AG REVIEW

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Missouri State. WILLIAN H. DARR College of Agriculture

MEET THE WRITERS



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The cover photo was taken by Kensie Darst.

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Dean's office sees changes through previous semesters

By: Rachel Grimes and Kensie Darst

Since the passing of former dean of the College of Agriculture, Dr. Ronald Del Vecchio, in April 2022, the dean's office has seen many faces fulfilling the role to lead the college's students, faculty, and staff.

In placement of Dr. Del Vecchio was Dr. Anson Elliott, former director of the School of Agriculture from 1980 to 2016. He currently serves on the Board of Governors for Missouri State University. Elliott stepped into the position to lead students, faculty, and staff forward after the loss of Dr. Del Vecchio.

In July 2022, the Darr College of Agriculture welcomed Kenneth H. Brown, Ph.D. to serve as the interim dean while the search for a permanent dean begun.

Brown has served as the department head of the Economics Department at Missouri State University since 2014. Throughout his time at Missouri State, he has taught a wide range of courses including Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Econometrics, Urban and Regional Economics, Health Economics, MBA Managerial Economics, Data Analytics, and Mathematical Economics. His financial studies and understanding of economics made Brown a great fit to make decisions, leading the college forward.

Brown soon accepted a position to serve as the chief academic strategy officer in the provost's office. The search for a new interim dean was short-lived as Dr. Melissa Bledsoe was named the new interim dean of the college in April 2023. Bledsoe's position will take into affect on July 1, 2023. A Missouri State

A Missouri State alumnus, Bledsoe earned her bachelor's degree in horticulture and master's in plant science in 2002 and 2004. Six years later, she received her doctorate's degree in plant, insect and microbial sciences from the University of Missouri.

Bledsoe joined the faculty at the College of Agriculture as an assistant professor and was moved up to associate professor in 2019. The College of Agriculture is eager to work under the guidance of Bledsoe. The university will conduct a national search for a permanent dean in fall 2023.

Dr. Melissa Bledsoe standing in front of Karls Hall. Photo courtesy of Katelyn McCoy.



New farm manager grows success at Shealy Farm

By: Maegen Hicks and Kensie Darst

Josiah Piotrowski was hired as the Shealy Farm Manager for Missouri State University in summer 2021. The farm is located near Fair Grove, Missouri, and partners with the Missouri Department of Conservation. The farm has over 200 acres for cattle and research projects.

Shealy Farm runs a small herd of commercial cows for research purposes. Students travel to the farm to gain hands-on learning with the bovine to understand the fundamentals of artificial insemination, animal husbandry, herd health management, proper vaccination practices, and feed studies.

The farm is equipped with a fully functional working facility with indoor and outdoor feedlots, allowing research to be conducted at the farm.

A feed study was conducted last year on a group of Journagan Ranch

heifers during the fall and winter seasons of 2022. A total of 43 heifers were split into three groups and each group was fed a different feed ration each morning while one group remained a control.

"The farm is looking forward to conducting another feed study in fall 2023 with hopes to form a grazing/ forage research project," Piotrowski said. "Until then, grazing practices are being used to continue building quality forage for future livestock studies."

Since working at the College of Agriculture, Piotrowski has appreciated the great relationships he has developed with his fellow co-workers and looks forward to the development of Shealy Farm.

"We have seen improvement with fencing and pasture management practices," Piotrowski said. "Overall, we are continuing to improve Shealy Farm and revive it to a high quality



Shealy Farm manager, Josiah Piotrowski, standing in front of cattle. Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst.

farm that pursues better management practices of both cattle and forages."

Piotrowski is eager for the upcoming school year with the many farm and research projects that are in store for Shealy farm and his crew.

Nance bids farewell to the College of Agriculture



Gwenny Nance, accounting specialist for the College of Agriculture. Photo courtesy of Missouri State University.

Gwenny Nance, accounting specialist for the Darr College of Agriculture, began transitioning from her position this fall. Alumni, current students, and members of the Missouri

By: MacKenzie Larsen

State University agriculture community have likely heard of the hard work and joy that Nance brought to the college. As the accounting specialist for the college, Nance played a vital role in the college's financial position.

Upon marrying her husband, Mike Nance, she was encouraged to seek out Missouri State's agriculture program. While pursuing her degree in agriculture business, working at Smith's Family Restaurant, and tending to the family farm, she began working in the dean's office between classes.

Upon graduating magna cum laude in 2018, Nance started her role as the accounting specialist for the college. In her role, she reported directly to the dean. She helped oversee the college's financial accounts for three department heads, faculty, staff, and students. She worked with more than 100 budgets, including operational, nonoperational, foundation, and grants.

At the university, Nance will miss her close association with those who share the same passions.

"I am so blessed to be a part of Missouri's agriculture and the college has given me valuable experiences," Nance said. "To be surrounded by those who share the same passion as me and to get to know some of our finest and brightest young minds is a privilege."

The college wishes Nance the best of luck with her new endeavors.

Springfield Public School Charters Magnet School Focusing on Agriculture

By: Rachel Grimes and Alex White

The AgAcademy, a magnet school on the Missouri State University campus, opened in 2022 to welcome 100 fourth- and fifth-grade students. Springfield Public Schools (SPS) worked alongside the Darr Family Foundation to open the school and provide intermediate students the opportunity to study agriculture.

Four years ago, former dean of the College of Agriculture, Dr. Ronald Del Vecchio, sparked an idea to enhance agriculture learning for young students in Springfield. After speaking with the Darr Family Foundation and SPS, work began to launch the AgAcademy, where students learn about agriculture while completing general studies.

For the first time in SPS history, a donation was made to create a space for elementary students to engage in agricultural pursuits in the classroom. Students will gain handson experience in food preparation, gardening, animal husbandry and plant sciences. These key aspects of agriculture will be taught in addition to the state-mandated curriculum.

"We really do try to incorporate agriculture into every subject. They could be reading and writing about agriculture or even doing fractions when cooking," Kelsey Brabo, director of Choice Programs at Springfield public schools, said.

Students will gain more than agricultural knowledge during their time at the academy. A sense of community, leadership, teamwork, record-keeping, and patience are all soft skills will be instilled in every student enrolled. It is a key component of the school to assign roles to each student such as plant care, where students are responsible for watering plants in the school. Students are also responsible for maintaining the class pets located in each classroom. On Fridays, students are presented the opportunity to network with 4-H leaders and expand their horizons through archery, arts and crafts, cake decorating, and photography/film production.

"Students are getting the chance to dive into the industry and find their identity within their experiences here," Brabo said.

Gaining experience in agriculture can be limited growing up in an urban community like Springfield. Students are given the unique opportunity to find that they have a role in how our food and fiber are produced and processed. They are given the necessary tools to be well-educated individuals who understand the process of how we obtain nutrients from our food sources. "It has been refreshing to watch such young students utilize their resources even at recess. I have watched them build forts and play in the leaves. The narrative has changed, students are experiencing an emphasis on agriculture education like no other," Carrie Crews, the administrative assistant for the Bond Learning Center in the Darr College of Agriculture, said.

The school is built in a circular shape to mirror how agriculture is often a cycle. Each hallway that leads to a classroom is coordinated with a color that represents a season; fall is orange, winter is blue, spring is yellow, and summer is green. In addition, there is an open courtyard where agricultural entities have brought in livestock to provide students with real-life experience and knowledge. Lastly, a greenhouse can also be found on campus for students to become involved in research-based projects and learning.

This will be the first SPS magnet school that offers more than one year of education in its field of specialization. Brabo and the entire staff at the AgAcademy look forward to the addition of the sixth grade in 2023, which will include returning fifth graders and new applicants.

Small Animal Education Center to be built at Darr Agriculture Center

By: MacKenzie Larsen

The construction of an approximate 10,000 square-foot small animal education center is close to completion at the Darr Agricultural Center. With the hopes of a June 30, 2023, completion date, the small animal center will host a variety of hands-on learning experiences for Missouri State University students.

