The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute

Carrying on William Miner’s vision of science and technology in the service of agriculture and the environment.

2012-13 Annual Report
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

You should judge public service organizations not by what they say, but by what they do. The Annual Report of the Miner Institute is not a PR piece, but a public report that recounts each year how well we performed our mission and achieved our goals. Our mission is to provide research, education, and demonstration to advance the theory, expand the learning, and improve the practice of dairy agriculture. All three missions center on the vital interaction between crops, animals, and the environment, an issue so critical to Lake Champlain, the North Country, our Nation, and the World.

Our missions and goals pursue William Miner’s conviction that sustainability of productive farms, abundant food, and protected environment constitute a challenge not a choice. What follows is our candid account of how well we performed our mission and goals in 2012. But don’t just take our word for it. Come to the Miner Institute and see for yourself.

— Dr. Joseph C. Burke
Chair, Miner Institute Board of Trustees

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Do Miner Institute Programs Have an Impact? This question is the most important, and fundamental, question that can be asked. This 2012 Annual Report summarizes publications, presentations, grant income, and student enrollment. These measures are all good dashboard indicators that certainly do indicate that we are heading in the right direction and passing milestones as outlined in our 2011-2016 Strategic Plan.

But, what about impact on the dairy industry? Or the equine industry and horse owners? Or anyone living in the Champlain Valley or elsewhere with an active interest in the intersection of farming and environmental stewardship?

In 2012, we educated over 60 undergraduates, brought in over one-half million dollars in grant income to conduct critical research for the dairy industry, saw close to 4000 people walk through our stone gates, and demonstrated best management practices as evidence by the continued high performance of our dairy herd. Real impact is evidenced by the fact that Miner graduates have leadership roles in farming, agribusiness, academia, and government. Approximately 50% of cows in Vermont and Northern New York are directly impacted by graduates of our courses. These results shape an industry over time.

As you read through this 2012 Annual Report, I am certain that you will be impressed with the diversity and quality of the programs conducted by Miner Institute staff. We hope that the brief glimpse of our 2012 accomplishments provided by this Annual Report stimulates interest on your part in learning more about the range of Miner Institute programs – please feel free to contact us. And as always, if you find yourself in the beautiful North Country of New York State, please stop in and see for yourself the outstanding facilities, grounds, programs, and staff of Miner Institute.

— Dr. Rick Grant
President, Miner Institute
2012 YEAR IN REVIEW

January
• The annual 4H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contests attracted ~150 participants.
• Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Maple School had ~85 participants.
• Spring 2012 Advanced Dairy Management Program began with 5 students enrolled.

February
• A movie night for equine enthusiasts featured the documentary, Buck, and attracted ~25 people.
• Green Mountain Dairy Club toured the Miner dairy.
• Crop Congress attracted ~60 people.

March
• Missisquoi Valley Union High School animal science students toured the Miner dairy farm.
• Cornell Winter Dairy Management Conference was held.
• Annual EquiDay event attracted ~110 people.
• Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Cure for Cabin Fever event attracted ~60 people.

April
• Farm Bureau meeting held at Miner Institute attracted ~65 people.
• Dairy Practices Council meeting held at Miner.
• Cornell Dairy Fellows workshop had ~45 undergraduate participants.

May
• Students and teachers from Stafford Middle School toured the Heritage Exhibit and barns.
• Summer Experience Program in farm management, equine management and agricultural research began with 12 interns.

June
• Plattsburgh State University Human Resources Department toured the Institute.
• Museum Day brought ~150 visitors to the Heart’s Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit.
• The first 3-day Horsemanship Retreat was incredibly well received.
• Farm Days for Fifth Graders brought more than 400 area youngsters to the Institute over three days to learn about agriculture.
• Faculty from Clarkson University toured Miner Institute.

