

# EAGREVIEW



Volume 36  
Fall 2017

Missouri  
State

WILLIAM H. DARR  
COLLEGE OF  
AGRICULTURE

## Meet the Writers

The Ag Review is planned, written and designed by the newswriting in agriculture class under the direction of Katelyn McCoy, instructor of agricultural communications at Missouri State University.



**Katie Franken**  
Agricultural Communications  
Tipton, Missouri



**Hailey Gilbreath**  
Agricultural Communications  
Carl Junction, Missouri



**Danielle Kothe**  
Agricultural Communications  
Wright City, Missouri



**Emily Lewis**  
Agricultural Communications  
Higginsville, Missouri



**Mercer Martin**  
Agricultural Communications  
Willard, Missouri



**Shelby Mizer**  
Agricultural Communications  
Lebanon, Missouri



**Kalynn Persell**  
Agricultural Communications  
Richmond, Missouri



**Megan Prather**  
Agricultural Communications  
Camdenton, Missouri

The newsletter is available for viewing at [ag.missouristate.edu/publications](http://ag.missouristate.edu/publications) and [issuu.com/mostateag](http://issuu.com/mostateag). The Ag Review was produced by managing editor Alyssa Rockers, senior agricultural communications major from Carthage, Missouri.

The cover photo was taken by Katelyn McCoy.



**Alyssa Rockers**  
Agricultural Communications  
Carthage, Missouri



@mostateag

# From the Dean



Last year I announced that on December 15, 2016, the Missouri State University Board of Governors voted to change the name of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture to the William H. Darr College of Agriculture (COAG). Since that time, we have continued to experience growth within the college. Undergraduate and graduate enrollment has increased, we have added new academic programs, expanded our educational, research and outreach programming through the addition of new farms, and have increased our collaborative efforts with various governmental and private sector groups. New classes have also been developed in areas such as hydroponics, wildlife law enforcement, stocker/beef cattle production, agricultural communications and natural resource management, which furthers the academic experience for our students.

The William H. Darr College of Agriculture is in a unique position among institutions of higher education. Specifically, with the facilities and land holdings, we have the opportunity to provide exceptional experiential/hands-on learning for our students. For example, the Journagan Ranch blends beef cattle production operations with natural resource conservation. The Shealy Farm combines beef production from stocker to finish with forage production strategies. The Woodlands is a living laboratory for forestry. The Kindrick Family Farm has 65 acres of cultivated land'

for crop production trials and educational programming. The Mountain Grove Campus which, includes the State Fruit Experiment Station, is an exceptional facility for researching viticulture, enology and fruit production. Baker's acres serves as a main source of forage production for the college. The Darr Center (Bond Learning Center and Pinegar Arena) is an outstanding educational facility for Missouri State students as well as serving as a host site for outreach activities related to agriculture and natural resource management.

As a college, our goals are to continue to work diligently to provide the highest quality educational experience possible for our students, conduct meaningful research and provide quality outreach programming for our agriculture partners. We also aspire to increase student enrollment, expand academic programs, enhance industry partnerships and collaboration with other agencies, secure additional resources in order to better support our academic programming and cultivate a learning environment where our students can excel to compete with anyone anywhere across the globe.

In the past 18 months, I have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful individuals. Among them are donors, agriculture industry leaders, Missouri State colleagues, students, collaborators, etc. It is a blessing to be a part of the future of Missouri State University's William H. Darr College of Agriculture.

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## College of Agriculture hosts interactive Sustainability Showcase

By: Danielle Kothe

On Sept. 12, 2017, more than 100 students, faculty and community members gathered at the Missouri State University Campus Garden for the Darr College of Agriculture's Sustainability in Practice: Interactive Showcase. During the two-hour open house, visitors learned about sustainability practices, sampled fresh-made snacks from the garden and interacted with exhibits by student organizations.

Visitors were greeted by Kara Powelson, junior environmental plant science student and campus garden manager from Rosendale, Missouri, who guided them through various exhibits. Visitors received free t-shirts and were taught about raised bed gardening, composting

and had the opportunity to sample snacks from the garden.

The tasting included zucchini bread, watermelon, grilled vegetables, salsa and Missouri State beef brats cooked by Professor of Agriculture, Dr. Michael Burton. Graduate students, Will Knuckles and Steven Schneider, also set up exhibits to discuss their plant science research. Additionally, signs throughout the garden provided visuals of sustainable off-campus practices including the water tap system at the Darr Agricultural Center.

The event was made possible by faculty and students who began preparing for the event in the summer of 2017. Burton and Powelson worked with Cady Goble,

graduate plant science student from Mountain Home, Arkansas, and Jordan Schanda, sustainability coordinator for the Environmental Health and Safety Department to coordinate and set up the event.

The event was intended to not only highlight the University's sustainability practices, but showcase the benefits of implementing the practices in the visitors' own lives. According to Carrie Crews, College of Agriculture administrative assistant, numerous visitors expressed their support for the University and College of Agriculture's sustainability practices and inquired about volunteer involvement.

Photos courtesy of Katelyn McCoy

## College of Agriculture introduces COAG Days

By: Emily Lewis

The Missouri State University Darr College of Agriculture hosted a new event this year called COAG Days. The event was planned and executed by the College of Agriculture clubs and began on November 5th and ended November 9th.

“COAG Days is a week of fun and philanthropic events that bring students, faculty and staff together to celebrate the College of Agriculture. This event is about cherishing the family that is the Darr College of Agriculture,” said Nicolas Matheney, senior animal science major from Brookfield, Missouri.

Five events were held during the week. On Sunday, there was a slow-pitch softball tournament hosted by Block and Bridle and the Missouri State University Cattlemen’s Association. For this event, five agriculture clubs formed teams and played in a double-elimination tournament. Sigma Alpha came in first place and Block and Bridle came in second place.

The next event was the quiz bowl, hosted by Delta Tau Alpha and Collegiate 4-H. Members formed teams of three to four people and competed in agriculturally-related categories. After multiple rounds of agriculturally-related trivia, Alpha Gamma Sigma won first place.

On Tuesday, the students participated in a day of volunteering. This event was coordinated by Collegiate Farm Bureau and students were given the opportunity to volunteer locally with Ozarks Food Harvest or Magnolia Square Nursing Home.



On Wednesday, Alpha Gamma Sigma and Agronomy Club hosted a COAG tailgate. Students came together for a barbecue and a movie that was projected on the outside of Pinegar Arena.

Last but not least, on Thursday Sigma Alpha and Alpha Gamma Rho hosted Barnwarming in the ballroom at the Bond Learning Center. Each club submitted candidates to compete for the 2017 COAG Days King and Queen.

The candidates were as follows: Alpha Gamma Rho and Sigma Alpha – Nick Duncan and Shannon O’Day; Alpha Gamma Sigma and Sigma Alpha – George Waggoner and Alexis Keegan; Block and Bridle – Blake Karraker and Sarah Vehige; Forestry Club – Ben Bardot and Julia Probst; Collegiate Farm Bureau and Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow – Austin Witt and Kalynn Persell; Collegiate FFA – Brandon Chapman and Krista Gilmartin; Horsemen’s Association – Ashton Kiger and Hailey Carter; Agronomy Club – Zayne Aldrich and Virjillia Raner; and Missouri State University Cattlemen’s Association – Jacob Nobitt and

Dee Stark.

Students participated in a dance and an awards ceremony. The King of COAG Days was Zayne Aldrich and the queen was Kalynn Persell.

For all the week’s events, students were able to represent up to two clubs. The club that had the most attendance was rewarded the most points. Additional points were awarded to the clubs that won the slow-pitch softball tournament and the quiz bowl. The club that received the most points at the end of the week received the title of COAG Days Club of the Year. The Club of the Year was awarded to Sigma Alpha.

In the future, students in the College of Agriculture hope to see this event evolve in a positive way.

“This event has an ability to grow, and is only the start. I hope to see COAG Days grow in popularity in both the college and entire university. We have the potential to make an impact within our university and community with this event,” said Danielle Kothe, senior agricultural communications student from Wright City, Missouri.

Photo courtesy of Katelyn McCoy



Photo courtesy of Sarah Bishop

## Alumni and Friends Celebrate 5th annual Ag Celebration

By: Danielle Kothe

On Oct. 28, 2017, alumni gathered for the Darr College of Agriculture's annual Ag Celebration with Alumni and Friends at the Bond Learning Center. The night was one of fellowship, games, music, food and support for agriculture students. In addition, attendees received an update on the college and its students.

As alumni, donors and friends walked in, they were greeted with Missouri State University wine tasting and the student-run Ag Sale Shop where attendees could purchase College of Agriculture merchandise provided by student organizations. At the check-in table, the 180 attendees were also given bid cards for the silent and live auctions.

As the night began, Matt Wommack, '10 and '17, kicked off the event as the MC and directed attendees to the various food stations featuring Missouri State beef, silent auction tables and games.

Numerous goods, services and gift certificates lined the ballroom during the silent auction. Fifty-four donors provided items for auction including photography sessions, feed and seed inputs and farm tools.

In addition, each College of Agriculture student organization donated a gift basket to the silent auction in exchange for 50% of the proceeds. The club with the highest proceeds raised, MSU Block and Bridle, received 100% of the profit as an added incentive.

As the mingling, silent auction and music came to a close, the live auction began. The competition was high as the 19 items and services were bid on. In addition to the auctions, attendees also had the opportunity to participate in a raffle, corn hole games, and beer and wine tasting with collector's glassware.

The event was the most successful of the College's alumni celebrations, raising over \$45,000 for the College of Agriculture's Alumni Scholarship Fund. Numerous donors, event sponsors, faculty and student volunteers contributed to the fellowship and financial success of the event. Plans are already underway to create a memorable and successful next celebration on Oct. 20, 2018.

## Alumni Association Receives Volunteer of the Year Award

By: Emily Lewis

The Missouri State University Alumni Association enables individuals to continue their connection with Missouri State University even after graduation. Every year, the College of Agriculture's Agriculture Alumni Committee hosts the Ag Celebration with Alumni and Friends.

Alumni and friends of the College gather for an evening of food, wine tasting, silent and live auctions which help raise money for scholarships and support for College of Agriculture students. Some alumni also donate directly to the agriculture alumni scholarships.

Matt Wommack, '10 and '17, a member of the Committee said their main goal was to provide financial support to the Darr College of Agriculture and to set examples to those students who are graduating.

"I received scholarships from giving people when I was going to school here many years ago. I appreciated the money the Rotary Club gave me so much. I still remember going to their meeting to thank them for the money," said Susan Dawley, '82, a member of the

planning committee for the alumni association.

Alumni provide a substantial amount of support to the current students and the College of Agriculture.

The Missouri State University Alumni Association presents seven awards of recognition to alumni members, former faculty, and staff. The awards are given annually to honor members for their achievements.

During the Bears of Distinction Award ceremony hosted by the Alumni Association on June 24th, the Agriculture Alumni Committee received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Alumni Association for their extraordinary effort to advance the reach and impact of Missouri State University.

"The Volunteer of the Year award we got from the Alumni Foundation was great recognition to the alumni committee. Hopefully through this award and its recognition we can gain more support for our annual event whether it be donors or alumni attending," said Wommack.

Dawley said they enjoyed "paying

it forward" and wanted to set an example to those students who are graduating.

"In order to continue the support to agriculture, we have to make sure the baton gets passed on to each and every graduating class of students. The Darr College of Agriculture cannot continue to thrive if everyone doesn't step up to help support them, whether it's in time, providing jobs for new graduates, money in small or large portions, or leaving a farm from your estate to the Darr College of Agriculture," said Dawley.

Debbie Branson, '99, is the associate director of alumni relations for Missouri State and works closely with the Committee.

"This award to me isn't really honoring me, it's honoring our heritage," Branson said. "It honors the agricultural community. We just happened to be the ones standing on stage to receive it."

**Photo courtesy of Missouri State Photographic Services**



## College of Agriculture gifted new farm

By: Emily Lewis

Missouri State University was recently gifted the Kindrick Family Farm from George Hartsfield and Rev. Dr. Paula Kindrick Hartsfield, '76. The farm is a century farm with 80 acres, subdivided into smaller fields with several tree lines and a few sinkholes which students will study.

The new farm will help students study grain crop production, horticulture, conservation and soil science. Students who utilize the farm will learn techniques contributing to sustainability, water quality protection and erosion reduction.

In May 2017, the Darr College of Agriculture initiated Missouri State's first soybean variety trial. In October, students and faculty assessed the performance of the variety for yield and quality potential.

"Learning the keys to a well-constructed and fair test provides valuable experience and training to our students and provides useful information to our community," said Dr. Michael Burton, professor of agriculture.

In the winter, students and faculty fulfilled both research and educational missions by planting winter cover crops for soil conservation, establishing demonstration areas and starting research projects.

"This farm benefits students to further their knowledge in the agronomy/plant science field. Here in the Ozarks, the common farm is cow/calf and hay production. This farm gives students a chance to get up close to row crop farming," said Kerri Johnson, a graduate student in agriculture from Warsaw, Missouri.



The new property also provides an opportunity for students studying wildlife to practice the skills they have learned in coursework. For example, in order to use the grain for food as well as environmental protection purposes, students apply knowledge gained in grain crops and forage crops courses.

