

## Jacquie Jacob, PhD

### Topic: Outreach/Extension

- University of Kentucky
- Agricultural Extension Project Manager
- Specialties: Poultry nutrition, Poultry management, Commercial broiler and egg industries, small and backyard poultry flocks, organic poultry production, and youth programs (4-H, FFA, embryology in the classroom)

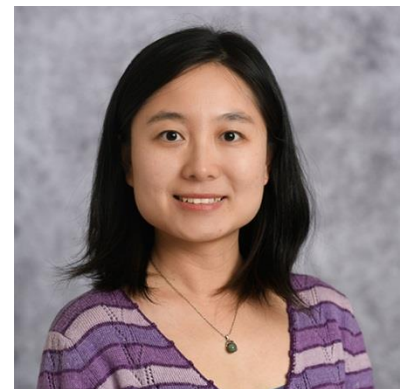


## Lin Walker, PhD

### Topic: Controlling Salmonella in Poultry: Global Strategies

- North Carolina State University
- Assistant Professor - Applied Microbiology
- **Ph.D.** Food Science and Technology University of Nebraska - Lincoln 2014

Dr. Walker's research and extension focuses on improving the microbial safety and quality of poultry and poultry products. Her goal is to assist the poultry industry to mitigate the microbial safety risk and to ensure compliance with federal and state food safety regulations.



Research interest include:

- intervention technologies to control food-borne pathogens;
- predictive microbiology to estimate the growth and survival of the pathogens;
- thermal and non-thermal processing to improve the quality and safety of poultry products;
- rapid detection for food-borne pathogens;
- Cochlosoma disease in turkeys

## Greg Fraley

### Topic: Neurobiological Approaches to Understanding how Environmental Changes Affect Poultry

- Purdue University, College of Agriculture
- Terry & Sandra Tucker Endowed Chair, Poultry Science/Assoc Prof of Animal Sciences

Dr. Fraley's expertise is in behavioral endocrinology and understanding how environmental changes alter brain chemistry that ultimately affects feeding and reproduction. . Specific projects in his lab investigate the neural mechanisms associated with deep brain photoreceptor activation related to reproductive development, and neuroendocrine pathways associated with the ducks' stress response.

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**Michael Persia, PhD**

**Topic: Vitamin D in laying hens: When is too much not enough?**



- Virginia Tech
- John W. Hancock Professor and Extension Specialist, Poultry Nutrition & Management

Dr. Persia's research investigates poultry digestive processes to improve production efficiency using techniques such as nutrition, physiology, histology, and molecular methods. He disseminates his findings through outreach and media contributions on avian influenza's impact on the Virginia poultry industry.

**Pratima Adhikari, PhD**

**Topic: Interventions against SE in laying hens and pullets**



- Mississippi State University  
Associate Professor  
Areas of Research include:
  1. Housing and laying hens research
  2. Bacteria important to poultry and human health
  3. Nutrition and nutritional intervention study
  4. Gut Health and Microbiome hen study
  5. New feed ingredients evaluation in layers

**Shawna Weimer**

**Topic: Poultry Welfare**

- University of Arkansas, Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences Assistant Professor, Director of the Center for Food Animal Wellbeing
- As an applied ethologist, Dr. Weimer looks at animal behavior and how animals respond to humans and their environment. Through her research, she is looking for ways to improve how people interact with animals and enhance animal environments in agriculture.



**Dianna Bourassa, PhD**

**Topic: First processing, food safety, and stunning**



- Auburn University College of Agriculture
- Associate Professor & Extension Specialist

Dr. Bourassa’s research focuses on poultry processing, microbiology, and food safety. Her poultry processing research topic areas have included stunning and animal welfare, the effects primary processing parameters on carcass microbiology, carcass sampling methods for foodborne pathogens, as well as the effects of on farm interventions on fully processed carcasses.

**Todd Applegate, PhD**

**Topic: Challenges and Opportunities in Implementing Synergies: A Global Perspective**

- University of Georgia, College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
- Assistant Dean for International Programs; Department Head and R. Harold and Patsy Harrison Chair in Poultry Science

Dr. Applegate’s translational research program explores mechanisms of nutrient interaction with and within the gastro-intestinal tract to ultimately improve nutrient absorption and retention. Dr. Applegate’s lab explores methods for reducing phosphorus, nitrogen and ammonia excretion including determination of amino acid digestibility of feed ingredients, ingredient selection, formulation level, use of supplemental amino acids and use of acidulants. A second major research focus explores contributions of diet, pathogens, toxins, and stressors to endogenous nutrient and energy losses from the gastro-intestinal tract and dietary strategies to minimize them.



