

Equine Science Center

UPDATE

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**RUTGERS
EQUINE
SCIENCE
CENTER
Celebrating**



**10
Years**

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

Step Up to the Challenge

Karyn Malinowski, director of the Equine Science Center, recently announced a personal donation of \$100,000 to support research initiatives and programs of importance to the Center. The announcement, which came during the annual Equine Science Update in December, left many attendees simply wondering “why?” For Malinowski, the reasons for making such a generous gift were abundantly clear.

“I made this gift to the Center because I firmly believe that people who care about what they do and their chosen industry, need to invest in themselves,” said Malinowski.

According to Malinowski, several key factors came together at the same time toward the end of the year which ultimately influenced her decision: the Rutgers University Foundation had recently launched the public phase of its capital campaign, the Equine Science Center was on the cusp of celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2011, and as a three time alumnae, Rutgers holds a special place in her heart.

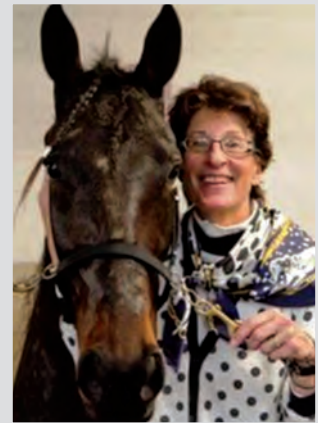
“At first glance, this is a significant gift to the Equine Science Center. But, if you expand upon that view point, you’ll see that the gift is for the greater equine community – it will benefit everyone who works with and enjoys horses because it will enable the Center to continue its mission of better horse care through research and education,” said Malinowski.

Additionally, Malinowski sees her donation as a challenge to all students, horse owners, and equine enthusiasts worldwide who have benefited from the Center’s resources to make a gift, too. Clearly guests at the Equine Science Update were moved by the emotional gift announcement. By night’s end, the Center received over \$16,000 in donations.

Continued on page 4



From The Clubhouse



Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope that many of you are enjoying the digital version of "Equine Science Center Update" which provides you with two additional Equine Science Center newsletters annually. If you haven't signed up to receive the electronic version, please send us your email address at esc@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Center faculty and staff have been gearing up to celebrate our tenth anniversary. If you see us in attendance at statewide equestrian events in upcoming months please stop over and say "Hello!" We are planning a big celebration outside of the Red Barn on College Farm Road on Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day on April 30 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. The ever popular horse treadmill demonstrations will take place in the afternoon. The new, pocket-sized, cuddly version of Lord Nelson will be available for purchase and I know that it will be a big hit with "children" of all ages. Join us for dietary confections and party favors as we share the wonderful work of YOUR Equine Science Center.

Not only have we changed the look of our website and newsletter in celebration of our anniversary, but we also have been busy producing new promotional pieces about the Center. We hope that they will assist our Rutgers University Board for Equine Advancement (RUBEA) members, alumni, friends, and the general public to better understand why the Center is so instrumental in ensuring the future and sustainability of the New Jersey horse industry.

I would like to challenge each and every one of you to consider making a gift to the Center this year. Think of it as an anniversary present! As

you can see from the cover story, I made the decision to do so myself. I believe strongly that one should invest in themselves and right now is the perfect time for the equine industry to invest in its Equine Science Center. No donation is too small, there are many ways to give (you'd be surprised) and in these tough budgetary times the Center could truthfully use your help.