Dr. Sarah Lancaster took her environmental soil science students to study soil morphology. There are three distinct soil types on the property that students are able to sample, examine and study.

This fall, faculty, staff and students and professors worked

to improve the overall quality and sustainability of the farm. Before the farm was gifted to the University, there was a seven-year continuous monoculture of corn. Now, agriculture students have converted the farm to soybeans.

The University hired a contract harvester to assist with the harvest of the crop. In the future, faculty and students hope to improve the farm even more by planting a larger diversity of crops, developing amendments, improving soil health and having cover crops.

**Photo courtesy of Alyssa Rockers**

## Hydroponics course introduced

By: Shelby Mizer

This semester the Darr College of Agriculture offered a new plant science class, Hydroponic Production Systems. The class teaches the basics of hydroponics, including light, media, nutrient solution, production systems and pumps.

“My favorite part of this class was being able to visit New Horizon Veggies, a hydroponic greenhouse in Ozark, owned by the wonderful Ballou family. I buy their lettuce every week at the Farmer’s Market and they have been in the industry long enough that they are a great resource for anyone looking to go into commercial hydroponics,” said Cady Goble, a plant science graduate student from Mountain Home, Arkansas.

The 16 students in the class were split into four groups. They were then given the freedom to decide what kind of system they wanted to build and what types of plants they wanted to grow. As the groups’ plants started to flourish, they measured many variables throughout the course; including EC solution, pH levels, solution level of the reservoir and how well their plants were growing on the system.

Each group had to determine what factor they would monitor and why. The groups grew lettuce, kale, squash, radishes, cucumbers, tomatoes and mustard plants. While growing these products in their hydroponics systems, the students had to problem solve.

“The whole thing was to get them hands on building them and solving problems. So every group, they didn’t know it at the time but I set every group up to have problems,” said Dr. Will McClain, plant science assistant professor.

McClain said he would rather the students learn through hands-on experience, rather than sitting through a lecture each class period.

“The most beneficial part of this class was having the chance to plan and create our own hydroponics system. This caused my group and I to follow through with our project plan and use our problem solving skills to solve the problems that arose while conducting our project,” said Kara Powelson, a junior environmental plant science from Rosendale, Missouri.

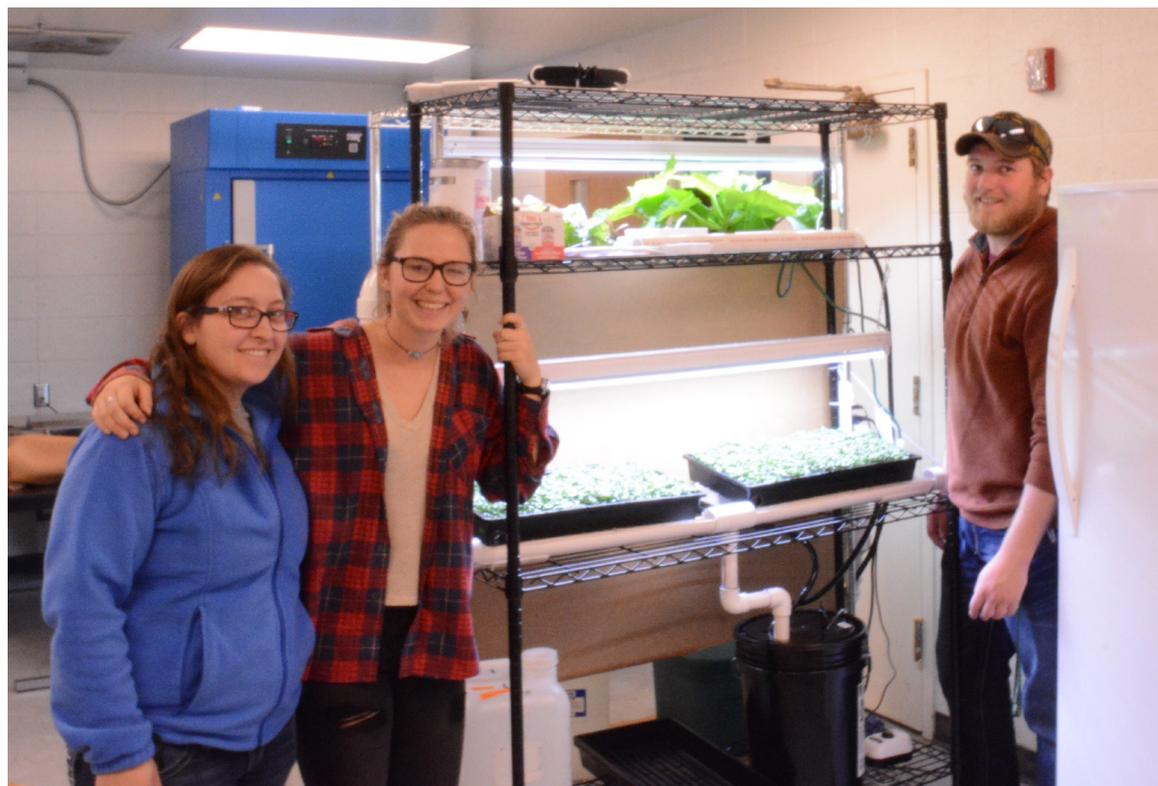
“Trouble shooting has been the best part because I like solving problems. It’s fun for me. With this being the first time to offer

this class I had to come in on a Saturday and Sunday because the Evenflow group had a problem with overflowing. I worked through the whole problem from beginning to end so I would know a fix, something that would work. I would make them figure it out though,” said McClain.

At the end of the class each group made a presentation over their systems. The graduate students wrote a grant proposal for a sustainability grant utilizing their hydroponic system. The undergraduates then picked their favorite system and wrote a short paper to review.

McClain said there are a few changes he will make for next year’s course. Each group will keep a journal to record everything going on in the process of their systems.

Photo courtesy of Shelby Mizer



## Rimal recognized for food hub research

By: Katie Franken

Dr. Arbindra Rimal, agricultural business, communications and education department head, and agricultural business professor in the Darr College of Agriculture, has received significant attention for his research about creating a food hub in southern Missouri. Missouri State University's *Mind's Eye* blog which highlights faculty research featured his latest work which aims to bring producers and consumers together.

"A food hub is really, at the bare bones, an aggregation of small producers," Rimal said.

According to Rimal, a major issue for small local produce farmers is not having sufficient avenues for marketing their products. The primary place for most farmers to sell their products is at a farmer's market. However, the producer must devote a significant amount of time to preparation, travel and selling their goods in-person.

He added that local cattle producers face similar issues, but another challenge they face is finding suitable processing plants. Many travel to Kansas City for processing in order to be able to sell their product to retailers.

Rimal's research found more consumers are looking for locally produced food. This demand can lead to high revenue for the farmers, but there are not currently many ways to bridge the gap between producers and consumers.

"Food hubs can connect the producers with the buyers," Rimal said.

The food hubs provide many services to the producer benefiting the consumer. At its most basic

form a food hub is a place to collect, clean, package and market products. A more advanced and established example would provide processing services, training to farmers and the creation of value-added products.

Lifestyle farmers, those who do not rely on farming as their primary source of income, will be catered to by the food hub. Since the money they make from farming is extra income, they will be more willing to take the risk of participating to increase their extra income.

The biggest hesitation that most farmers will have with participating in the food hub, according to Rimal, is the price. The individual unit price will be lower at the food hub than a farmer's market, but there will be significantly less waste since the food could be going to restaurants, hospitals, and other institutions or retailers who buy in bulk. Selling at the wholesale price could result in revenue equal to, or higher, than that made at a farmer's market.

As an economist, Rimal has an important perspective benefiting the creation of the food hub. Evaluating the wants of the people purchasing agricultural products plays a big role in determining the success of the hub.

"Big companies such as Cargill, ADM and even HyVee do not want to pick up products from the producers unless there is a demand for it," Rimal said.

The number of producers involved will determine success. When more producers participate more products are available. When there are more products more people, retailers and institutions will patronize the food hub.

Rimal's research was funded by a USDA Rural Development grant. USDA Rural Development strives to support rural America by providing monetary and technical assistance. The assistance is used to boost the economic development of rural areas.

**Photo courtesy of Missouri State  
Photographic Services**



## Students and faculty serve as members of the military

By: Shelby Mizer

The Darr College of Agriculture has many students and staff members who have served in the military. Many of these individuals found their way to Missouri State University after their service time.

Dr. Will McClain is an assistant professor of plant science in the College of Agriculture and has been teaching for three years. McClain received his bachelor's and master's degrees, in horticulture and agronomy and plant science, respectively, from Missouri State University. He obtained his doctorate in agronomy from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

McClain's military career began with two years in the Army before he switched to the Missouri National Guard, which he was in for eight years. McClain began his service as a combat engineer in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and then moved to Monett and Pierce City for the National Guard.

"My grandpa was a combat engineer and he always said if you do this, allow them to train you so that if things don't go the way you want them to you always have a backup job. So I was a backhoe operator. It allowed me to learn how to run heavy equipment," said McClain.

Michelle Uchtman-Coulter is an animal science and environmental plant science-horticulture student from Marshfield, Missouri. Uchtman-Coulter was in the Army for six and half years. She was in the intelligence field as a human intelligence collector. As part of her job she had to learn a second language, and chose Korean,

which is one of the hardest languages for English speakers to learn.

"Another hurdle was that I got back from my first deployment and then I got an extension of my deployment contract. I was supposed to get out at five years and I got stop lost and then I did another extra fifteen month deployment with the hundred and first. Which was an awesome blessing because I met my husband there," Uchtman-Coulter said.

Levi Mounce is a senior environmental plant science-horticulture student from Cassville, Missouri. Mounce was in the Army and Army Reserve for a total of ten years and six months in the Army and one year and ten months in the Army Reserves. According to Mounce, the best part about serving for your country is the people you serve with because they are almost like family.

"The hardest thing to accomplish was finding a balance between taking care of my family and also completing college courses. Time management was brutal," Mounce said.

As Army Lieutenant Colonel Allen West, and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives said, "We must never forget why we have, and why we need our military. Our armed forces exist solely to ensure our nation is safe, so that each and every one of us can sleep soundly at night, knowing we have 'guardians at the gate.'"



Levi Mounce



Michelle Uchtman-Coulter



Will McClain

Photos courtesy of McClain, Mounce and Uchtman-Coulter



## PFI/PBR Missouri Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture has record attendance

By: Shelby Mizer

This year's annual PFI/PBR Missouri Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture had over 1400 attendees. There were thirty-five FFA chapters in attendance this year. Area FFA students gathered at Pinegar Arena to have a barbecue, followed by the Ag Olympics.

"I always enjoy watching the high school FFA students run through the obstacle course," said Ethan McNeill, a senior agricultural business marketing and sales student from O'Fallon, Missouri, and president of Collegiate Farm Bureau.

"I enjoy showing high school students that agriculture can be interesting and that there are many opportunities for them in the Agriculture industry," said Jessica Bishop, sophomore agricultural education student from Tipton,

Missouri.

Following the events at the Darr Center, FFA students receive tickets to attend the Professional Bull Riding event at JQH Arena, hosted by PFI Western Store. This gives the College of Agriculture a way to showcase what they offer here for the students interested in attending Missouri State.

"I think it does a great job at bringing in students. It showcases the Bond Center and Pinegar Arena. High school students are able to see what we have to offer and this event can create a fun memory for them to associate with Missouri State and the College of Ag when they do start to look for colleges to attend," McNeill said.

PFI Western Store and Missouri Farm Bureau co-sponsor the event with the College of Agriculture.

This year Missouri Farm Bureau and PFI Western Store offered tickets to the PBR for \$7 dollars for the first ten tickets purchased by each chapter.

Missouri Lieutenant Governor Mike Parson, and Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst welcomed and talked to FFA and Missouri State students. They also shared about their personal agriculture experiences.

"The really great part of these gentlemen are that they are genuine and they care about you as a student. They asked were you were from and listened instead of just being there for a picture. It is so great. I even had students complimenting how great and genuine they were," said Carrie Crews Administrative Assistant for the College of Agriculture.

**Photo courtesy of Samantha Riley**



## Journagan Ranch holds Futurity Show and Genetically Yours Sale

By: Danielle Kothe

On Oct. 7, 2017, students, faculty and buyers gathered in Pinegar Arena at the Darr Agricultural Center in Springfield, Missouri, for the 27th annual Journagan Ranch Genetically Yours cattle sale. The sale was preceded by the 7th annual Journagan Ranch futurity show the evening before.

At the futurity show, youth who purchased an animal at the 2016 sale competed for credit to be used the next morning. The participants, showing a total of ten animals, each received a \$250 credit.

Grand champion winner Morgan Crutsinger of Whitewater, Missouri, received an additional \$1,000 sale credit, and reserve champion Dalton Widner of Omaha,

Arkansas, received a \$500 credit. In addition to the show, attendees and potential buyers were able to view the cattle to be sold the next day. The next morning, more than 100 lots of Hereford bulls, females and calves began selling at 11 a.m. in Pinegar Arena. Potential buyers had the opportunity to watch the sale in-person, and live online and submit bids electronically through CattleinMotion.com.