July
• King’s Agriseeds held a meeting at Miner with ~70 attendees.
• James Liszka, the new provost of SUNY Plattsburgh, toured Miner Institute.
• Summer interns showed animals at the Clinton County Fair dairy show, horse show, and helped to promote Miner Institute with a display at the Adirondack Coast Agriculture Barn.
• Equine management summer interns and Miner Morgans presented at the Almanzo Wilder Farm historic site in Burke, NY.
August
  • Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) toured Miner Institute.
  • Hosted a blood drive that collected 17 units for the North Country Regional Blood Center at CVPH.
  • Fall 2012 Applied Environmental Science Program began with 42 students enrolled.

September
  • Hokuren, a Japanese agricultural cooperative, toured the Institute.
  • Participated in Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Legislative Farm Tour.
  • Hosted Malone Auto Club for a tour of the Heart’s Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit.

October
  • The main education building at Miner Institute was dedicated as the Joseph C. Burke Education and Research Center in honor of long-time board chair and trustee Dr. Joseph Burke.
  • Yankee Farm Credit toured the Miner dairy.
  • 12 students and dairy faculty from Morrisville State College toured Miner Institute.
  • 25 international students from Seton Catholic High School toured the Heritage Exhibit, horse and dairy barns.
  • French exchange students hosted by Northern Adirondack Central School toured the Heart’s Delight Heritage Exhibit, horse and dairy barns.
  • Chazy Central Rural School kindergarteners toured the dairy barn, fifth graders toured the Heritage Exhibit, and first graders toured the schoolhouse in celebration of William Miner’s 150th birthday.

November
  • Youth EquiDay attracted ~100 participants to learn about judging horses.
  • Officials from both NY and VT state departments of agriculture met at Miner.
  • The University of Vermont Dairy Club toured the Miner dairy.

December
  • Dairy Day attracted ~100 people. Dr. Roger Cady from Elanco Animal Health was the featured speaker.
  • Approximately 50 people from NY’s Department of Labor held a meeting at Miner.
  • A ceremony was held recognizing 40 years of collaboration between Miner Institute and SUNY Plattsburgh for the Applied Environmental Science Program at the 2012 graduation ceremony.
Miner Institute’s educational programs all emphasize a hands-on approach to learning with a research-based educational focus.

In 2012, 64 students participated in our educational programs. This includes five Advanced Dairy Management students; 12 summer experience students; 42 Applied Environmental Science students; three year-long interns who have finished their undergraduate degrees; one graduate student; and one post-doctoral researcher.

To learn more about our education programs visit whminer.org/education.html

In 1923, William Miner envisioned that Heart’s Delight Farm would evolve into an educational and research institution with “instruction to be given in such subjects as dairying, animal husbandry, plant pathology, soils, and agricultural chemistry (and that) opportunities be given for experimental and research work in order that the school may serve to advance the science of agriculture.”

The Applied Environmental Science Program features courses taught on a full-day basis; the format allows integration of theory developed in lectures with hands-on experience in indoor and outdoor labs dealing with soil, water, forestry, and the agriculture-environment interface.

In 2012, the 40th year of the collaboration between Miner Institute and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh for the Applied Environmental Science Program, 42 students participated. Following the retirement of long-time Forest Ecology professor Dr. Ken Adams in May 2012, hydrogeology was taught as part of the program. Hydrogeology will be taught on campus in 2013 and Forest Ecology and Management will rejoin the AESP.

Student comments from 2012 AESP end-of-semester surveys:

“My experience was amazing at Miner and I learned more than I thought I would...
Miner has added many valuable things to my life and I’m so glad I had the chance to take classes up there and I wish there were more classes to take!”

“Great professors; I loved the experience.”

“Great program; glad I could partake in it.”

Back Row From L-R: Dr. Lyn McIlroy, Brian Drollette, John Bray, Michelle Berrus, Jessica Van Splinter, Travis Lilly, Wesley Loya, Craig Hinchman, Ross Treistman, Elvin Cordero, Dr. Robert Fuller, Stephen Kramer.

