

# Animal Welfare Advisory Panel



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### Erin Brenneman

#### Brenneman Pork

Public Relations/DayOne  
Farrowing Specialist

Brenneman and her family operate Brenneman Pork, a fully integrated, family-run pork and grain operation in Washington County Iowa. She has a truly unique perspective on farming as she grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. She had always assumed food came from the grocery store and never put much thought into the people and families that worked so hard to raise it. That all changed in 2004 when she received her bachelor's degree in Animal Science from Iowa State University and married her husband. She moved back with him to his family's farm in southeast Iowa and has been passion-ate about sharing that journey and experience ever since. Erin has been a representative for the U.S.

Farmers & Ranchers Alliance's (USFRA) Faces of Farming and Ranching program. Erin is also a contributor to the PorkNetwork web-site and shares her agriculture experiences and perspectives on her blog there. [Blog: [porknetwork.com/users/erinbrenneman](http://porknetwork.com/users/erinbrenneman)]

On the farm daily, Erin's passion is with the baby piglets. She describes her job as a "day one farrowing specialist" as running a maternity ward for pigs. She enjoys the rewards and challenges that come with providing their pigs with the finest individual care. Erin and her husband Tim also have two boys, ages 5 and 10, that have a passion for the family farm as well. Instilling into the next generation that desire to continuously improve is something that Brenneman Pork is extremely passionate about. Erin enjoys watching her boys grow up as farm kids and appreciating all the wonderful things that being a family farmer means to us.



### Dr. Doug Britton, Ph.D.

#### Georgia Tech Research Institute

ATRP Program Manager  
Senior Research Engineer

Dr. Britton serves as the Program Manager for the Agricultural Technology Research Program (ATRP) at Georgia Tech, which is highly focused on innovation and the development of key technologies for the food and agriculture sectors with a specific focus on poultry processing challenges. Working closely with stakeholders in academia, industry and the public service sector, his efforts entail identifying the key unmet challenges facing the poultry, agriculture and food processing sectors and translating them into actionable research initiatives. He is passionate about fostering transformational innovation and developing leadership strategies for maximizing the impact of research.

Dr. Britton's technical expertise is in image and signal processing and the development of image processing

algorithms to inspect non-uniform/natural product for real-time automatic grading. He has been instrumental in the development of several imaging-based systems related to food processing including citrus, baked goods, whole birds and a variety of poultry products. Dr. Britton received his B.S. degree in Engineering from LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, his M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tennessee, and his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the Poultry Science Association (PSA), and the American Association of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). In the fall of 2012, he was inducted as a fellow of the Food Systems Leadership Institute.



### Dr. John Clifford

#### USAPEEC

Veterinary Trade Advisor

Dr. Clifford currently works for USAPEEC as a veterinary trade advisor. He provides input on OIE Chapters that affect poultry and advice on USDA policy that is related to poultry.

Prior to Dr. Clifford becoming a consultant he was employed for 33 years with United States Department of Agriculture. At USDA he provided leadership in protecting our nation's animal health and by ensuring continued international trade opportunities as the Chief Trade Advisor for Veterinary Services.

Dr. Clifford served 12 years as the Chief Veterinary Officer for USDA, Veterinary Services in Washington, DC. He also served as the United States Delegate to the OIE for 12 years. Dr. Clifford began his career in Kentucky as a private veterinarian in a mixed practice. He received his DVM and BS degrees in animal science from the University of Missouri.

A native of Kentucky, Dr. Clifford currently resides in Bowling Green with his wife, Sara and sister-in-law, Carol.

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### Dr. Candace Croney, Ph.D.

#### Purdue University

Department of Comparative Pathobiology and Department of Animal Sciences; Director, Center for Animal Welfare Science Professor, Animal Behavior and Well-being

Dr. Candace Croney is director of Purdue University's Center for Animal Welfare Science and associate professor of animal behavior and well-being in the departments of Comparative Pathobiology and Animal Sciences. She has a PhD in animal sciences from The Pennsylvania State University, USA. Following postdoctoral training at the University of Maryland, College Park, she went on to serve as Assistant Director of Conservation Education at the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and has held faculty appointments in Animal Sciences at Oregon State University and Preventive Medicine at The Ohio State University before joining the faculty at Purdue University.