The pre-engineered building will consist of a lobby, offices, a treatment room, group activity and training lab, six indoor and outdoor runs, a teaching laboratory, and an outdoor fenced area. The teaching laboratory will host intro to animal science, Food Safety, and several companion animal course laboratory sections. The group activity lab will allow for movable tables for collaborative learning among students or for students to have hands-on learning with dogs housed in the facility.

While the hands-on experiences within the Darr College of Agriculture for large animal practices is dense, this lab will provide much needed experiences for students with a focus on career opportunities in small animals.

Dr. Lacy Sukovaty spent seven years in full-time clinical mixed animal veterinary practice before becoming a full-time animal science faculty member at Missouri State University in fall 2015. Under her supervision, students will be able to gain handson experiences in basic dog training, animal health, management, and more.

Dr. Sukovaty will offer basic behavior classes that will inform students on behavioral problems to prepare pre-vet students, shelter workers, and other professionals the ability to have background in counseling owners and potential owners. Mattie Cobban, current graduate assistant to Dr. Sukovaty, is eager at the opportunities the new lab will present.

"The possibilities are endless. One big goal that I would love to eventually see is a dog club started," Cobban explained.

To learn more about the plans of the small animal laboratory, you can contact Dr. Sukovaty at Hobbs7@ MissouriState.edu.

COAG Days returns to the College of Agriculture

After two years of COVID-19 caution, the Darr College of Agriculture reintroduced COAG Days, Sept. 18-22, 2022, to bring students together for a week full of friendly competition.

COAG Days started in 2017 by students under the direction of Instructor Nichole Busdieker-Jesse promoting involvement and teamwork within the college. This year's COAG Days had five consecutive days of events for students to attend.

Amber Gerlemann, an agriculture education senior, and Avery Reid, a biology junior, were co-chairs of the week-long event; both worked hard to increase the morale in the college. Gerlemann has high hopes bringing back COAG Days will amplify students' involvement.

"I hope that students will be willing to get involved within the college of ag because it's a great place to be and find friends," Gerlemann said.

At the end of the week, at the barnwarming dance, king and queen were crowned and the Club of the Year was announced. The 2022 barnwarming king and queen

By: Karson Thomas

recipients were Tucker Bittick, senior agricultural communications major, and Kensie Darst, junior agricultural communications student and accelerated graduate student, both representing the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow club. Sigma Alpha, the professional agricultural sorority, was announced as the 2022 College of Agriculture Club of the Year. The award was given to the club with the most attendance at COAG Days throughout the week's events.

Each night of the week, a different event for students was held. Sunday night was bowling night, hosted by the Agronomy Club and the Horticulture Club, with 14 students in attendance. Monday consisted of street cleaning in the afternoon, hosted by the Wildlife Club and ACT, with 11 students and trivia night in the evening, hosted by Collegiate FFA, Pre-Vet Club, and the Forestry Club, with 27 students. Ag Olympics was hosted by Delta Tau Alpha, MSU Cattlemen's club, and Block and Bridle on Tuesday night with 26 students in attendance. Wednesday night's event was hosted by the MSU Ranch Horse Team, the Equestrian Team, and Collegiate Farm Bureau, where Top Gun was shown on the side of Pinegar Arena; 35 students were in attendance.

The week was wrapped up with a barnwarming dance hosted by Sigma Alpha and Alpha Gamma Rho, with 39 students in attendance. Students are already looking forward to next year's COAG Days.



Barnwarming queen, Kensie Darst, and barnwarming king, Tucker Bittick. Photo courtesy of Karson Thomas.



10th Annual Ag Celebration with Alumni and Friends

By: Maegen Hicks and Montanna Forcum

The Darr College of Agriculture held the 10th Annual Ag Celebration to raise funds for agriculture students to pursue their education.

During the fundraising event at the Bond Learning Center, silent and live auctions were held. Beef produced by the College of Agriculture was served to guests. Wine produced by the college and Springfield Brew Co. Lager beer was also offered to attendees for an additional fee. Over the past nine years, the event has raised \$350,000 for students.

Prices per dinner ticket were \$25 for adults and \$5 for children. Tables could be reserved for \$175. If an individual was unable to attend, they could generously donate to the event and be recognized as a Darr Difference Maker.

To initiate the excitement for the celebration and a way for the alumni to welcome students back to campus, the alumni association hid a total of 96 farm ducks around Karls Hall and Bond Learning Center for students to find. Once a student found a duck, they had the

option to either keep it or hide it in a different place.

Susan Dawley came up with the idea when out Black Friday shopping. Dawley told the story about how she saw a jeep with many ducks on their dash and wanted to know why. She did not know at the time it was a game jeep owners play to show appreciation to others jeeps. When she learned of the joy it brings to the vehicle owners, she thought how this would be a fun boost of moral and engagement for COAG students.

"I ordered them and then decided they weren't just ducks, but maybe I could write a short famous quote on a tag for their necks that might be meaningful for the person that found it," stated Dawley.

"I prayed over those ducks sitting at my dining room table that whatever quote I had found would be just the right one for the person who found the duck." The great COAG Duck Hunt was a big hit.

Carrie Crews, administrative assistant for the Darr College of Agriculture, assisted students and staff



President of the alumni committee, Matthew Wommack, running the microphone during the live auction at the Ag Celebration. Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst.

at the celebration. Her favorite part of the event was seeing friends and family returning back to the college and raising money for current students.

"It's a happy balance between the students and people getting to come home to the college," Crews said.

In total, donors and supporters raised \$41,500 from the evening's events. Bill and Virginia Darr rounded up and matched the total to make the grand total for the night \$100,000.

For more information please contact Carrie Crews at Darr@missouristate.edu.

Record-breaking year for the College of Agriculture Career Expo

By: MacKenzie Larsen

The Darr College of Agriculture hosted its eighth annual career expo Sept. 28-29, 2022. On the first day of this two-day event, 82 students were in attendance as employers presented their organizations' missions and open employment opportunities.

On day two, 167 students were able to discuss employment opportunities with company representatives in the Bond Learning Center ballroom. Taylor Allee, graduate assistant within the College of Agriculture, had a key role in the success of this year's expo.

"The career fair is a great opportunity to promote yourself. Especially for the students that don't know how to promote themselves or need to get out of their comfort zone," Allee said.

Throughout Allee's preparation for the expo, she worked alongside Katelyn McCoy, instructor within the College of Agriculture, to run social media campaigns, schedule employer presentations, create booth signs and assist with creating employer goodie bags.

The record-breaking attendance at this year's expo solidified its importance for students and employers. Students with a variety of majors were in attendance. Brianna Rotramel, a junior animal science major, utilized the career expo to find potential internships. Rotramel explained how it was helpful that the expo provided other opportunities in different areas of agriculture if she decided on a path other than veterinary medicine.

"This is really important to the College of Agriculture. I'm grateful that there are a lot of opportunities," Rotramel said.

Missouri Farm Bureau, MFA Incorporated, Bayer AG, Tyson Foods, Inc., and Rose Acre Farms were just a few of the companies in attendance at this year's expo.

"It's beneficial to network here and see different faces. In my position, we are located two hours away so it's great to network with students," Johanna Gomez, HR Manager of Rose Acre Farms stated.

Student and employer attendees continue to grow alongside the



Landon Wright speaks with College of Agriculture alumni, Ally Travlos, about internship opportunities offered through the United State Department of Agriculture. Photo courtesy of Maegen Hicks.

college each year. If your company is interested in attending next year's career expo, contact Katelyn McCoy at KMcCoy@missouristate.edu.



Agriculture Resume Cafe

By: Gabby Mueller and Kensie Darst

The Missouri State University Career Center hosted a resume café event in Karls Hall's lobby on Sept. 21, 2022, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. to help agricultural students and alumni improve their resumes.