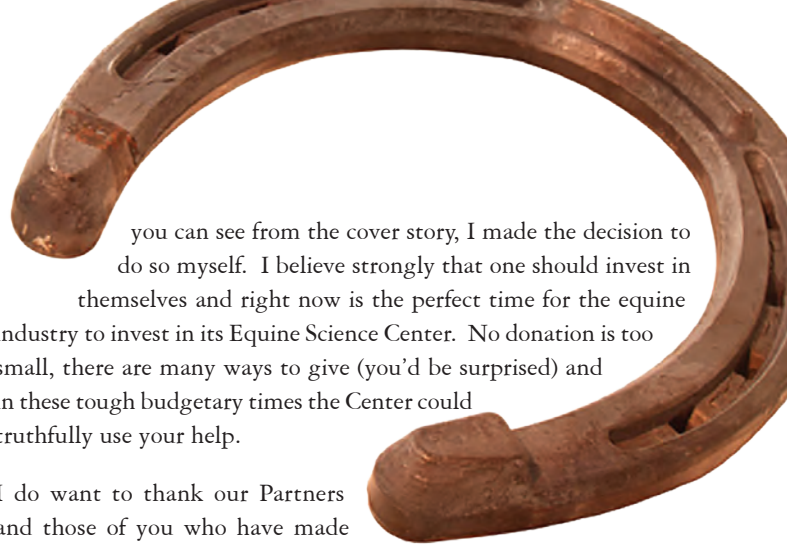
I do want to thank our Partners and those of you who have made a difference by contributing to the Center. I have had the good fortune to visit many of you since the Equine Science Update and have seen some great horses competing in sunny places like Arizona and Florida. It was great fun to spend some quality time with RUBEA member Liz Durkin at the Nation's Cup in Wellington last month.

The discussion about the future of racing and gaming in the state is on-going and I continue to attend meetings, focus groups, and provide lectures about the critical importance of this segment of our industry. Congratulations to the Hall Institute of Public Policy for hosting the recent summit on Gaming in New Jersey. I wish Jeff Gural and the Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association the best of luck as they move forward in their efforts to privatize the Meadowlands Racetrack.

On a sad note, the horse industry has lost two dear friends and advocates in the month of February. Gerry Leonarski, Gloucester and Camden county 4-H Horse Program Assistant died on February 17, and Stephen P. Dey, II, Vice Chair of RUBEA, on February 28. See our tribute to Dr. Dey on page 6.

Here's to a happy and healthy spring!

All the best,
karyn



Partners



New Jersey Farm Bureau's primary purpose is to represent the overall interests and improve the financial well-being of farmers and our \$800 million industry. NJFB

activities are supported through voluntary membership and annual dues. Members have access to:

- Staff assistance on farming issues and regulatory problems.
- Educational workshops on topical issues such as farm labor, wildlife damage, and zoning.
- Weekly updates on legislation news and regulations affecting all aspects of farming.

It pays to be a NJ farm Bureau member! For a full list of membership levels and benefits, or to sign up, visit www.njfb.org.

Established in 1961, the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey [SBOANJ] has a membership comprised of horse breeders, drivers, trainers, owners, and backstretch personnel, and its mission is to support and promote the standardbred industry in New Jersey. The Board of Directors authorizes stallion, mare and foal registrations, negotiates with track management, actively oversees and administers a benefits program, and advances legislation favorable to the horse racing industry. For more information, please visit www.sboanj.com.



Evolution of the Young Horse Program

For the first time in its twelve year history, the **Young Horse Teaching and Research Program (YHTRP)** will not acquire young horses to integrate into its curriculum. Instead, the YHTRP will shift gears during academic year 2011-2012, focusing on analyzing, interpreting, and documenting research collected over the last twelve years.

“The Young Horse Teaching and Research Program will not be eliminated,” said Sarah Ralston, associate director of teaching - Equine Science Center. “We will be doing young horse studies, just not with young horses on campus. A brief hiatus is necessary in order for the program to remain efficient and beneficial to both students interested in rigorous, hands-on learning opportunities, and for over-populated, unwanted horses in need of good homes.”

The program initially began with the purpose of addressing the nutritional needs and transportation-related stress of draft cross weanlings and yearlings. In 2009, Ralston reenergized the program by introducing mustang yearlings. Students enrolled in Ralston’s class were presented with the unique challenge of comparing trainability and behavior, as well as the effects of nutrition on behavior between draft cross weanlings and yearlings and the inaugural crop of mustang yearlings.

Ralston completely phased-out draft cross weanlings, exclusively obtaining mustang yearlings for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Without hesitation, she confirmed that young horses will once again be utilized in the teaching and research program. “I would definitely consider studying mustangs again,” said Ralston. She added that the decision to include mustangs would ultimately depend on variables yet to be determined such as her research findings, the economy, and unwanted horse situational needs.



