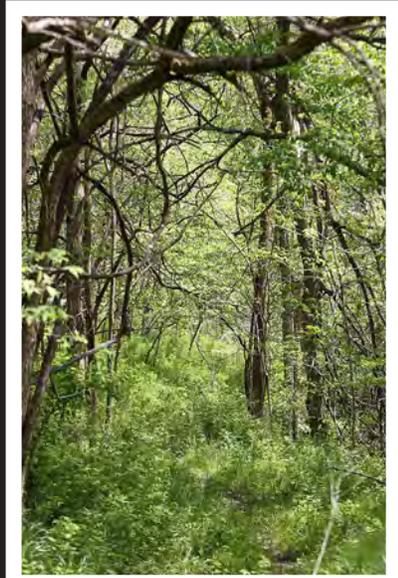


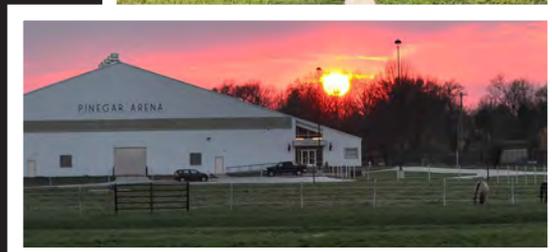
Shealy Farm



Baker's Acres



Woodlands



Darr Agricultural Center



Mountain Grove Campus

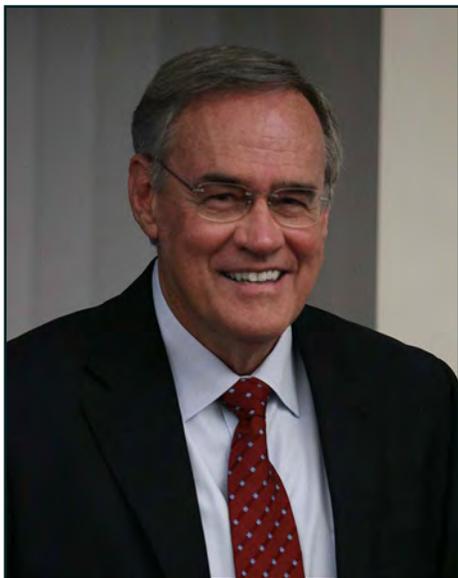


Journagan Ranch

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From the Director



W. Anson Elliott
Director, Darr School of Agriculture

Spring commencement is a clear signal that another group of students have met a long-term goal that they and their loved ones have had for many years. It has been a tremendous year in so many ways.

The Darr School of Agriculture has been a leader on campus for percentage of enrollment increases and student retention. Faculty members have been very productive in all activities of teaching, advising, outreach and research. Our wonderful facilities have been so important in providing active-learning experiences that are being noticed from ever-increasing distances.

We are pleased to have quality individuals joining our faculty team. Dr. Melissa Remley has just completed her first year of teaching. This past year she taught two of our key soil courses—soil and crop management and the principles of soil. Samantha Warner, who has completed her master’s degree in agricultural communications from Oklahoma State University, has been hired as an agricultural communications faculty member. This addition will allow us to grow further in this important curriculum area. A search

is underway to fill a position in natural resources. This position will provide strength to the natural resources program and the forestry emphasis.

The contributions of time and funds to the Darr School by our alumni and friends are vital to the positive experiences and accomplishments we are enjoying. The revitalization of the MSU Darr School of Agriculture’s Alumni Association is such a joy. The renewal of friendships and the funds raised are of great benefit. The funds raised at last year’s auction helped to support five scholarships and many hours of student labor on the Darr Agricultural Center.

We look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming events including the summer tour of the Journagan Ranch and the fall Alumni Event. Please call our office for details. We also look forward to your visit on campus to relive stories of the past.

Anson

417-836-5638 <http://ag.missouristate.edu/>

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The Woodlands offers new opportunities

By Eric Testerman

Land recently donated to the William H. Darr School of Agriculture will be a living laboratory for students to learn about forestry, wildlife, plants, soil and water. Betty Jeanne Wood Turoff, of Arlington, Va., donated the Woodlands, 161 acres located just northwest of Springfield.



The property's history with the Wood family began in 1852 when it was purchased by John Wood. Although today the property is mostly undeveloped, there are remnants of the past including native-rock fireplaces, foundations, and old boilers from a laundry. Turoff said her father had always wished the area to remain natural.

Tim Stanton, school of agriculture forestry instructor, said the educational opportunities are tremendous and are varied including soil erosion control, watershed management, forestry, wildlife demonstration plots, and perhaps even archeology. Stanton explained that the property will be part of the school of agriculture, but other departments, such as biology, will be able to utilize the Woodlands for their educational opportunities.