Darr College of Agriculture students and alumni brought in hard copies of their resumes to be reviewed by the Career Center professionals. The students or alumni sat down with a Career Center professional and talked about what improvements could be made to their resumes. The Career Center provided drinks and cookies to anyone whose resume was reviewed.

Resume café is held during the fall semester in Karls Hall in preparation of the Agriculture Career Expo. The purpose of the café is to ensure students' resumes are ready to present to future employers at the expo.

All team members have several years of business experience and attend a week-long training to prepare for events hosted by the career center. Dusty Braddish, a Career Resource Specialist, was one of the team members who reviewed resumes.

"My favorite part of reviewing students' resumes is helping them to understand the value of their past work experience and academic experience," Braddish said.

Through resume reviews, students are able to reflect on their past work experience and connect it to the valuable skillset they obtain today.

"Often, students downplay the importance and relevance of what they have done in past jobs," Braddish said, "I love seeing the 'aha' moments when students realize their past experiences have actually provided them with great transferable skills that can help them in their future jobs."

More than one hundred agricultural students had their resumes reviewed and edited during the event. The College of Agriculture is among few of the colleges across campus who have the unique opportunity for students to have their resume review within short walking distance. The Career Center hosted two resume cafes for the university and one for the agricultural college this fall. The center hosts another resume café at the career center each spring.

Future resume café events hosted by the Career Center can be viewed at the center's website.

Qiu discovers microscopic virus destroying grapevines

In 2009, Dr. Wenping Qiu, Ph.D. discovered a small problem. This problem was microscopic and destroying grapevines. What Qiu revealed was the first DNA virus ever reported in grapevines. The grapevine vein clearing virus (GVCV was discovered in a Missouri vineyard. It is devastating to growers because of the slow killing process of the plant.

Qiu has won many awards including two excellence in research awards. He specializes in the study of grapevines, genomics, and viruses and has been awarded a total of \$2 million.

Today, Qiu along with his assistants are studying this virus by inserting jellyfish genes into tobacco-type plants, which are a base plant in testing. To a casual observer, these genes appear as beautiful glowing leaves. Viewing the plants under a microscope,

By: Matthew Sanders

however, would reveal an interesting defense mechanism.

By adding a virus in the same family as GVCV to plants, which has also been known to affect chocolate and banana crops, Qiu has researched the immune system of the plant. He stated in an interview the benefits of researching a similar virus.

"By studying this, we also have other tools to prevent this virus infection."

Qiu's graduate assistant, Adam Uhls, also compared the current research to creating a vaccine. He said that plants' immune systems cut off their own cells that are infected instead of attacking the disease.

Overall, they are attempting to modify the virus, so that it expresses a harmless gene.

Uhls also illustrated the main difficulties of the research.

"I think the most difficult part was

that we didn't have a good map, so what we're doing is we're actually genetically modifying the plants in those little circles that are glowing. But another thing is keeping all the conditions the exact same with the plants."

Uhls said that GVCV was not identified in any database, making it difficult to research similar viruses.

"The maximum potential I would think of is they could use the knowledge of what this protein is to help prevent other plants from getting infected by viruses."

When asked how long the research would take, Qiu stated that it would be a lifelong project.

"Now, we get this vaccine [Pfizer] that is very effective. The power of research is asking questions and how we can effective put these vaccines to practice."

Onyango assists in research studies in Africa

By: Matthew Sanders

People in Africa are dying from drought. No matter the age the world is living in, there are still countries that are suffering immensely. However, knowledge can be the best tool for survival.

Benjamin Onyango, Ph.D. is a professor of agribusiness in the Darr College of Agriculture. One motivation for pursuing his career is to help relieve the stress droughts have caused in Africa.

Growing up, Onyango sold agricultural products to pay for school. He wanted to further pursue the agricultural sales field, obtaining an associate degree in economics. He later wanted to add value to the work that he did and earned his master's degree in agriculture, economics, and resource economics. After graduating, Onyango worked in the Republic of Kenya's Department of Agriculture as the head of economics for nine years. He worked with policy in the agricultural sector, impacting the entirety of Kenya. He later pursued a Ph.D. in public economics.

Through his work at Missouri State, Onyango is able to work with Kenya Assemblies of God (KAG) East University to teach the Maasai tribe ways to diversify their agriculture. Onyango was the first able to visit the tribe in May 2021, despite travel hardships from COVID-19. The Maasai tribe is known for having beautiful clothing, and generally rely on one crop for its source of food. However, with cattle deaths during water shortages, starvation is common among their people. Thanks to his second fellowship, the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program, Onyango has been able to benefit the tribe.

Since 2013, this unique program has allowed African-native professors who live in the United States to partake in projects at African higher education establishments. During his fellowship, Onyango worked with Grace Murilla, Ph.D., Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Administration, and Finance at Kenya East University in Nairobi to develop new agricultural education programs for the Maasai tribe. He also worked with Machakos University School of Agriculture to create immediate skillbuilding agricultural courses to benefit the Maasai community.

In order to develop curriculum that was perceptive to community needs, Onyango and his fellow researchers held focus groups. These helped them understand the possibilities, needs, and limitations of agriculture for the tribe. The focus groups were made up of women primarily because of their roles in the community.

"Women do not have direct access to education like boys, but now do through the government," Onyango said, explaining the significance of the education to women.

Key informants were interviewed, including the spiritual leaders who are influential in their community.

Onyango emphasized their importance in the tribe saying, "The Maasai have 100% confidence and trust in their pastors and in their religious leaders."

Education then began. A plethora of topics were covered such as kitchen gardens, plant nurseries, animal health, beekeeping, pasture and fodder production management, soil and water conservation, and poultry.

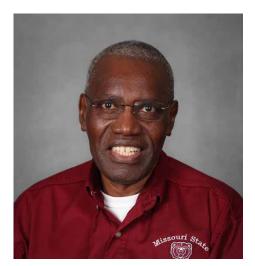
Regarding beekeeping, Onyango stated in another interview that there is a natural habitat for beekeeping, making it more viable for honey production. He also had stated that poultry production would increase protein. Instead of slaughtering a cow, the Maasai people can slaughter a chicken, while also having eggs available.

Onyango explained he wants to make African agriculture a business instead of a lifestyle, to engage in agriculture more effectively. He wants neighboring communities to learn how they can diversify their agricultural practices.

"People are dying because their don't have extra knowledge," he said. "Their rate of surviving would increase, and if you prevent 1,000 people from dying, you have contributed something great."

Onyango planned to take six students on study away to Kenya until COVID-19 occurred. He still plans to take them to Kenya next year with the hopes that they are changed upon their return home.

"I was going to take about six students to study away in Kenya, and the [Maasai] community was one of my destinations for these students, so that they learn the needs of a human being. Whether you are black or white, they are the same. The basic needs are the same. We need food, shelter, and clothing. A human being is a human being."



Dr. Benjamin Onyango. Photo courtesy of Missouri State University.



Gov. Parson visits Bond Learning Center to discuss historic state tax cuts

On Aug. 26, 2022, Gov. Michael L. Parson traveled to Missouri State University's Bond Learning Center to discuss the importance of extending key agricultural tax credits and cutting the state income tax.

Parson has called for a large tax cut, making this the largest in the state's history. During the most recent legislative session, agriculture tax credits for urban farming, agribusinesses, and ethanol and bio-diesel market development were extended for only two years. Other tax credit programs were extended for a minimum of six. Parson believes Missouri agriculture deserves better.

"When you say agriculture is very dear to me, as soon as I get done here, I am going to be in a John Deere tractor before this day is over," Parson jokingly said.

As a third-generation farmer, Parson is no stranger to an agriculturist's daily challenges. While in office, Parson has faced historic natural disasters such as droughts, floods, tornado damages, and the COVID-19 pandemic that have affected Missourians statewide. Most recently, Parson signed a drought declaration in his office followed by a flood declaration.

