Prospective Grad Students: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are assistantships and what types are there?
   Most graduate students in the sciences are funded on assistantships, and these provide monthly stipends for the students for living expenses. Some are funded on a departmental teaching assistantship, requiring the student to act as a teaching assistant for one or more laboratories or classes. Others are funded on research assistantships, which are funded by external grant sources and allotted by the faculty themselves. Finally, there are also graduate school research assistantships that are awarded to outstanding incoming students.

2. What are the monthly stipends in the Poultry Science Dept. at UGA? The amount you would receive varies based on the type of assistantship and/or the amount allocated in the grant that it is funded by. Departmental assistantship amounts change each year. Current rates range from $19K to $27K for MS students and $21K to $30K for PhD students.

3. Would I have to pay tuition?
   Probably not. If you are on an assistantship at UGA, your tuition is waived and you would only be responsible for student fees, which total approximately $1K per semester.

4. What about health insurance?
   Health insurance is available through UGA and graduate students on assistantship are required to be part of the UGA program unless they provide proof of membership to another program. The health center at UGA provides excellent care and visits there are covered through this program. Students must contribute about each semester to this plan.

5. Who can I contact for more information? You can contact Dr. Kristen Navara, graduate coordinator of poultry science by email or by phone at 706-542-1369. You can also contact the graduate school by email or by phone at 706-542-1739.