The sale price of bull lots averaged at \$2,778 per head with the top bull selling for \$4,400. The female lots averaged slightly higher at \$2,885 with the highest female selling at an impressive \$7,300. Overall, the sale produced nearly \$300,000 that will help fund

the cattle operation at Journagan Ranch.

The sale and futurity show were made possible by Marty Lueck, Journagan Ranch Manager, ranch employees, Justin Sissel, Farm Operations Manager, and students enrolled in the Beef Sale Production course. Sissel and his students worked tirelessly along with additional volunteers to prepare the cattle and facilities for sale.

"It's great getting to work with the cattle and see first-hand their success in new programs after the sale. I hope I have the opportunity to help next fall," said Martell Moore, junior animal science student from Bronaugh, Missouri.

**Photos courtesy of Julie Choate**



## College of Agriculture holds new student barbecue

By: Emily Lewis

Every year, the Darr College of Agriculture hosts a new student barbecue for all of the first year students new to Missouri State University. On Aug. 30th, 2017, students gathered at the Bond Learning Center to eat pizza, chips and cookies while they socialized with new and returning students.

“I thought that the new student barbecue was a great time. There were students from all walks of life who came together and got to know one another. I met so many different people that day and learned so much about other students and different clubs to get involved in,” said Claire Eggerman, freshman agricultural

communications and agricultural education major student from Carlyle, Illinois.

Students also meet the faculty and staff in the College of Agriculture and learn about clubs they are able to join. Eggerman said this event was very beneficial for them because it was a good ice breaker and it helped them feel like part of the College of Agriculture family.

“It helped us feel more comfortable around the students in the College of Agriculture as well as the faculty,” said Hannah Rockers, freshman agricultural business major from Carthage, Missouri.

Eggerman said the barbecue was beneficial because it helped to open her eyes to see what the College had to offer, “because of this barbecue, I am now involved in four different agriculture organizations and have gained new friendships.”

Rockers and Eggerman also said that the College of Agriculture felt like a big family and they enjoy activities like these because it makes them feel more involved.

“At the Darr College of Agriculture, you can tell that people care and they want you to succeed,” Eggerman said. “I learned that at the barbecue.”

## New faculty joins agricultural communications program

By: Katie Franken

Growing up with two generations of agriculture teachers did not inspire Nathan Fent to enter the field of education himself. Although he had been avoiding the education field, when an opportunity arose, he nevertheless entered education and taught marketing and business classes at Carthage Technical Center for five years.

Fent has now made a welcome return to the field of agriculture with his new position as an agricultural communications instructor for the Darr College of Agriculture.

“There’s a lot of opportunities going on in the College of Agriculture and it’s really growing but it also still feels like a small, tight-knit community,” Fent said.

He is helping to grow the agricultural communications program by teaching classes such

as photography and feature writing. Fent said he has goals for the future of the program.

“Preparing our graduates to go out and be the most qualified, the most experienced and the most professional at communications,” Fent said about his goal as an instructor.

He sees a future demand for communications professionals in the agriculture industry and aims to help students feel confident in their abilities to meet that demand. When students leave his classroom, he hopes they feel encouraged to continually learn and further develop their skills.

**Photo courtesy of Missouri State  
Photographic Services**



## Cheek joins College as interim dean

By: Shelby Mizer

Students, faculty and visitors in the Darr College of Agriculture have seen Dr. William Cheek around Karls Hall this year. Cheek was placed in the College of Agriculture at the request of Provost Dr. Frank Einhellig, with the permission of Dr. Ronald Del Vecchio, dean of the College of Agriculture.

Cheek is serving the College of Agriculture as the interim dean during Del Vecchio's extended leave due to illness. Cheek said he is in the College to help out in any way he can.

Cheek was born in the Central Valley of California and grew up on a cotton farm. Between his freshman and sophomore years of high school, his family moved to Prescott, Arizona, where he graduated from high school. He attended Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, and received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in geography.

Cheek began his teaching career and spent time at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. Cheek received his doctorate at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, also in geography. He came to Missouri State University in 1973. Throughout his tenure at Missouri State, he was involved in creating an urban planning course.

"I'm retired for one thing, so my official title is non-student part time, but since my retirement I have done special projects with

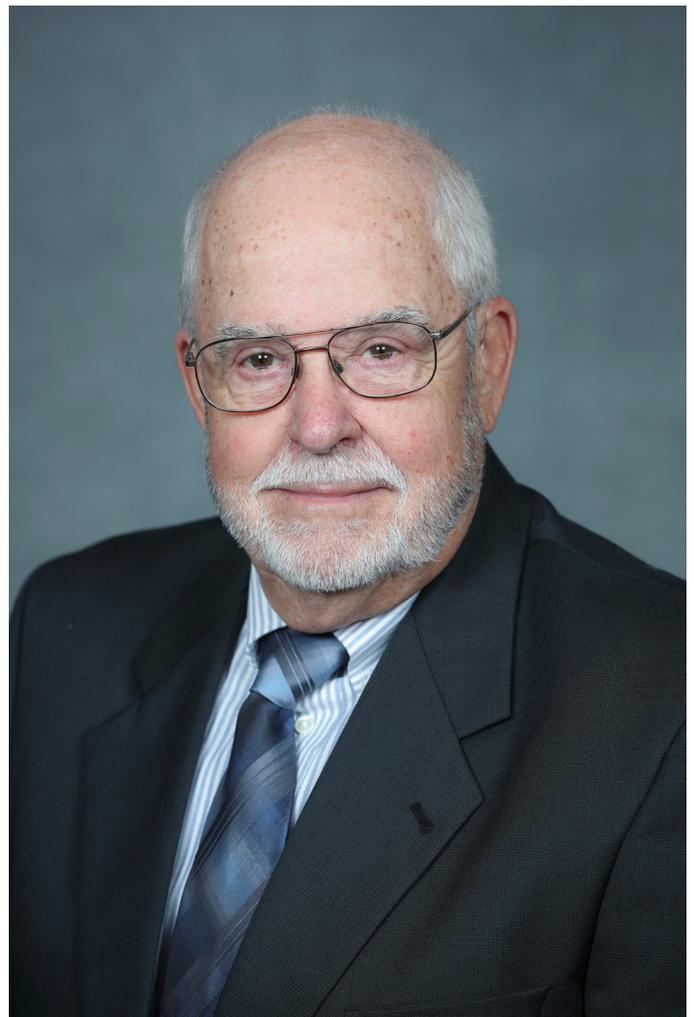
the provost and for the president. My last job here was associate provost when I retired in 2007. Since that time I've done special projects for Dr. McCarty who was provost at that time and then for Dr. Einhellig who is provost now. I've also done a couple things for the president." Cheek said.

Faculty and staff appreciate Cheek's new perspective in agriculture.

"Cheek has created a different setting in the College of Agriculture, different in a good way, because he brings in outside experience as an observer for the College who has come into help us," said Rhonda Breshears, executive assistant to the dean.

Breshears also said Dr. Del Vecchio still calls through the day to check in and answer any questions that need to be answered.

Cheek enjoys flying planes in his free time, and spending time with his grandkids. He has been flying for about twenty years. Cheek started flying later in life, at the age of fifty-five. He is a part of a group called Pilots and



Paws, who take rescue dogs from one place to another to try and find homes for them.

Cheek's one piece of advice to a Missouri State student is: "Make the best of it and by that I mean in terms of academics, majoring in something that has marketability but also something you have a passion in and make the best of it in terms of making acquaintances and friends and being involved with an appropriate number of things."

**Photo courtesy of Missouri State  
Photographic Services**

## College of Agriculture partners with Boy Scouts of America

By: Katie Franken

Finding new and innovative ways to share agriculture with others is one way that proves the Darr College of Agriculture provides excellence with a care factor. In fall 2017, Missouri State University became the first university in the nation to partner with the Boy Scouts of America to start an Ag Explorer Post.

MoState AG Explorer Post 1905 is a co-ed program based off similar organizations such as Medical Explorers and Astronomy Explorers. These posts allow students ages 14 to 20 to experience the respective fields and learn more about them in a hands-on way.

“The Post is focused on career preparation and will provide many different experiences within the industry,” said Carrie Crews, an advisor of the program.

At the monthly meetings, students participate in agricultural activities including making homemade butter, feeding a bottle calf and creating pine bough wreaths. The students also listen to presentations about conservation, agritourism, beekeeping and Christmas tree farming. In the future, students will be able to choose the subject of the meetings by sharing their interests and providing feedback to the program advisors.

“I want students to learn what they want to learn. If a student thinks they want to be a veterinarian, I want them to be able to learn about what a veterinarian does before they get into college and realize that they don’t want to be

the one to cut an animal open,” said Ben Quisenberry, a graduate student working for the Post.

AG Explorer Post gives students who live in an urban area an opportunity to get familiar with agriculture. The program targets students in the Springfield area who go to high schools that do not have FFA programs.

“The Post is about getting kids who are not in touch with agriculture a chance to know where their food comes from,” said Dr. Will McClain, an advisor of the Post.

Not only will students become more familiar with agriculture in general, but they will also receive an introduction to the Darr College of Agriculture. This introduction could lead students into pursuing a degree at Missouri State, potentially in the agriculture field. Growing up, Carrie Crews was a member of Springfield’s Conservation Post sponsored by Bass Pro, and that experience is what she credits her start in agriculture.

“It is my hope that this will catch on in other places. Universities are a great place to have a post like this, but it doesn’t necessarily have to be started by a university,” Quisenberry said.

An agricultural recruitment program like MoSTATE AG Explorer Post 1905 is a valuable tool used to promote agriculture to students. The growth of this program promises to provide many more opportunities to students not only in Springfield, but across the nation.



## International Welcome barbecue held for second year

By: Katie Franken

Students and faculty members came together on Oct. 20, at Phelps Grove Park for the second annual International Welcome Barbecue. Different cultures are celebrated and explored through international foods and yard games at the barbecue.

The International Leadership and Training Center and MSU Cattlemen's Association hosted the event. Students learned about different cultures and perspectives while enjoying spicy kebabs and hamburgers. The International Welcome Barbecue is an example of Missouri State University's cultural competence pillar of the public affair mission. The promotion of cultural competence and diversity was evidenced by many students mingling over the delicious food or during a game of volleyball.

Claire Eggerman, a freshman agricultural communications and agricultural education student from Carlyle, Illinois, was

pleasantly surprised to learn about the many international students studying in the Darr College of Agriculture.

"In order to grow, you need new ideas and perspectives," Eggerman said.

She believes the international students have much to offer to local students and the College of Agriculture. As a member of the Diversity and Inclusive Committee, Eggerman has been able to expand her horizons in a way she described as eye-opening.

There are many different programs international students are involved in, but Missouri State's viticulture program is what convinced Dana, a student from China, to come to campus this year.

"The people are very polite," said Dana of the students in the College of Agriculture. The kindness of the students is the reason her transition to Springfield has been so easy. She

enjoys all the activities the College of Agriculture holds because it makes her feel welcome.

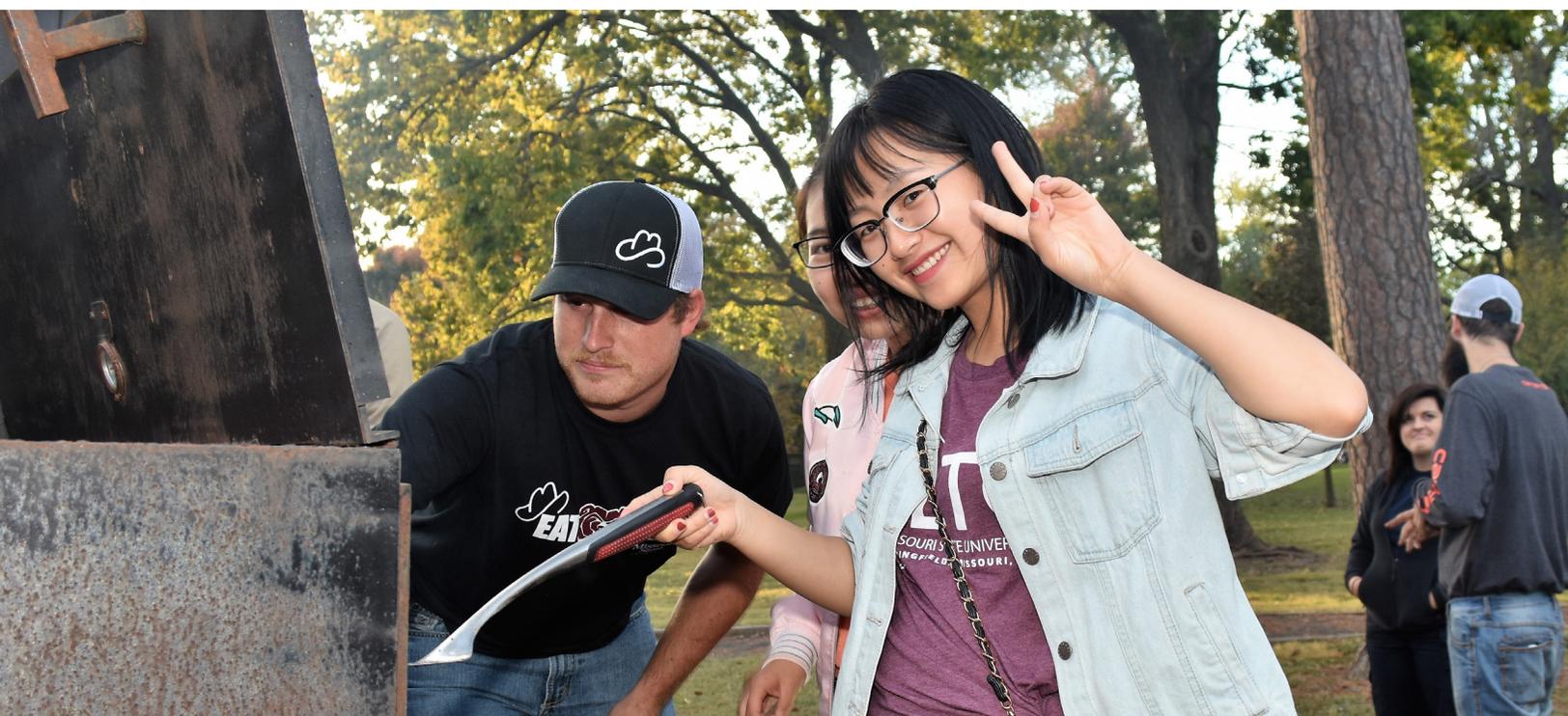
The politeness of the students at Missouri State is a sentiment also held by Jiaqui Ali, another international student from China who has been at Missouri State for two years and is currently pursuing his master's degree in communications.

