

THE SFAAS “NEWSREEL”

Number 17 / September & October 2022

In this issue of *Newsreel*, we introduce several new people and sadly announce the passing of a retired faculty member, Brian Duncan

We also report on a workshop on environmental protection, organized by Tham Hoang and held in Vietnam,

Please keep information coming, so we can let everyone know of things that are happening. Let us know when you get a new job, retire, or add to the family!

Joe Tomasso
Professor & Director (and *Newsreel* editor!)

You can find past *Newsreels* at
<https://agriculture.auburn.edu/research/faas/newsletters/>





PROMOTED & TENURED

Ian Butts has been promoted to associate professor and awarded tenure, effective this semester.

Dr. Butts joined us in 2017 and has built a research program in reproductive biology. He also teaches our Hatchery Management course and manages our student and guest seminar programs.

Congratulations to Ian. We look forward to a long and productive association with him.



Ian with his faithful companion “Donut”



RECOGNITION

Alan Wilson is the recipient of the 2022 **Gerald & Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.**

Auburn president Chris Roberts has referred to the Leischuck Award as “Auburn’s highest faculty honor”. It “recognizes excellence in teaching and honors and rewards those who best exemplify that distinction”.

Dr. Wilson will be formally recognized during the faculty Awards Celebration on November 17.

NEW STAFF MEMBER

Robin Hamilton has joined the AUMERC staff as an Administrative Assistant.

She was born and raised in the south and loves the warm climate. Robin likes fishing, boating and being outdoors. She currently lives in the country and raises goats for fun.



NEW STAFF MEMBER

Carla Cowan has joined the Swingle office staff as our Grants & Contracts Specialist.

She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Troy University. Prior to Troy, Carla attended AU where she was a member of the marching band.

She has worked as a tax auditor of Fortune 500 companies and as a CFO for a timber and logging company.

Carla and her husband, Bryan, have one son, Bryson, who is 16 and one daughter, Brylie, who is 15 – plus a four-legged child named Deuce Anne.