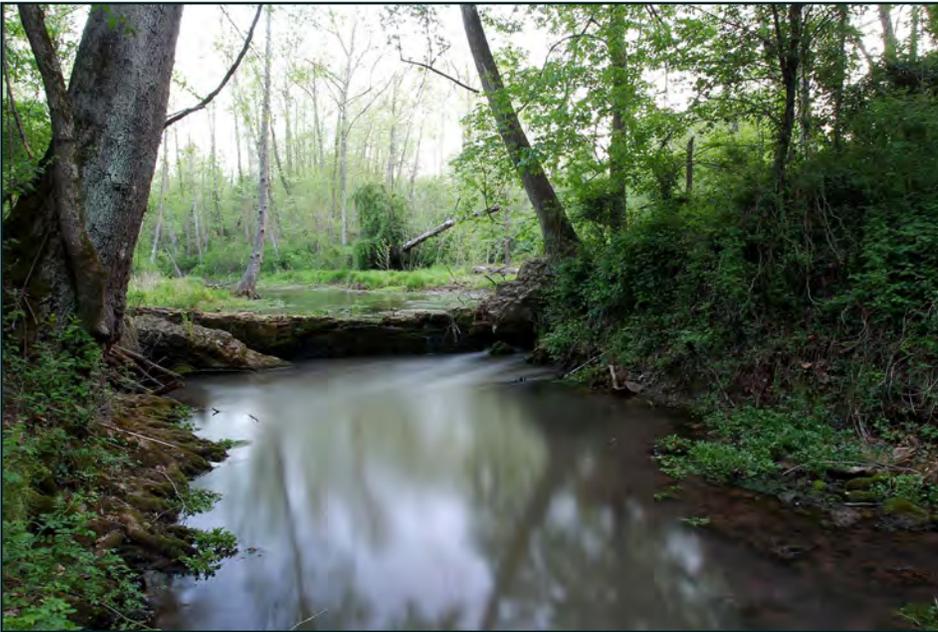
Stanton, who has taught at Missouri State University for three semesters, is a forestry consultant and retired from the Missouri Department of Conservation. From his experience, Stanton said the value of this property as a learning environment is increased because of the maturity of the trees. One tree, bored by Stanton for dating,

was 82-years-old. Stanton said it is unusual to have a property of mature timber and especially rare because the forest is so close to a metropolitan area.

Stanton said adding some infrastructure, such as a road, parking lot and pavilion, would greatly enhance the educational opportunities. The hope is that MSU friends will step up to help finance these needs.

Most of the history documented about the property came from Sally McAlear; Springfield, Mo. McAlear is a retired MSU secretary with the school of agriculture. She grew up near the property and had previously done historical research on the Woodlands. According to McAlear's research, the Woodlands had been a farm including a home, barn and grist mill. Later in the 1800s a school and church were added.





From 1934 to 1940 the Federal Government leased 80 acres of the land as a transient camp for men. The wives and children stayed in town. The camp had 17 buildings including three barracks, laundry facility, shower facility, barber shop, commissary, and fully-functioning hospital where transients from other camps were ambulated in for medical care. There also was a lake for recreation that was created from damming a creek. The camp also had gardens, paths and roads. The transients were paid a dollar a day to construct the buildings. Greene County took over the camp in 1938 and it was shut down in 1939. Most of the buildings were demolished down to the foundations.

This semester three students were given the task of documenting the historical

footprint of the Woodlands. Their tasks included map layout, map overlay, site survey and cross checking known-cultural sites.

The students include group leader Brigette Williams from Raymondville, Mo., who has a Bachelor of Science in biology

from Drury University, Springfield, Mo., and is a graduate student at MSU working on a master's in plant science; Brian Andrews from Springfield, Mo., senior in natural resources; and Jamie Gundel from Washburn, Mo., natural resources senior enrolled in the accelerated master's program for plant science.

"The group was surveying the property for historical artifacts," said Williams. We were plotting everything found with a GPS and are compiling a report for MSU's use in a forestry stewardship/management plan of the property."



Forestry Instructor Tim Stanton (right) looking at an aerial view of the woodlands with graduate student Jamie Gundel.

Missouri State University Fruit Experiment Station has been solving problems for fruit growers for over 100 years

By Karen Dalbom

Established in 1899, the Missouri State University Fruit Experiment Station in Mountain Grove has created many avenues for research leading to global advancements in the fruit industry.

With rich heritage and diversity, the MSU Fruit Experiment Station celebrated a centennial milestone in 2005. The Center for Grapevine Biotechnology is led by Research Professor Wenping Qiu, who collaborates with other researchers worldwide. Qiu has been manipulating hybrid rootstocks of grapes to form a fungus-resistant variety of grapes. Grapevines that are resistant to disease and pests will ultimately reduce growers' dependence on pesticides.



Dr. Wenping Qiu, director of center for biotechnology, and Shae Honesty, graduate student, check grape grafts.

Associate Research Professor Maciej A. Pszczolkowski, other researchers and graduate students focus on several insects that cause damage to fruit crops every year. Pests of grapes, peaches, blackberries, blueberries, apples and pears are attracted to ripened and over-ripened fruit. The codling moth is a nuisance within the apple industry. The green June beetle also causes significant damage to the blackberry crop annually. Pszczolkowski diligently works on solutions as simple as pheromone traps to deter these pests. The ultimate goal of these traps is to use fewer pesticides on fruit crops.

“Resistance is part of evolution,” said Pszczolkowski.

An introduced insect, known as the Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit fly, came to Missouri from the West Coast earlier than expected. In 2010 these fruit flies were unfortunately discovered on raspberry plants at the MSU Fruit Experiment Station. Horticulture Outreach Advisor Marilyn Odneal has been studying and combating this



C. J. Odneal, cellar technician, and Dr. Karl Wilker, research professor of enology, receive award for Maroon Blend.

pest in the high tunnel greenhouse structure, which was built in 2011. These pests will deposit their eggs within varieties of fruit such as raspberries. Therefore, developing a resistant plant will ensure sufficient fruit yields for future generations.

