advising faculty member on this trip. The mission of the clinics was to provide riders of all ages, disciplines, and levels with tools to build successful horses and horsemen. The program began with basic skills needed to advance to the higher levels of horsemanship. Before leaving for the AQHA clinics, the clinicians created a curriculum, a mix of riding and discussion topics, as a guideline for each clinic to get the most out of the time provided. The clinicians were able to have a test run of the curriculum with a clinic hosted for the Tennessee horse enthusiasts. After a successful turnout and many personal victories, the clinicians were excited to take their instruction overseas.

The first stop was in a small town outside of Skövde, Sweden. This clinic saw 27 participants, the largest of all! After 3 days of intense riding instruction, the majority of the students were able to accomplish flying lead changes, spins, and the more upper level skills. The second stop was in Roskilde, Denmark where 20 participants were enrolled in the clinic. After working through some translation difficulties, the format of the clinics was altered to benefit the most participants as possible and those that rode in almost every segment of the clinic saw improvement, strengthening and gaining the ability to do skills they had never even attempted before. The final clinic was located in March, Cambridgeshire in the United Kingdom, hosted by Sovereign Quarter Horses. The 12 riders’ position and cues became more refined as the horses’ overall attitude toward the work improved throughout the duration of the clinic.

The clinicians received wonderful feedback upon their return to MTSU. A participant from Sweden commented, “It’s great to meet people that share your love of the American Quarter Horse.” Another participant from the United Kingdom shared this with the clinicians, “The clinicians were supportive, encouraging and clearly enjoying the experience of delivering the clinic. They all seem to possess an uncanny knack for being able to identify the levels of skill and confidence of each of the participants and when to cajole, encourage or just plain have a good laugh.” This praise, paired with once-in-a-lifetime experiences, resulted in a trip that will not soon be forgotten!
This year several of the graduate students and faculty and one undergraduate were lucky enough to attend the 2015 Equine Science Society Symposium, otherwise known as ESS. The beautiful Tradewinds Island Resort in St. Petersburg, FL, hosted the meeting this year which ran from May 26 – 29. This meeting gave the students and faculty opportunities to hear other research and network with professors and professionals from all over the world. On the opening night of the conference, students and faculty attended a reception to meet other attendees and catch up with acquaintances from other schools. After the reception, Horse Science listened to the welcome from the ESS president and then the Squire’s Lecture.

The next morning, the student presentation competitions began immediately following that morning’s guest speaker. Horse Science was well represented in the oral and poster presentation competitions. Josie Collins, Nicole Swirsley, Emily Hulak, and barn manager Jess Schultz competed in the Graduate Oral Presentation Competition while Kendall Martin presented in the Undergraduate Competition. Collins and Swirsley presented in the Production and Management division while Hulak and Schultz gave their presentations in Exercise Physiology. That evening, students and faculty got the opportunity to attend the Gator Growl Dinner with many important Florida horse industry guests, ranging from the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture to a representative from Disney’s Animal Kingdom.

By the next morning, most of the student oral presentations were over, but the poster competition was just beginning. Sarah English and Caitie Crain presented separate posters in the Teaching and Extension and Reproductive Physiology divisions, respectively. The afternoon presented a variety of workshops on a variety of topics in which students and faculty could participate. After the workshops, the graduate students, and one undergraduate, attended the Student Social and participated in a teamwork competition where they placed second.

On the last day of the conference, it was the professors’ and professionals’ turn to present. Students heard some of the world’s most preeminent researchers talk about their current and ongoing research on everything from Reproductive Physiology to Production and Management. In the evening, ESS put on an awards banquet, and Jess Schultz won second in the Graduate Student Exercise Physiology division. Overall, it was a very successful and educational trip to ESS!
Horsemen’s Association Combines Education and Experience

The MTSU Horsemen’s Association is a student organization of horse enthusiasts dedicated to learning about and promoting all aspects of the horse industry, especially horses in Middle Tennessee. Frequently, the Horsemen’s Association hosts guest speakers on topics ranging from horse health to police horse training to wild horses and the Bureau of Land Management. Horsemen’s is advised by Dr. Rhonda Hoffman.