Her research, teaching and outreach efforts focus on the interactions between animal behavior, cognition and well-being, the effects of rearing environments

and enrichment on animal behavior and welfare, the ethical implications of animal care and use decisions, and public perceptions of animal agriculture.

Her research has been featured in national and international broadcast programs by National Geographic, the BBC, and their affiliates.

She serves as scientific advisor on animal welfare to numerous groups, including the American Humane Association, Bob Evans Farms, McDonald's, Kent Pet Group and Wayne Farms.



### Dr. Paul DeFoor, Ph.D.

#### Cactus Feeders

Co-Chief Executive Officer, Board Member

Dr. Defoor is a Board Member and Co-Chief Executive Officer at Cactus Feeders, Inc., where he is the executive lead for the Company's Beef Division, and oversees Feeder Cattle Procurement, Feedyard Operations, Fed Cattle Sales, Business Analysis, and Cactus Research; an industry leader in beef production-science, and applied research. He serves on the Company's Board of Directors where he sits on the Audit and Nomination Committees. Dr. Defoor has been with the Company 13 years and previously served as Chief Operating Officer, Director of Strategy and Business Development, and Director of Business Analysis. Dr. Defoor is active in the beef industry currently serving as Vice Chairman of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, and on the Beef Industry Food Safety Council Executive Committee. He has previously served on the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Beef Foresight Advisory Group, the Texas Cattle Feeders Association Research Committee, and

is a past president of the Plain's Nutrition Council. Dr. Defoor graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas Tech with a B.S. in animal science, followed by a Ph.D. in Ruminant Nutrition from Texas Tech, and an MBA from West Texas A&M. He has 19 published manuscripts in peer reviewed journals, including the Journal of Animal Science where he has served on the Editorial Board. Dr. Defoor is a recipient of the Vance Publishing "40 Under 40 in Agriculture" award, and has received the Texas Tech University Animal and Food Science Hall of Fame Horizon Award. Prior to Cactus Feeders, he worked as a Technical Services Manager in the animal pharmaceutical industry, as a Feedyard Nutrition Consultant, and served on the faculty of New Mexico State University.



### Bob Dykhuis

#### Dykhuis Farms, Inc.

Owner

Bob Dykhuis is the Founder, Board Chairman, and Senior Advisor at Dykhuis Farms - a family owned crop and pig operation in Southwest Michigan with wean to market growers in Northern Indiana. Establishing a family-rich heritage, Dykhuis Farms is currently in a generational transfer phase, with the next generation providing much of the day to day leadership.

Dykhuis has demonstrated his dedication to the pork industry by serving on the National Pork Producers Council Board of Directors and chairing the Animal Health Food Security Welfare Policy Committee, in addition to his roles on the National Pork Board Swine Health, Pork Safety, and Animal Welfare Committees. Being involved in the leadership of the Michigan Pork Producers Association for many years, Mr. Dykhuis is currently serving as President of the MPPA.

As a leader in the industry, Dykhuis has traveled internationally to investigate trade, food safety, and pig welfare issues and has been involved in strategic planning addressing a number of emerging issues. Complementing these efforts, Bob Dykhuis is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for leading the pseudorabies eradication effort in Michigan.

Michigan is a state that is moving to loose housing for gestating sows by 2020, and they are currently in the process of making their conversions. Pig welfare is a continuous learning process for them.

Dykhuis graduated from the Agricultural Technology Program at Michigan State University. He is married to Lorrie and has five adult children.

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### Dr. Temple Grandin, Ph.D.

#### Colorado State University

*Professor of Livestock Behavior, Animal Welfare Advisor*

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 Time magazine's 2010 Top 100 Most Influential People in the World. Temple was recently inducted into the Academy of Arts and Science and also the National Women's Hall of Fame. 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, Colorado.