The MSU Fruit Experiment Station hosts garden and fruit workshops throughout the year. In addition, products such as fresh fruit and wine are available for purchase. Research Professor of Enology Karl L. Wilker provides workshops on the wine processes and serves as a consultant in the field of winemaking, and offers a home winemaking publication book online.

Efforts by staff and students at the MSU Fruit Experiment Station have led to success in the winemaking field. On display at the station are numerous awards and medals for a variety of wines and other products created and developed at the facility.

Pamela Mayer, library associate and outreach coordinator, also contributes to the efforts at the Mountain Grove campus. Recently Mayer received a grant to preserve in digital format publications, written at the Fruit Experiment Station, which have been collected at Evans Library for over a century. Topics within this collection include biotechnology, enology, entomology, pomology, plant pathology, molecular genetics and viticulture.

“This was a special archive project that will preserve valuable documents,” Mayer said.

The MSU Fruit Experiment Station is more than just a branch campus. When one takes a closer look at this gem of a resource, they will be intrigued at the dedication of the staff and students to their research and their desire to advance the fruit production industry.

Missouri State University SOAR leaders shine through the Darr School of Agriculture

By Savanna Stanley

There will be four agriculture majors that are Missouri State University Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration (SOAR) leaders this summer.

“I have always known that our agriculture students were just as outstanding as other students on campus and having four outstanding leaders represent the Darr School of Agriculture is amazing,” said Jim Bellis, assistant to director–student services and public affairs of the school.

Jess Ratliff, sophomore animal science major from Naylor, Mo., will be returning to SOAR and said she cannot wait for another amazing experience.

“The opportunity of being a SOAR leader and living with the other SOAR leaders have improved my overall university experience,” said Ratliff.

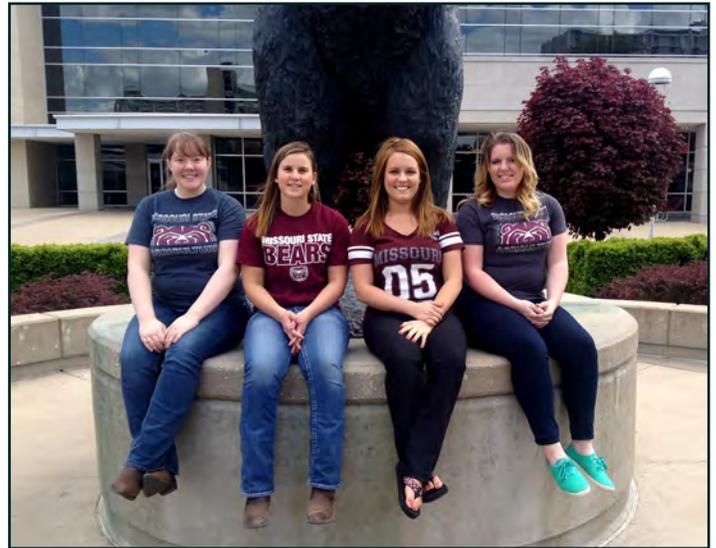
“We were fortunate enough to have Jess Ratliff assigned to us,” explained Bellis. “Last summer was the first SOAR session in five years that an agriculture student was assigned as the designated Darr School of Agriculture SOAR leader.”

“It was really cool working with the Darr School of Agriculture during SOAR last summer,” said Ratliff. “Since I am an animal science major, I was able to connect with the incoming students along with the professors in the agricultural department.”

Laura Wolf, junior agricultural communications major from Tipton, Mo., said she is excited to work with the incoming students.

“I have always admired how the Darr School of Agriculture faculty and staff are always eager for students to get involved and grow,” said Wolf. “I think that is what sets our school apart from other departments.”

Savanna Stanley, freshman agricultural communications major from Ojai, Calif., will be assuming the position from Ratliff as the school of agriculture’s SOAR leader and is proud to welcome



From left, Hannah Smith, freshman agricultural education major from Windsor, Mo.; Savanna Stanley, freshman agricultural communications major from Ojai, Calif.; Jess Ratliff, sophomore animal science major from Naylor, Mo.; and Laura Wolf, junior agricultural communications major from Tipton, Mo.

incoming students to the Missouri State agriculture family. Stanley’s freshman experience will help incoming agriculture students transition to college life and learn about all the opportunities the school of agriculture has to offer.

Hannah Smith, freshman agricultural education major from Windsor, Mo., said she is looking forward to introducing new students to Missouri State University. Smith added that she loves the school of agriculture because of leadership opportunities and knows this will help her promote the school of agriculture.

“Having four SOAR leaders who are also agriculture majors is amazing. As our enrollment of students continues to grow 10-15 percent each semester, it is inevitable that our agriculture students are going to become more recognized leaders around campus,” said Bellis.

Missouri FFA Convention offers unique experience

By Colby Nieder

Students from the Missouri State University introduction to agricultural communications class participated in the 2014 Missouri FFA Convention media room where they assisted with various tasks including writing press releases, taking photos and managing other backstage duties associated with the convention.

This year seven undergraduate students including Lauren Ashton, freshman agricultural communications major from Lee’s Summit, Mo.; Karen Dalbom, senior general agriculture major from Branson, Mo.; Grace Erdos, junior agricultural communications major from Rogersville, Mo.; Courtney Hall, freshman agricultural communications major from Creighton, Mo.; Austin Reedy, freshman agricultural

communications major from Windsor, Mo.; Bridget Schumer, freshman agricultural communications major from Perryville, Mo.; and Savanna Stanley, freshman agricultural communications major from Ojai, Calif., assisted in the media room. Traci Bailey, agriculture graduate student from Richland, Mo., also attended.