By: Kensie Darst

"Whatever the circumstance may be, we have faced everything that has been thrown at us and have met every challenge we could possibly meet in this period of time," Parson stated.

Parson recently vetoed a legislative bill the Missouri General Assembly passed eight times that affected agricultural tax cuts. Following the veto, Parson called a special legislative session to ensure agriculture was on the same playing field as other industries. Tax credits have affected Missouri commodities such as pork, cattle, soybeans, corn, bio-diesel, and many more.

"In this situation, agriculture got the short end of the stick," Parson said. "We got two years instead of six because people who are not involved in agriculture got involved."

The proposed tax cut will affect not only agriculturists but all Missourians. The bill will take effect on January 1, 2023. Parson briefly shared the simplified version of how this process will take place.

For low-income individuals, seniors, veterans, and part-time employees, the new bill will eliminate the tax brackets when filing their taxes. For single citizens making \$16,000 or less, married couples who file together making \$32,000 or less, and single parents with two children, they will not be obligated to pay any state tax in Missouri. This will cost Missouri approximately \$700 million and will be ongoing yearly.

"This is the best thing we can ever do for our state, the best thing to do for our economy, and to keep Missouri going in the right direction," Parson said.

To keep updated with the latest news from Parson, visit his website at governor.mo.gov.



Gov. Parson speaking with students. Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst.



Missouri Director of Agriculture speaks at Sigma Alpha Symposium

By: Kensie Darst

Missouri Director of Agriculture, Chris Chinn, spoke at the 2022 Sigma Alpha Symposium on Dec. 7, 2022, at the Bond Learning Center.

Sigma Alpha professional development chairman, Kensie Darst, served as the emcee and question moderator for the event. Darst welcomed attendees and introduced Chinn before beginning her keynote for the evening. Approximately 75 students, faculty, staff and alumni of the college were in attendance.

Chinn shared her life story during the keynote address. Chinn spoke about her life before being appointed as the Missouri Director of Agriculture in January 2017. Before beginning this role, she held leadership positions in agriculture on the local, state and national levels for more than 15 years, working to move the state's agriculture industry forward.

"While serving in the vast roles for agriculture, I have learned about the many crops Missouri has to offer," Chinn said. "Missouri agriculture is very diverse in all its regions. From the bootheel growing cotton to the southwest region's viticulture, Missouri offers an assortment of agriculture to everyone in it."

Chinn has established her brand through social media and public speaking, attracting more than 10,000 followers who have tuned in to hear her farm story. Speaking within these channels has given her the firsthand experience of understanding the preconceived roles women have had in agriculture during years past. Chinn is working to bridge the gap between males and females in agriculture by speaking at conferences and sharing her beliefs on social media.

"A question I don't like being asked is 'what is it like to be a woman in ag?" Chinn said. "On our farm, you are expected to complete the same chores and do as much work as the males daily."

The event concluded with a question-and-answer session, which was open to participants to ask questions to Chinn. Participants asked Chinn questions about her story, ways to become involved in agriculture, and potential issues happening in the future. To thank Chinn for her presence at the event, the College of Agriculture and Sigma Alpha sorority presented her with a gift of gratitude.

To inquire about issues and questions about Missouri agriculture, contact the Missouri Department of Agriculture by visiting their website.



Hala Edquist asking Missouri Director of Agriculture a question. Photo courtesy of Katelyn McCoy.



Collegiate Farm Bureau brings Ag Forum back to the community

On March 25, 2022, the Missouri State University Collegiate Farm Bureau club welcomed hundreds of community members to openly discuss current policy issues with leaders in our government system serving on a panel of speakers.

After the cancellation of two Ag Forums, the club officers worked tirelessly to reintroduce the event to their peers and community members. Working alongside the Darr College of Agriculture, a panel of speakers were invited: Sen. Roy Blunt, Missouri Farm Bureau President Garret Hawkins, and Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe. Each panelist has a strong background in the work and advocacy for agriculture.

"Every member and officer was involved in the preparation for the evening's events. We put out many social media posts to advertise for the event and had members create videos to introduce the panelists before we started the countdown,"

By: Rachel Grimes

Kaitlyn Neubert, 2021-2022 Collegiate Farm Bureau president, said.

Students and participants were encouraged to engage in the discussions to voice their perspectives on the topics. Community members were able to voice their concerns to the direct source of people who can offer a solution.

"It was imperative that our community and students were given the opportunity to get out and meet with our government leaders to ask the tough questions regarding the future of agriculture," Nichole Busdieker-Jesse, an instructor of agricultural business in the Darr College of Agriculture, said.

On April 5, 2023, Collegiate Farm Bureau proudly open the doors to the annual Ag Forum. Panelists included Senator Josh Hawley's wife, Erin Hawley, Missouri Farm Bureau President Garret Hawkins, and U.S. congressman Eric Burlison.

State and federal updates were

presented as each speaker was given the opportunity to make their opening statements before 2022-2023 Collegiate Farm Bureau president Kinzie Wheatley opened the floor to questions from the public. Other members of the club facilitated the movement of microphones to ensure that all questions were addressed to the speakers.

"Getting to host huge and different players in the agricultural policy process opened my eyes to how many moving parts there really are. It was amazing to see people at different levels of government and industry work together to create beneficial programs for Missouri agriculture," Tucker Bittick, public relations chair for the Collegiate Farm Bureau, said.

The Collegiate Farm Bureau club is working diligently to prepare the 2024 Ag Forum. Be sure to watch out for updates on the social media accounts for an opportunity to become a part of the conversation regarding our future. *Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst*



Public Affairs Conference focuses on agriculture

By: Maegen Hicks and Kensie Darst

The 19th annual Public Affairs Conference 'From Words to Deeds' took place September 2022 in-person and over Zoom to give students, staff, and the community an in-depth perspective about current public affairs issues, more specifically, food security.

According to a recent study conducted through the University of Missouri, food security is an increasing issue affecting more than 14.7% of households in Greene County. To bring awareness to the issue, policy and advocacy director of Empower Missouri Sarah Owsley, Benevolence Farm executive director Kristen Powers, Convoy of Hope senior director Jason Streubel, and Urban Roots Farm farmer Katie White, all served as panelists for the 2022 Public Affairs Conference topic, Creating Food Security for All.

Agricultural communications faculty member, Katelyn McCoy, moderated the question and answer discussion. Popular agricultural panel topics included Seeing the World and Saving the Planet, Pollution and Sustainability, Creating Food Security for All, and Citizen Bears and Beyond. These three panels had more than 460 views through Zoom locally and internationally.

Missouri State University nominates a panel of students, faculty, staff, and community members to select a theme for each year. This ensures different perspectives will enrich the three pillars: ethical leadership, cultural competence, and community engagement.

In 2021, four College of Agriculture students served as panelists for agriculture-based topic, Dispelling Food Myths-Bridging the Divide Between Consumer and Producer. Kendra Betz, Kathryn Horner, Matthew Huchteman, and Jailyn Perales severed as panelists for the discussion bringing their agriculture background and experience to the forefront of the discussion. The Public Affairs Conference strives to bring awareness to issues which affects everyone. Including agriculture-based topics is vital to connect consumers to the industry which provides more than food to their tables.

Visit Missouri State University's website to view the 2022 sessions, keep up-to-date on next year's theme, and submit ideas for the upcoming 2024-2025 conference.

CONVOY OF HOPE

Darr College of Agriculture hosts 31st Annual "Genetically Yours" Sale

By: Montanna Forcum and Kathryn Zuzack

Missouri State University Darr College of Agriculture hosted the 31st annual Journagan Ranch cattle sale on Oct. 1, 2022, at the Bond Learning Center.

Marty Lueck, the Journagan Ranch manager, attended and helped run the sale.

"This is our 31st sale. We have fall calves to spring calves to bulls, young bulls, and bred heifers. It's a great opportunity for people to invest their money into breeding stock. It's great to see a good crowd here today. I'm excited to have this sale and see how it goes," Lueck said.