"I am learning about the culture and improving my English," said Ali.

He plans to return to China after finishing his master's program, but his time as a student at Missouri State will leave a lasting and memorable impression.

The Diversity and Inclusive Committee strives to create programs, activities, and recommend policies that will help create and foster an inclusive and welcoming environment for all students.

Photo courtesy of Mike Klem



## College of Agriculture establishes agricultural communications degree program

By: Danielle Kothe

In October 2017, the Darr College of Agriculture officially added an agricultural communications undergraduate degree program to the curriculum.

“The program was established

to provide students with a more comprehensive education and hands-on experience in the communications field,” said Katelyn McCoy, ‘14 and ‘16, instructor of agricultural communications.

“The purpose of the program is to prepare students for professional careers in education and advocating for the agriculture industry.”

Agricultural communications first made an appearance at Missouri State University over thirty years ago when Instructor Joyce Cutright created an agricultural communications class, now known as news writing in agriculture. In this class, students gain real-world experience by writing the College of Agriculture’s news publication, the *Ag Review*.

From 2014-2016, instructor Samantha (Warner) Blackwell, ‘12, developed additional courses including introduction to agricultural business communications, feature writing for agricultural publications, agricultural communications capstone and more.

Additionally, Blackwell and students Bridget Schumer, senior agricultural communications major from Perryville, Missouri, and graduate Savanna Stanley, ‘17, re-established Missouri State’s Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) chapter in the spring of 2015.

Before the establishment of the major, students interested in career paths in agricultural communications enrolled in the general agriculture undergraduate program with an emphasis in communications. However, Blackwell saw the need for a complete program that combined hands-on experience, internship opportunities and comprehensive courses in agricultural communications. She began researching and drafting



Photo courtesy of Nathan Fent

a proposal for a new College of Agriculture undergraduate program in agricultural communications.

When Blackwell left her position as an instructor to pursue her doctoral degree in 2016, McCoy continued her work by completing and revising the proposal for the new program. The proposal included a statement of need for the new major in addition to numerous details of the program: projected enrollment, budgetary needs, a program of study, course list and syllabi, performance goals, anticipated graduates and more.

After years of research and revisions, McCoy submitted the proposal in March of 2017 to the Agribusiness, Agricultural

Education and Communications Department Head, Dr. Arbindra Rimal for approval. The proposal then passed through a series of reviews and approvals within the College of Agriculture and university culminating with approval by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education of Missouri in October of 2017. With the program's establishment, Missouri State now offers the only agricultural communications undergraduate degree program in Missouri.

The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Communications degree sheet can be found in the College of Agriculture office in Karls Hall. Nathan Fent and

McCoy serve as the instructors and advisors for the 35 students currently enrolled in the program in addition to a few students enrolled in courses, but not seeking an agricultural communications degree. Further, Anna Roth, junior agricultural communications student from Altenburg, Missouri, currently serves as the president of ACT with 30 chapter members.

With the undergraduate program establishment and new opportunities for students in various departments, the College of Agriculture has grown exponentially over the last several years. Blackwell stated that she has no doubts this growth and momentum will continue into the future.

# FACULTY ORIGINS

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES OBTAINED

### MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

William Boyer, Instructor  
Dr. Jim Hutter, Associate Professor  
Dr. William McClain, Assistant Professor  
Katelyn McCoy, Instructor  
Jennifer Morgenthaler, Clinical Instructor  
Dr. Melissa Remley, Assistant Professor  
Christine Sudbrock, Instructor  
Dr. Lacy Sukovaty, Assistant Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Marilyn Odneal, Clinical Instructor

### TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Arbindra Rimal, Professor

### NAIROBI UNIVERSITY

Dr. Benjamin Onyango, Associate Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Dr. Gary Webb, Associate Professor

### MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sue Webb, Senior Instructor

### OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Clydette Alsup, Associate Professor  
Nathan Fent, Instructor

### DePAUW UNIVERSITY

Dr. Michael Burton, Professor

### ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. William Cheek, Interim Dean

### ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Elizabeth Walker, Associate Professor

### IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Michael Goerndt, Assistant Professor

### HENON NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Dr. Wenping Qiu, Research Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

Dr. Maciej Pszczolkowski, Research Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Li-Ling Chen, Research Specialist

### CHINESE CULTURE UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN

Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang, Professor

### OHIO UNIVERSITY

Dr. Martin Kaps, Research Professor

### WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Dr. Phillip Lancaster, Assistant Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Dr. Ronald Del Vecchio, Dean

### OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Karl Wilker, Research Professor

### UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI COLUMBIA

James Bellis, Assistant to the Dean  
Nichole Busdieker-Jesse, Assistant Professor  
Dr. Sarah Lancaster, Assistant Professor

## Students intern with state associations

By: Kalynn Persell

Over the summer of 2017, several students in the Darr College of Agriculture worked as interns for Missouri agricultural associations.

Macey Hurst and Ella Snelson, junior agricultural communications and agribusiness sales and marketing majors from Wardsville, Missouri, and St. James, Missouri, respectively, spent the summer working for the Missouri Beef Industry Council. As the marketing and education interns, they worked on content creation for the Council's social media pages, the Cattle Chat at the St. Louis Grow Exhibit, the Missouri Cattlemen's Association All Breeds Junior Show and the backyard barbecue.

At the Cattle Chat, Hurst interacted with a group of 3rd-6th graders from St. Louis, Missouri, most of whom had never seen a live farm animal before.

"Some of them asked if cattle have live babies, and so it

just kind of makes you realize what kind of small amount of exposure they've had to agriculture," Hurst said.

Her role in the All Breeds Junior Show involved spearheading the first-ever extemporaneous speaking contest. In partnership with KRGC-13, a mid-Missouri news station, the Beef Council holds an event called a backyard barbecue, a promotion for the Council, where people enter to win tickets to participate. They play trivia, serve beef and participate in a live segment on the news to talk about the event. Hurst and Snelson both enjoyed meeting people and interacting with consumers and producers in the industry.

"It was really important for them [Missouri beef producers] to see where their checkoff dollars are going and for them to have opportunities to ask questions," Hurst said.

The two also enjoyed an agricultural intern roadshow where they met with other

agriculture interns in Jefferson City and Columbia.

"I got to talk to other students from different universities that worked for Missouri Corn, MFA and Missouri Farm Bureau, so being able to meet those people was pretty unique," Snelson said.

Ben Travlos, graduate student in agricultural economics from Ashland, Missouri, and Alyssa Rockers, senior agricultural communications major from Carthage, Missouri, interned for Missouri Corn Growers Association/Missouri Corn Merchandising Council (MCGA/MCMC).

Travlos worked as a policy intern where he helped legislative staffers and worked on issues affecting corn farmers.

"I focused on the Farm Bill which should be coming up in 2018 and so we were looking at things that are most important for corn farmers," Travlos said.

He created cohesive definitions of beginning farmers among the different branches of the USDA for beginning farmer



loans and crop insurance purposes. He also led a lobby group in Washington D.C. that met with several congressman's staffers to discuss the Farm Bill, crop insurance and NAFTA renegotiations.

"A lot of times, we as an industry will turn our shoulder to anything political...well it's important; we rely heavily on things like the Farm Bill and if we don't have someone, if we don't have a team going and telling our story then it makes it really difficult to get the things we need and rely on," Travlos said.

Alyssa Rockers also worked for MCGA/MCMC. She spent a lot of time working on golf tournaments which were huge membership drives for MCGA/MCMC. She also did a lot of grower visits where she discussed issues concerning farmers, many of whom were affected by flooding and Dicamba drift. She also spent time discussing the renegotiations of the corn trade with Mexico and how the Association can help relay to the government how important the deal is to Missouri growers.

As her final project for the summer, she produced a five-minute video containing video clips, pictures and audio to showcase MCGA/MCMC presented at the end of the summer board meeting. Her favorite part of this internship was being on the grower's farms and learning about why they make the decisions they do with their businesses.

Travlos and Rockers were the first Missouri State University students to ever serve as interns with MCGA/MCMC.



"People are starting to know that the Missouri State College of Agriculture has good students and especially as we're sending good students up there to be interns, just making our name better and better," Rockers said.

All four students highly encouraged anyone interested

in Missouri Beef Council and MCGA/MCMC to apply for these internships. Each noted that they learned a great deal about their respective industries and the people who work in them.

**Photos courtesy of Macey Hurst (left) and Alyssa Rockers (right)**



## Students help with sale, exhibit at National Western Stock Show

By: Mercer Martin

Students of the Darr College of Agriculture have the opportunity to take a one credit hour course taught by Justin Sissel, Farm Operations Manager, which covers running a large-scale production sale and showing cattle at livestock shows.

Fourteen students enrolled in the course in Fall 2017, and some of those students will enroll in the course next spring and exhibit livestock at the National Western Stock Show.

The course is hands-on learning, and requires three hours of work from each student each week and around the clock help during the Journagan Ranch Production Sale in October. Makayla Reynolds, senior agricultural business student from Huntsville, Missouri, is currently enrolled in the course.

“[In] August we are still working with show cattle because we go to the SEMO district fair.

When we get back, we put a hold on show cattle and start working with sale cattle. After the sale is over in October, we start getting the Denver heifers in and start working with them,” Reynolds said.

Sissel said he wants students to come out of the class prepared to handle livestock operations on their own, understanding the reasons why he operates the way he does.

“I want the kids to be active in all of it. Sometimes kids work better with hands-on activities. I tell everybody at the beginning of the semester, and I explain to them over and over again, I’m going to ask you to do a lot of work, and while we’re doing that work, you need to be asking, ‘why are we doing this,’” Sissel said.

The highlight of the course for most students is the trip to Denver, Colorado, in January. In 2017, Justin and his class

brought three spring yearling heifers to the National Western Stock Show. The three heifers competed together in a pen show and won their division. Students will exhibit four head of fall yearling heifers as a pen at the 2018 show.

“They are probably some of the best heifers we’ve had. They’re four really nice females from our fall calving herd,” Sissel said.

With over 680,000 attendees, the Western National Livestock show is one of the oldest and largest livestock shows in the country. Justin said students are amazed each year at the size, scale and spectacle of the show.

“I’ve heard people call it the super bowl of cow shows – the granddaddy of them all. There is no other cow show that compares to what Denver is and that’s the neatest part of taking students out there,” Sissel said.

**Photo courtesy of Makayla Reynolds**

## International students study in the Darr College of Agriculture

By: Mercer Martin

The Darr College of Agriculture welcomes international students each year to study agriculture through international exchange programs. While most students come from China, agriculture international students hail from many different countries.

Walson Auguste is an agronomy student from Ferrier, Haiti. He joined the Darr College of Agriculture in August 2017, through the Global UGRAD program and will study at Missouri State University for one academic year.

Auguste grew up in a small town in rural, tropical Haiti, where his mother was a teacher and father worked for the government. Auguste knew from an early age his best way to better himself was to learn English.

“I grew up in a town where most young people do not care about education, and I happened to learn English, and because of that I am seeing progress happening in my life every day,” Auguste said.

Auguste was fortunate to receive a grant from an American organization to cover university tuition. While he originally wanted to study diplomacy, he chose to study agronomy.

“I was interested in agronomy

because I could help my community with agriculture. We have a lot of problems that only people with a good knowledge of agriculture can solve,” Auguste said.

Through Auguste’s university and because of his English proficiency, he and five other students were chosen out of 200 applicants to study in America through the UGRAD program. He plans to return to Haiti and do agricultural development work.

“This is one of my objectives – to work with farmers in my area and help them with things that I’ve learned at the University. I would like to make [my knowledge] useful to those farmers and help them have a better yield of production,” Auguste said.

Aiym Mukasheva, graduate international student studying animal science, also came to Missouri State University on an exchange through her host institution and studied at Missouri State the spring semester of 2017. Mukasheva is from Almaty, Kazakhstan, the former capital of Kazakhstan and second coldest capital in the world.