The students were responsible for writing news releases and photo captions highlighting FFA members' accomplishments.

There were approximately 400 news releases written on proficiency awards, chapter activities, new state officers, star awards, honorary degrees and other miscellaneous awards. Also, over 450 photos and captions were matched with respective news releases. Students also were responsible for taking photos throughout the convention and during final session a compilation of the photos were shown in a slide show.

"The media room improved my writing and editing skills," said Bailey. "I feel like my experiences have prepared me for future endeavors within the agricultural communications field."

Joyce Cutright, instructor of the agricultural communications class at MSU, has been attending the convention since 1992 where she has worked in the media room alongside students and other staff.

"The media room has seen lots of change over the years with the biggest being how news releases are delivered," said Cutright. "In previous years, all releases were mailed to the respective media outlets. Now everything is done electronically, making the delivery process more efficient."

Cutright explained how working in the media room gives students the opportunity to work in a fast-paced media environment. She added that students are able to see first-hand what it takes to run a media room effectively and efficiently, while developing writing skills to create and publish news articles.

"This year's group was one of the youngest teams with the least amount of writing experience that I have taken to the media room," said Cutright. "They were diligent and hard workers, and that is what you need to run a successful media room."

Missouri FFA State Officers finish freshman year at Missouri State University

By Traci Bailey

Imagine, it is your freshman year at college. It's your first time being responsible to get to class on time and manage all your college activities by yourself. Now top that off by being a Missouri FFA State Officer.

Jonathan Bellis, plant science major from Aurora, Mo., and Morgan Coday, agricultural education major from Seymour, Mo., have done just that. They

have finished their first year at Missouri State University and as Missouri FFA State Officers. Juggling a college schedule and the duties of being a state officer requires a dedicated responsible individual. What makes a person want to pursue this path?

"I have always been around the FFA with my dad and two sisters, but at the state convention before my freshman year (high school), a newly selected state officer talked to me about the opportunities that they had in the FFA," said Bellis. "I knew that I wanted to have that same motivational impact on members."

"I wanted to become a state officer because it had been a goal of mine, since becoming an FFA member," said Coday. "I have always looked up to the state officers and have wanted to be one since then."

After navigating through the halls of college and many trips around the state visiting with FFA chapters, Bellis and Coday have advice for current and future FFA members.

"If you never leave your comfort zone, then you can never truly learn," said Bellis.

"Always go for your dreams. One of my dreams was to become a state officer," said Coday. "Though it seemed like all the odds were against me—I come from a small town, I have average speaking skills, and I'm not the best when it comes to meeting new people, I went for my dream anyway. In the end, it paid off."



Agricultural industry study offers students great opportunities

By Logan Clements

During the January winter intercession, 32 agriculture students traveled to St. Louis to attend the agricultural industry study. This study offered students the opportunity to visit nine agribusinesses.

Students interacted with business leaders and attained a real-life view of the agricultural business industry. The students visited Monsanto, Land O'Lakes Purina Animal Nutrition Center, Osborn and Barr Communications, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, FCS Financial, American Soybean Association, Lange-Stegman Co., Holten Meats and Rabo Agrifinance.

The students were accompanied by MSU faculty members Dr. Benjamin Onyango, Dr. Arbindra Rimal and Christine Sudbrock.

"I enjoy watching students realize what they learn in class they can apply to the real world," said Sudbrock.

Brian Austin, senior agricultural business major from Butler, Mo., was one

of the many students who participated in the trip.

"It was great building relationships and getting to know other agriculture students that were on the trip," said Austin. "It gave me a chance to see what several big agribusinesses operated like."

To attend the study, students must have completed 60-credit hours, including six or more in agricultural economics. The study is normally five days long, but due to winter-weather conditions it was only

four days. Students received two-credit hours for the agricultural industry study experience.

The course is required for all students pursuing an agricultural business degree. Students seeking other agricultural-related degrees are encouraged to attend the trip, but it is optional. This year marked the 42nd year the agricultural industry study has been offered, and it will continue to be part of the agricultural business curriculum.



Students listen to a presentation at Lange-Stegman Co.



Alyssa Hultgren of the Willard FFA Chapter is a 2014-15 FFA state officer. Hultgren will be attending Missouri State University this coming fall to study environmental plant science.



Jordan Henderson measures percent slope with an Abney level.



Jennifer Morganthaler, senior environmental plant science/horticulture major (left), and Dr. Melissa Remley, assistant professor of plant science, work in Remley's Karls Hall lab.

Clubs and competitive teams active in 2013-2014

Agronomy Club



Soil Judging Team

From left, Coach Tom DeWitt, Brian Bunton, Brittanie Schuette, Angela Crase, Dillon Washam, Eli Martin, Shannon McClintock, Zach Straatmann, Jordan Henderson and Nolan Rapp.