The fall semester has been busy for this organization. On October 18, the group traveled to Natchez Trace Stables to enjoy a two hour trail ride through the mountains. October 27 – 29 saw Horsemen’s host its bake sale. Members contributed lots of baked goods and treats to raise money for the organization. The association is already planning to use this money for possible future trips. One of the planned trips is to the Jaeckle Center to hear about alternative medicine and rehabilitation in horses. Another trip is in the works, but no date has been set.

CERV Thrives in the Spotlight

The Center of Equine Recovery for Veterans (CERV) program was established as a partnership between the Veterans Recovery Center in Murfreesboro and MTSU Horse Science. Founded in 2013, the CERV program has thrived at MTSU and continues to grow and help student-veterans in the community.

Good word spreads quickly as CERV has been featured in national conferences in the past year. Other facilities and programs from across the area have sought out the curriculum to put into their own use. Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) instructors have shown interest in CERV, providing training clinics on how to work with veterans as effectively and efficiently as possible.

On the home front at MTSU, the CERV classes offered have expanded into a specific veterans only section of ABAS 2110 – Basic Horsemanship. Those veterans who have participated in the basic class before were able to come back over the summer for an advanced CERV course. Non-veteran students have benefited from the development of this program by being able to serve as volunteers to work with and assist the veteran-horse pairs. Since the installment of CERV to the Horse Science curriculum, there has been one student-veteran that continued into a Horse Science minor while multiple veterans have enrolled in classes after hearing rave reviews of the program.

CERV gained community-wide attention in the spring after hosting a benefit horse show. The show was planned and managed by students enrolled in ABAS 4040, Equine Event and Facility Management. A substantial amount of money was raised at the 2nd annual CERV Spring Spectacular. More light shined on CERV as it was featured at the November 7th MTSU Football game against Marshall. This game marked the 34th annual Salute to Veterans and Armed Services.
An Inside Look at Horse Science for Club MARVEL

In the spring semester, Club MARVEL visited the Horse Science center. The Horse Science program saw over 60 students visit the barn. Club MARVEL (Murfreesboro City Schools / Middle Tennessee State University Assuring Rigor and Vision for the future through the Enrichment of Learning) is a partnership between MTSU and the Murfreesboro City Schools designed to give opportunities for students to experience a variety of fields and disciplines across the MTSU campus. One Saturday of each month, students from grades 4-6 travel to different colleges of MTSU to learn and explore possible careers. This format allows the students a glimpse into their potential future.

During the students’ visit, they were moved through various stations across the whole facility. They were exposed to a nutrition summary, popular colors and breeds of horses, a show environment, the Equiciser, and how to measure the height and weight of a horse. These stations were organized and presented by the graduate students.

Due to the overwhelming success and positive feedback, Club MARVEL has already scheduled a second trip to the Horse Science program for next year! Greg Lyles, the community initiatives coordinator for Club MARVEL, said the trip was, “a wonderful experience for our students as well as the adults. MTSU continues to amaze me with what it has to offer to our students and the community as a whole.” He concluded, “We are already looking forward to our visit for next year…with the inside look at the Horse Science Program.”

MTSU Partners with CHA to Provide Educational Clinics

Faculty members Anne Brzezicki and Sarah English took the reins in hosting a Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) clinic in the fall semester. Joining Brzezicki and English were two CHA instructors, Tammy Gainer and Christy Landwehr. These instructors volunteered their time in helping put on this clinic for 32 participants. The clinic was spread across two full days of instruction where the participants received a mix of lecture, demonstration, and hands-on experience. The clinic went off without a hitch, thanks to the help of the MTSU students.

Students and faculty from the MTSU Horse Science program hope to conduct more mini-clinics in the future. This series would be focused on interest in Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) along with the tailored needs of participants provided from the feedback survey from the first CHA clinic. MTSU will also be offering a CHA certification clinic in mid-May. The CHA International Conference will be hosted by MTSU in late October 2016.
Reclaimed Wood Wall Art

**Supplies:**
- Wood
- Stain
- Horseshoe
- Nails
- Paint/Brushes
- Mending Plates
- Saw Tooth
- Picture Hanger

**Instructions:** Begin with 3 evenly sized, about 10”, wood planks – the more grain the better! Before applying desired color of stain, sand the planks. After the stain has dried, coat the planks with a sealant (clear coat or lacquer), and then line the planks up as you would want it to hang, stain side down. Screw on mending plates, 2 for each joint, and nail in the picture hanger. Flip planks stain side up and position horseshoe as preferred. Using 2 nails, anchor horseshoe to planks. Finish by hand painting phrase or quote around the horseshoe.