Unlike Auguste, Mukasheva was always interested in

agriculture, growing up on a small livestock farm. The decision to study agriculture was an easy one for her.

“My father is a farmer and he has sheep, cows and horses,” Mukasheva said. “I can say that I grew up with these domestic animals and they are close to me. I can understand the subject better than other fields of study.”

While horse consumption is uncommon in the United States, it is quite common in Kazakhstan. Mukasheva has monopolized on this marketing opportunity and studies to improve horse meat in her home country.

“When I was studying at my university for my bachelor’s degree, I did work about the construction of sausage shops and the technology of sausage. Now my dissertation work is on the improvement of horse meat. I want to add some feeder adds to the sausage of horse meat,” Mukasheva said.

Mukasheva has returned to Kazakhstan and Auguste will return to Haiti in the Summer of 2018. Each plan to stay and work in their home countries, using their knowledge gained from the Darr College of Agriculture to improve their nations’ agricultural production.

# AG BEARS HOME TOWNS



## College of Agriculture hosts Ag Forum

By: Kalynn Persell

For nearly twenty years, the Missouri State University Collegiate Farm Bureau has hosted the Ag Forum, an event where students and members of the community have an open conversation about agriculture with industry professionals and political figures.

In April 2017, United States Senator Roy Blunt, Director of Missouri Agriculture Chris Chinn and Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst participated in the event representing their respective areas of the industry.

“We bring in some influential people in agriculture and they’re able to have a Q&A with college students and members of the community just discussing current events facing agriculture, what their stance is on things and how they think things in DC or things in Jefferson City will be changing things in Missouri agriculture in the future,” said Ethan McNeill, senior agricultural business marketing and sales student from O’Fallon, Missouri.

Members of Collegiate Farm Bureau do everything from running microphones to attendees with questions for presenters, to moderating, to shadowing the presenters so they know where to be and when.

“It is literally an all-hands-on-deck event,” said Ben Travlos, graduate student in agricultural economics from Ashland, Missouri.

People from all over the area, not just Missouri State students, are welcome to attend and participate in the conversation.

Topics discussed at this year’s Forum varied from international trade, to sustainability, to agricultural communications and everything in between. Members of the audience shared questions and apprehensions over the renegotiations of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and China’s decision to lift its embargo on U.S. beef. They also discussed concerns regarding current issues associated with the use of Dicamba with Director Chinn.

Other topics of conversation

included the 2018 Farm Bill, the Veterinary Feed Directive, issues with rural access to high-speed internet, big data and its place in agriculture, GMO labeling and recent wildfires across Kansas. One question directed at Senator Roy Blunt addressed the industry’s ability to communicate asking if the industry is doing an effective job sharing our story and closing the consumer-producer gap.

“The Senator took about five to ten seconds to think about it before answering; the room was literally dead silent, then he looked up and said, ‘I don’t know; there still appears to be a rather big gap,’” Travlos said. His honesty came as a wake-up call to many members of the audience as he suggested the industry still has a lot of work to do to share its story with the rest of the world.

Blake Hurst and Roy Blunt, each of whom had participated in the Forum before, made a point to acknowledge this year’s event as one of the best yet.

**Photo courtesy of Mike Klem**



## Agriculture student serves as SOAR Leader

By: Mercer Martin

Clara Jungermann, senior agricultural communications major from Moscow Mills, Missouri, was selected to spend the summer of 2017 advising incoming agriculture freshman as a Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration (SOAR) leader for Missouri State University.

Jungermann decided to apply to the SOAR leader position because she believed it would prepare her for her future career. She wants to work with youth in agriculture in some aspect post-graduation, and found guiding younger agriculture students through the SOAR program was excellent experience in that field.

"I really want to work with youth in ag, so this was a great experience to give back to the University, but also still work with younger students, help form their experience at the University, and help them have that successful start," Jungermann said.

Jungermann was one of 47 students selected to become a SOAR leader for 2017. To be accepted into the position, she went through a complex four-round interview process judging her communication and people skills. Upon acceptance to the position, she registered for Missouri State's IDS 280 course for the spring semester, which trains SOAR leaders by teaching extensive information about

University systems and providing leadership development.

Once the summer began, so did Jungermann's SOAR responsibilities. She was responsible for a different group of students every week, the majority of whom were agriculture majors, the rest of whom were undecided. Through SOAR, she shared valuable information with the students about Missouri State and guided them through the registration process.

"The biggest responsibility was getting students registered for classes and helping them make schedules. That's why students come to SOAR. The other stuff we do at SOAR is important, but that's what students want to be there for – their schedule," Jungermann said.

She also said it was important to create a sense of community and create relationships with and amongst students. She found students were often nervous about coming to a new college, but found it helpful to create relationships that could help make welcome weekend in August less intimidating. Jungermann still



Photo courtesy of Mercer Martin

maintains those relationships with her SOAR students, who are now active members of the Darr College of Agriculture.

"Through a lot of student organizations I've got to see the students," Jungermann said. "That's kind of fun to see them grow from when they came in at SOAR. It's good to know that they are happy, that they found what they wanted here and that we did good."

**>\$60K IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED AT THE 2017 BANQUET**

## Club Updates

By: Club Presidents

Compiled By: Kalynn Persell

***Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT)*** is a professional organization that strives to prepare students for the real world through the development of communication skills. ACT members attend professional development conferences to network and create new opportunities to help students obtain practical skills for future internships and jobs. This past year, they participated in the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow Critique and Contest where member, Ella Snelson, received second place in landscape photography and member, Alyssa Rockers, received first place in the editorial writing category. ACT members also attended the Professional Development Conference at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, Agricultural Media Summit in Snowbird, Utah and the National Association of Farm Broadcasting convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

The purpose of the ***MSU Agronomy Club*** is to stimulate interest in plant and soil sciences. The club also provides opportunities for students to sharpen leadership skills, communication skills, cooperation skills and compete on a national level. There are two competitive teams within Agronomy Club: Soil Judging and Crop Judging.

The ***MSU Beekeepers Club*** has had multiple successful live hives this semester and have been invited to work with the AG Explorer Post 1905.

***Alpha Gamma Rho*** is a social and professional agriculture fraternity founded with a goal to “Make Better Men”. Their philanthropy event this year was Homing with the Homeless, where members camped out on campus for 24 hours without shelter and limited food to raise money for The Kitchen (a homeless shelter) in Springfield. Alpha Gamma Rho is also involved in Barnwarming, various intramural sports, street clean-up and volunteering at the Ozarks Food Harvest.

***Delta Tau Alpha (DTA)*** co-sponsored the quiz bowl night, with 4-H, for COAG Days. We also volunteered to assist with Giving Thanks to Ag at the end of November. In December, we sent letters and packages for Adopt a Soldier.

Throughout this semester, the ***Wildlife Society*** was able to take part in many volunteer opportunities. Members helped with the Stream Team in the annual Niangua River cleanup, participated in dove check-ins and quail surveys with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and volunteered at the Springfield Nature Center during the annual Halloween event. The Wildlife Society also helped the MDC in the Age of Harvest, where they extracted deer teeth samples for aging and also completed the Level 1 Prescribed Fire Training with the MDC.

The ***Missouri State University Ranch Horse Team*** is a club sports team that participates in the American Stock Horse Association, National Versatility Ranch Horse Association, and Foundation Quarter Horse Registry. Members of the team train and condition their horses (university or personal) to compete in Ranch Trail, Ranch Pleasure, Reining and Working Cow Horse events. The team hosts two to four shows and clinics at Pinegar Arena (located at the Darr Agricultural Center) each year and travel to additional shows throughout the region as well. This year riders have competed in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Springfield, Missouri, with many of the riders receiving high point and reserve high point awards. The team seeks to develop the skills necessary to develop horses on working ranches, arena performance events and training operations as well as to compete and represent the university as a diversified sports team.

***Missouri State University Block and Bridle*** has been working this semester to start planning our 2018 MSU Bear Classic to make it a success. This year, because of how much the show has grown, it will be held March 23-25 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds in conjunction with Ozark Spring Round Up. Bring your heifers and steers to the show this spring to win great prizes and a little extra cash.

As an organization, the ***Pre-Vet Club*** strives to help further students' interest in veterinary medicine by providing resources and opportunities to learn about the profession, the application process and requirements, and life in and after vet school. This year, members participated in an open-house at the University of Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine. This is a highly educational meeting about the requirements of the University of Missouri-Columbia's veterinary medicine program and their curriculum. The club has also had a few guest speakers.

**MSU Cattlemen's Association** is the first collegiate affiliate of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association (MCA). As a whole, MCA aims to advance the economic, educational, political and social interests of the Missouri cattle industry. The organization holds monthly meetings that often include guest speakers who address important topics in the cattle industry. Members travel annually to the state MCA convention and to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Convention and Trade Show. The organization is based in politics and participates in Cowboys at the Capital, where industry members travel to the capital to discuss legislation affecting the cattle industry.

**Collegiate FFA** works throughout the year to promote the Darr College of Agriculture and better the lives of students. Members attend Missouri FFA Convention and National FFA Convention where they engage with high school FFA members and talk about the College of Agriculture. Collegiate FFA also hosts activities throughout the year including a bonfire, and have invited businesses to speak at meetings including Seitz Fundraising and Genex.

**Collegiate 4-H** is an organization dedicated to working with local 4-H clubs and providing assistance at local, regional and state 4-H activities. The club provides opportunities for members to develop leadership and service skills by leading officer trainings, leadership workshops and project/educational workshops for youth involved in Missouri 4-H. This year they helped host the southwest regional 4-H Barnwarming and provided childcare for the Darr College of Agriculture at the annual alumni celebration.

This year, **Collegiate Farm Bureau** helped put together the back-to-school picnic for the College of Agriculture. We also hosted the annual PFI PBR Missouri Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture, with another record-breaking year in attendance. In total, we had 1,300+ students and volunteers attend this the event. Collegiate Farm Bureau also continued the tradition of the Ag Olympics to entertain high schoolers, which included a relay race of tasks based on every day farm activities. After the Salute to Agriculture event was over, we went to JQH Arena for a night of Professional Bull Riding.

Last year, the **Horticulture Club** had a successful fundraiser sale of house plants in early December, which will also be held this winter. We had a Valentine's Day fundraiser where we sold flower arrangements. We also taught a plant science lab for fifth graders at Greenwood Laboratory School, where we taught them about plant pigments and why leaves change colors. We toured the Mizumoto Japanese Garden at Nathaniel Greene Park, and had a volunteer event at Watershed Committee of the Ozarks where we helped do trail maintenance at Valley Water Mill Park. We also spent time volunteering with The Campus Garden.

The **Trap and Skeet Team** is an organization that travels around the Midwest competing in a variety of shooting tournaments in a range of shotgun disciplines. Members went to St. Louis this semester for the Missouri University of Science and Technology shooting tournament. They also went to several fundraising events to include the whole team on top of our practices at Andy Dalton shooting facility. The fall semester was focused on recruitment and getting new shooters involved in the team.

**The Horsemen's Association** finished the semester with great success! In their final show of the fall semester, the Missouri State Equestrian Team walked away with High Point team and Reserve High Point team. The team's goal this year is to reach out to those who are interested in horses who are not already on the team. The purpose of the Horsemen's Association is to educate all of those who are interested in horses to take advantage of the opportunities here at Missouri State and to continuously expand their horse knowledge.

**Sigma Alpha** is a professional agricultural sorority that strives for achievement in scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service. Members focus on professional development, sisterhood activities and career skills to positively impact the agricultural industry. Our Missouri State chapter has won the Founder's Cup, the highest award achievable in the national organization, among numerous other national awards in the past four years. In fall 2017, the organization participated in the first ever COAG Days by hosting Barnwarming with Alpha Gamma Rho. During the event, Sigma Alpha was named 2017 COAG Days Club of the Year to recognize member participation during the events.

## Missouri State University freshman takes the lead as State FFA Officer

By: Hailey Gilbreath

Wearing the blue corduroy of the National FFA Organization is a privilege with an experience many agriculture students have, however representing the state of Missouri is an honor few receive.

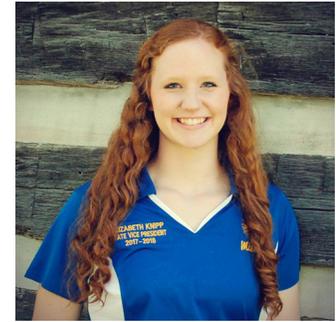
Elizabeth Knipp, of Tipton, Missouri, is representing Area 12 as a Missouri FFA officer for the 2017-2018 year. Knipp, a freshman studying agricultural communications, is originally from Area 8 in central Missouri, but since the change of election procedures, represents Area 12 of the Southwest District.

Since her election in April, Knipp has assisted with Food Insecurity Day at the Missouri State Fair, where 340 chapters were involved in packing over 52,000 meals. She also met with first year high school agriculture students during the HYMAX Academy. Prior to being elected, Knipp actively competed in various FFA career development events and leadership development events. She was an individual state finalist for the FFA Creed Speaking division and the Missouri Young Farmers/

Young Farm Wives contest, as well placing third and fourth at state in the entomology and parliamentary procedure contests at the state level. Knipp received high individual in entomology at state, and won the Area 8 Agricultural Communications Proficiency Award.