Advisors: Dr. Mike Burton
Mr. Tom DeWitt
Dr. Melissa Remley

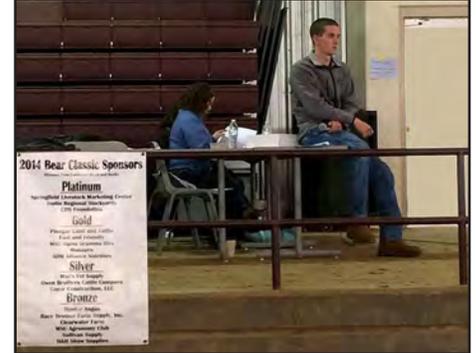
President: Kaylie Winschel
Vice President: Brian Bunton
Secretary: Rebecca Tyler
Treasurer: Brittanie Schuette
Activities: The Darr School of Agriculture Soil Judging team placed seventh out of 19 teams in the Group Judging at the

2014 National Collegiate Soils Contest. The contest was held at Doylestown, Pa., and was sponsored by Delaware Valley College as the host University and by the American Society of Agronomy. The team qualified by placing second in the regional competition hosted by Missouri State University in September 2013.

The team plans to compete again next fall at the regional contest hosted by Iowa State University.



Block & Bridle



Marie Sheldon (left) and Justin Mauss stay busy at Bear Classic announcing and writing checks to exhibitors.

Advisor: Justin Sissel
President: Taylor Loges
Vice President: Izzy Michitsch
Secretary: Aly Mackey
Treasurer: Marie Sheldon
Reporter: Mallory Early
Parliamentarian: Justin Mauss
Activities: Bear Classic - Host a cattle show every spring.

Alpha Gamma Rho



Advisor: Dr. Anson Elliott
Noble Ruler: Josh Buckner
Planning: Beau Mantle
Activities: Casey Appleton
Scholarship: Jared Jacobs
Risk Management: Ryan Trankler
Recruitment: Thomas Hermann
Ethan Romi
Brandon Zurowski
Alumni Relations: Hunter Carter
IFC Liaisons: Tim Rogers
Sam Whisler
House Management: Logan Martin
Membership Dev.: Eric Vincent
Michael Hickinbotham

Finance: Jacob Phillips
Activities: Host Backwoods Bash and Ball Blast, attend national leadership seminars and national conventions, rejoined the IFC and participate in Greek Life.

Alpha Gamma Sigma



The men of Alpha Gamma Sigma and ladies of Sigma Kappa posing after a successful Porkfest benefit for the Wounded Warrior Project.

President: Devyn Payne
Vice President: Jacob Murphy
Secretary: Tucker Dunaway
Treasurer: Steven Jackson
Warden: Zac Copeland and Gunner Wilkerson
Recruitment chair: Mark Mareth
Social Chairs: Tucker Dunaway and Doug Kras

Activities: Homecoming, Greek Week, float trip, Porkfest and Adopt-a-Stream.

Collegiate Farm Bureau



Advisors: Dr. Anson Elliott and Jim Bellis
President: Justin Mauss
Vice President: Quaid Taylor and Lauren Garoutte
Secretary: Laura Wolf
Treasurer: Taylor Mize
Public Relations: Brad Dillner and Alyssa Cassidy
Recruitment: Olivia Jaco
Events: Collegiate Farm Bureau hosts the Ag Forum, attend the National and State Young Farmers and Ranchers Conferences, attend Missouri Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, present resolutions at the Missouri Farm Bureau Policy Meeting, host the Salute to Ag PBR, and volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House and Ozarks Food Harvest.

Collegiate FFA



Collegiate FFA members working the recruitment booth at FFA State Convention. From left, Taylor Floyd, Tucker Dunaway, Caitlyn McKibben, Hannah Smith, Chad Monnig, Zac Funk, Jerri Lynn Henry, KayLee Smith, Leslie Smith, Tacia Williams and Justin Mauss.

Advisor: Dr. Jim Hutter
 President: Tucker Dunaway
 Vice President: Lauren Garoutte
 Secretary: Evan Gorrel
 Treasurer: Marissa Tucker
 Sentinel: Tyler Rothove
 Historian: Heaven Morgan
 Jr. Adviser: Justin Mauss
 Activities: Farmer For A Day - we bring out first graders from Greenwood Elementary School and introduce them to different areas in agriculture, National FFA Convention, Missouri FFA Convention, Adopt-A-Street.

Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha



Advisor: Dr. Beth Walker
 President: Emily Quas
 Vice President: Ben Howard
 Secretary: Justin Mauss
 Treasurer: Aly Mackey
 Historian: Erica wagenknecht
 SOFAC liaison: Jessi Sokolic
 Activities: Host Finals Week Quiz Bowl and Tournament, hold monthly meetings, attend national convention, and host a fish fry, fundraisers and the adopt-an-angel program.

Horsemen's Association

Advisors: Sue Webb and Dr. Gary Webb
 President: Cassie O'Hara
 Vice President: Kerstine Whittaker
 Secretary: Meghan Mothershead
 Treasurer: Anna Klem
 Activities: Horsemen's members volunteered with Equi-Librium Therapy Center in Rogersville, hosted the 3rd Annual Benefit Trail Ride at the new Shealy

Intercollegiate Riding Teams



Hunt Seat Team



Western Show Team Regional Qualifiers



A constituent of the 2013-2014 MSU Ranch Horse Team. From left, Daniel Potter, Shayla Coale, Dr. Gary Webb, Cassie O'Hara and William Boyer. Other members not shown include Brittany Rucker, Bailey Jo Mill, Colton Zirkle, Courtney Hall, Kelsey Ellis, Shelby Burns and Claire Wagman.