Final Product

Horse Cupcakes

**Supplies:**
- Cake Mix
- Icing
- Food coloring in black and brown (or desired horse colors)
- Wafer Cookies to match
- Circus Peanuts

**Instructions:** Bake cupcakes as directed – denser recipes work the best. Allow time to cool before decorating. Cut a slit from center to edge, slightly smaller than the size of wafer cookie. Break wafer cookie in half or to the size of desired neck length and insert cookie into slit. Using brown icing (for a bay horse), ice the cupcakes. Attach circus peanut onto top of wafer cookie with icing. Add eyes and nostrils to peanut, brown icing can be used as ears. With black icing, pipe down back of wafer cookie for mane. Using icing (as pictured) or black licorice, add a tail to the opposite side of the cupcake from the mane.

2015 Horse Science Awards

**Academic Achievement Awards**
- Freshman – Cherish Sams
- Sophomore – Delaney Rostad
- Junior – Ashley Foster
- Senior – Layne Sanders

**Outstanding Majors**
- Freshman – Julia Rhyne – Moscovitz Scholarship
- Sophomore – Delaney Rostad – JW Cross Scholarship
- Junior – Ashley Foster – TN Horse Council Scholarship
- Senior – Ariel Herrin

**Sam Paschal Award**
- Jessica Moore

**Silver Spur Award**
- Ashley Myers
- Rachel Hutton

**Pegasus Award**
- Delaney Rostad

**Kitty Adams Scholarship**
- Wesley Plunkett
MTSU Master of Science in Horse Science: Research Report

The graduate students have been very busy this year at Horse Science! Projects have ranged from parasites to Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies and everything in between. Some of their research is ongoing, so there may not be results to report. Here’s a short recap of the projects in the last year:

Completed Research:

“Optimization of quantitative techniques for enumerating mucosal stages of Cyathostomin nematodes in the horse” - In researching equine parasites, larval cyathostomin populations must be quantified. Mechanical digestion was developed over 30 years ago to enumerate encysted stages of cyathostomes. This study examined the optimal digestion times for liberating early stage L3 larvae (EL3) and late stage L3 and L4 larvae (collectively known as DL). Mucosal samples from both the cecum and large intestine were digested for 60, 90, 120 or 150 min. A time effect was observed in the cecum and ventral colon for the EL3 at 150 min. There was no time effect at the tested intervals for DL. Longer time intervals should be examined to determine the optimum time for liberating EL3, while a different test for DL is recommended. This was an M.S. project for recent graduate Emily Fitzgerald.

"Supplement Use and Perceptions: A Survey of U.S. Horse Owners"- A short survey was used to obtain information about supplement use among U.S. horse owners, as well as their perceptions of the safety and efficacy of the supplements they give their horses. General demographic information was collected, and the survey also asked people to identify their main riding discipline and whether or not they considered themselves to be professional or recreational riders. No significant differences between riding disciplines or professional vs. recreational in terms of supplement use with nearly 90% of horse owners reporting using supplements on at least one horse in their care. The study also found that people seemed to be fairly evenly split when considering perceptions of supplement safety and efficacy. This was an M.S. project for recent graduate Nicole Swirsley.

“Spermatogonial stem cell transfer to a mule” - Spermatogonial stem cell transplantation (SSCT) has been studied in various species and the target for injection has been theorized to be the rete testis within the testicle. This study examined the possibility for successful injection through using castrated testicles from various species that contain a discrete rete testis. The conclusion drawn from these results led into the SSCT from a two year old Tennessee Walking horse stallion to an 18 month old mule. This study is important to improve the SSCT methodology between various species in order to advance technologies to preserve male genetics. Human genetics would also benefit from the results of this study because by determining the optimum target for SSCT injection, successful transplantation would lead to continuing offspring of that donor male. This was an M.S. project for graduate student Emily Smith.
Research Report

Ongoing Research:

“Evaluation of the Welfare of the Lesson Horse used for Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies Through Investigation of Heart Rates” - Very little research has been done on the impact horses can have on Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) participants, but even less research has been done on the effects these activities have on the horses. Without research it is difficult to assess the welfare of these horses. This project used heart rates as a noninvasive measurement of stress to determine if horses used for EAAT incur more stress during a lesson as opposed to time in the stall. Horses at this facility, Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (STAR), were also monitored for specific behaviors indicative as "stressed" or "relaxed" behaviors. Determining this value will help programs to better utilize their horses, as well as to quantify and validate standards of care and use of their equines. This was an M.S. project for graduate student Holly Nobbe.