Koda “kicking up his heels” at the Ryders Lane farm

“I’m interested in continuing nutritional studies, specifically osteochondritis dissecans (OCD) in young horses. Since OCD is not prevalent in mustangs, that may exclude them from the research program,” said Ralston.

Moving forward, Ralston would also consider documenting growth requirements on additional unusual breeds. European warmbloods, although very expensive, are at the top of her wish list.

As in previous years, students will present their young charges during the annual YHTRP Horse Show during Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day on Saturday, April 30. The mustangs will be offered for purchase at the 12th Annual Rutgers Young Horse Auction on Sunday, May 1. Friends and supporters interested in purchasing or adopting are encouraged to attend the preview on April 16 at 5:00 pm at the Red Barn on College Farm Road on the G. H. Cook Campus in New Brunswick. One must be registered to bid in order to purchase a horse during the auction. To adopt, one must be pre-approved by the Bureau of Land Management. For details, email Sarah Ralston at ralston@aesop.rutgers.edu.



NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) is an agency which oversees programs that serve virtually all New Jersey citizens. One of the Department’s major

priorities is to promote, protect and serve the Garden State’s diverse agriculture and agribusiness industries. In addition to the programs we offer to support production agriculture, NJDA also manages programs that feed schoolchildren, distribute surplus federal foods to soup kitchens and pantries that serve our needy citizens, conserve precious soil and water resources, protect farmland from development and preserve it for future agricultural use, expand export markets for fresh and processed agricultural products, and promote our commercial fishing industry, and administer the complete program of agriculture, food and natural resource education, which includes the State FFA Association. For more information about NJDA, please visit www.nj.gov/agriculture/index.shtml

We’ve Gone Digital!

Help us reduce our paper production costs by subscribing to the e-newsletter – it’s easy! Simply send an email to esc@aesop.rutgers.edu and provide your name and preferred email address.

E-newsletter subscribers receive the bi-annual newsletters PLUS supplemental abbreviated Winter and Summer editions!



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4 Step Up to the Challenge (continued)

“To truly make a difference, it takes more than one person. I’m humbled to see my gift motivate people to come together and unite as an industry.” Malinowski added that no gift is too small; each donation contributes to the future sustainability of the world-class research conducted at the Center.

The Center holds a unique position within the equine industry. It broadens the scope of what equine science could potentially do beyond the research of the animal science department by bringing together the talent and expertise of people, outside of the industry, who are equally passionate about horses. Center research projects often utilize multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary, and inter-institutional teams of faculty and staff which result in measurable outcomes.

The New Jersey Equine Industry 2007: Economic Impact Study is an outstanding example of the Center broadening its reach and working with experts in various departments within the university, as well as outside organizations and individuals. The study continues to be widely referenced by politicians and equine advocates as New Jersey deliberates the future of horse racing, which is the

economic driving engine of the entire equine industry in the state.

“It is imperative for horse people to understand that the sustainability of the industry depends on more than the passion we feel for our horses,” stated Malinowski. “In order to ensure the industry’s future, one needs to go beyond the emotional, sentimental horse connection and recognize that a strong Equine Science Center, supported by outside donors, is a positive step forward in guaranteeing the viability and vitality of the New Jersey horse industry.”

Hence, Malinowski remains steadfast in her goal to endow the Center. Since 2007, the Equine Science Center has led a fundraising effort to endow the Center and its programs, with a goal of \$3 million. The endowment will allow the Center to operate and continue its teaching, research, and outreach in perpetuity.

“None of this is guaranteed – not the Equine Science Center, nor a vibrant and thriving horse industry in New Jersey,” added Malinowski.

As the Equine Science Center jubilantly celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2011, Malinowski reflects on her life-long career in the equine industry and at Rutgers University.

“Hopefully, I will be here for another ten years to see the applied result of my gift to the Center,” said Malinowski.

For information about making a gift to the Equine Science Center, please visit esc.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-9419.