A total of 86 registered Hereford lots were sold at the sale. Lots include 18-month-old bulls, spring bull calves, heifer calf pairs or splits, fall pairs, and bred heifers. The top 18-month-old bulls, Lot 3, sold for \$8,000. Lot 3 was the highest selling Hereford of the sale.

Lot 24 was the top of the spring bull

calves sold for \$3,600. Lot 40/40a, the heifer calf pair, was sold for \$6,300 at the top of the pairs. The top of the lot for heifers was Lot 62 which sold for \$4,100 and the fall pairs top of the lot was Lot 90 which sold for \$6,300. Overall, the total revenue for the 2022 sale was \$323,000.

Garrett Kirk, farm operations manager, is in charge of feeding all the sale cattle that come to the center before the sale. Kirk attended the sale.

"One of the important aspects of our sale is the quality of cattle we sell to customers and the reputation behind those cattle, specifically their performance in genetics that is proven in the field down at Journagan and is ready to serve our customers in their own herd," Kirk said.

Missouri State University Block and Bridle Club assisted with putting on the event. Maegen Hicks, club secretary, attended and helped with the sale.

"Working the sale is not only fun for all those who participate, but you can learn so much while there. Communicating with customers and hearing stories on why they like our cattle always makes me proud to be a part of Missouri State University," Hicks said.

Journagan Ranch is proud to provide its customers with quality cattle. Journagan Ranch has been known for its production of breeding stock. They live and carry out their slogan, "Raising females that you can count on with udders that will last a lifetime."

Those interested in attending next year's sale can find more information at https://www. journaganranch.com/sale

Journagan Ranch hosts 12th annual futurity show for charity

Potential buyers and exhibitors who purchased Journagan Ranch Hereford cattle from the 30th annual Journagan Ranch Hereford Sale gathered at Pinegar Arena on Sept. 30, 2022, to compete in the 12th annual Futurity Show, raising funds to assist young cattle operators in purchasing livestock for their herds.

The Futurity Show is a unique way to exhibit cattle produced by the Journagan Ranch to potential buyers. Each Friday evening before the Journagan Ranch sale, exhibitors compete to showcase cattle purchased the year before. All sale cattle are penned up for potential buyers to evaluate the livestock and assess how the cattle purchased last year have matured.

The funds raised from this event give back to the youth interested in

By: Kensie Darst



Grand and Reserve Champions hold plaques after the conclusion of the 2022 LJR Futurity Show. FROM LEFT: Judge Marcus Arnold, Reserve Champion Exhibitor Charlie Howard, Grand Champion Exhibitor Andi Howard, Journagan Ranch Manager Marty Lueck.

raising Herefords. It helps assist them in purchasing additional animals, which can be the start of their own herds. Any junior under 21 who purchased a Hereford cattle in the previous year's sale can exhibit that animal. Every cattle exhibited receives \$250 in sale credit, the grand champion gets \$750, and the reserve gets \$500. This year's show had approximately nine head of Hereford cattle with five exhibitors. The grand champion was exhibited by Andi Howard, receiving \$750, and the reserve champion was exhibited by Charli Howard, receiving \$500.

College of Agriculture kicks off school year with annual Back To School Bash

The annual Back To School Bash was held on Aug. 29 at the Darr Agricultural Center. The evening started with a welcome and introduction of all faculty and staff to help connect new students with the college. Students, faculty, and staff participated in competitive games of cornhole and washers while eating pizza provided by the Missouri State University College of Agriculture Alumni and Friends. Club organizations mingled and recruited potential members.

"It was an amazing opportunity to meet new people, especially for an out-of-the-state student like myself," agriculture education student Jocelyn Dvorak said.

The College of Agriculture has hosted this event for more than a

By: Gabby Mueller

decade. It was created to provide students the opportunity to meet their professors, introduce student organizations, and unite in an evening of fellowship.

"The annual event is not only to engage the new students in the college but to also foster a sense of community in the current and transfer students," agricultural communications instructor Katelyn McCoy said.

The College of Agriculture hopes to continue the annual tradition for years to come. To stay updated with this and other College of Agriculture events, visit the college's website or social media.



Cassie Allscheid scooping ice cream. Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst.

College of Agriculture hosts the 84th annual Darr College of Agriculture Scholarship & Awards banquet

By: Montanna Forcum

The Darr College of Agriculture hosted the 84th Annual Darr College of Agriculture Scholarship and Awards Banquet on November 4, 2022, at the Bond Learning Center celebrating all recipients and donors.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Darr sponsored the banquet. Their generous donation covered all expenses, including the prepared meal served by Missouri State University's Chartwells Catering.

Thirty-six donors, 25 faculty and staff, 54 student recipients, and 72 guests attended the banquet. There were a total of 114 scholarships awarded worth a total of \$138,000.

The College of Agriculture administrative assistant II, Carrie Crews, assisted with decorating and organizing the event. Crews borrowed decor from the Missouri State University Foundation. Fassnight Creek Farms lent the beautiful pumpkins and gourds, and the arrangements on catering lines were created by Teri Trickey and Jennifer Ramsey.

"The scholarship banquet is a unique, personalized opportunity to spark connections between industry, donors, and alumni with outstanding students. The annual scholarship banquet is one of my favorite events hosted by the College of Agriculture," Crews said.

Marcella Cadle, a senior agriculture education student from Highlandville, Mo., was awarded the Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award in Agriculture and the Glenn E. Karls Senior Excellence Award. "I feel beyond honored and humbled to have received both the Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award and the Glenn E. Karls Senior Excellence Award in addition to being recognized for my OMB Future Ag Banker Scholarship at the COAG Banquet," Cadle said. "The words the faculty and staff shared touched my heart, and I couldn't hold back the tears of appreciation for the college. It is a night that I will cherish forever."

The banquet was created to showcase students' academic success and to share conversations with those who take the financial burden off of students. Donors, students, faculty, and staff look forward to this event each year.



Missouri State University Cattlemen's Association host Farm Safety Day

By: Rachel Grimes

Missouri State University Cattlemen's Association welcomed 174 high school students to Pinegar Arena to learn about farm safety precautions from industry professionals during National Farm Safety Health Week.

Founded in 2014, MSU Cattlemen's student club organization began its involvement within agriculture and the community. An event like Farm Safety Day has been a priority for the group for the past seven years. Club advisor, Dr. Beth Walker, described the event as too important to not have, as many of the students in attendance were given farm operations and responsibilities from a young age.

Cattlemen's members worked together in an effort to bring each student a wealth of knowledge on how to efficiently operate their farm in a safe manner. Students rotated between six tables, each with different topics and presenters speaking on everyday responsibilities on the farm. Cattle husbandry, equipment operations, grain bin safety, mental health awareness, pesticide control and vaccinations were discussed during this event.

Dr. Adam McGee, assistant

professor, presented to students on the importance of animal husbandry. After being asked to present at the event, McGee immediately agreed to partake knowing how crucial it is for students to be aware of farm safety operations.

"Too many times, we have experienced an accident because people forget to slow down," McGee said.

The day-to-day operations of a farm never look the same, therefore, quick decisions and actions are a requirement of the field. As agriculturists, the decisions made are often in the mindset to protect the animal and to be mindful of how close to danger the farmer is. The MSU Cattlemen's takes this event seriously to prevent accidents from happening. Club president Kathryn Zuzack, a junior studying agricultural communications, began working alongside her officer team to brainstorm presenters and activities as soon as classes began this past August.

"It was important to find the right speakers for students to make them feel comfortable talking about real-life dangers they might experience any given day," Zuzack said. With the help of the Polk County Cattlemen's Association, group members were able to serve lunch to visiting students and teachers leaving with a positive experience and excitement toward next year. Join the MSU Cattlemen's next year for more valuable discussions over farmer safety.



Representative from S&H speaking about tractor safety. Photo courtesy of Kensie Darst.