Front Row From L-R: Rebecca Marlow, Sarah Degnan, Max Sainsbury, Justin Andrews, Yvonne Chu, Larry Watson, John Bowden, Andy Makowicki, Mark Altwerger, Will Decker, Orin Conn, Dr. Danielle Gameau, Dr. Jacob Straub.
The Advanced Dairy Management program was started in 2000 and provides students with hands-on experience in the management of a commercial dairy herd. Students earn 15 college credits through the University of Vermont while they are with us for the spring semester.

Five University of Vermont students participated in the Advanced Dairy Management program in 2012: Rick Brisson, Sarah Morrison, Margaret Quaassdorff, Abby Scholten, and Sheena Brown. Margaret and Sarah both graduated from the University of Vermont in May, each with a bachelor’s degree in animal science. Both Margaret and Sarah returned to Miner soon after graduating to begin year-long internships – Margaret as a dairy herdsperson, and Sarah working with the research team.

The summer experience programs offer students a 13-week paid internship focused on either dairy farm management, agricultural research, or equine management. Students from around the country apply for the highly-competitive internships.

Five students participated in the Summer Experience in Equine Management: Brenna Foley of Houghton College, Casey Mazzola of Allegheny College, Breann Bumstead of Delaware Valley College, Kirsten Daniels of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Jamie Letham of Pennsylvania State University.

Four students participated in the Summer Experience in Farm Management: Ashleigh Covert of Michigan State University, Lauren Waltzer of the University of Texas at El Paso, Chantel LaValley of Rutgers University, and Kevin Jacque of The Ohio State University.

Three students participated in the Summer Experience in Agricultural Research: Sarah Williams of Virginia Tech, Rebecca Standish of the University of Vermont, and Erin Urban of SUNY Cobleskill.

“I would rate the farm management program very highly. It was a great topper to my dairy education sundae of undergraduate classes, trips, and work experience … I would surely recommend this program to my fellow students and others around the country! This program has a lot to offer and is especially useful for the growing population in agriculture that has little food-animal experience.”

— Kevin Jacque, 2012 Summer Experience in Farm Management student

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Research grants amounting to more than a half million dollars were awarded in 2012, representing a funding success rate of 69% for the 22 submitted proposals. In addition, a long-term enhancement fund was created and $100,000 was allocated to conduct innovative and high-risk research that can be used in the future to leverage larger outside grants. Staff submitted eight research proposals and three were selected for funding: Enrichment of the calving environment to improve productive, behavioral, metabolic, and immune measures of the cow and calf (Heather Dann); Development of a research site for measuring long-term surface and sub-surface runoff of nutrients from crop land (Eric Young); and heifer survey to determine high priority needs of Northern New York dairy industry (Heather Dann, Heather Gauthier, and Kim Morrill from Cornell Cooperative Extension).