Farm, hosted a club fun horse show, competed in the NRHA judging competition, hosted five IHSA western and two IHSA hunt seat horse shows, hosted a practice horse judging contest, hosted the district FFA horse judging contest and assisted with Farmer for a Day activities and ranch horse shows and participated in May Day activities and other organization activities. We sponsor the Intercollegiate Western and Hunt Seat show teams. The Western team competed in nine shows this season and was third in the region and had nine individuals (Jack Powderly, Kelsey Ellis, Mckenzi Payton, Anna Klem, Cassie O'Hara, Meghan Mothershead, Courtney Hall, Lauren Ashton and Bailey Mill) who qualified for the Zone 7 Region 5 Regionals and one rider Bailey Mill qualified for Western Semi-finals and placed sixth. The hunt seat team competed in six shows this season. One hunt seat rider Nicole McCoy, an alumni rider, qualified for regionals and moved on to place seventh in the Zone 7 Championships.

Ranch Horse Team

Advisor: Dr. Gary Webb
 President: William Boyer
 Vice President: Cassie O'Hara
 Treasurer: Daniel Potter
 (Founding President)
 Activities: ASHA National Collegiate Championship, Loveland, Colo., ASHA Region 3 Championship Showdown, ASHA Region 3 Shows at Pinegar Arena and Berryville, Ark., and Sho-Me Horse Show Association local shows.

Clubs and competitive teams active in 2013-2014 *cont.*

Horticulture Club



Advisors: Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers
 President: Jenny Doss
 Vice President:
 Secretary: Jennie Morgenthaler
 Treasurer: Janelle Melton
 Activities: Adopted Campus Garden and helped renovate the garden with weekly work sessions in the fall semester, held picnic in Campus Garden, planted trees along a stream west of Springfield.
 Community Service: Habitat for Humanity volunteer project, wrapped trees for Department of Wildlife Conservation to give away.
 Fundraisers: Sold vase arrangements for Valentine's Day and sold bulbs.

Trap & Skeet Team



Advisor: Dr. Matthew Fanetti
 President: Taylor Mize
 Vice President: Ashley Bryant
 Treasurer: Matt Brooks
 Activities: The purpose of the Trap & Skeet Team is to provide opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to participate in recreational intercollegiate shotgun shooting sports competitions. This provides an opportunity for the participant to develop skills and leadership abilities as a member of a team which fosters teamwork and cooperation among its members. This year, the team had the opportunity to compete in several intercollegiate shooting competitions in Missouri, Iowa, Tennessee and Kansas. The team also traveled to San Antonio, Texas, to compete in the ACUI Collegiate Clay Target Championships.

Sigma Alpha



Advisor: Ms. Christine Sudbrock
 President: Katelyn McCoy
 Vice President: Kim Clem
 2nd Vice Pres.: Mia Mann
 Secretary: Kaylie Winschel
 Treasurer: Brittanie Schuette
 Rush Chair: Katie Hanson
 Historian: Abby Sudbrock
 Alumni Liaison: Cassie Reid
 Activities: Sigma Alpha is a professional agricultural sorority that strives for achievement in scholarship, leadership and service to help foster academic excellence and professional development for women in agriculture. We participate in fundraising, philanthropy, sisterhood and social events including Pillow Exchange, Ag in the Classroom, Sisterhood Retreat, Formal and Etiquette Dinner.

Trixie Chicks



Advisor: Miko McFarland
 President: Shelby Epperson
 Vice President: Ashlee Hearod
 Treasurer: Katy Tennison (FA13), Kelsey Lauberth (SP14)
 Mktg & Event Coordinator: Kelsey Lauberth
 Creative Designer: Kelsey Scott

The Wildlife Society



Members attending a trapping workshop at the Midwest Student Conclave in Big Bay, Mich.

Advisors: Dr. Michael Burton, Ag
 Dr. Lynn Robbins, Biology
 President: Shawn Massey
 Vice President: Chad Ackerman
 Treasurer: Leslie Brinkman
 Secretary: Emily Deckard
 Activities: Volunteering with MDC doing quail whistle surveys, deer spotlight surveys, prescribed burns and fire training. We attended the Missouri Natural Resources Conference, the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society Student Workshop at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and learned about electrofishing on the Missouri River, mammal trapping, bird trapping, wetland management workshop, hog roast and camping. We also attended The Wildlife Society Midwest Student Conclave in Big Bay, Mich. featuring wolf and moose management seminars, mammal trapping, raptor rehab and women in wildlife seminars.

Activities: Cattle Baron's Ball (Greeters), Back to School Welcome BBQ (Entertainment), IPRA Bucking in the Bootheel Rodeo (Contract Specialty Act), Lauren Dukoff (Chosen by professional photographer as subjects for her latest photography portfolio), IPRA Contract Act Showcase (Competed at the International Finals Rodeo and placed third overall), 3rd Cowless Rodeo (Volunteer performance benefiting the Freedom Reins 4-H Club).

MSU Cattlemen's Association is first collegiate MCA chapter

By Austin Reedy

The Darr School of Agriculture is now home to the first collegiate Cattlemen's Association chapter in the state.

Missouri Cattlemen's Association (MCA) is an organization whose purpose is advancing Missouri's beef industry. To accomplish this, as explained by Missouri State University Cattlemen's Chapter Advisor Dr. Elizabeth Walker, MCA "helps inform cattle producers of political issues as well as information to help them be productive on their farm."

The MSU Cattlemen's Association Chapter works to match MCA's purpose by helping members stay informed on issues in agriculture. MSU Cattlemen's also strives to get students more actively involved in the agricultural advocacy process.