College of Agriculture Students Seek Leadership Involvement Outside of the College

By: Montanna Forcum and Kathryn Zuzack

Students in the Darr College of Agriculture take on leadership opportunities outside of the college on a national level throughout their time at Missouri State University.

Darr College of Agriculture students stay busy seeking out leadership opportunities while achieving academic success. Each student shared that though they do not actively seek roles in leadership, they often enter them as it is appealing and important to them.

Rachel Grimes, a junior agricultural communications student from Archie, Mo., served as a Missouri FFA State Officer in the 2021 year.

"Watching students succeed was imperative to my success as a state officer," Grimes said. "If I can go from a shy freshman to a freshman in college speaking in front of 8,000 people, then you can do anything you want."

Going into her first year at Missouri State, Grimes was planning on majoring in animal science and wanted to do pursue a career in animal nutrition. However, during her time spent at FFA camp over the summer, Grimes decided to change her major to agricultural education.

While at FFA camp, Grimes spent time facilitating with students. Slowly, Grimes realized the effect she was having on students and the effects that the students were having on her. This played a large role in Grimes changing her major.

During her time at FFA camp as a camper Grimes connected with a state officer at the time. During the five short days at camp, the state officer made a large impact on Grimes' life.

"I knew the impact that past state officers made on my life, and I knew that without them the direction of my career in FFA would have been drastically different," Grimes said.

Aubrey Jung, a freshman agriculture education student, from Altenburg, Mo., currently serves as a 2022 Missouri FFA State Officer.

"It's about the kids. We often hear the term 'fill your cup, and then pour your cup'. I feel like if you can pour your cup more often than not, it's more beneficial. I'm one who is always looking forward to talking to kids, just making sure that they have the best experience in FFA during my year of service," Jung said.

Grace Doss, a freshman student studying agriculture education and agricultural communications, from West Plains, Mo., currently serves as a 2022 Missouri FFA State Officer.

"State office has helped me to be able to get out of my comfort zone and do things that actively scare me. Being able to start a conversation with someone, and connect with them in ways I normally wouldn't have known how to. It has really helped me understand who I am and who I want to be as a leader," Doss said.



Rachel Grimes, 2021-2022 Missouri FFA State Vice President



Grace Doss, 2022-2023 Missouri FFA State Vice President



Aubrey Jung, 2022-2023 Missouri FFA State Vice President

ONLY 1%

2022 AMERICAN DEGREE MISSOURI STATE RECIPIENTS

McKenzie Bowen Jocelyn Dvorak Kylee Gengler Rachel Grimes Mercedes Horinek Grant McMillen Payden Nolting Madeline Payne Marenna Pomeroy Avery Schiereck Ellissa Tate Karson Thomas Landon Wright Kathryn Zuzack

Spring 2021 Graduates

Adams Amber Allee Taylor Allison Tyler Amtower Chris Anderson Tana Armstrong Cameron Barry Makayla Bartelt Hunter Barton Adam Batten Trevor Beiter Jeffrey Black Matthew Blalock Hunter Bohnert Trevor Branson Wyatt Branstetter Viktoria Britton Jake Brock Michael Bryan Alicia Buttelmann Gretta Cameron Riley Campbell Katherine Carnes Sara Carron David Chen Shuwen Clark Cole Clark Macie Coble Tye Cooley Scott Coonce Mel **Copeland Garrett** Courtouise Mackenzie Davis Austin Davis Tyler Decker Darian Denbow Grant Dobbs Shirley Dockery Lauren Dopp Joseph Dunkmann Bailey

Springfield Tipton Greenwood Clever Springfield Sullivan Cabool Springfield Springfield Rogersville Saint Peters Richland Didgeville Saint Charles Auxvasse Bolivar Waynesville Platte City Lake Saint Louis Island Lake, IL Rich Hill Springfield Preston Fairfield, CT Ganzhou - China Fair Grove Fair Grove Everton Springfield Clever Ellington Bourbon Augusta, ME Fillmore Jefferson City Springfield Mountain Grove

Nixa Portage des Sioux

Natural Resources-BS General Agriculture-BS Agr.Bus./Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Plant Sci.-EP-Accelerated-MS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Natural Resources-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Agriculture-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agriculture-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin.&Mgmt-BS Wildlife Consvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Natural Resources-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Agriculture-MS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin.&Mgmt-BS

Eggerman Claire Eldridge Hannah **Evins** Patricia Ferguson Amariah Fisher Mark Frease Molly Gansmann Alex GIll Callie Gillette Sean Gray Jacob Groner Emily Gruber Savannah Harper Korey Hartely Matia Hill Lindsay Hill Zachary Hiserodt Samuel Hunt Jeffrey Hunt Jenna Ivy-Medlock Jacobs Jared Jensen Lilith Keathley Sarah **Kientzy** Nicholas Kioh Hannah LaBelle Kylie Lampert Mary Livingston Austin Loges Olivia Luttrell Lane Mareth Rachel Marion Zaria McCollum Stewart McConnell Mitchell Mercado Tyler Mitchell Madison Mooneyham Ethan Morefield Tayler Murillo Burgos Fabio Murphy Sadie

Carlyle, IL Mount Vernon West Plains Fulton Edgerton Clinton Washington Jefferson City Seymour Mansfield Jefferson City Urbana Ellington Fair Grove Springfield Bland Springfield Union Manchester Vonetta Drexel Saint Louis Springfield Silex

Norwood Marshfield Springfield Sweet Springs Iberia Mount Vernon Florissant Brookfield Crystal City Springfield Anderson Aurora Portageville Springfield Marthasville

Ag. Communications-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS General Agriculture-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Ag. Communications-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agriculture-MS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS Plant Sci.-EP-Accelerated-MS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS

Murray Collin Newell Brooke Noblitt Jacob Ogle Lani Phillips Gregory Phipps Tanner Powelson Kara Pratt Samantha Robinson Rachel Rockers Hannah Roth Isabella Schnake Samantha Schwend Matthew Scruggs Miranda Seale Rachael Seitz Hayley Shoenberger Eric Staples Danielle Stewart Hayden Stokes Abigail Stone Madison Strickland Amber Stubinger Makayla Thomas Hannah Turk Lucy Wasser Justine White Danielle Woods Tristan Yaeger Emily

Iberia Anita, IA Mount Vernon Sarcoxie Winona Lamar Rosendale O'Fallon Fair Grove Carthage Pilot Grove Stotts City Kirksville Farmington Dadeville Aurora Verona Kansas City Ash Grove Blue Springs Laddonia Dunnegan Lohman Marshfield Springfield Mascoutah, IL Springfield Steelville Wardsville

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Summer 2021 Graduates

- Albertson Caleb Bacher Bryan Bargfrede Trenton Breezawitz Reid Brown Mikena Buechter Mackenzie Cantrell Margaret
- Jefferson City Carthage Springfield Seymour Neosho Ilberia Saint Louis

Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS General Agriculture-BAS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS

Conley Ryan Hambelton Zoey Haus Elizabeth Hearne Chris Jones Bryan Jones Trenton Keene Kayla Zhuoya Li Mareth Riley Moore Bonnie Motley Laura Mundy Shelbi Negus Karlene Patrick Andrew Piercy Cole Shaw McKelli Sullivan Hannah Tummala Kavya Sri Yarnall Jacob

Ballwin Dora Lee's Summit Springfield Willard Walnut Grove Springfield Butler Bronaugh Republic Springfield Sutherland, IA Lynchburg Lebanon Philadelphia, PA O' Fallon Hyderabad - India Joplin

Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS General Agriculture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agriculture-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Animal Science-BS

Fall 2021 Graduates

Agee Kody Aguayo Teresa Benton Zachery Brown Cheyane Bunch Kate Burkhart Mariah Cannefax Benjamin Chainey Rylee Clanton Jared Clark Kaden Clayton Darian Crisp Avery Davis Aaron Derkum William Downs Brandy Dussold Kyle