Research staff presented nine research abstracts in 2012 and had nine peer-reviewed journal articles published. Additionally, Miner Institute staff members are often called upon to write for popular press or to give presentations at meetings. These include: Katie Ballard, equine and dairy reproduction; Karen Lassell, equine management; Dr. Heather Dann, dairy nutrition and management; Kurt Cotanch, dairy nutrition and forage quality; Dr. Rick Grant, dairy nutrition, management, forage quality and cow comfort; Dr. Eric Young, forage crops production and nutrient management; Dr. Peng Ji, dairy nutrition.
## PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Principle Investigators</th>
<th>Funding source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Determination of the Bioavailability of Lysine in Rumen-Protected Lysine Products Using the In Vivo Plasma Lysine Response Method</td>
<td>Kokko, Ballard, Dann, Grant</td>
<td>Ajinomoto Heartland, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Loss of Lysine from Various Rumen-Protected Lysine Products When Mixed in a Total Mixed Ration</td>
<td>Ji, Ballard, Cotanch</td>
<td>Ajinomoto Heartland, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect of Dietary and Metabolizable Protein on the Performance and Metabolism of Early Lactation Cows</td>
<td>Dann, Ji, Kokko, Cotanch, Grant</td>
<td>Zen-Noh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of nutritional tools for problem solving on dairy farms</td>
<td>Cotanch, Darrah, Dann, Grant</td>
<td>Zen-Noh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of starch content and starch digestibility of various starch sources and the associative effects of starch on TMR fermentation</td>
<td>Dann, Cotanch, Grant</td>
<td>Zen-Noh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing Long-Term Nutrient Runoff Research Plots at Miner Institute</td>
<td>Young, Franzi, Kramer, Klaiber, Klaiber</td>
<td>Long Term Enhancement Fund (Miner Institute)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing the Calving Environment to Improve Dairy Cattle Well-Being</td>
<td>Dann, Gauthier, Ji, Fessette</td>
<td>Long Term Enhancement Fund (Miner Institute)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A survey of calf management strategies for Holstein dairy calves in Northern New York</td>
<td>Gauthier, Dann, Ji, Morrill</td>
<td>Long Term Enhancement Fund (Miner Institute)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agronomic comparison of two brown-midrib hybrids</td>
<td>Young</td>
<td>Pioneer/Mycogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluating soil test phosphorus variation on NNY farms based on colorimetric and ICP determination methods: A preliminary investigation</td>
<td>Young, Hoskins, Bever, Contessa</td>
<td>NNYADP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitigating subsurface phosphorus and nitrogen losses with drainage water management.</td>
<td>Young, Kramer, Geohring, Fuller, Mahoney</td>
<td>New York USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-commercial corn silage hybrid testing</td>
<td>Young</td>
<td>Dow AgroSciences/Mycogen Seeds</td>
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In 2012, the Miner dairy herd remained in the 99th percentile in New York State and the nation for milk production. The herd averaged approximately 30,000 pounds of milk with 1,100 pounds of fat and 925 pounds of protein per cow. The herd’s somatic cell count is in the 15th percentile in New York State – better than 85% of NY farms – at about 141,000 with a linear score of 2. Additionally, the herd’s pregnancy rate continues to climb with a current rate of 32% and an average of 22%. A skilled farm staff and outstanding herd management contributed to our highly-productive, healthy herd.

We finished out 2012 milking around 350 cows and had 416 animals freshen in 2012, with a 44% heifer calf rate. The installation of a heat detection system in part of the herd in 2012 has positively affected pregnancy rates and over time the system will be in place for the entire herd. An activity collar around the cow’s neck monitors movement and rumination. Changes in movement can indicate that the animal is in heat, and changes in rumination can indicate that the animal is sick. Every day, staff members monitor the activity and rumination of each cow to identify sick animals and animals ready to be bred. Farm Manager Steve Couture reports that the system works great!

In 2012, we harvested 4,500 tons of corn for silage from 280 acres. More than 2,000 tons of hay silage was harvested from 300 acres of alfalfa-grass and 250 acres of grass. In addition to the planting, harvesting, and day-to-day operations, our crops crew and dairy barn staff also applied over 25,000 tons of manure during the 2012 field crop season. We also spent considerable effort with our contractors on improving and maintaining some of our drainage systems. The largest of these projects was completed last fall and involved upgrading existing clay tiles and tile mains (from William Miner’s time) in a 40-acre field between the farm and the Joseph C. Burke Education and Research Center. A large fraction of the water now drains from the eastern side of the field into a 2,000-gallon tank and is automatically pumped to a drainage ditch when it reaches a certain level. We are looking forward to another good year of corn silage production in this field before it gets seeded down to alfalfa-grass in the spring of 2014.
In 2012, four Miner Morgans were sold, three chestnut fillies were born, part of the horse barn was renovated with a new tack room and 8 new horse stalls, and we successfully presented the first three-day summer equine short course.

