

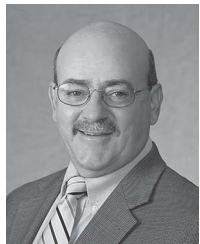


2016 Fellows of the American Dairy Science Association®

The 2016 elected fellows were recognized at the Awards Program of the American Dairy Science Association held on July 21, 2016, at the Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown at City Creek in Salt Lake City, Utah. Election to Fellow is one of the highest honors that the Association bestows. The Fellow Award recognizes ADSA members for their distinguished service to the dairy industry for 20 years or more. Each nominee must have made exceptional contributions to the dairy industry, to a dairy-related discipline, or to ADSA; must have had professional membership in ADSA for a minimum of 20 years; and must be in good standing with the Association.

Robert Harmon

Bob Harmon grew up on a small dairy farm in north-east Ohio. He received his BS (1972) and MS (1974) degrees in dairy science at The Ohio State University



and his PhD (1977) in Veterinary Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Guelph (Ontario, Canada). He joined the faculty at the University of Kentucky in 1979 after a postdoctoral experience at Virginia Tech. He maintained an active, productive research and outreach program focused on mastitis microbiology (*Staphylococcus* species in particular), pathophysiology, milk quality, and mastitis control for over 20 years, which resulted in 70 peer-reviewed publications, 11 books or book chapters, and over 110 invited presentations around the world. His most recent research was centered on the influence of dietary copper on mastitis and the immune response of dairy cattle. Harmon authored one of the most cited papers on factors affecting somatic cell counts in milk, published in the *Journal of Dairy Science*. His other passion was mentoring students on a regular basis through graduate student interaction, advising of the UK Dairy Club, and classroom instruction, where he taught a Milk Secretion class for 36 years and gave guest lectures in other courses or at extension activities. He served as advisor to the ADSA and Southern ADSA Student Affiliate Division, and he served on the editorial board and as member or chair of various committees over the years. He was recipient of the 1989 ADSA

West Agro Award for contributions to mastitis control and the 1993 ADSA Outstanding Advisor Award. He was awarded the Gamma Sigma Delta George Mitchell Award for Outstanding Service to Graduate Students in 1999, the Distinguished Service Award in 2014, and the Honor Award from the Southern Branch of ADSA in 2015. He has been very active in the National Mastitis Council (NMC); Harmon is the former chair of the Research Committee and was the 1999 president of the NMC. In addition, Harmon served on numerous writing committees for NMC publications. He served as dairy coordinator and director of graduate studies in the Animal and Food Sciences Department at the University of Kentucky before being appointed as interim chair and then as chair of the department where he served for 14 years. He had overall budgetary and administrative responsibility for extension, teaching, and research programs that included research facilities in Lexington and seven animal research units at three locations. After returning to the faculty, he maintained an active interest in the dairy industry and in mastitis control and epidemiology, while teaching, serving on graduate committees, and assisting with a variety of projects for the department and the college, including oversight of the construction of a new compost bedded pack barn at the UK Dairy. Harmon retired in June 2016; he looks forward to the next chapter in his life and plans to keep in touch with students, faculty, and the dairy industry.

For a career of service to dairy and food science, the dairy industry, and to ADSA, we are pleased to make Robert Harmon a Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association.

James Linn

James G. Linn is recognized as a 2016 ADSA Fellow for his applied extension and research programs in dairy cattle nutrition. Linn is professor emeritus from the Department of Animal Science, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, where he was extension dairy specialist for 33 years, including 5 years as department head. Linn's extension education program has greatly benefited the dairy industry in Minnesota as



well as nationally and internationally. His interdisciplinary extension program involved departmental colleagues as well as faculty in agronomy, agricultural engineering, plant pathology, applied economics, and veterinary medicine. He and collaborator Neal Martin were pioneers in the use of near-infrared spectroscopy in forage testing and demonstrating the importance of forage quality in dairy cattle production. His extension education program was based on adapting research results into practical application for improving the nutrition of lactating cows, dry cows, and calves. His extensive authoring and coauthoring of over 500 extension publications and popular press articles has led to a national and international recognition of his dairy cattle nutrition program. His applied research focus contributed to answering dairy industry questions and particularly increased knowledge on legume, grass, and corn silage quality and use by dairy cattle. Early calf research in conjunction with Don Otterby developed colostrum feeding recommendations and evaluated nutrient content and use of various protein sources in milk replacer and calf starters. Linn was a member of two National Research Council committees, the 2001 *Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle* and the 2005 *Minerals Tolerance of Animals*. Linn has authored or coauthored 55 peer-reviewed journal articles, 5 book chapters, and over 200 abstracts and conference proceedings. He advised 16 graduate students. In the last 10 years of his academic career, he added undergraduate teaching to his responsibilities, co-teaching courses in ruminant nutrition and applied dairy nutrition. Linn has been a member of ADSA for almost 40 years. He has served in several positions in ADSA including second president of the Midwest Branch of ADSA, member of the Board of Directors (2003–2006), and president of ADSA in 2010. He was overall program chair of the first international ADSA-ASAS annual meeting, which included the Canadian Society of Animal Science and was held outside of the United States in Quebec City, Canada. He received his BS in animal science (1970), MS in animal nutrition (1973), and PhD (1978) from the University of Minnesota. He joined the University of Minnesota faculty in the fall of 1979 following 18 months as extension dairy specialist at Iowa State University. He continues to be active in dairy, working part-time as a senior science consultant for Milk Specialties Global and dairy nutrition technical advisor for United Farmers' Cooperative.