“The effects of whole body vibration on bone density, bone markers, and stride length in the exercising horse” - This project looked at the effects of whole body vibration (WBV) on bone density, stride length, heart rate, and bone markers. Eleven horses were used during the study, 5 control and 5 in a treatment group. All horses were exercised for an hour 6 days a week on a mechanical exerciser and the treatment group received WBV 5 days a week for 45 min at 50 Hz. This was an M.S. project for graduate student Kayleigh Maher.

“New curriculum for 4-H youth and its effects on learning” – A curriculum was developed for 4-H youth. There are three different modules with 3-5 lessons in each module. The topics for the modules are horse nutrition, horse behavior, and horse health. Two different lessons will be taught to 4-H youth in Rutherford County. For one lesson, the kids will be given a pre- and post-test to see what they learned. For the other lesson, an evaluation will be given to the kids to see what they liked and didn't like about it. This is an M.S. project for graduate student Andrea Cole.

“Long term effects of the use of furosemide” – This project looked at the long term effects of a popular drug in the racehorse industry, furosemide, used to prevent Exercise Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage. This study took place over 8 weeks with weekly administration of furosemide to horses and looked at its effects on bone mineral content and markers of bone turnover. Horses were also weighed each week to measure their water weight loss, as this has been used as a measure of effectiveness of the drug. This was an M.S. project for graduate student Abby Pritchard.
Competition Team Updates

Equestrian Team

The MTSU Equestrian Team has continued its success under the direction of Anne Brzezicki with multiple accolades and awards through the spring and into the fall semesters. In the Hunter Seat division, the team qualified several riders for post-season competition: Mary Johnson, Jessica Lee, Ashley Myers, Kelsey Sloan, Ariel Herrin, and Alex Turner along with Emily Hulak in the Alumni. Lee and Hulak rode on to Zones, held at Savannah College of Art and Design in April, where Hulak advanced to Nationals. In the Western division, the team was High Point Team for Region 1 and went to Semi-Finals in Lady Lake, FL with team members Wes Plunkett, Kelsey Sloan, Alex Turner, Delaney Rostad, and Ariel Herrin. In addition, Ariel Herrin, Laura Otey, Leah Piper, Jessica Moore, Delaney Rostad, Jessica Lee, and Emily Hulak qualified as individuals for the Western Semi-Finals. Herrin also finished as the Regional High Point Rider in Western. Herrin, Rostad, Moore and Hulak qualified for Nationals.

At Nationals in Springfield, MA, Hulak placed 4th in Alumni Western and was an honorable mention in Alumni Hunter Seat on the Flat and Alumni Over Fences. Herrin finished 8th in Open Western Horsemanship and had an honorable mention in the AQHA High Point Rider. Rostad was an honorable mention in Novice Western Horsemanship, and Moore placed 6th in Advanced Western Horsemanship.

Fall 2015 brings some wonderful new members that have a great attitude and work ethic and have been showing up for the hit-the-ground-running list of events starting the second week of school. At the first Hunter Seat show at Sewanee, Kelsey Sloan was High Point Rider one day, and several riders had personal best performances. At the first ever UTK Western show, Lauren King was High Point and Reserve HP Rider and Leah Piper was Reserve, while the team was High Point and Reserve HP Team over the course of the weekend.

The biggest spring semester project will be to host the IHSA Western Semi-finals in March. The team looks forward to having teams from eight other regions across the country competing at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum. 2016 Nationals will be held in early May at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

The Equestrian Team also works at industry and community service events. In the spring, the team hosted the Rutherford County 4-H Horse and Pony Club for three monthly educational program meetings. The team also worked at the West TN Quarter Horse Association shows, providing jumps and labor for the over fences classes. Soon after the beginning of the fall semester, the team hosted the annual Tennessee State FFA Horse Judging Contest. The leadership has kept the members busy with service events and competitions, helping integrate the new members into this elite team!
Equestrian Team
The stock horse team at MTSU competes at Region 2 American Stock Horse Association sanctioned shows. Team members show across multiple divisions, such as Limited Non-pro, Novice, and Green Horse. Exhibitors show in the four classes of stock horse pleasure, stock horse trial, reining, and working cow horse. This year’s team is coached and advised by Jessica Schultz and Dr. Holly Spooner.