HD Hudson, HD Eagle Bay, HD Saratoga, and HD Brookdale all found homes with new owners who adore them and appreciate the solid foundation in training they all came with. New additions to the Miner Morgan family include: HD Hartland “Hannah” (Legacy’s Viking x HD Massena), HD Sandy Creek “Sandy” (UVM Jubilant x Sugarlane Dominique), and HD Lily Dale “Lily” (Equinox Challenge x UVM Valkyrie). Hannah is the last foal of the beloved stallion, Viking, who died in late 2011. Sandy and Lily are foals from donated stallion service; Sandy from the UVM Morgan Horse Farm and Lily from East of Equinox Farm in Manchester, VT. We appreciate their support of our program!

Two leased stallions now reside at Miner and we are expecting two foals in 2013. Townshend Rob the Wave “Robbie” is on lease from Townshend Morgan Farm in Bolton, MA. Aljaks Seeing Double “Chip” is on lease from Leatherstocking Morgans in Jefferson, NY. Additionally, another Morgan has joined the Miner herd – The Ringo Kid “Ringo” was acquired with a donation from Patti Waring through Forever Morgans, a charitable organization that rescues registered Morgans from dangerous situations and slaughter houses. Ringo is a 6-year-old gelding. Patti Waring is a long-time supporter of the equine program at Miner.

In June, we hosted the first three-day horsemanship retreat with four participants, all of whom had glowing reviews for the program! “The Retreat was wonderful! It was fun, engaging, informative, and novel. The opportunity to live on the premises, being in the company of Karen and the other participants for meals and evenings as well as during instruction time, created a situation that amplified the experience. The size and variety of Miner’s herd meant we had the benefit of working with an array of horse personalities,” remarked one participant. The second annual horsemanship retreat is scheduled for June 2013.

Three Miner Morgans were shown at the NY State Morgan Horse Society Regional Championship Show. We earned a reserve championship in the Hunter Hack division and also a good showing with high ribbons in most classes. Miner Morgans also participated in a demonstration at the Almanzo Wilder Farm in Burke, NY which was attended by 125 people.
"Myself, along with the rest of the students here have sat through countless lectures and labs that try to explain the theory behind all sorts of environmental challenges and solutions. Any professor can stand in front of a class and explain how a dissolved oxygen profile in a river looks on paper, but here at Miner we’re thrown out into the river and told to prove it. This sort of hands-on, real world experience is what shapes us as students for our future careers."

— Brian Drollette, 2012 AESP student

"Our students are self-selected. They’re willing to do something new and different that may be difficult but is rewarding."

— Dr. Robert Fuller
On October 9, 2012 Miner Institute’s main educational building was dedicated as the Joseph C. Burke Education and Research Center.

“My name on this building really stands for all who have labored for over half a century to make William Miner’s dream a reality. He wanted a center for research, education, and demonstration to make agriculture more productive, but also to protect the environment of his beloved Champlain Valley and the world beyond.”

— Dr. Joseph Burke addressing the crowd at the Joseph C. Burke Education and Research Center dedication ceremony

“This building is the heart of Miner Institute programs — students pass through this building to take classes, research is conducted and outreach programs occur. No one has been more dedicated to nurturing the mission of Miner Institute than Joe Burke. And, so it is fitting that we name this building the Joseph C. Burke Education and Research Center.”