For a career of service to dairy and food science, the dairy industry, and to ADSA, we are pleased to make James Linn a Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association.

Phillip Tong

Phil Tong's accomplishments in the dairy industry have been applied, strategic, and long lasting. Over nearly three decades as a distinguished teacher, scholar, and professor of dairy foods science at the California Polytechnic State University, he provided leadership and specific contributions in dairy foods education (undergraduate and graduate), training (short courses, webinars, symposia), and research and innovation. Tong led the establishment and growth of Cal Poly's Dairy Products Technology Center (DPTC), a globally recognized program for its activities in dairy science and technology. Finally, he has contributed to the growth of the dairy science profession through his service to the American Dairy Science Association, Institute of Food Technologists, American Dairy Products Institute, and International Dairy Federation.



Tong has been involved with DPTC since its first year (1987) when he coauthored the proposal that made Cal Poly a part of the National Dairy Foods Research Center program. The DPTC now has global recognition and is going into its 29th consecutive year of operation. During this period, the DPTC team has produced over 250 publications, trained over 75 graduate students, and trained over 3,000 industry professionals in its outreach programs. Also under his leadership they have expanded from the original teaching facilities to a full-fledged 21,000 square feet, \$7 million teaching, research, commercial processing, and training facility (in 1995). He also established the first member-based DPTC Industry Associates Advisory Council in 2008.

His specific accomplishments and his collective body of work in dairy foods has been recognized through several previous awards including the 2015 Southern California Section Institute of Food Technologists Distinguished Achievement Award; 2014 Award of Honor, American Dairy Science Association; American Dairy Products Institute, Award of Merit, 2013; 2011 Provost's Leadership Award for Partnership in Philanthropy, Cal Poly State University; Cargill Flavor Systems Award, American Dairy Science Association, 2008; and the International Dairy Foods Association Research Award, American Dairy Science Association, 2006.

For a career of service to dairy and food science, the dairy industry, and to ADSA, and to ADSA, we are pleased to make Phillip Tong a Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association.

Curtis Van Tassell

Curt Van Tassell is a research geneticist at the Animal Genomics and Improvement Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, US Department of Agriculture, in Beltsville, Maryland. Van Tassell grew up on a dairy farm in Millbrook, New York. He graduated from Cornell University in 1986 with a BS in animal science. He obtained an MS in animal breeding and genetics from Iowa State University. He returned to Cornell and received his PhD in animal breeding and genetics in 1994. His career with the Agricultural Research Service started as a postdoctoral research associate with the US Meat Animal Research Center, where he developed a flexible parameter estimation program called Multiple Trait Gibbs Sampler of Animal Models.



In 1997, he was appointed to his current position, with a joint appointment between the genomics and genetic evaluation groups in Beltsville. In that position, he continued quantitative genetics research, including the development of the revised US national calving difficulty genetic evaluation, but has focused more of his efforts on genomics-based research. As part of the bovine genome project, Van Tassell led the bovine HapMap efforts that included identifying breeds and specific animals selected for SNP discovery, coordinating funding, and managing a large international consortium. He also contributed to the development of the water buffalo, turkey, and Zebu cattle genome assemblies. Currently, Van Tassell is codirecting a goat genome consortium that is using cutting-edge technologies to increase assembly quality while drastically reducing costs.

Van Tassell led a consortium that developed a high-density genotyping assay for use in cattle. He developed algorithms and software for optimal spacing and selection of SNP for genotyping assays. The first use of this tool was the development of the BovineSNP50 Genotyping chip, which was developed with markers from over 54,000 locations distributed across the bovine genome. Additional bovine chips of varying SNP density were designed including the Bovine3K with 3,000 SNP and the BovineHD with 777,000 SNP. The BovineSNP50 chip has been used to genotype over 2 million cattle worldwide. Van Tassell led USDA efforts to use this tool for prediction of genetic merit in dairy cattle. He has also designed DNA chips for the pig, turkey, and water buffalo. Finally, Van Tassell has been instrumental in communicating the importance of integrating quantitative genetics and genomics research to the dairy and beef cattle industries and fostering their support for ongoing research.

Van Tassell's contributions to research and the dairy industry are documented by over 200 publications and several prestigious awards: ARS's Herbert L. Rothbart Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist (2003), Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (2003), ADSA's Cargill Animal Nutrition Young Scientist Award (2004), Federal Laboratory Consortium's Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer (2009), USDA Secretary's Honor Award (2010, team leader), ADSA's J. L. Lush Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics (2012), National Association of Animal Breeder's Research Award (2014), and World Dairy Expo's Industry Person of the Year (2014).

For a career of service to dairy and food science, the dairy industry, and to ADSA, we are pleased to make Curtis Van Tassell a Fellow of the American Dairy Science Association.