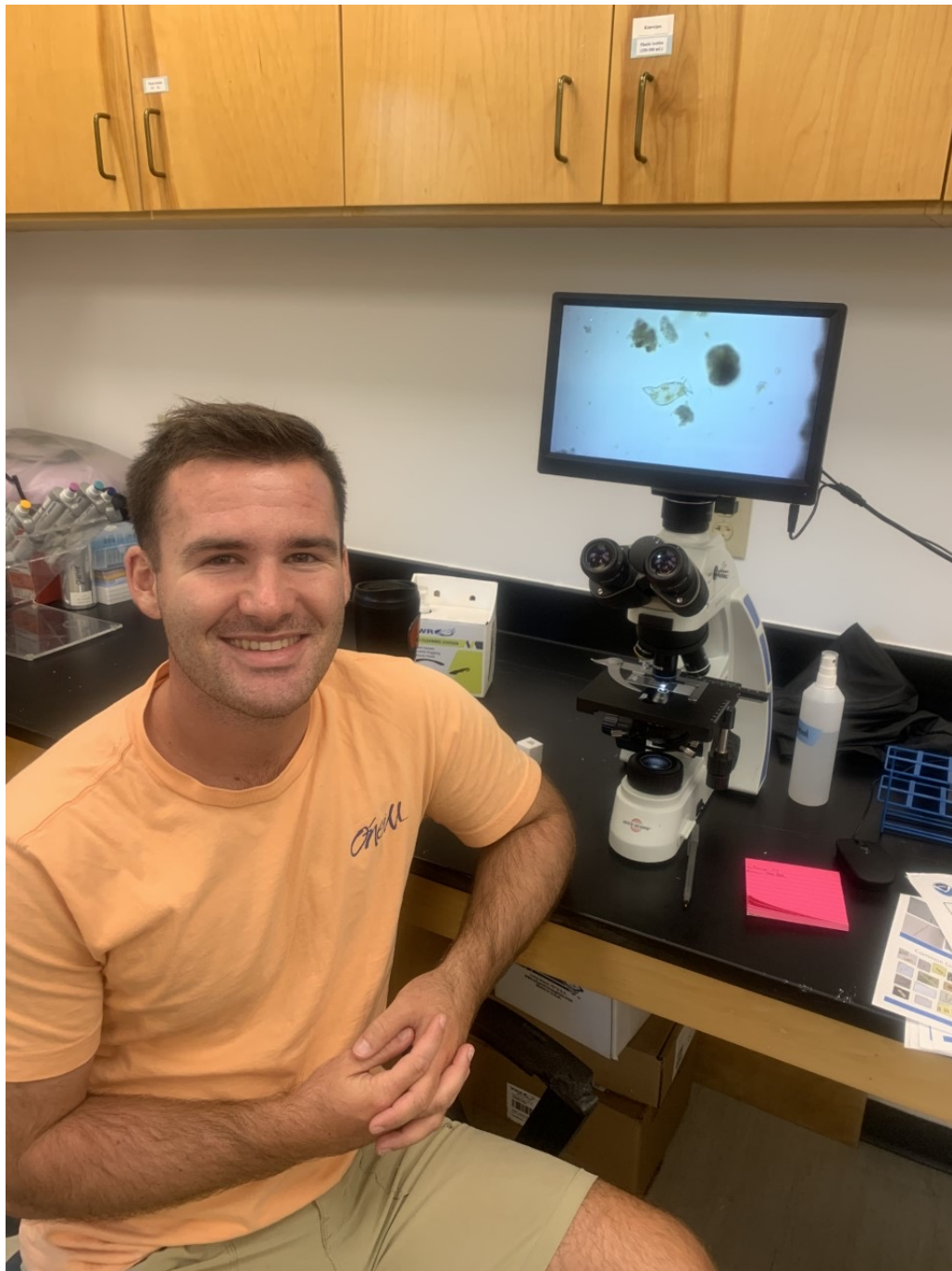
NEW STAFF MEMBER

Emily McCay has recently joined the AUMERC staff as a research assistant.

She is a graduate of the University of South Alabama, and holds a B.S. in Biology with a focus on Marine Biology. Emily grew up moving around frequently as a military kid before finally finding her home in Mobile.

Her personal interests include baking, crochet, and taking care of a fluffy orange cat.





NEW MS STUDENT

Luke Matvey has joined Andrea Tarnecki's lab at the Auburn University Shellfish Laboratory on Dauphin Island.

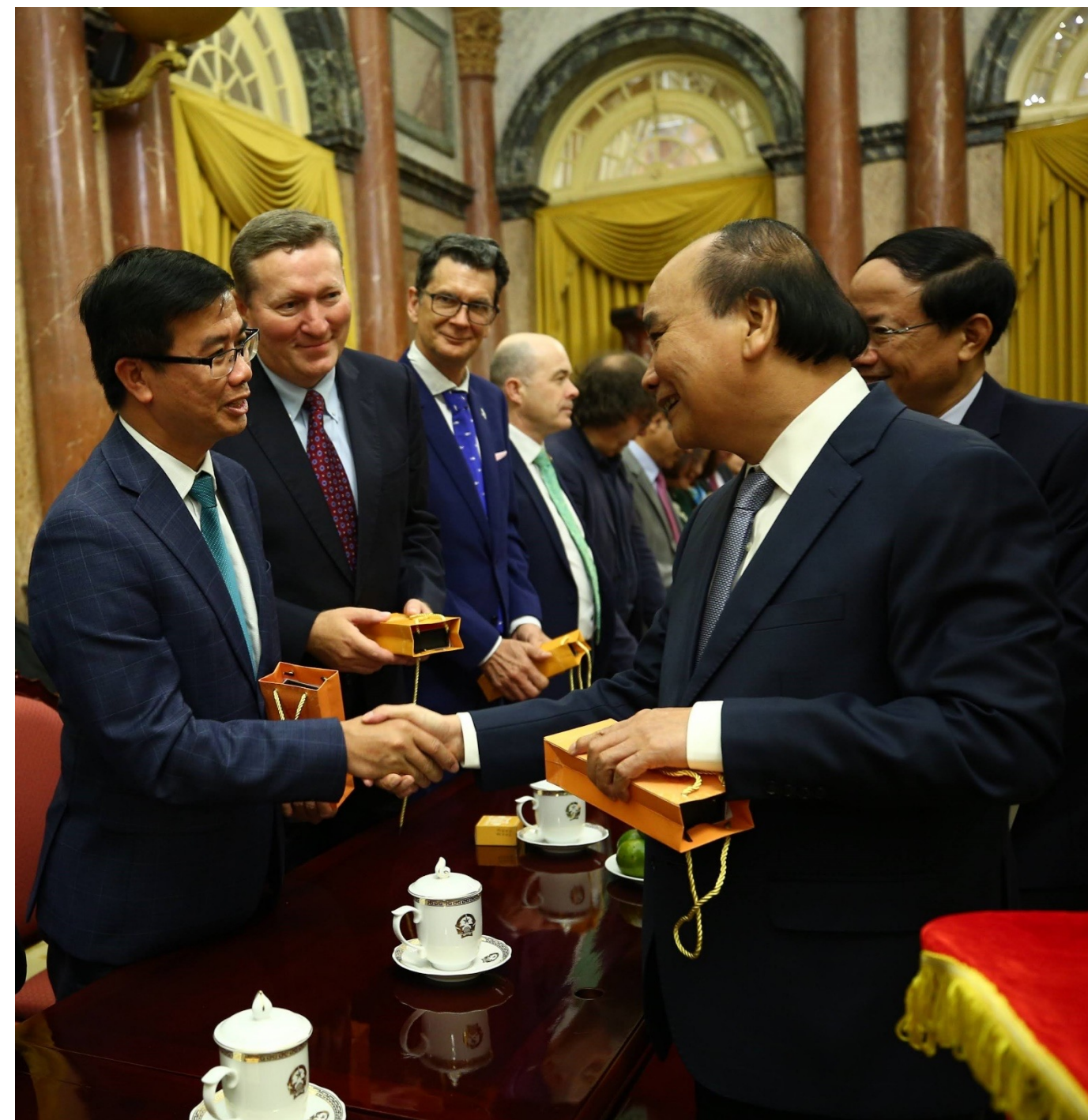
He holds a BS in Marine Sciences from Eckerd College.