Malinowski presenting gift to RUBEA chair Sandy Denarski, Kelly Watts, Associate Dean of Development, and Robert M. Goodman, Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources

A Successful Horse Management Seminar

This year’s Horse Management Seminar titled “Care and Management of the Older Horse” was a tremendous success. The event, held on Sunday, February 13, featured several speakers from the Equine Science Center as well as experts from Centenary College and the University of Pennsylvania’s New Bolton Center. The speaker and topic list was as follows:

- Karyn Malinowski - Overview of Older Horse Physiology
- Sarah Ralston - A Historic Look at Old Horse Nutrition
- Mike Fugaro - Orthopedic Problems in the Old Horse
- Jill Beech - Testing Geriatric Horses for Endocrine Diseases

Following individual presentations, guest speakers stayed for a panel discussion during the last hour of the seminar. Due to the

overwhelming interest and number of questions from the audience, the speaker discussion panel was extended for an extra hour. All in attendance stayed until the very end to hear the rigorous question and answer exchange. Carey Williams, Equine Extension Specialist and the seminar’s organizer, commented, “Panel discussions are usually the most popular part of our seminars. If there is not enough time for questions after individual lectures, attendees can ask questions during the panel. People pose questions regarding their horse and get personalized answers by the experts.”

The seminar had well over eighty attendees, seven corporate sponsors and vendors - many giving door prizes, and ten student volunteers.

Post-seminar evaluations indicated attendees had an overall positive experience. Specifically, all attendees noted that they learned something new to take back to their farm, horse, or to save for future reference as their horses age. Comments included, “All speakers were interesting and presented the info very clearly”, “The panel was a good idea to get all questions answered”, “Handouts, vendors, food were excellent; also it was nice to receive door prizes.” Another attendee stated, “Everything was very well organized and well run. Very informative!”

Mark your calendar for the next Horse Management Seminar on February 12, 2012!

We're Having a Party!

In honor of its 10th anniversary, the Equine Science Center is throwing a party during Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day! Join the Center for a day of family-fun and activities on Saturday, April 30th.

Have you ever seen a horse on a treadmill??

Experience a thrilling demonstration of the high-speed, adrenaline-pumping, heart-racing equine treadmill. Witness the excitement of a horse galloping at full speed on a 21-foot treadmill. Swing by the Red Barn on College Farm Road and Sheepfold Lane to see the action!

The Center will have two equine treadmill demonstrations: 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. Space is limited in the treadmill lab. Be sure to arrive early for the demo!

While horses are running on the treadmill inside, party with the Equine Science Center outside! Help celebrate 10 years of "better horse care through research and education." Come for the cake, stay for the treadmill demo, and grab a few party favors, too! We hope to see you there!



Ag Field Day attendees swarmed the Red Barn in 2010

Don't miss the show!

The annual Horse Show is always a favorite during Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day! Preview the current class of mustangs from the 2010-2011 Young Horse Teaching and Research Program. Students will be showing the young mustangs in hand from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Afterward, the horses will be turned out in paddocks to be viewed at liberty until 4:00 p.m.

12th Annual Young Horse Auction

Looking to purchase a fine young horse? The 12th Annual Young Horse Auction will take place on Sunday, May 1st at the Red Barn and Round House on College Farm Road and Sheepfold Lane. Bidder registration and preview of the horses starts at 11:00 a.m. The auction will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m.

For more information about the YHTRP and to see photos of the young horses, please visit <http://younghorse.rutgers.edu>.

NELSON'S CORNER

CUTE
CUDDLY
NELSON



Hi Friends,

Welcome to my very own corner of the Equine Science Center newsletter! Apparently, I have done such an outstanding job with *Equine Science 4 Kids*, the Center asked me to write a column for its newsletter, too!

If you're not yet familiar with *Equine Science 4 Kids*, it is an online classroom featuring games, interactive activities, and even a little horseplay for children of all ages. It's a great place to horse around and test your knowledge about the science of horses. Learn all about healthcare and nutrition, exercise physiology, and horses and the environment. As an added bonus, check out the "Fun on the Farm" game – there's even an award certificate when you finish!

You can find *Equine Science 4 Kids* from the homepage of the Center's website: esc.rutgers.edu. Send me an email to let me know if you learned something new! LordNelson@njaes.rutgers.edu

I've been told that imitation is the best form of flattery. If that's true, my friends at the Center have given me the greatest compliment one could ever imagine– they've cloned me! Well it's not exactly a clone. It is actually a beanie baby that looks like yours truly. For a small donation to the Center, you can have your very own cute, cuddly Lord Nelson. Grab one (or a dozen!) at the Center booth on Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day. I think you'll find it to be absolutely irresistible!