Halfway Saint Louis Springfield Seneca Adrian Nixa Springfield Willard Springfield Crane Caulfield Mountain Grove Rolla Meta Battlefield Fenton

Natural Resources/General-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Natural Resources-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS General Agriculture-BAS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS

Fabro Owen Fairchild Austin Fisher Kira Hang Lina Hirsch Christian Holliday CarrieLee Honse Logan Horner Kathryn Hudlemeyer Todd Johnson Jacob Kelley Charles Kesterson Garrett Kirby Hayden Kirk William Kleindl Danielle Martin Everett Masters Kelsey McClintock-Mosley Caroline McKimmey Cody Meisberger Mackenzie Millikin Dylan Monnig Nathaniel Moore Ryder Moran Amelia Morrison Tysan Neff Jaclyn Paloschi Lucas Pisarek John Pryor William Reinkemeyer Anna **Rice Jennifer** Richterkessing Tyler Robinson Olivia Rogers Danielle Rogers Quinton Rose Troy Schultz Jacob Selby Emily Setchfield Breanna Shelton Brayling

Springfield Springfield Carl Junction Purdy Thayer Salem Belle Curryville Excelsior Springs Aurora Rowlett, TX Fair Grove Springfield Republic

Springfield O' Fallon Pleasant Hope Lebanon Greenwood Neosho Bridgeton Rogersville Farmington Savannah Springdale, AR Ibiruba - Brazil Lake Saint Louis Pleasant Hill Linn Springfield Old Monroe Washington Republic Stockton Cassville Webb City Godfrey, IL Farmington Salem

Natural Resources-BS Plant Sci-EP Accelerated-MS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Ag. Communications-BS General Agriculture-BAS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS General Agriculture-BAS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Ag. Communications-MS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS General Agriculture-BAS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Ag. Communications-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS

Simino Kathryn Simpson Lily Skinner Nathan Springer Ashley Tan Jia Thomas Sarah Vernon Hailee Von Behren Joshua Wagner Weston Walker Katie Walther Shianne Whitaker Madison Wolfe Timothy Wurtz Brianna Wynkoop Shelby Yarnell Bryce Yates Paityn

Springfield Springfield Kirksville Springfield NANAN - China Wheatland Eldon Springfield Kansas City Stockton Republic El Dorado Springs Reeds Spring Marshfield Springfield

Wildwood

General Agriculture-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS General Agriculture-BS Natural Resources Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture-MS Agriculture Education-BSED Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Natural Resources-BS Animal Science-BS

Spring 2022 Graduates

Abney Kaylee Atkisson Andrea Baranowski Amanda Barry Makayla Bayless Samantha Beazley Haylee Bell Lauren Berendzen Hannah Betz Kendra **Biggers** Laura Bilyeu Landon Biri Tyler Blaha Matthew Bock Connor **Bolick Michaele** Bradley Raygan Breuer Willow Bridges Alexia Brouwer Gerrit

Owensville Everton Florissant Cabool Carthage Republic Nixa Wentzville Trenton Niangua Nixa Springfield Platte City Appleton City Rogersville Neosho Ballwin Rolla Osceola

Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS General Agriculture-BAS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Natural Resources/General-BS General Agriculture-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS

Brown Connor Brown Madelyn Brown Michaela Byram Brittany Caraway Nicholas Chastain Kyndra Clardy Hannah Coatney Jarod Cobban Matelyn Collins Chloe Cramer Moriah Dake Michael Dean Kyleigh DelVecchio Grace Dennis Tristan Dotson Evan Durham Paige Fahey Thomas Farwell Hayden Fenton Chance Fletcher Elizabeth Fowler Amanda Glaus Michaela Goodman Carsen Gordon Lacey Grant Kathryn Graves Wyatt Gruben Brayden Hargus Taylor Hartsfield Ryce Hayward Kendyl Headley Samantha Henson Katlyn Hosmer Brynna Huchteman Matthew Hull Julie Jedlicka Caitlin Kerr Gretchen Kirkwood Rae Kramer Lauren

Stockton Stoutland Bolivar Gerald Kirksville Elkland Jefferson City West Plains Fair Grove Strafford Salem Waterloo, IL Saint Louis Exeter, RI Mount Vernon Marionville Marshall Springfield Stockton Mount Vernon Springfield Springfield Sikeston Ellington Norborne Carrollton El Dorado Springs Mountain Grove Eldon Dexter Wentworth Lebanon Springfield Glasgow Dadeville Montrose Koshkonong Springfield Houston Kirksville

Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Plant Science-EP Dept-MS General Agriculture-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Ag. Communications-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Natural Resources/General-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Animal Science-BS Ag. Communications-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agriculture Education-BSED Individ. Major-EP Dept-BS

Lanz Christopher Lee Michael Lett Rylan Lucy Mickael Mann Hailey Mathews Parker McCord Sarah Meyer Emma Moeslein EmiLee Moore Sydney Morgan Lauren Neubert Kaitlyn Newell Brooke Parker Lyndsey Perales Jailyn Persinger Laura Philippe Chase Porter Rachel Prothro Cindi Ribolzi Anthony Rinne Ty Sanders Dalton Seibert Meghan Sharp Mary Shue Spencer Slayden Elizabeth Stack Sydney Stout Clay Strunk Emily Sulkowski Kyleigh Summitt Diana Thompson Makenna Truitt Tyler **Tunnell Madison** Turk Gil VanBuren Quentin Wilson Brady Wilson Brenna Wilson Wyatt Yonker Madison

Holdrege, NE Reeds Noel O' Fallon Marshfield Verona California Columbia Vienna Springfield Lamar Ozark Anita, IA Salem Crane Bolivar Saint Louis Kearney Mount Vernon Columbia, IL Union Salem Gerald Saint Louis Aurora Everton Branson West Reeds Labadie St Genevieve Springfield Republic Springfield Marshfield Springfield Wildwood Strafford Jerico Springs Ava Pierce City

General Agriculture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agriculture-MS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Natural Resources/General-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS

Summer 2022 Graduates

Black Matthew Books Mary Brashers McKenzie Duboeuf Caroline Earls Riley Hultgren Chase Johnson John Malcom Hailey McClellan Katelyn McKnight Matthew Phipps Bart Sumner Addison White Hunter Young Joby

Richland Springfield Mount Vernon O' Fallon Niangua Willard Mount Vernon Stella Willow Springs Pleasant Hope Springfield Myrtle Willard Monett Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Natural Resources/General-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Schi/Horticulture-BS Natural Resources-BS General Agriculture-BAS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS Animal Science-BS

Fall 2022 Graduates

Baird Hannah Boero Maria **Byous** Alec Cheek Kyle Chen Joe Clark Maggie Clifton-Daughtery Zackary Cooperman Erica Culver Benjamin Davidson Sarah Dickmeyer Kyle Doolin Thadeus Dordal Veronica Doty Justin Grussing Emily Hasty Rachel Humphrey Adam Larsen MacKenzie Laster Jessica Lebish Braun Long Brenna McClanahan Lauren

Fair Play Bourbon Wildwood Cassville Chesterfield Leslie Buffalo Houston Saint Joseph Ballwin Sibley Grain Valley Dixon Henryville, PA Le Roy, IL Holts Summit Monett Springfield Republic Leslie

Cape Girardeau

Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources-BS Agriculture-MS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Ag. Communications-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agriculture-MS

Moore Charles Niermann Westen Nitcher Lucas O'Conner Ella Osborn Devin Paden Michael Pope Jordan Redhage Courtney Repp Brandon Sappington Emily Sebelien Alec Seibert Joshua Singh Clayton Thebeau-Ewing Legacy Thomas Karson Thompson Ryan Villa Diana Wait Paige Wall Morgan Wendt Alexander West Kelsey Wilcox Kinadie Zhao Wen