Aside from competitions, Knipp served as chapter president and secretary. She also obtained her Missouri State FFA Degree, was a Tipton Top 30 Member and was Star Greenhand. Aside from FFA, her high school involvement included Future Business Leaders of America, DECA, National Honor Society and was Tipton High School Valedictorian in 2017.

At Missouri State University Knipp is active in Sigma Alpha, Catholic Campus Ministries and is a Centennial Leader Scholar. After college, Knipp has aspirations to work in the agricultural industry promoting products and educating consumers. Knipp said that she has loved serving as a state FFA



officer and when asked what her favorite moment as an officer was, she reiterated how much she had enjoyed assisting with Food Insecurity Day.

Knipp also enjoys chapter visits and speaking with Greenhand members about agriculture. While her term is only half over, she has already begun preparations for the 90th Missouri FFA Convention hosted at the University of Missouri-Columbia in April.

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Knipp

**9,984 CREDITS ENROLLED IN FALL 2017**

## Miss Springfield 2017 studies to be a veterinarian in the College of Agriculture

By: Megan Prather

Pageantry and agriculture are career fields that don't typically mix, but it feels like home to Chrystelle Volckmann, Miss Springfield 2017. The junior animal science student with a pre-veterinary emphasis grew up on an all-Angus cattle farm in Marshfield, Missouri. After high school, she decided to pursue her passion for agriculture with a major in animal science and minor in companion animal science at Missouri State University.

Volckmann won Miss Philippines USA 2015 and Miss Springfield 2017 with her platform encourages people to overcome and rise above. The story behind her platform originates from a near-death car accident that she endured at only eight years old.

"A lot of people go through different challenges where they're told they might not be able to do certain things. It's important to get back up and never give up on your dreams. Nobody ever thought I would get into beauty pageants because I grew up with a huge scar down my face," Volckmann said.

With application dates for veterinary school approaching, Volckmann is spending most of her time focusing on school and getting hands-on experience with her internship at Moore Veterinary Clinic in Buffalo,



Missouri. She hopes to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia for veterinary school.

"There's a lot of different fields I've been thinking about getting into," Volckmann said. "I think it would be really cool to go to work with Veterinarians without Borders, where they educate rural communities all across the world that don't have access to veterinarians."

Although Volckmann needs to focus on veterinary school at the moment, she hasn't forgotten how much pageantry has influenced her life even though she only participated in a handful of events. Both the accident and pageantry have taught Volckmann valuable lessons that she can apply to all aspects of

her life.

"College is really expensive and pageants are a really good scholarship opportunity," Volckmann said. "I was able to pay off pretty much all of my undergrad by doing pageants and I think they're really amazing because they build a lot of confidence in women. The most important thing I've taken from this is that you don't give up. You can't let things get you down in life so you have to keep persevering. I plan on going back after vet school. If I graduate at 26, I'll still have a few years to compete with a doctorate behind my name."

**Photo courtesy of Chrystelle Volckmann**

## Missouri State students attend Agricultural Media Summit

By: Hailey Gilbreath

Every year hundreds of media professionals and students gather for the largest crop and livestock exposition in agriculture. This exposition is a collaboration between the Livestock Publications Council (LPC), the American Agricultural Editors' Association (AAEA) and the Connective Agri-media Committee that provides hundreds of opportunities to professionals and students everywhere. The Agricultural Media Summit was held in Snowbird, Utah, in August of 2017.

Students and business professionals both benefit from this conference. Students converse with industry professionals about potential internships and careers as well as any tips and tricks the professionals have from years of

experience. Attendees are also able to connect with students from multiple universities to network for future career endeavors. Professionals benefit by meeting students in person to recruit them for their business.

Throughout the duration of the three-day conference, workshops are offered with topics ranging from technology, broadcasting and tips to become a better writer. National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow also hosts their annual meeting where they elect national officers and announce winners of the Critique and Contest. Critique and Contest consists of students nationwide submitting writing, photography and design projects they have created during the year. These projects are then critiqued and ranked by industry professionals.

Missouri State Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow sent Julie Choate, Kalynn Persell and Anna Roth, as well as advisor Katelyn McCoy to attend.

"Ag Media Summit is an event that I believe every agricultural communication student should attend. It is a great way to talk with industry professionals about the different opportunities out there in the agricultural communications world, and talk with them about their experiences being in the field," said Anna Roth, junior agricultural communications student from Altenburg, Missouri.

The 2018 Agricultural Media Summit will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Missouri State students are already preparing to submit new work and attend the conference.

**Photo courtesy of Katelyn McCoy**



## Plank serves on National DTA officer team

By: Hailey Gilbreath

Delta Tau Alpha is an agricultural honor society recognizing outstanding scholarship and leadership accomplishments of students pursuing a degree in agriculture. Missouri State University's Danielle Plank serves as the Missouri State Delta Tau Alpha Chapter President and the National Mid-West Vice President.

Plank is a junior animal science student with an emphasis in pre-vet from Centralia, Missouri.

When asked what made her decide to join, she stated she heard about Delta Tau Alpha from a friend, decided to join and has enjoyed it since.

Missouri State Delta Tau Alpha is a growing club and Plank said she hopes to increase membership. Plank's national

duties are to serve as the bridge between the national council and other chapters in her region. She sends out emails to recruit new chapters and increase membership, as well as information about the national DTA convention. Plank had to go through a multi-interview election process before being selected.

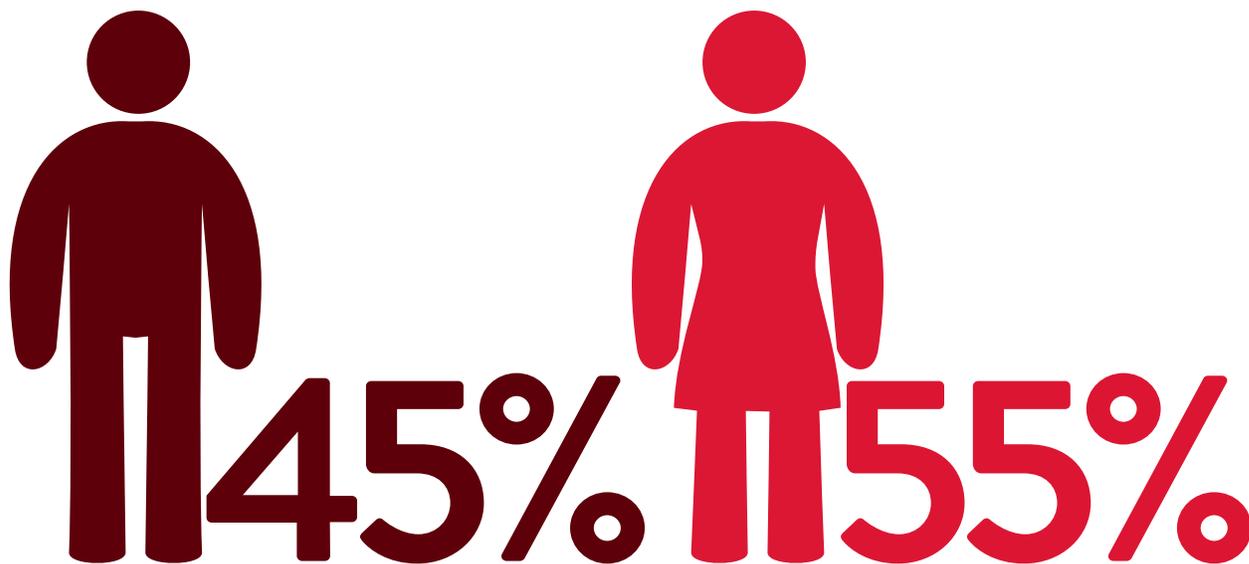
Plank said she enjoys serving in DTA and encourages everyone to participate. Becoming a member of Delta Tau Alpha has its benefits and rewards that includes being able to network with future employers as well as connect with other chapters and organizations. A student must obtain a GPA that is not lower than the highest thirty-five percent of their class and must have completed at least nine hours in agriculture classes and



at least forty-five hours in general college courses to join Delta Tau Alpha.

Photo courtesy of Hailey Gilbreath

# AG BEARS MALE VS. FEMALE



## Agricultural communications major studies abroad in Russia

By: Hailey Gilbreath

Missouri State University has over 300 options for students to travel around the world to immerse themselves in various cultures. Students campus-wide are able to pick programs to enhance their learning and experience while gaining college credit.

The Study Abroad program has two options for students: short term and long term. The short term program is a faculty-planned and led class, only a few weeks long, that occurs during class breaks. The Missouri State College of Agriculture currently offers three study away options to Brazil, Haiti and Taiwan. The long term programs run through affiliate partners all over the world. They are set up by outside contractors who align summer, semester or yearlong study away trips across the globe.

Mercer Martin, a senior agricultural communications major from Willard, Missouri, traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, to study the Russian language. For seven months, he lived in the middle of St. Petersburg and attended Herzen State Pedagogical University. In the summer, Martin worked with a campus ministry, Chi Alpha, where he studied with other exchange and study abroad students. During the fall semester, Martin took 18 hours of Russian language classes and became fluent.

“I chose Russian as my minor so I took two years’ worth of classes, however that’s all Missouri State offered; so if I wanted more education, I would have to study away,” Martin said.

Missouri State University also offers a Global Ambassador

program allowing study away experienced students to represent the programs and recruit for international education. Martin is one of the five Global Ambassadors that represents Missouri State.

When asked what his favorite memory of his study away experience, Martin said, “My favorite experience was when my whole family flew to Russia and I was able to show them where I had been living and everything I have experienced. We then got to watch the Nutcracker Ballet in the Winter Palace of Zars on Christmas Night.”

Martin encourages any and every student who has an interest to participate in a study abroad program.

# FACULTY & STUDENTS



## Alumni Spotlight: Tayler McLane

By: Mercer Martin

Tayler McLane, Missouri State University crop science alumna from Broseley, Missouri, received the Precision Impact Award at the 2016 Agricultural Retailers Association meeting in Orlando, Florida. She was nominated for the award by MFA Inc., and is the first woman to receive the award.

McLane's journey in agriculture began on her family's farm in the Missouri bootheel, where her family grows soybeans and rice. McLane's experiences on her family farm are what motivated her to study agriculture.

"I was in the agronomy club and my favorite classes were anything Dr. Burton taught. I've been out of school for several years now and I still catch myself drawing Dr. Burton's teachings like a gun. He taught me so much about agriculture and just being an agronomist in general, at my job and everyday life," McLane said.

McLane presently uses her knowledge gained from Dr. Burton's teaching as the precision agronomist for MFA. She works with Missouri farmers conducting soil tests and advising on planting recommendations.

"I do all the soil sampling and from those samples I make a precision acre-by-acre nutrient recommendation through our Nutri-Track program. Then I'll collect and add yield data to those recommendations to add in precise removal rates for every acre," McLane said.

Receiving the Precision Impact Award came as a surprise to McLane. She said she is a simple person from a small town who doesn't like the spotlight, and thought there was a mistake in the announcement of the recipient. But she was, in fact, the correct recipient, and the first female recipient at that.

"Winning the award was a whirlwind. Bernie is a very small town of about 1900 people, so for us to be recognized on a national level was such an honor," McLane said.

It has been over a year since McLane received the award and her life has not been the same since. The award has created tremendous career opportunities.

"Winning this award opened up so many doors for me to talk to new people about our program," McLane said. "For instance, this year, out of the 13,310 acres I covered, 6,157 were new acres and brand-new customers. To me, that makes it all worth it, just to get the word out there how well this program works. So many farmers are able to grow their best crops ever and we get to help them do that. To us at MFA, that's just what it's all about."

## Missouri State agronomist wins fellowship

By: Megan Prather

Graduate student Taylor Young has been passionate about agronomy since a young age, and this year her dedication paid off. Young received for the American Society of Agronomy's outstanding senior award which qualified her for the 2017 Frank D. Keim Graduate Fellowship Award. Her application was selected from a national pool of applicants to win one of the two \$3,000 awards.

Throughout high school in Russellville, Missouri, Young held multiple positions in FFA including chapter reporter, vice president and Area 8 secretary. She also joined the agronomy team and grew strawberries

as part of her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project.

When she came to Missouri State University, she joined the agronomy club and eventually became president during her junior year. Two trips with the College of Agriculture to Haiti broadened her experience with agronomy even further. Young completed her plant science bachelor's degree in May of 2017. She is currently working on her thesis project for her master's program.

"My thesis project looks at the leaf macro nutrient concentration of wheat, oats and rye. We're

basically looking at how the different phosphorus treatments affect the available nutrients within the plant for the animals to eat," Young said.

The thesis project has allowed her to gain experience working with new field and lab equipment such as planters, cyclone mills and spectrophotometers.

"I think it's really cool because this is all stuff that I can take with me, should I get a job somewhere," Young said. "Next fall I'll go to the National ASA Conference in Baltimore and I'll present my research. I'm going to present at the 2018 ASA, CSSA & SSA International Annual Meeting as well."

## Students work and study in the College of Agriculture

By: Megan Prather

Blake Karraker, of Edmond, Oklahoma, lives and works at the Darr Agricultural Center. The senior natural resources student is one of three farm hands who is employed at the Center. The other two farm hands are Dakota Boss, sophomore animal science student from Richmond, Missouri, and Chantz Reese, senior animal science student, from Alton, Missouri. Their responsibilities include feeding cattle, Missouri State beef, hauling hay, setting up the ballroom at the Bond Learning Center and other tasks.