Until next time friends!

Lord Nelson



Honoring the Memory of Stephen P. Dey, II

The state's horse industry is mourning the death of prominent equine veterinarian, farmer, and long-time friend of the Equine Science Center Dr. Stephen Perrine Dey II, who passed away on February 28, 2011 at the age of 74.

Dr. Dey earned a statewide reputation as a supporter of New Jersey agriculture and the equine industry. He graduated from Allentown High School in 1954 and the NY State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell in 1960.

Dr. Dey, a lifelong resident of Allentown, NJ, had been a practicing equine veterinarian since 1962. His practice was based at his family's 500-acre Heritage Hill Farm, one of the founding farms of the New Jersey Sire Stakes Program, where he focused primarily on standardbred racehorses as well as breeding and foaling mares. Heritage Hill was honored as the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey's Breeder of the Year in 2009.

Dr. Dey was a tireless advocate for agriculture and the equine industry, who gave generously of his time to his community. He served as vice chair of the Rutgers University Board for Equine Advancement (RUBEA) for the Equine Science Center, president of the board of managers of Rutgers NJ Agricultural Experiment Station, and longtime member and past chairman of NJ Equine Advisory Board. He was a founding member and current president of the Horse Park of New Jersey, member of the Upper Freehold Township Board of Health, the Freehold Economic Development Committee, the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture, and was currently serving on the State Agricultural Development Committee and the N.J. State Water Advisory Council.

"There is no one person whom I have known who has worked more selflessly and tirelessly on behalf of horses, the horse industry and agriculture in the Garden State than Stephen P. Dey," said his longtime friend and colleague Karyn Malinowski, director of Rutgers Equine Science Center. "I have been fortunate to call him a dear colleague and friend for over 30 years and will truly miss his insight, wisdom and wonderful sense of humor."

In 2007, Dr. Dey was honored with the Center's "Spirit of the Horse" award as well as the New Jersey Distinguished Service Award. He was named "NJ Horse Person of the Year" in both 1990 and 2004.

Dr. Dey is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two sons who carry on the family business as veterinarians, Dr. Stephen P. Dey III and Dr. Gregory S. Dey and a daughter, Wendy D. Martin.



Dr. Dey featured with NJ Secretary of Agriculture Douglas Fisher and Center Director Karyn Malinowski at the 2010 Breeder Awards Luncheon

Upcoming Events

Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day

Saturday, April 30, 2011

G.H. Cook Campus

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

New Brunswick, NJ

rutgersday.rutgers.edu

Young Horse Teaching and Research Program Auction

Sunday, May 1, 2011

G.H. Cook Campus

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

New Brunswick, NJ

732-932-9404

Student Voices: *Combining Colleges for an Equine Education*

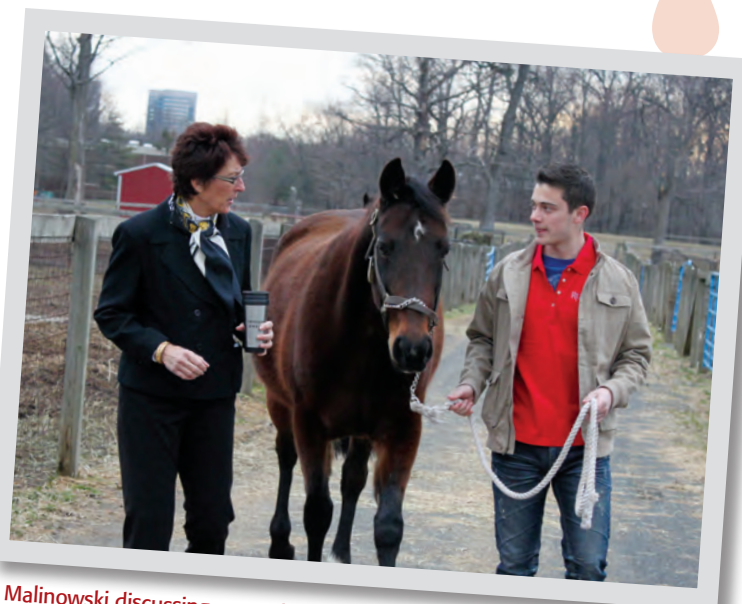
Tim Manzi, *Research in Animal Sciences student*