His thesis research will be on some aspect of oyster larval health.

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

Tham Hoang recently had an opportunity to meet Vietnam President Nguyễn Xuân Phúc in Hanoi after the Workshop on Environmental Pollution and Impacts on Ecosystems and Human Health – Challenges and Solutions / Actions Needed.

The workshop was held in Quy Nhon. Dr. Hoang chaired the planning committee. **Alan Wilson** also participated in the conference.



EXPANDING PROGRAM

Ash Bullard's research group has initiated a 5-year / \$5 million cooperative effort with the US Fish & Wildlife Service focused on fish disease diagnostics and aquatic pathogen surveillance in the Southeastern US. This project is part of the Southeastern Cooperative Fish Parasite and Disease Laboratory which was founded within the School in 1965.





OLD & NEW GET TOGETHER

During Terry Hanson's retirement reception, Aubie dropped by and posed with the Swingle office staff – old and new.

HOMECOMING COURT



SueEllen Broussard was recently chosen as Top 5 Five Miss Homecoming at AU. She is the daughter of **Jaky Broussard** who works at the Alabama Fish Farming Center in Greensboro.

She is pictured with her father, Marty Broussard, at the Homecoming game. SueEllen is a Senior in Hospitality Management.



FORMER STUDENT & POSTDOC TAKES FACULTY POSITION

Dr. Lindsay Horne, a 2021 PhD graduate and recent postdoctoral fellow in SFAAS has become an assistant professor of biology at Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee.

While a PhD student, she was co-advised by Jim Stoeckel and Dennis DeVries. Her postdoctoral appointment was in the laboratories of Rusty Wright and Dennis DeVries.



ALUMNUS UPDATE

Zach Taylor (MS 2019) has been hired by the Maryland DNR to design and ultimately run Maryland's first freshwater mussel hatchery.

The facility will be on the grounds of the Joseph Manning Fish Hatchery in southern Maryland.

The hatchery will have a dual mission -- produce common mussel species for ecosystem services, and develop and execute plans to help restore endangered mussel species.



EMERITUS UPDATE

John Liu, professor *emeritus* from AU-SFAAS, was recently inducted into the **USDA-NIFA Hall of Fame**. The award recognizes contributions to NIFA and the Land-Grant University System, and support of USDA goals and priorities.

Dr. Liu retired from AU a few years ago and became Vice President for Research at Syracuse University. He has since served as Interim Vice Chancellor & Provost, and now serves as Vice President for International Strategy.



PASSING

Dr Brian Lee Duncan died on September 1, 2023 at the age of 80.

He was a professor *emeritus*, retiring from Auburn in the Department of Fisheries & Allied Aquacultures.

Dr. Duncan served as director of the International Center for Aquaculture and Aquatic Environments. He taught and conducted development projects in Southeast Asia, Africa, and Central & South America. He also served as chair of FARMS, a Christian organization dedicated to helping the poor around the world.

<https://www.jeffcoattrant.com/obituary/DrBryanLee-Duncan>