**Kelley Wamsley, PhD**

**Topic: Maximizing broiler potential through increased starter feed form**



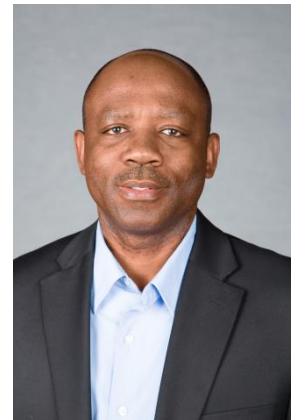
- Mississippi State University
- Associate Professor

Dr Wamsley’s research interests include: Determine the nutritional consequences of feed manufacture

- Evaluate the practical application of feed additives and alternative feed ingredients
- Assess the efficacy of exogenous feed enzymes

## Tayo Adedokun

**Topic: Feeding Broilers: Nutrition from the perspective of cost saving and environmental challenges**



- University of Kentucky, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
- Associate Professor

Dr. Adedokun's research interests include:

- Evaluation of alternative sources of feed ingredients
- Dietary manipulations to reduce environmental pollution from nonruminant animal production
- Evaluation of the effects of factors (dietary, age, intestinal challenge/stressors) that influence markers of inflammation, nutrient transporters and gut integrity mRNA gene expression and how this information can be used to optimize nutrient and energy utilization by poultry and pigs
- Evaluation of the role of nutrients, exogenous enzymes, feed additives, and antinutritional factors in poultry and swine gut health and performance (growth and development)

## Damer Blake, PhD

- University of London, Royal Veterinary College
- Professor of Parasite Genetics

Since joining the RVC Damer has extended his research interests in *Eimeria* - protozoan parasites which cause the disease coccidiosis in all livestock species, most notably poultry. These parasites can cause a severe enteritis and have been estimated to cost the global poultry production industry in excess of £10 billion per annum. Current research strands include continuing studies to map genetic loci that encode genuinely immunoprotective antigens as vaccine candidates and the development of *Eimeria* as a novel vaccine delivery vehicle (in collaboration with Prof. Fiona Tomley). More recently, Damer has developed research interests in *Eimeria* population genetics and genetic diversity, interactions of *Eimeria* with bacterial pathogens of poultry, parasite diagnostics, microbiomes and studies on parasite evolution in domestic and wild animals. Damer also works with a range of other apicomplexan parasites including *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Cryptosporidium* species, as well as the poultry red mite (*Dermanyssus gallinae*), and in the wider areas of poultry health and gut integrity.



## Kostas Mountzouris

### Topics: Phytochemicals as strategic dietary tools for poultry production sustainability



- Agricultural University of Athens
- Professor of Animal Nutritional Biotechnology

Dr. Mountzouris' research interests include animal (and human) nutrition and the effects of bioactive (functional) food / feed components and beneficial microorganisms (i.e. probiotics, yeast) on target physiological functions of animals (e.g. growth performance, nutrient digestion and absorption, capacity to resist oxidation, intestinal function, gut microbiota composition and metabolic activity, immune response – inflammation, gut integrity and relevant gene expressions, evaluation of the efficacy of incorporating various bioactives (e.g. probiotics, prebiotics, organic acids, enzymes and phytochemicals) into the diets of animals as antibiotic free growth promoters, application of enzyme technology and biotechnology for the nutritional upgrade of various feedstuffs and by products of agro-food origin and the production of tailored food / feed bioactive ingredients targeting an improved gut function and health.

## Ilias Giannenas

### Topic: Integrated Approaches to Enhance Poultry Production

- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Associate Professor at Unit of Avian Medicine

Research interests include Animal Nutrition with Special Interest in the Quality Control of Animal Feed, including the use of the by-products of industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) and stevia (*Stevia rebaudiana*) plants in the diet of dairy cows, the use of insect meal as a feed for broiler chickens and the role of cellulose, fatty substances and oregano essential oil in the diet of fattening calves, their yields and the quality of the meat produced.

