



Animal Well-Being Advisory Panel



Ryan Best recently finished his term as 2011-2012 national president of Future Farmers of America, leading more than a half-million student members in their promotion of leadership, scholarship and agricultural education. He is a New Mexico University honor student and Crimson Scholar on his way to completing a degree at Tarleton State University in agriculture and extension education, with a minor in agriculture economics. Best is from Portales, N.M.



Anne Burkholder is the owner of a beef cattle feedlot in Nebraska. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Dartmouth College and, using this background, has made decisions that ensure low-stress situations for her cattle. She sits on the Beef Quality Assurance Advisory Committee and is the region 9 director of the Nebraska State Beef Council. In 2009 Burkholder won the Beef Quality Assurance Producer of the Year Award for volunteer work promoting food safety and animal welfare. She lives in Nebraska with her husband and three daughters. [Blog: Feed Yard Foodie](#)



Ed Cooney is executive director of the Congressional Hunger Center. Prior to joining the organization, Cooney was an anti-hunger advocate at the Food Research and Action Center and Connecticut Legal Services. Earlier in his career, Cooney held two senior positions at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), including Deputy Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs and Special Assistant for Nutrition to USDA Secretary Dan Glickman. Cooney also was a member of USDA's Senior Executive Service, the government's top management team. As an advocate and nutrition program administrator, he has worked on every major child nutrition and Food Stamp bill since 1977. Cooney received his bachelor's degree from the College of the Holy Cross and a law degree from the University of Connecticut Law School. Cooney resides in Arlington, Va.



Dr. Gail Golab is director of American Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Division. She has been working toward humane treatment of animals since her participation on an oversight committee while engaged in biomedical research as an undergraduate. Since then she has served on advisory committees on the care and use of animals in agriculture, biomedical research, the pet industry, entertainment and human healthcare applications. She graduated with a Ph.D. from Texas A&M, a DVM from University of Illinois, is certified as a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (Animal Welfare), is a charter diplomate of the American College of Animal Welfare (an AVMA-recognized veterinary specialty board) and a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice. She lives in Illinois.



Dr. Temple Grandin is a professor of animal science at Colorado State University, focusing on livestock behavior, handling and animal welfare. She has designed guidelines and humane facilities for livestock animals in the meat-packing industry. Her nonfiction book, *Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior*, is a *New York Times* bestseller, and HBO produced an award-winning biopic on her life from childhood struggles with autism to today. Grandin is among the *Time* 2010 Top 100 Most Influential People in the World. She received her bachelor's degree from Franklin Pierce College, her master's degree from Arizona State University, and her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. She lives in Fort Collins, Colo.



Animal Well-Being Advisory Panel



Karl Guggenmos, is the dean of culinary education at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I. He is responsible for providing vision, strategy and leadership, and exploring growth initiatives for the university. Guggenmos has been twice voted Chef Instructor of the Year and featured on the PBS series, "Master Class at Johnson & Wales." He is a member of several boards including the Tastemasters Advisory board of Starbucks and the Global Board of Advisors for The Growing Connection, a United Nations initiative. Guggenmos holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Johnson & Wales University. He lives in Rhode Island.



Dr. Tim Loula, a graduate of the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine, and is co-founder and co-owner of the Swine Vet Center, a Minnesota-based veterinary practice focused solely on swine care. During his career, Loula has provided veterinary consulting in 30 U.S. states and 29 foreign countries. Awards, honors and distinctions include the American Association of Swine Veterinarians Swine Practitioner of the Year award and formerly serving as the organization's president, the Allen D. Lemans Science in Practice Award and recognition as a Master of the Pork Industry by National Hog Farmer Magazine. Loula also has delivered numerous lectures to agriculture communities.



Miyun Park is the executive director of Global Animal Partnership, a multi-stakeholder nonprofit organization working to promote continuous improvement in agriculture and higher animal welfare. Until 2009 Park served as the vice president of Farm Animal Welfare for the Humane Society of the United States. She has worked in the nonprofit animal advocacy community for nearly two decades and also is a prolific writer, penning articles and presenting on these topics to international audiences. Park has bachelor's in philosophy from Middlebury College and now resides in Washington, D.C.



Dr. Ashley Peterson is vice president of scientific and regulatory affairs for the National Chicken Council, responsible for food safety, poultry inspection and animal welfare. Her previous experiences have been as director of legislative/regulatory affairs for the American Meat Institute, as well as serving as a Congressional Science Fellow in the U.S. House of Representatives. Peterson received her doctorate in Animal Science from the University of Maryland, her master's degree in animal science from Michigan State University and her bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky. She resides in Washington, D.C.



Dr. Richard Raymond is the former U.S. Department of Agriculture Undersecretary for Food Safety from 2005-2008, ensuring the safety of the United States' meat and poultry supply. During his time at the USDA and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Regulation & Licensure division, Raymond focused his efforts on public health, healthcare and environmental concerns. Until moving to Washington, D.C., Raymond was a lifetime Nebraska resident. He now resides in Windsor, Colo., and consults, writes and speaks on public health, food safety and feeding the world. Raymond attended Hastings College and University of Nebraska Medical Center, and was the first physician to hold the position of Undersecretary for Food Safety.



Animal Well-Being Advisory Panel



Dr. Janeen Salak-Johnson is an associate professor in the area of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois, lecturing on stress physiology and animal well-being and behavior. She has a doctorate from Texas Tech University in animal science, neuroscience and immunology, and does extensive research to understand how stress affects an animal's well-being, specifically pigs. Salak-Johnson attended Texas Tech for her Ph.D. and University of Minnesota for her post doctorate. She lives in Champaign, Ill.



Dr. Janice Swanson is a professor and chair of the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University, specializing in animal welfare and social responsibility in the food industry. She's earned a Ph.D. in applied animal ethology from the University of Maryland, her master's degree and baccalaureate from University of Connecticut. Swanson also serves on advisory councils and committees for multiple food chains. She is a Michigan resident.



Dr. Bruce Webster is a professor of poultry science at the University of Georgia. The bulk of his research is related to poultry behavior and humane animal treatment, and designing and promoting legitimate answers for animal welfare concerns. Webster is a member of the Federation of Animal Science Societies Scientific Advisory Committee on Animal Care, the Poultry Science Association, Southern Poultry Society and International Society for Applied Ethology. He received his bachelor's degree from McGill University, and his master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Guelph. He lives in Athens, Ga.