### Dr. Dorothy McKeegan, Ph.D., PDRA

#### University of Glasgow

*Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine; College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences*

Dr Dorothy McKeegan is a Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine at the University of Glasgow, UK. She gained a BSc (Hons) in Zoology at the University of Glasgow before completing the MSc in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare at Edinburgh University in 1995. She gained her PhD (on feather pecking behaviour in hens) in 1999. Dorothy has wide ranging research interests relating to animal welfare and animal ethics, with expertise in behaviour and neurophysiology and a particular interest in poultry welfare. Her animal welfare research has had significant impact and includes work on avian pain, avian chemical senses, beak trimming,

humane slaughter and emergency killing for disease control. Recently, she has been leading projects applying thermal imaging as a novel non-invasive welfare assessment approach in birds, as well as evaluating the welfare impact of Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning (LAPS). Dorothy is an appointed member of the UK Farm Animal Welfare Committee and she contributes to various national level committees and funding panels in the UK. In her teaching role, she delivers an integrated programme of animal welfare and ethics in undergraduate and postgraduate curricula and she co-coordinates the Glasgow MSc in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law.



### Alex Justice Moore

#### DC Central Kitchen

*Chief Development Officer*

Alexander Justice Moore is the Chief Development Officer at DC Central Kitchen, a nationally acclaimed nonprofit social enterprise that fights food waste, provides culinary training to at-risk adults, and serves nutritious meals to low-income children, adults, and families. His book, The Food Fighters, chronicles DC Central Kitchen's first twenty-five years on the front

lines of hunger and poverty. He was named a DC Food Hero by ElevationDC in 2015. Moore holds a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College and an M.A. from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He resides in Washington, DC with his wife and daughter.

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### Dr. Tom Parsons, VMD, PhD, Dipl ACAW

#### University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

*Associate Professor and Director of the Swine Teaching and Research Center*

Dr. Tom Parsons is an associate professor in the Department of Clinical Studies, New Bolton Center, University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine and serves as the director of the School's Swine Teaching and Research Center. He was raised on a family farm in western Massachusetts where his nephew, Christopher, is the 12th generation of Parsons' to work land deeded from King George. Dr. Parsons received his veterinary degree and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Following postdoctoral training in Heidelberg, Germany, Dr. Parsons returned to Penn as a faculty member in 1996.

Dr. Parsons was instrumental in the establishment of the school's swine teaching and research center which has been a prototype for the commercial scale implementation of sustainable agricultural practices for over a decade. More than 200,000 sows on 80 farms across the U.S. and Canada have adopted the animal friendly rearing systems pioneered by Dr. Parsons at the

school's swine center. He also has built one of the largest research groups working on farm animal welfare in North America. Dr. Parsons was a charter diplomat of American College of Animal Welfare and has received awards from the New York Farmers for distinguished service to agriculture and from the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association for animal welfare advocacy.

Dr. Parsons' current work focuses on alternative housing systems for sows with specific a specific interest in electronic sow feeding, animal behavior and welfare, antibiotic free production and employee training especially during the on-boarding process. As a practicing veterinarian, he also has experience with the control of infectious diseases such as PRRS and improving the productivity of sow farms.



### Dr. Janice Swanson, Ph.D.

#### Michigan State University

*Animal Science & Industry; Large Animal Clinical Science, CVM; Professor*

Dr. Janice Swanson is professor and Director of Animal Welfare jointly appointed in the Departments of Animal Science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Large Animal Clinical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University since 2007. She coordinates outreach, teaching and research in the area of farm animal welfare with a focus on social responsibility in the food system. Swanson received a PhD from the University of Maryland in Applied Ethology, and a MS and BS in Animal Science from the University of Connecticut. Swanson's career includes five years as a technical information specialist in the U.S.D.A. Animal Welfare Information Center and 15 years on faculty in the Department of Animal Science and Industry at Kansas State University. At Kansas State she taught courses in animal behavior and welfare, conducted outreach, directed the department's international program, and served as the interim department head. At MSU Swanson is a member of

the Animal Behavior and Welfare Group and served as the chair of the Department of Animal Science from May 2010 through mid-January 2018. In addition to her academic responsibilities, Swanson provides expertise to government and animal and food industry stakeholders by serving on scientific animal welfare advisory committees. She co-chaired the third edition of the Federation of Animal Science Societies Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching and since 2007 has chaired the taskforce for the Michigan Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for the Care of Farm Animals mandated under the Michigan Animal Industry Act.

