


 Graduate student career opportunities in the animal science industry.

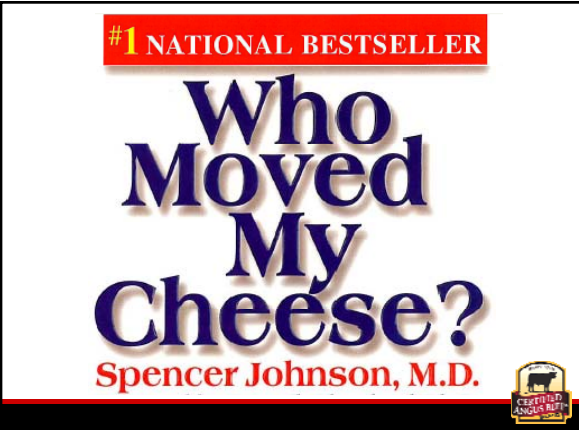
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Annual Joint ADSA-ASAS Meeting  
 Graduate Student Symposium  
 July 9, 2008




## Points of Discussion

- Current Industry Dynamics
  - Net Effect on the Industry
  - Valuable Perspectives and Skills
  - Preparing to Enter Industry
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 #1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER

**Who Moved My Cheese?**  
 Spencer Johnson, M.D.




## Current Industry Dynamics

### Globalization

- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)
- Increasing energy costs
- Increasing grain prices
- Emerging protein markets
- Currency exchange rates

### Consolidation


- Occurring broadly across animal agriculture
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## Current Industry Dynamics

### Technological Advancement

- Food safety
- Genomics
- Animal production and management
- End product quality


### Consumer Perspectives

- rBST and E. coli O157:H7
  - Alternative production systems
  - Animal welfare
  - “Green” mentality
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## Net Effect

Today's industry issues are more complex.

Our approach to finding solutions is:

- Multi-disciplinary
  - More precision based
  - More technology driven
  - More time sensitive
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## Net Effect

Greater opportunity for graduate students

- Demand for science-oriented technical expertise
  - Research and development
  - Technical service
- Continual need for expertise in both:
  - Basic research
  - Applied science



# Relevance

Moving beyond your specific discipline  
and into the realm of systems thinking  
and multi-disciplinary problem solving.



## Valuable Perspectives

Merge together various points of view:

- Technical
- Biological
- Economic
- Social
- Marketing



## Necessary Skills

- Technical expertise
- Effective communication
- Time management
- Prioritization
- Networking
- Independent thinking



**FOR QUALITY  
EDUCATION  
PLAN AHEAD**

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## Becoming a Stronger Candidate

*NOTE: An experienced candidate is almost  
always preferred over a new graduate.*

1. Industry exposure
  - Blend of university experience
  - Associate your program with industry
  - Study tours
  - Graduate internships



## Becoming a Stronger Candidate

2. Balanced and practical perspective
  - Embrace the scope of what you don't yet know
  - Talk with people in the trade
  - Read, Read, Read



## Summary

- The job search can't start too early.
- The degree brings an inherent level of credibility.
- Entering industry is a humbling experience.
- Practice confidence and humility.
- Use what you know as the basis for a career in "continuing education" and your contribution will be significant.

