RELEASE: Immediate CONTACT: E. TROENDLE

DATE: January 16, 2017 PHONE: 406.587.4531

 etroendle@simmgene.com

**INDIANA CATTLEMAN ELECTED NATIONAL SIMMENTAL**

**BOARD CHAIRMAN**

Bozeman, MT- Brian DeFreese of West Point, Indiana, a member of the American Simmental Association (ASA) Board of Trustees Executive Committee, has been elected Chairman of the Board, succeeding Dale Miller of Gildford, MT.  DeFreese has served on the ASA Board of Trustees since 2012.

DeFreese is the owner of Shawnee Cattle Company at West Point, Indiana. In addition to his own herd of Simmental, he serves as manager of the Purdue University Beef Unit, which produces commercial females and feedlot steers from a cowherd of 300 SimAngus™ cows and 100 replacement heifers.

After attending the University of Indiana for three years, he graduated in 1974 from Purdue, then spent nine years traveling the US and Canada, working for several purebred cattle operations. He farmed and raised cattle for more than 30 years before accepting his present position at Purdue in 2007.

Now completing his second, three-year term on the ASA Board of Trustees, he has been active in the Hoosier Beef Congress, the Indiana State Fair and the Indiana Performance Tested Bull Sale. He's also a member of the Indiana Beef Cattle Association and served as president of the Tippecanoe County Cattleman's Association. DeFreese and his wife, Marla, are the parents of three grown children: J.D., Rob, and Katelyn.

DeFreese was formally seated during ASA's 49th Annual Meeting held January 15, in Denver, CO. Also seated were Vice Chairman Tim Smith, Giddings, TX; and Treasurer, Fred Schuetze, Granbury, TX. Rounding out ASA's five-member Executive Committee are Gordon Hodges, Hamptonville, NC; and Barry Wesner, Chalmers, IN.

Founded in 1968, the American Simmental Association is headquartered in Bozeman, MT. ASA is committed to leveraging technology, education and collaboration to accelerate genetic profitability for the beef industry. In keeping with its commitment, ASA, along with its partners, formed International Genetic Solutions - the world's largest genetic evaluation of beef cattle.

[Brian DeFreese\_2011.jpg](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B31Ht8P_ykhkczR4aWFyV0Z1UDg)