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## Dr. Daniel Thomson, Ph.D., DVM

### Iowa State University

*Department of Animal Science; Professor and Chair*

Dr. Dan U. Thomson is a third generation bovine veterinarian from Clearfield, IA. Dr. Thomson received his BS in Animal Science and DVM from Iowa State University. Dr. Thomson completed a MS in Ruminant Nutrition from South Dakota State University and a PhD in Ruminant Nutrition from Texas Tech University.

Dr. Thomson was an associate veterinarian with Veterinary Research and Consulting Services in Greeley, CO. He then served as the Director of Animal Health and Well-being for Cactus Feeders in Amarillo, TX. Dr. Thomson was the veterinary consultant for their 10 commercial feedlots that fed 1.2 million head of cattle per year and directed their animal health research at the Cactus research facility. Dr. Thomson still practices feedlot medicine in Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Texas. Thomson is an owner/partner in PAC veterinary and research services which oversees the veterinary care, health and well-being for many U.S. cattle feeding operations.

Prior to his current position at Iowa State, Dr. Thomson served as the Jones Professor of Production Medicine and Epidemiology at Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. He has served as the Global Co-leader for McDonald's Beef Health and Welfare Committee, sits on the YUM! Animal Welfare Council and serves on the Animal Welfare Advisory Board of the Food Marketing Institute, the Beef Quality Assurance Committee of the National Cattlemen's

Beef Association and the Animal Welfare committees of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners and the Academy of Veterinary Consultants.

Dr. Thomson is recognized internationally as a leader in animal welfare, beef cattle production and cattle health management. Dr. Thomson has published 109 peer-reviewed papers, 5 book chapters, 255 abstracts, 127 proceedings and progress reports at professional meetings and delivered 766 invited talks internationally on his research and field experience on the interactions between production management, environment and nutrition on the health and well-being of beef cattle. Dr. Thomson's research program has been granted over \$35.3 million with \$16.0 million of those funds coming with him as the primary investigator.

Thomson's research and outreach has been reported in many media outlets including CBS Evening news, USA Today, Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, Meeting Place and many others. He hosts a nationally aired veterinary television show in its seventh season on RFD TV entitled "Doc Talk" that reaches over 45 million homes world-wide

Dr. Thomson is married to his wife Cindy. They have 4 daughters, Kelly, Katelyn, Tory and Sarah. Dr. Thomson's hobbies are his daughters' activities and a little hunting or fishing in Southwest Iowa when time allows.



## Bill Tom

### United Producers, Inc.

*Livestock Marketing;  
Executive Vice President*

Bill Tom is the Executive Vice President of United Producer's Livestock Marketing - one of the largest livestock marketing cooperative in the United States, handling approximately 3 million head of livestock annually. With an intense appreciation for the agricultural sector and a passion for driving the success of his team, customers, and business, Bill serves to fulfill UPI's mission of meeting the needs of approximately 35,000 members by providing valuable livestock marketing services that enable a sustainable future. Mr. Tom holds a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from Ohio State University. He serves as the Governor Appointed Commissioner

of the Ohio Soil & Water Commission, Chair of the Ohio Agri Business Association's Public Policy Committee, Director of the Ohio State Fair Beef Department, and is a member of the Ohio Cattleman's Board. Previous roles include Board President of the Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni Board [Professional Agricultural Fraternity], Ohio Soybean Association Board Member, Board Member of the Ohio Shorthorn Breeder's Association, and a member of the US Grains Council. Bill resides in Ohio and also serves as a devoted husband, father of four, and grandfather.