Karraker has worked for the Darr Center since May of 2016. During the summer of 2017, he worked as a farm hand for Shealy Farm in Fair Grove, Missouri. Even though he didn't grow up

with much of an agricultural background, he found a passion for it as he grew older.

"My grandparents had about 30 head of cattle but they didn't do anything major because it was more or less a hobby," Karraker said. "My dad was in FFA during high school, and that's what got me into it too. Now I want to be a game warden for the Oklahoma Wildlife Department."

Now, Karraker is fully immersed in agriculture and he's gaining



experience for his future career.

"You walk out the door and you're on the clock and you start working," Karraker said. "If I want to work on homework, I can go do that or I can go to work."

**Photo courtesy of Megan Prather**

## Giving Thanks to Ag celebrates its 4th year

By: Kalynn Persell

On Nov. 16, 2017, students and staff of the Missouri State University College of Agriculture gathered at the Presbyterian First Calvary Church for the fourth annual Giving Thanks to Ag dinner. This philanthropy event, hosted by Sigma Alpha, began as a way to give back to the community.

"We knew that Thanksgiving was around the corner, and food is always a good way to get people together," said Katelyn McCoy, agricultural communications instructor and Sigma Alpha advisor.

Typically, students from the College of Agriculture make up the largest group of attendees,

but International students also have a strong presence at this event with nearly 35 in attendance this year.

"Giving Thanks to Ag is a unique event that brings everyone together for food and company while helping support the local community," said Anna Roth, junior agricultural communications student from Altenburg, Missouri.

Miranda Hofstetter, junior animal science student from Sullivan, Missouri took charge of this year's Giving Thanks to Ag by coordinating with all the agriculture club presidents to determine what each club would bring to contribute. Sigma Alpha

typically provides desserts and other clubs are encouraged to provide food for the main course. Those who attend are asked to pay two dollars or donate two canned goods to enjoy a buffet-style meal.

Sigma Alpha then donates the money and canned food items to the Ozarks Food Harvest. This year, Sigma Alpha was blessed and grateful to receive an anonymous donation to pay for the church facilities.

Hofstetter and Sigma Alpha were grateful for the generosity from the anonymous donor to offset the cost of hosting this event.

# 2017 Scholarship Banquet

## Agriculture Alumni Scholarship\*

Senior  
Senior  
Junior  
Junior  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore

Lena Alsup  
Kristin Wyatt  
Krista Gilmartin  
William Stefan  
Shelby Harman  
Jennifer Horn  
Amber Strickland  
Diana Summitt



**Agriculture Alumni Scholarship**  
Susan Dawley (Class of '82) presents the award to Lena Alsup

## Craig E. Arnett Memorial Agricultural Scholarship

Senior  
Junior

Samuel Sergent  
Lynsey Rector

## Gayle Ashley Horticulture Club Scholarship\*

Senior

Joshua McCormick

## Charles Biglieni Memorial Scholarship

Senior

Jessica Reel

Senior

Makayla Reynolds

## Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship\*

Senior  
Junior  
Sophomore  
Freshman

Clara Jungermann  
Lynsey Rector  
Shianne Walther  
Hannah Kioh



**Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship**  
Grant Bledsoe presents the award to Clara Jungermann

## Marilyn R. Daniel Equine Scholarship

Senior

Miranda Reynolds

## Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship

Senior  
Senior  
Junior  
Junior  
Junior  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Freshman  
Freshman  
Freshman

Julie Choate  
Lane Hankins  
Kara Berrey  
Thomas Eggerman  
Macey Hurst  
Blake Jeffries  
Marcus Martin  
Caleb Kindle  
Dillon Mize  
Makayla Vandiver

## Einhellig Family Scholarship

Masters

Ben Quisenberry

## Dr. R. Bruce Johnson/Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Scholarship

Senior

Logan Johnston

## Farmers Cooperative Livestock Marketing Scholarship\*

Senior  
Senior  
Junior

Caleb Seidel  
Amy Smith  
Chrystelle Volckmann



**Farmers Cooperative Livestock Marketing Scholarship**  
Sue Webb presents the award to Caleb Seidel

## FFA Scholarship

Senior

Jillian Bertz

Senior

Devin Wilkerson

## FFA State Officer Scholarship

Sophomore  
Freshman

Elizabeth Knipp  
Claire Eggerman

## FCS Financial Agriculture Scholarship

Senior  
Senior

Kendra McKinnis  
Teanna Simpson



**FFA State Officer Scholarship**  
Jim Hutter presents the award to Claire Eggerman

## Ben and Janis Fuqua Scholarship

Senior  
Sophomore

Lindsay Daniel  
Hailey Johnston

**Jim and Kami Gollhofer Scholarship**

Junior

Michaela Carroll

**Jack Gordon Memorial Scholarship\***

Senior

Marissa Stevens

**Greene County Farm Bureau Scholarship**

Senior

Ethan McNeill

Junior

Evan Barry

Junior

Jacob Rapp

**Dennis M. and Janice K. Grisham Scholarship\***

Senior

Megan Prather

**Christian Robert Hirsch Memorial Scholarship\***

Junior

Stewart McCollum

**Irwin Farms Scholarship**

Junior

Lee Neidigh

**Harry and Marion James Agronomy Scholarship\***

Senior

Justine Wasser

Junior

Kaci Harp

**Arne Johnson Agriculture Scholarship\***

Junior

Mackenzie Nichting

**Dr. Norman Justus/SWVATA Scholarship**

Junior

Kaitlyn Taylor

**Glenn E. and Ruth Z. Karls Agriculture Scholarship\***

Senior

Samuel Sergent

Senior

Catie Tune

Junior

Jessy Maddux

Sophomore

Fredrick Padilla

Freshman

Rikki Beldon

Freshman

Nathaniel Forck

Freshman

Taylor Allee

**Benjamin Charles Kruse Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

Samuel Piontek

**James P. and Margaret S. Landreth Scholarship\***

Junior

Likayla Stacy

Sophomore

Tabbitha Franklin

**MFA, Inc. Scholarship\***

Senior

Kaleb Jones

**H. Lewis Miller Endowed Scholarship\***

Freshman

Audrey Wilson

**Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Scholarship**

Senior

Lena Alsup

Junior

Maura Butler

Junior

Tony Morgan

Senior

Matthew Tucker

**Missouri Seedmen's Assoc./Southern Seed Assoc. Scholarship**

Senior

Dalton Jones

Senior

Matthew Tucker

Junior

Julia Probst

**Quail Forever Gateway Chapter Scholarship**

Freshman

Emma Moseley

**Ed Pinegar Scholarship\***

Junior

Hannah Smith

Freshman

Logan Bender

**Howard Pyle Memorial Scholarship\***

Sophomore

Samuel Piontek



**Jack Gordon Memorial Scholarship**  
Ralph Gordon presents the award to Marissa Stevens



**Greene County Farm Bureau Scholarship**  
Charles Buckner presents the award to Ethan McNeill



**Arne Johnson Agriculture Scholarship**  
Will Boyer presents the award to Mackenzie Nichting



**Missouri Seedmen's Assoc./Southern Seed Assoc. Scholarship**  
Will McClain presents the award to Julia Probst

Freshman	Shelbi Westmoreland
<b>Vernon Renner Scholarship*</b>	
Senior	Lindsay Daniel
Senior	Melanie Preston
Junior	Ashley Connor
Junior	Jimmy Hickman
Junior	Kara Powelson
<b>S &amp; H Farm Supply Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship</b>	
Freshman	Laura Motley
<b>John D. Schatz Scholarship*</b>	
Senior	Shelbi Mundy
Senior	Jennifer Rice
Senior	Jacob Steward
Junior	Mary Books
<b>Dennis and Phyllis Schmitt Animal Science Graduate Scholarship*</b>	
Masters	Brandi DeFosse
<b>Schnelle-Sparkman Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture Award</b>	
Masters	Cady Goble
Freshman	Grace Erickson
<b>Dr. J.N. Smith/FCS Financial Memorial Scholarship</b>	
Senior	Ashton Light
Senior	Amanda Wecker
<b>Stanlie H. and Belva Ross Spangler Memorial Scholarship*</b>	
Senior	Auryetta Torres-Jeffery
Junior	Madison Kittilstad
<b>David F. Stanke Memorial Scholarship*</b>	
Junior	Jessy Maddux
<b>Charles and Patricia Stufflebeam Agricultural Scholarship</b>	
Junior	Harley Waggoner
Junior	Kristian Bennett
<b>Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Family Memorial Scholarship*</b>	
Senior	Joy Eakins
<b>Pamela Borden Trewatha Horticulture Scholarship</b>	
Freshman	Samantha Michaelis
<b>Cody R. Uber Memorial Scholarship</b>	
Freshman	Kendall Nakato
<b>Theodorakos Vuillmott Sports Agriculture Scholarship</b>	
Junior	Nikki Buck
<b>Waite Scholarship</b>	
Senior	Cory Keith
<b>Uncle Tom Watkins Memorial Scholarship*</b>	
Sophomore	Britney Lawless
<b>White River Valley Electric Cooperative Scholarship</b>	
Senior	Phillip Wattenbarger
Junior	Kirsten Watson

\* Denotes endowed scholarship



**Vernon Renner Scholarship**  
Joe Renner presents the scholarship to Kara Powelson



**S&H Farm Supply Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship**  
Jeff Gettys presents the award to Laura Motley



**Waite Scholarship**  
Michael Burton presents the award to Cory Keith



**White River Valley Electric Cooperative Scholarship**  
Arbindra Rimal presents the award to Phillip Wattenbarger

## Darr College of Agriculture Graduates

### Spring 2017

Daniel Adams	Newellton, LA	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Franklin Alford	Alton	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Emily Andrews	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Lauren Ashton	Lee's Summit	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Kaylie Austin	Perryville	Plant Science-AG-Accelerted-MS
Jared Ballard	Cassville	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Justin Bennett	Mount Vernon	Natural Resources-BS
Sarah Bishop	Bunceton	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Dilan Bollmann	Marthasville	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Stephanie Bos	Billings	Agriculture Education-BSED
Dylan Bottoms	Defiance	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Victoria Bridwell	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Demitria Brooks	Kirkwood	Animal Science-BS
Billy Bryant	Coffeyville, OK	General Agriculture-BAS
Nicole Clark	Linn	Agriculture Education-BSED
Nicole Crocker	Walnut Shade	Nat&Appl Sci-AG-MNAS
Jerrid Cunningham	Marionville	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Susan Danner	Saint Joseph	Animal Science-BS
Kelsey Davis	Elkland	General Agriculture-BAS
Jerri Lynn Henry	Springfield	Plant Science-AG-Accelerted-MS
Tucker Dunaway	Carthage	Agriculture Education-BSED
Brittany Eagleburger	Buffalo	Animal Science-BS
Joshua Fanning	Springfield	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Austin Fehring	Neosho	General Agriculture-BAS
Michael Fenske	Purdy	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Sandra Flack	Mountain View	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Erin Garren	Neosho	Natural & Applied Sci-AG-MNAS
Austin Goodman	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Megan Goswick	Neosho	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Jordan Gott	Strafford	Natural Resources-BS
Courtney Hall	Creighton	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Branden Handke	Quapaw, OK	General Agriculture-BAS
Donna Henderson	Stoutland	Animal Science-BS
Alexsis Holmstedt	Wentzville	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Carson Honse	Hartsburg	Animal Science-BS
Alyssa Hultgren	Willard	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Abigail Hultz	Galena	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Olivia Jaco	Whitewater	Agriculture-MS
James Johnson	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Colby Jones	Kirksville	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Joshua Jones	Marshfield	Natural Resources-BS
Elizabeth Kauffmann	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Kale Kirby	Liberal	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Anna Klem	Verona	Agriculture-Accelerated-MS

Chelsea Laning	Sheldon	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Alexander Lawson	Battlefield	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Jill Lee	Florissant	Animal Science-BS
Wyatt Long	Aldrich	Agriculture Education-BSED
Dacoda Maddox	Columbia	Natural Resources-BS
Brittney McBride	Centralia	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Kenny McBride	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Caitlyn McKibben	Lamar	Agriculture Education-BSED
Michael McMillen	Saint James	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Austin Mertz	Bourbon	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Cindy Monroe	Five Points, AL	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Kaleigh Potter	Springfield	Agriculture-MS
Mathew Pulsipher	Meriden, KS	Natural Resources-BS
James Quisenberry	Buffalo	Natural Resources-BS
Austin Reedy	Windsor	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Ethan Roach	Piedmont	Natural Resources-BS
Kathleen Schreiner	Urbana	Plant Science-AG-Accelerted-MS
Preston Selby	Oklahoma City, OK	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Joseph Serpico	Lawrence, MI	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Jordan Shore	Cassville	Animal Science-BS
Sydney Skeel	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Kaylee Smith	Pleasant Hill	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Emma Snow	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Haley Spalding	Concordia	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Mackenzie Spencer	Liberty	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Savanna Stanley	Ojai, CA	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Jacey Staponski	Carthage	Animal Science-BS
Cody Starnes	Lebanon	Agriculture Education-BSED
Jessica Stewart	Weaubleau	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Elysia Stopczynski	Nixa	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Katelyn Stracke	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Daniel Strait	Saint James	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Bradly Taylor	Stockton	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Trystan Thompson	Monett	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
West Thurmond	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Benjamin Travlos	Ashland	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Brandee Turney	Clever	Animal Science-BS
Adam Uhls	Festus	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Bryson Vanscoy	Highlandville	Natural Resources-BS
Joshua Vollmer	Boonville	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Benjamin Walker	Nevada	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
James Wilkerson	Urbana	Nat&Appl Sci-AG-MNAS
Andrew Gunner Williams	Sedalia	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Alesha Wilson	Hunnewell	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Teresa Wise	Louisburg	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Drew Wolf	Swansea, IL	Animal Science-BS
Taylor Young	Russellville	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS

## Summer 2017

Jalayah Ackerson	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Kate Anderson	Goodman	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Kyle Dick	Nixa	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Brody Gaylord	Vinita, OK	General Agriculture-BAS
Cady Goble	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Shallie Harms	Ionia	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Rachael Hellmer	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Weston Henson	Westville, OK	Natural Resources-BS
John Hurst	Everton	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Courtney Oberaitis	Joplin	Animal Science-BS
Jayson Shriver	Ozark	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Jill Stephens	West Plains	Animal Science-BS
Audrey Thomas	Greenwood	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Megan Trammell	Lowell, AR	General Agriculture-BAS
Rebecca Tyler	Sweet Springs	Plant Science-AG-Accelerted-MS
Garrett Vest	Bolivar	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Jesse Young	Fair Grove	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS

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## Fall 2017

Britta Anderson	Franksville, WI	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Victoria Armstrong	Houston	Natural Resources-BS
Shaun Athey	Joplin	Animal Science-BS
Rayanna Bailey	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Benjamin Bardot	Lonedell	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Bentle Bearden	Springfield	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Jacob Boring	Seymour	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Michelle Bowden	Miami	General Agriculture-BAS
Kayley Brandon	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Brian Bueker	Higginsville	Nat&Appl Sci-AG-MNAS
Tyler Buelow	Cape Girardeau	Plant Science-EP Dept-MS
Channing Burd	Springfield	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Christopher Cahill	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Julie Choate	Pleasant Hope	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Shayla Coale	Ash Grove	Nat&Appl Sci-AG-MNAS
Ashli Coday	Seymour	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Morgan Coday	Seymour	Agriculture Education-BSED
Zachary Copeland	High Ridge	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Erica Crews	Aurora	Agriculture Education-BSED
Justin Davis	Nixa	Animal Science-BS
Brianna Dawkins	Moberly	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Lauren Dresch	Independence	Animal Science-BS
Kailee Essary	Cape Fair	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Cole Eubank	Kearney	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS

Charlene Farquhar	Hartville	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Brandon Fear	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Jared Frieze	Brighton	Animal Science-BS
Grant Gaskill	Sullivan	Natural Resources-BS
Spring Goodson	Saint Louis	Animal Science-BS
Rodney Gustafson	Sparta	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Cheri Hamilton	Republic	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Eric Hankins	Stockton	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Hailey Harness	Nixa	Animal Science-BS
Anna Haselhuhn	Eddyville	Natural Resources-BS
Colin Hill	Lincoln	Plant Science-EP Dept-MS
Emily Hix	Harrisonville	Animal Science-BS
Jeremy Horton	Monett	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Ashlee Huerta	Ozark	Natural Resources-BS
Shirley Hughes	Branson	Agriculture-Accelerated-MS
Dalton Jones	Stockton	Natural Resources-BS
Fabien Juliano	Iberia	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Levi Keatts	Marionville	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Shaun Keeth	Iberia	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Chelsea Landes	Owasso, OK	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Jonita Lathrop	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
James Long	Stockton	Natural Resources-BS
Melissa Maynard	Republic	Animal Science-BS
Preston McHolland	Crane	Natural Resources-BS
Heaven Morgan	Montreal	Agriculture Education-BSED
Meghan Mothershead	Sikeston	Natural & Applied Sci-AG-MNAS
Megan Munton	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Hunter Myers	El Reno, OK	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Sydney Nichols	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Lucas Nitcher	Arnold	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Danielle Owen	Parkville	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Alyssa Rockers	Carthage	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Caleb Seidel	Lohman	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Samuel Sergent	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Corey Simmons	Cameron	Animal Science-BS
Gina Simpkins	Stockton	Natural Resources-BS
Paul Stark	Cleveland	Animal Science-BS
Jacob Steward	Stockton	Natural Resources-BS
Luke Tschantz	Mansfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Matthew Tucker	Branson	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-AG-BS
Adam Verstraete	Monett	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Phillip Wattenbarger	Marshall	General Agriculture/Agr-BS
Elatia Webb	Highlandville	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Devin Wilkerson	Buffalo	Agriculture Education-BSED
Tacia Williams	Aurora	Natural Resources-BS
Matthew Wommack	Buffalo	Plant Science-AG Dept-MS
Hannah Wreath	Springfield	Animal Science-BS

# OUR FACILITIES

## THE WOODLANDS

The Woodland Property, acquired in 2013, spans over 160 acres. The unique area is home to numerous forest ecosystems including three natural cave systems, one known cave and 120+ year old oak trees. Most of the property has not been managed or harvested in over 120 years, making it a prime location for student research and education. Additionally, the south side of the property is home to Depression-era transient camp ruins, deeming the land historical.

## STATE FRUIT EXPERIMENTATION STATION

The Fruit Experiment Station, located in Mountain Grove, continues to offer cutting edge experiences for students in grape genomics, as well as research in small fruit and native fruit production. Since its establishment in 2010, students and faculty have studied entomology, genetics, planting and harvesting techniques. In addition to research and student work, the station offered a variety of workshops and programs to the public.

## KINDRICK FAMILY FARM

Kindrick Family Farm, gifted to the Darr College of Agriculture in 2017 by George Hartsfield and Rev. Dr. Paula Kindrick Hartsfield, has expanded the ability of the College to prepare undergraduate and graduate students in the areas of grain crop production, horticulture, and conservation. This 80-acre farm near the Springfield-Branson National Airport, has already provided grounds for hands-on experience in plant science and natural resources. Plans for additional crop and soil sciences research are currently underway at the new facility.

## KARLS HALL

Karls Hall continues to be the main academic building for the Darr College of Agriculture. A number of activities are held every year in Karls Hall including the Southwest District FFA contest. Furthermore, Karls Hall is equipped with a 3,000 square foot greenhouse, operational meat locker, reproductive lab, soil laboratory, and genetics lab. The spaces are used for both classroom instruction and research.

## JOURNAGAN RANCH

Journagan Ranch continues to provide unique learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Upperclass animal science students spend the weekends during calving season assisting and learning about the process, and numerous tours have used the facilities to learn more about the agricultural industry and cattle production. The cattle produced on the ranch serve as an income generating activity through the sale of the animals as seed stock.

## DARR AGRICULTURE CENTER

The Darr Agricultural Center remains a highly visible piece of the College, and the Bond Learning Center and Pinegar Arena continually prove to be essential for successfully carrying out College activities. The Bond Center is utilized as the meeting space for College of Agriculture events, such as the PBR Salute to Agriculture Event (with almost 500 students and area Farm Bureau Leaders in attendance), and the annual Agriculture Forum and Scholarship Banquet.

## BAKERS ACRES

Bakers Acres has been primarily used for hay production to supplement production at Journagan Ranch, the Darr Ag Center, and Shealy Farm. This year an easement was also given for power lines on the property.

## SHEALY FARM

The Shealy Farm plays a large role in the College and use of the property is expanding. Currently, cattle from Journagan Ranch are taken to the Shealy Farm to be raised to slaughter weight, primarily on grass while supplemental feed is given to the animals to improve flavor toward the end of their life cycle. The animals are processed at Hörrmann's meat processing facility in Fair Grove and then made available for sale in Hörrmann's and HyVee, both located on Battlefield.

# Faculty and Professional Staff

Dr. Ron Del Vecchio, Dean

## **Agricultural Business, Education & Communications**

Dr. Arbindra Rimal, Department Head  
 Agricultural Economics/Bus.  
 Ms. Nichole Busdieker-Jesse Agricultural Economics/Bus.  
 Mr. Nathan Fent Agricultural Communications  
 Dr. James Hutter Agricultural Education  
 Ms. Katelyn McCoy Agricultural Communications  
 Dr. Ben Onyango Agricultural Economics/Bus.  
 Ms. Christi Sudbrock Agricultural Economics/Bus.

### **Per Course**

Mr. Travis Elliott Agricultural Law  
 Ms. Joyce Cutright Agricultural Communications  
 Mr. Jayson Shriver Agricultural Mechanics  
 Mr. Mike Wiles Agricultural Sales

## **Animal Science**

Dr. Gary Webb, Department Head  
 Equine Reproduction  
 Mr. Will Boyer Animal Science  
 Dr. Phillip Lancaster Animal Science  
 Dr. Lacy Sukovaty Vet and Small Animal Science  
 Dr. Elizabeth Walker Sheep and Goat Science  
 Ms. Sue Webb Equine Exercise Science

### **Per Course**

Dr. Jason Salchow Veterinary Science  
 Mr. Lyle Whittaker Meat Science

## **Managerial and Support Staff: Karls Hall**

Mr. Jim Bellis Assistant to Director—Std Serv/Pub Affrs  
 Ms. Rhonda Breshears Academic Admin. Assistant III  
 Mr. Jeff Gettys Business Management Coordinator  
 Ms. Alyssa Killingsworth Administrative Assistant II  
 Ms. Sue Morris Accounting Specialist

## **State Fruit Experiment Station: Mountain Grove**

Ms. Pam Turner Administrative Assistant IV  
 Ms. Jennifer Morganthaler Clinical Instructor  
 Ms. Leslie Akers Clerical and Sales  
 Mr. Jeremy Emery Field Crew Leader  
 Mr. Randy Stout Field Crew Leader  
 Ms. Sheila Long Field Crew  
 Mr. Steven Turner Mechanic  
 Mr. C.J. Odneal Cellar Technician  
 Mr. Michael Matthews Physical Plant Foreman  
 Mr. Bob Mosier Custodian

## **VESTA**

Ms. Michelle Norgren Director

## **Plant Science and Natural Resources**

Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang, Department Head  
 Grape Breeding and Genetics  
 Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers Horticulture  
 Dr. Michael Burton Agronomy  
 Dr. Michael Goerndt Forestry  
 Dr. Martin Kaps Pomology  
 Dr. Sarah Lancaster Environmental Plant Science  
 Dr. Will McClain Natural Resources  
 Dr. Maciej Pszczolkowski Integrated Pest Management  
 Dr. Wenping Qiu Molecular Plant Virology  
 Dr. Melissa Remley Plant, Insect & Microbial Science  
 Dr. Karl Wilker Enology and Distillation

### **Professional Staff**

Ms. Li-Ling Chen Agriculture Research Specialist  
 Ms. Susanne Howard Grape Research  
 Ms. Marilyn Odneal Horticulture Advisor

### **Per Course**

Mr. Tom DeWitt Soil & Water Conservation  
 Ms. Lori Padgett Landscape Design  
 Mr. Timothy Stanton Forestry and Fire Management  
 Mr. Tim Russell Ozarks Wildlife  
 Ms. Wenonah Marlin Floral Arranging  
 Ms. Sheila Wear Floral Design

Ms. Cassandra Clark Missouri Program Coordinator

## **Shealy Farm**

Mr. Joe Webb Farm Operator

## **The Woodlands**

Mr. Mike Klem Manager

## **Darr Agricultural Center and Bakers Acres**

Mr. Mike Klem Coordinator Business & Support Svc.  
 Ms. Sue Webb Coordinator  
 Mr. Justin Sissel Farm Manager  
 Ms. Carrie Crews Administrative Assistant II

## **Journagan Ranch**

Mr. Marty Lueck Ranch Manager & Adjunct Faculty  
 Mr. Chad Emery Ranch Hand  
 Mr. Russell Driskell Ranch Hand  
 Mr. Eric Lueck Ranch Hand  
 Mr. Eddie Massey Ranch Hand  
 Mr. Jacob Peterson Ranch Hand

## **Emeritus Faculty and Staff**

Mr. Gayle Ashley: Horticulture, Dr. Jerry Crownover: Agricultural Education, Dr. Anson Elliott: Agronomy, Dr. Ben Fuqua: Soils, Dr. Robert Glenn: Agricultural Business, Dr. Lyndon Irwin: Animal Science, Dr. Harry James: Soils, Dr. Bruce Johnson: Agricultural Economics, Dr. James F. Moore, Jr.: Plant Pathology, Dr. Vernon Renner: Soils, Dr. Mike Roling: Entomology, Dr. Dennis Schmitt: Veterinary and Dairy Science, Dr. Charles E. Stufflebeam: Agricultural Business, Dr. Pamela Trewatha: Horticulture, Dr. Howard Townsend: Entomology, Dr. Jon Wiggins: Technology Education and Ms. Sally McAlear: Administrative Assistant, Ms. Ramona Taylor: Administrative Assistant, Ms. Pam Mayer: Administrative Assistant



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WILLIAM H. DARR  
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AGRICULTURE