— Dr. Rick Grant, Miner Institute President
COLLABORATORS
- Dr. Kenneth Adams
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Eileen B. Allen, GISP
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Caroline Alves
  Vermont USDA-NRCS
- The Audet Family
  Blue Spruce Farms
- Dr. Gary Bergstrom
  Cornell University
- Dr. Sid Bosworth
  University of Vermont
- Robert Brower
  NYS SWCC – Lake Champlain
- Dr. Barbara Cade-Menun
  Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
- Dr. Roger Cady
  Elanco Animal Health
- Dr. Larry Chase
  Cornell University
- Dr. Kim Cook
  ARS-USDA, AWMRU
- Bill Cox
  Cornell University
- Linda Corey
  Fairfax, VT
- Karl Czymmek
  Cornell Pro Dairy
- Dr. Josie Davis
  University of Vermont
- Dr. Mike Davis
  Cornell University
- Steve Davis
  University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm
- Anita Deming
  CCE, Essex County
- Brett Denny
  Vermont DHIA
- Dr. Joseph DePinto
  Limnotech
- Jerry Emerich
  Select Sire Power
- Mike Farmer
  Yankee Farm Credit
- Dr. Sally Flis
  Bourdeau Bros.
- Claude Fortin
  Mycogen Seeds
- Dr. Dave Franz
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Dr. Robert Fuller
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Dr. Danielle Garneau
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Larry Geohring
  Cornell University
- Dr. Francis Glenn
  Glenn Seeds
- Art Graves
  Mycogen Seeds
- Dr. Betsy Greene
  University of Vermont
- Dr. Russ Hahn
  Cornell University
- Dr. Kent Henderson
  Northwest Veterinarian Associates, Inc.
- Michael Hunter
  CCE, Jefferson County
- Amy Ivy
  CCE, Clinton County
- Brian Jerose
  WASTE NOT Resource Solutions
- Ivor Jones
  Select Sire Power
- Jason Karzs
  Cornell University
- Dr. Quirine M. Ketterings
  Cornell University
- Carl Key
  Healthy Herd Genetics
- Dr. Limin Kung
  University of Delaware
- Joe Lawrence
  CCE, Lewis County
- Dr. Sam Leadley
  Attica Veterinary Associates
- Cory Liu
  Stanford University
- Dr. Adam Lock
  Michigan State University
- Dr. Cathy Lombardi
  The Oaks Veterinary Clinic, Smithfield, VA
- Dr. Juan Loor
  University of Illinois
- Dr. Stephen MacKenzie
  SUNY Cobleskill
- Steve Mahoney
  River Bend Farm Agricultural and Environmental Services
- Molly McCue, DVM, MS, Ph.D., ACVIM
  University of Minnesota
- Dr. Lyn McIlroy
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Dr. David Mertens
  Mertens Innovation
- Dr. Bianca Mobius-Clune
  Cornell University
- Dan Mongeau
  Pioneer Hybrid
- Dr. C. Steve Mooney
  Morrisville State College
- Dr. Tom Overton
  Cornell University
- Dr. George Palmer
  Palmer Veterinary Clinic
- Dr. Steve Plehn
  Dow Agrosciences/Mycogen Seeds
- Dr. Ed Romanowicz
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Jon Rooney
  Monument Dairy
- Dr. Don Ross
  University of Vermont
- Dr. Nichol Schultz
  University of Minnesota
- Dr. Rachel Schultz
  SUNY Plattsburgh
- Dr. Randy Shaver
  University of Wisconsin
- Arda and Gert Schut
  Millborne Farm
- Dr. Charlie Sniffen
  Fencrest, LLC
- Paul Stanley
  Crop Management Services
- Ev Thomas
  Oak Point Agronomics
- Dr. Tom Tylutki
  AMTS, LLC
- Dr. Mike van Amburgh
  Cornell University
- Dr. Harold Van Es
  Cornell University
- Edward Verhamme
  Limnotech
- Thomas Villars
  Vermont USDA-NRCS
- Scott Walker
  Monsanto/Dekalb
- Dr. André Wright
  University of Vermont