One way chapter members accomplish advocacy is by getting involved in activities like Cowboys at the Capitol. Cowboys at the Capitol is a weekly event sponsored by

MCA where representatives from different districts go to Jefferson City to talk to legislators about priority agricultural issues. Some of the issues discussed when MSU's chapter members were at the capitol included the Farming Rights Amendment, the Beef Checkoff and extended liability protection for livestock producers.

Other ways the MSU chapter has increased member involvement is through attending events including the Agriculture Symposium, the Cultivating Conversations Agricultural Advocacy Forum, the Polk County Livestock and Forages Conference, and Cattlemen's Association meetings outside the chapter.

In addition to member involvement in activities, another main focus of the MSU chapter starting semester was organizing the first MSU Cattlemen's Association Chili Cook-Off. The event included a chili-making competition with prizes for judge's choice, people's choice and spiciest chili.

Live music was provided by the Dirt Road Sinners.

The Chili Cook-Off also was an opportunity to promote the beef industry. People were able to read and take home pamphlets that explained issues in agriculture, including the Farming Rights Amendment.

The chapter has plans to make the Chili Cook-Off an annual event.

The MSU chapter has had a strong start and MSU Cattlemen's Association President Michael Hickinbotham, sophomore animal science major from Eureka, Mo., has high hopes for the future.

"I want to see a lot of growth and involvement," Hickinbotham said. "I also want to see the sphere of education about our industry grow."

Walker also expressed high hopes for the future of the MSU Cattlemen's Chapter.

"Above everything else I want MSU Cattlemen's to develop leadership in youth," Walker said.

MSU Cattlemen's Association



The MSU Cattlemen's Association is the first collegiate affiliate of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. We are the future of agriculture and hope to make a big impact on the world's future food supply. The founding members are, from left to right, front row: Ethan Romi, Evan Gorrell, Michael Hickinbotham, Logan Taylor and Kelsey Laubeth.

Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Walker
President: Michael Hickinbotham
Vice President: Kaleb Killingsworth
Secretary: Evan Gorrell
Treasurer: Kelsey Laubeth
Reporter: Ethan Romi

Activities: Cowboys at the Capitol, Beef Quality Assurance Certification, Chili Cook-Off and Leadership Conference.



MSU Cattlemen's Association members visiting Rep. Nate Walker for Cowboys at the Capitol. Pictured from left, Mike Klem, coordinator of business and support services from Springfield, Mo.; Austin Reedy, freshman agricultural communications major from Windsor, Mo.; Kerstine Whittaker, junior agricultural education major from Republic, Mo.; Shayla Faubian, senior animal science major from Stella, Mo.; Rep. Nate Walker; Cheyenne Arthur, graduate student from Greenfield, Mo.; Dakota Arthur, graduate student from Greenfield, Mo.; and Dr. Elizabeth Walker.

Students from Missouri State University participate in agricultural exchange with Brazil

By Molly Garver

In May students and faculty from Missouri State University and UniCesumar, Maringa, Brazil, participated in a unique educational exchange to learn about each other's culture and agricultural industries.

Fourteen students and two faculty members from MSU, and 12 students and four faculty members from UniCesumar participated in the exchange. Christine Sudbrock, coordinator of outreach for the Darr School of Agriculture and Mike Klem, coordinator of business and support services for the Darr School of Agriculture, were the faculty members representing MSU.

The Brazil group attended lectures at MSU, visited attractions in the area including the Springfield Nature Center and Farmers Market of the Ozarks, and spent two days in St. Louis. They also attended the Ag Forum where Senator Roy Blunt and Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst discussed agricultural issues.

Preparation for the exchange began at the beginning of spring semester. Students wrote a paper over a topic of choice regarding Brazil's culture and created a presentation to share with fellow exchange participants.

Klem said the exchange is an excellent opportunity for MSU students to learn about other agricultural industries and a chance for the Darr School of Agriculture to be represented globally.

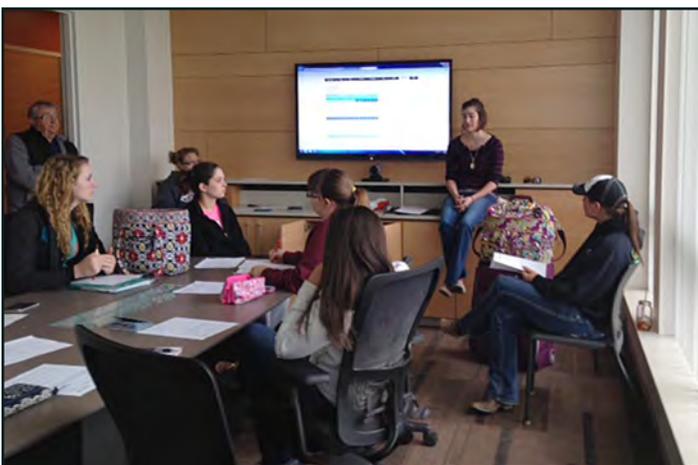
At the time of writing of this publication, the MSU group had not left for Brazil. However, while in Brazil, each student will keep a journal and contribute to a blog designed to share their experiences. In addition, students will distribute t-shirts donated by the MSU Cattlemen's Association Chapter to Brazilian students and citizens to show gratitude for the hospitality they receive.



While in Maringa, the MSU group will attend several lectures at the State University of Maringa. Lecture topics will include soil management in production systems, grain storage and marketing, and technology production of corn, cane sugar and canola.

