

1st Annual NSTP Symposium

The APHIS NBAF Scientist Training program (NSTP) is a graduate training program designed to develop the next generation of scientists to support FADDL's current and expanded mission objectives at NBAF. The 1st Annual NSTP Symposium was held June 18-20 in Manhattan, KS. In addition to the 10 current fellows from 6 universities (Kansas State, Iowa State, Mississippi State, Auburn, University of Georgia and North Carolina State), participants included their university mentors, FADDL scientists, NVSL leadership and D&B leadership. Presentations included project updates from the NSTP fellows, overview of NVSL by Drs. Randall Levings, Sabrina Swenson, Suelee Robbe-Austerman and Christina Loiacano.

Local FBI special agent Cody Patterson provided guidance to address security issues relating to work at NBAF, and Dr. Kim Kirkham (AVIC, Kansas and Nebraska) and her team led a panel discussion regarding the relationship between FADDL and the field. One of the highlights for the fellows was the opportunity to review case studies of FMD and SVA with Dr. Greg Mayr.

On the final day, Carol Roller (executive consultant, CTOD), led team building exercises with the fellows and NSTP Leadership (Alexa Bracht, Jamie Barnabei and Kim Dodd). The symposium concluded with a tour of the NBAF for the fellows!

The NSTP will continue to be an annual event, and will grow in size as additional fellowships are accepted into the program. The program is expected support a total of 24 students over the next few years.