The 2015 competition year for the MTSU Stock Horse Team began with the most riders in the team’s history. The veteran members, Seneca Ewing, a senior from Memphis, TN, Jessica Moore, a graduated senior from Maryville, TN, Delaney Rostad, a junior from Maryville, TN, and Andrea Rego, a graduate student from Douglasville, GA, were joined in the spring semester by Trevor Higgins, a junior from McMinnville, TN, Rachel Hutton, a senior from Knoxville, TN, and Helen Hardy, a graduate student from Georgetown, TX. To kick off the fall semester, the team welcomed four additional new members: Jennifer Dowd, a freshman from Bell Buckle, TN, Jessica Starling, a freshman from Harrison, TN, Tori Trotter, a freshman from Springfield, TN, and Loren Bebensee, a junior from Redding, CA.

In the spring, the team’s debut was at the Alabama Stock Horse show in Montgomery, AL. Rostad took home the Novice All-Around title, and Hardy won the Green Horse All-Around. At the MTSU Spring Fling, a show organized and run by the coaches and team, Moore, Rostad, and Hutton ended up tying for the All-Around award in the Novice division. After the tiebreakers, Moore won the All-Around with Rostad in reserve.

Stock Horse of Dixie hosted a show in Unadilla, GA that marked the beginning of the shows in the fall semester. Ewing was the All-Around winner in the Novice division. The team then went on to compete at the Tennessee Stock Horse Show in Shelbyville, TN, the next weekend. Ewing succeeded again winning the Novice All-Around. An additional All-Around award was taken by Hardy in the Green Horse division.

Members of the MTSU stock horse team have one more show to look forward to in the fall. MTSU will be hosting the Region 2 Championship Show in their backyard at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum in late November. A fundraiser show, the Candy Corn Classic, will be held the following day that offers classes from reining to over fences.
Stock Horse Team
Horse Judging Team

There is a new look to MTSU’s Horse Judging Team this year as everyone is starting fresh and embarking on their first year of competition. They are coached by Dr. Dave Whitaker and Casey Henry. For some of the team members, it is also unfortunately their last year due to their graduation in the spring. On this year's team is Sophia Antol, Jennifer Dowd, Seneca Ewing, Rachel Hutton, and Delany Rostad. These students are also members of other competition teams, all pursing degrees in Animal or Horse Science. Ewing shows with the Stock Horse Team and hopes to pursue a Master's Degree after graduation. Hutton competes on the Stock Horse Team as well and plans to work in facility management after she graduates in the spring. Rostad, a junior this year, serves as the president of both the Equestrian and Stock Horse Teams. Antol and Dowd, both freshman, participate with the Equestrian Team and the Stock Horse, respectively.

This fall marks the first time this group of students will travel together to judging contests, competing in the Limited division at the All American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, OH and the AQHA World Championship Show in Oklahoma City, OK. The Limited division was created to allow new teams to gain experience by placing all the same classes in the contest, but this division only gives two sets of oral reasons, instead of the normal six sets of reasons at the World Show. This opportunity will better prepare Antol, Dowd, and Rostad for competition next year where they will face other senior teams from universities from all over the country.

The team had great success at the Congress judging contest. Rostad placed first overall and in performance. Dowd took home third place in performance, tying with Antol for third overall. There is still much in store for this year's team as they travel to the World Show in mid-November. The team hopes to continue their high achievements at this competition and many more in the future!
Faculty Highlight: Anne Brzezicki

Anne serves as the director of equitation programs at MTSU. If you come to the Horse Science Center, she's probably teaching one of the riding labs or an Equestrian Team lesson. She came to MTSU in 1976 and started the Eq Team in 1977. She developed a new IHSA region and introduced Western Horsemanship into the association. Anne has coached the Equestrian Team to numerous Regional and Zone championships in both Huntseat and Western as well as the Reserve Champion Western Team and the High Point Western Rider in the nation. In 2003, Anne received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the IHSA, and in 2004, she was named IHSA Regional Coach of the Year. This year, Anne received the 2015 Certified Horsemanship Association Instructor of the Year Award. Congratulations Anne! No one works harder or deserves this more!