SUPPORT
- Adirondack Tack
  Plattsburgh, NY
- Dr. Matthew W. Becker
  California State University Long Beach
- Dr. Joseph and Joan Burke
- Nancy Caisse
  Townshend Farm, Bolton, MA
- Corning Life Sciences
- Doug and Adrienne Gable
  Leatherstocking Morgans, Jefferson, NY
- Dr. Koichi Ito
  Miner Institute-Japan
- Microflex Corporation
- Glenice E. Morris
  Southbury, CT
- Thermo Spectronic
- Patricia Waring
  E. Syracuse, NY
Miner Institute’s primary source of revenue is from The William H. Miner Foundation Trust established in 1923. The contribution from the Miner Foundation has historically accounted for 65-70% of the Institute’s overall revenue. In 2012, it was slightly lower at 64% with farm operations continuing to contribute a larger percentage. Higher milk prices and production and improved horse sales have provided a significant increase in farm income. Revenues associated with research grants made up 5% of revenue.

Miner Institute’s farm operations accounted for 43% of overall operating expenses and revenue from these operations offset 78% of these expenses. The Institute’s research projects including funded as well as in-house research represented 17% of the 2012 operating budget with 46% being offset by research grants. The various educational programs offered throughout the year at Miner Institute made up 12% of our operating expenses with the majority of these programs (92%) being funded by the contribution from The William H. Miner Foundation.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

Cassi Lukas

Cassi was a Summer Experience in Equine Management intern in 2010. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor’s degree in Animal Science in December 2010. Cassi started a year-long equine internship at Miner in late 2011. In September, she began a new job as assistant trainer and assistant barn manager at a large Arabian show barn in CT. There she helps care for more than 70 horses, administers medicine and supplements and also works and trains horses.

Brittany Sweeney

Brittany was an Advanced Dairy Management student in 2010 and, after receiving her bachelor's degree in Animal Science from the University of Vermont, returned in late 2011 to be the year-long research intern. After completing her internship in July, she began a master's program at Cornell University where she is studying transition cow nutrition and health.

Carolyn Kokko, M.S.

Carolyn spent a year and a half at Miner working as a post-graduate intern focused on nutrition research. In August, she began at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine, where she studies production animal and equine medicine. At Cornell, she also works at the school's new Teaching Dairy, because she missed her daily interaction with cows! Carolyn continues to study dairy nutrition and utilize her training from Miner Institute in classes and at work, and plans to work in the Northeast as a dairy practitioner.

Laura Turek

Laura was a Summer Experience in Farm Management intern in 2010. She graduated from Michigan State University in May 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in Animal Science. After graduating, she started a year-long dairy internship at Miner. In May, she began a new job as a herdsperson at Adirondack Farm in Peru, NY. She works primarily with herd health, and takes care of fresh cows and sick cows.
Approximately 2,000 visitors toured the Heart’s Delight Farm Heritage Exhibit during the 2012 season. For the second year, Miner Institute participated in Clinton County’s Museum Day with approximately 150 visitors the first weekend of June. The exhibit also hosted several large organized tours. These guided tours included Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH), Seton Catholic Central School international students, French exchange students hosted by Northern Adirondack Central School, First and fifth graders from Chazy Central Rural School participating in Miner Day, Numerous schools taking part in Farm Days for Fifth Graders, Stafford Middle School students, Malone Auto Club, UVM Dairy Club, Third and fourth graders from St. Mary’s Academy, and the SUNY Plattsburgh Human Resources Department.

Several updates to the exhibit were also carried out. The Heart’s Delight Farm “History” video was converted to HD and a larger flat-screen television was installed, allowing for more comfortable viewing in the diorama room. In addition, the Heritage Exhibit featured a temporary exhibit of agricultural prints from the archives. These photos are on permanent display in the dairy barn classroom.
TRUSTEES:

Joseph C. Burke, Ph.D.
Miner Foundation Trustee
Chair Miner Institute

Charles E. Ashley
Owner
Cha-Liz Farm

Richard Eakins
Owner
NORCO Farms

Roderic G. Giltz
Chairman/CFO
Northern Insuring Agency

Rocklyn Giroux
Co-owner
Adirondack Farms

William Bingel
Retired
County Administrator

Richard J. Grant, Ph.D.
President

Bernard Leerkes, Jr.
Co-owner
Leerkes Dairy Farm

Ann M. Willey, Ph.D., J.D.
Adjunct Professor
Albany Law School

Frederick Woodward, Ph.D.
Retired Chief
Collegiate Administrator

Geoffrey Yates
Vice President
Yankee Farm Credit

Betsy Hodge
Community Educator
Cornell Cooperative Ext.
St. Lawrence County

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President

Kirk E. Beattie
Vice President,
Administration & Finance

Rachel Dutil
Secretary

MEMBERS:

Melvin Irwin
Owner
Maplegrand Farm

Perry J. Kurtz, Ph.D.
Retired Pharmaceutical
R&D Director

David Meath
President
Buck Paper Company

John Ettling, Ph.D.
President, Plattsburgh
State University

Sheldon Hagar, DVM
Retired Veterinarian

Tom Overton, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Animal Science
Cornell University

William L. Owens
U.S. Congressman,
NY 23rd District

David Fisher
Owner
Mapleview Farm
## EMPLOYEES & YEARS OF SERVICE

### FACULTY/RESEARCH
- Katie Ballard, M.S. 25
- Amy Bedard, M.L.S. 6
- Maggie Carter 16
- Kurt Cotanch, M.S. 11
- Heather Dann, Ph.D. 8
- Jeff Darrah 10
- Wanda Emerich, M.Ext.Ed. 25
- Robert Fievisohn 6
- Heather Gauthier 12
- Laura Klaiber 4
- Lisa Klaiber 4
- Stephen Kramer, M.S. 18
- Sheila Mousseau <1
- Cory Nolette 5
- Diana Otis <1
- Eric Young, Ph.D. 3

### PHYSICAL PLANT
- Jared Ashline 14
- Brian Bechard 7
- Daniel Belrose 18
- David Boulerice 3
- Steve Fessette 7
- Mark Gonyo 5
- Kelly Snide 11

### EQUINE
- Karen Lassell 17
- Craig Bosley 31
- Tammy Allen 24
- Hope LaForest 31
- Michelle Miller 12

### PHYSICAL PLANT
- Wanda Emerich, M.Ext.Ed. 25
- Robert Fievisohn 6
- Heather Gauthier 12
- Laura Klaiber 4
- Lisa Klaiber 4
- Stephen Kramer, M.S. 18
- Sheila Mousseau <1
- Cory Nolette 5
- Diana Otis <1
- Eric Young, Ph.D. 3

### AGRICULTURE
- Jake Ashline 14
- Shawn Bechard 7
- Shaun Castine 3
- Bethann Caston 9
- Steve Couture 7
- Lance Ero <1
- Nathan Ero <1
- Jessica Kalvaitis 5
- Kristup Kalvaitis 11
- Ralph LaBombard 3
- Adam LaCount 13
- Neil LaCount 5
- Ryan LaCount 28
- Henry Meseck 6
- Anna Pape 2
- Travis Perrault 2

### FOOD SERVICE / HOUSEKEEPING
- Tammy Allen 4
- Hope LaForest 14
- Michelle Miller <1

### ADMINISTRATION
- Kirk Beattie 12
- Rachel Dutil 3
- Rick Grant, Ph.D. 9
- Laurie Miller 29

### GRADUATE STUDENT
- Justin Geibel

### POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER
- Peng Ji, Ph.D.

### INTERNS
- Margaret Quaassdorff, Dairy
- Kimberly Farnum, Equine
- Sarah Morrison, Research

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### REMEMBERANCES...

**Edna Brunell**

Edna spent more than 20 years at Miner Institute as the cafeteria supervisor. She started in 1971 and retired in 1992. She was a sweet lady who had a great sense of humor and strongly encouraged Miner employees and students to eat their vegetables every day!

Edna passed away June 18, 2012. She was 81.