Rocky Comfort Stockton Columbia Springfield Willow Springs Springfield Freeburg Beaufort Washington Springfield Lee's Summit Gerald Kearney Fenton Republic Nixa Purdy Moundville Springfield Saint Louis Carthage Nixa Yinchuan - China

General Agriculture-BAS Natural Resources/General-BS Agriculture-MS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Natural Resources-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Animal Science-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Animal Science-BS Ag. Communications-BS Natural Resources-BS Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Fin&Mgmt-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Env.Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS Animal Science-BS Plant Science-EP Dept-MS

Spring 2023 Graduates

Allee Taylor Allen Cody Allscheid Cassie Anderson Morgan Anderson Sheri Austin Katelyn Black Alexis Blair Mackenzie Box Johnna Cadle Marcella Caton Summer Chai Leying Chen Meilin Tipton Columbia Waterloo, IL High Ridge Willard Diamond Richland Lebanon Springfield Highlandville Sedalia Chongqing - China Agriculture-MS General Agriculture-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources-BS Animal Science-BS General Agriculture-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Natural Resources-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT

Cheng Zhihan Collins Chloe Craft Sam Currier Jacob Dai Haoxi Dai Qinling Deckard Rylee Depee Dalton Ding Zexing Du Runjie Eggerman Claire Eiler Lauren Galvin Camryn Gao Aoxiao Gao Xuanlin Gao Yunan Ge Ruohao Gerlemann Amber Groover Emily Guan Hongwei Guo Xiaolei Hargrove James Hasselbring Caden He Zhifeng Holliday CarrieLee Horn Jennifer Hou Tingyu Howlett Tori Huang Xinyi Huang Ziheng Jackson Cole Jiang Jianxue Johnston Rachel Junkans Hannah Kayser Zachery Kirk William Klem Marshall Knapp Michael Lacy Megan Leamons Logan

Chongqing - China Strafford Bolivar Saint Charles Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Buffalo Lake Ozark Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Carlyle, IL High Ridge Kansas City Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Beaufort Rogersville Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Milo Ponca City, OK Chongqing - China Salem Springfield Chongqing - China Aldrich Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Cassville Chongqing - China Strafford Henley Chesterfield Republic Springfield West Plains Arnold Bucklin

International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture Education-BSED Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Natural Resources/General-BS Animal Science-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Animal Science-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Agriculture-MS International Plant Sci-UGCT Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Agriculture Education-BSED International Plant Sci-UGCT Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Animal Science-BS Natural Resources/Forestry-BS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Agr.Bus/Enterprise Mgmt-BS Agriculture Education-BSED Animal Science-BS Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS

Leng Jiayang Li Chengqiang Li Haiteng Li Ruotao Li Xueyan Li Zedi Lieven Kathryn Lin Qiyuan Lin Zhengxiong Lin Zijun Liu Jiayi Liu Peidong Liu Xuanyou Liu Yingchi Liu Yiran Liu Yulong Long Yang Lou Yaru Lukes Kiara Luo Qiyang Luo Wenhao Lyu Tingtao Ma Tengfei Manu Matthew McCowan Nicholas McKnight Matthew Medlock Connor Meek Sydney Meng Shiyu Moore Robert Mustoe Grant Nagy Jennifer **Overbeck Sarah** Pan Yujie Powers Shaylynn Qin Guoyu Reichmuth Cory Reinwald Joseph Robinson Olivia Rujawitz Drake

Chongqing - China Ballwin Chongqing - China Florissant Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Bozhou - China Bozhou - China Koforidua - Ghana Kearney Pleasant Hope Licking Maysville Chongqing - China Lake Ozark Jefferson City Wildwood Omaha, NE Chongqing - China Nixa Chongqing - China Saint Louis Kansas City Washington Dixon

International Plant Sci-UGCT Animal Science-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Plant Science-EP Dept-MS Animal Science-BS Plant Sci.-EP-Accelerated-MS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture Education-BSED International Plant Sci-UGCT Natural Resources/General-BS Natural Resources-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Env.Plant Sci/Brdg-Biotech-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS Agriculture-Accelerated-MS Agriculture Education-BSED

Schallert Mason Scherer John Shi Fanrui Shi Jiangjie Short Luke Song Yuyang Suedmeyer Bailee Sun Jiawei Sun Jungming Sun Xinhang Sun Yiran Tan Shuvi Tan Yuan Tang Jiahao Thompson Makenna Todd Hunter Tong Linhui Vallance Tina Wang Chuchu Wang Dongshu Wang Ku Wang Qian Wang Xiaoyang Wang Xinyu Wei Ningxin Wen Ruijie Wesley Emily West Emily Wilheim Briar Wisdom Ethan Wu Weitai Wu Yan Wu Yuzhou Wu Zexuan Xiao Xinran Xie Ruida Xu Fandi Xu Kang Yan Feiyang Yan Jiarui

Purdy Scott City Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Potosi Chongqing - China Hillsboro Chongqing - China Republic Centerview Chongqing - China Springfield Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Changqing - China Changqing - China Changqing - China Changqing - China Wildwood Arnold Golden City Bunker Chongqing - China Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Agr.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT Animal Science-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Plant Science-EP Dept-MS International Plant Sci-UGCT Plant Sci-EP-Accelerated-MS Animal Science-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Env.Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT Companion Animal Mgmt Animal Science-BS Ag.Bus/Agr.Mkt&Sales-BS Wildlife Consrvt&Mgmt-AG-BS International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT

Yang Jinjiang Yang Qiuni Yang Xiangyue Yang Yuhan Yang Zixin Yao Xiaoyao Yu Zhaoxi Yuan Ziru Zeng Shanghang Zhang Han Zhang Hongailing Zhang Qiyue Zhang Sai Zhang Xi Zhang Yanzhe Zhang Yi Zhang Yuhan Zhang Zirui Zhao Tongyu Zhao Zhiming Zhao Zihan Zheng Fengyuan Zhou Ziyu Zhu Wenyu Zhu Yuhuan Zou Wenxu Zuo Yuze

Chongqing - China Chongging - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongqing - China Chongging - China Chongqing - China Chongging - China Chongqing - China International Plant Sci-UGCT International Plant Sci-UGCT

Faculty and Professional Staff

Dr. Melissa Bledsoe, Interim Dean

Agricultural Business, Education, Communications & Hospitality Leadership

Director: Dr. Kara Wolfe

Dr. Albert Barreda Mr. Matt Bekebrede Ms. Nichole Busdieker-Jesse Dr. Liza Cobos Dr. James Hutter Dr. Yoshimasa Kageyama Ms. Katelyn McCoy Dr. Ben Onyango Dr. Arbindra Rimal Dr. Christi Sudbrock Ms. Wajeana White

Animal and Plant Science

Director: Dr. Lacy Sukovaty

Dr. Adam McGee Dr. Elizabeth Walker Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers Li-Ling Chen Dr. Michael Goerndt Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang Dr. William McClain Ms. Natalie Mook Ms. Jennifer Morganthaler Dr. Maciej Pszczolkowski Dr. Wenping Qiu Mr. Jacob Schneider Ms. Shianne Walther Dr. Gary Webb Dr. Karl Wilker

Per Course

Taylor Allee Jerome Austin Michael Bowers Clinton Dalbom Cheri Hamilton Tamara Holder Drew Marcum

McKenzie Nygren Marilyn Odneal Lori Padgett James Preston Olivia Robinson Tim Russell Dr. Jason Salchow

- Hospitality Leadership Hospitality Leadership Agricultural Economics/Bus. Hospitality Leadership Agricultural Education Hospitality Leadership Agricultural Communications Agricultural Economics/Bus. Agricultural Economics/Bus. Hospitality Leadership
- Animal Science Animal Science EPSNR EPSNR EPSNR EPSNR Animal Science EPSNR EPSNR EPSNR EPSNR Animal Science Animal Science EPSNR
 - James Shepherd Jayson Shriver Shannon Snyder Matt Triola Bobbi Wixson