Getting into Veterinary School requires more than just a solid academic record from a competitive undergraduate institution. It requires a vast amount of hands-on experience: both in the realm of veterinary work and animal care in general. As a full-time student at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), I have been fortunate enough to not only make a name for myself as a Student Ambassador and a Biology major with minors in Psychology and Spanish, but as one of very, *very* few “pre-veterinary” students. Since we are so few in number, we often get overlooked. There is little opportunity to get the experience needed to be accepted to Vet School, and after a few months of being accepted into the Biology program at TCNJ, I knew I needed to expand my horizons.

To be quite honest, a pre-vet concentration was all I thought I needed to get into a Vet School. I officially was accepted into the Biology program as a sophomore, blissfully unaware of the difficulties that would lie ahead with such a limited mindset. Granted, I have been graced with a number of fortuitous events in my life that have landed me some amazing veterinary experiences. I worked for Patty Hogan, VMD of Hogan Equine in Cream Ridge, NJ and Fox and Bokman, DVMs out of their practice in Millstone, NJ. Between the two practices, I amassed a total of 1750+ hours of veterinary experience. However, what I really craved was individualized research; I wanted to learn more, and I wanted to apply what I was learning in textbooks to real life scenarios.

It was not until I reached out to Karyn Malinowski at the Rutgers Equine Science Center that I realized my full potential: not only as a pre-veterinary student, veterinary technician, and a young scholar - but as someone with a genuine passion for horses.

A short email exchange turned into a game of phone tag, which soon transformed into a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Malinowski which included a tour of the beautiful equine exercise physiology laboratory and the Ryders Lane Environmental Best Management Practices Demonstration Horse Farm on the G. H. Cook Campus in New Brunswick. Before long, I was witnessing professors and students working together on research *and* learning a great deal about horses.



Malinowski discussing upcoming research with Tim Manzi and Bonnie

My fascination with the facilities at Rutgers was obvious. Recognizing this, Dr. Malinowski and her stellar team of colleagues were quick to take me under their wing and promptly advised me to enroll as a non-matriculated student at Rutgers.

Registering as a non-matriculated student was probably one of the best ideas I never had, and I can thank Dr. Malinowski for pointing me in the right direction. I knew that I was not ready to leave the life I had worked so diligently to build at TCNJ, so full-time student status at Rutgers was not for me. I knew that I was eager to get my feet wet with hands-on research, and Dr. Malinowski knew it too.

I enrolled in her “Research in Animal Science” class for the spring 2011 semester as a non-matriculated student so that I would have flexible enough credit hours to help out with her research while simultaneously maintaining a full course-load at TCNJ, and occasionally getting the chance to sleep.

Every student, professor, dean, secretary, etc. that I have interacted with thus far has been nothing short of informative and gracious to me. I am learning more than I could ever have imagined about horse physiology, and even more importantly, what it takes to get into Veterinary School. The combination of a TCNJ education coupled with the incredible Rutgers Pre-Vet program is unique, for sure. However, the experience and knowledge I have obtained between Rutgers and TCNJ has left me confident knowing that I will be among the ranks of Rutgers University’s prestigious “pre-veterinary-students-turned-accepted-to-veterinary-school-students” in just about one year from now.



Measuring a horse’s hematocrit in the equine exercise physiology lab

esc.rutgers.edu

Equine Science Center

Better Horse Care Through
Research and Education



Karyn Malinowski

Director

Equine Science Center

Phone: 732-932-9419

Email: malinowski@aesop.rutgers.edu

Kelly Lankau Watts

Associate Dean and Director of Development

School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

Phone: 732-932-9000 ext. 576

Email: watts@aesop.rutgers.edu

Tiffany J Cody

Public Relations Specialist

Equine Science Center

Phone: 732-932-9419

Email: cody@aesop.rutgers.edu



Please Note!!

In June 2011,
the area code for the
Equine Science Center
telephone number
will change to

848-932-9419!