The MSU group will also visit a sugar cane facility and an ethanol plant that processes sugar cane. They will have dinner with the president of the university and the mayor of Maringa. A day trip is also planned for a visit to Iguazu Falls, located on the boarder of Brazil and Argentina.

"This educational trip to Brazil is such an excellent opportunity to learn about the science and technology of Brazilian agriculture," said Klem. "In addition, the opportunities abound to experience Brazilian culture and traditions, and to learn about the national and international public affairs of this progressive country."



Brazilian students testing plant media in the Karls Hall greenhouse.



Students blog for the industry that feeds America

By Grace Erdos

With the many misconceptions that consumers have about the American agricultural industry, “advocates” have begun sharing agriculture’s story using the Internet and other communication technologies.

Alison Bos, graduate student at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture at Missouri State University, and Taylor Short, senior agricultural communications major at MSU, are two individuals who carry out such a passion.

Bos’ blog, titled MyAGventures, began as a result of a class project in Jamie Johansen’s public relations in agriculture course. Bos’ blog has grown to have over 250,000 lifetime views. One of her posts titled, Growing Up on a Farm: 25 Facts about Being a Farm Kid, went viral receiving over 200,000 views from over 200 different countries. Finishing fifth place overall in Ag Chat Foundation’s Top 10 Ag Blogs of 2013 Contest, this post also was published in national online publications including Our USA Magazine and National Beef Magazine.



“Through my blog, I want to tell the story of agriculture whether it be educating others about misconceptions or just simply telling the story of farm kid life,” Bos said. “I want my posts to serve as entities by which can be referenced to explain the importance of the industry that feeds the world.”

Short’s blogging experience began a few years ago when she started writing posts for a movement titled I Love Farmers, They Feed My Soul. The movement focuses on building strong connections between urban and rural youth, and Short’s blog eventually evolved into what is currently known as The Aggie Hipster.



Short received honorable mention for a National Agricultural Advocate of the Year Award, which was presented through I Love Farmers, They Feed My Soul. She also received the Liebster Award, an award given to bloggers by other bloggers.

“My goal is to be famous and be a blogging rock star like Dairy Carrie (another agriculture blogger),” said Short. “I would love to have a post go viral.”

As beneficial as the advancement of digital media is for the promotion and education of the agriculture industry, it also presents challenges because of content posted by groups and organizations; such as Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Chipotle; which create misconceptions about the industry. Millions of people use social media, so it is up to those in agriculture to adapt to this movement.

“We literally have thousands of people at our fingertips. Therefore, we must learn how to tell our story in a way that can reach this online audience, whether it be through posting information on Facebook or creating a blog dedicated to promoting agriculture,” Bos said.

“Growing up social media savvy is allowing us to fully connect and engage with consumers and other people who are willing to listen,” said Short. “It’s that engagement factor that you can engage one on one with the farmers and ranchers.”

Students and staff represent Darr School of Agriculture at Missouri State Fair

By Abby Sudbrock

Last August faculty members and graduate students represented the Darr School of Agriculture in Sedalia at the Missouri State Fair. The 10-day fair brings in thousands of people from all over Missouri.

Christine Sudbrock, coordinator of outreach for the Darr Agricultural Center, and Carrie Crews, administrative assistant II for the Darr Agricultural Center, were the major coordinators for the school of agriculture exhibit located in the Missouri State Fair Agriculture Building. Other faculty members and students also helped work the booth during the fair.

Sudbrock said this was the first year the Darr School of Agriculture had a booth. She said it was a great opportunity for recruitment and reconnecting with alumni.

“Students are recruited from all over the state,” said Sudbrock. “And, the Missouri State Fair is a great opportunity to introduce the Darr School of Agriculture to new students who may not know what our school offers.”

According to Sudbrock, alumni from all over the state stopped by the exhibit while visiting the fair. Information for the October alumni event was handed out. Raffle tickets for a riding lawnmower were sold to raise money for student scholarships.

“It was great to catch up with many, hear fond memories of the past, and tell them about the current program,” Sudbrock said.



Carrie Crews, Christine Sudbrock, Alison Bos, Georganne Nixon, Anson Elliott, Gov. Jay Nixon and Jim Bellis at the Missouri State Fair.

Sudbrock said not only did the faculty and staff get to interact with alumni, but they also got to talk to leaders from across the state and nation who are involved in government and private industries. This past fair Governor Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon and his wife Georganne stopped by the booth.

The Missouri State Fair this year is Aug. 7-17. The Darr School of Agriculture encourages alumni to stop by to update their contact information, learn about activities being held across the state, and learn about the new activities our students, faculty and staff are involved in.

Do not forget to wear your bearwear when stopping by as there will be special prizes for those who are wearing bearwear.

MSU conducts educational event on farming rights amendment

By Dale Larson

This past February, students were invited to attend the Farming Rights Amendment educational event at the Bond Learning Center. The event was designed to educate voters about what the amendment means and how it will impact those involved in agriculture.

The event included guest speakers State Senator Mike Parson from Bolivar, Mo.; Travis Elliott, lawyer from Springfield, Mo.; and Dan Kleinsorge, representative of Missouri Farmers Care from Columbia, Mo. Sponsors included Missouri Farmers Care and Protect the Harvest.

Over 100 students and faculty were in attendance. Elliott explained the amendment facts and the upcoming Nov. 4, 2014, ballot.

“Travis Elliott explained it in a good way,” said Dr. Beth Walker, associate professor of animal science at Darr School of Agriculture. “He explained the facts and let us make up our own opinion.”

Elliott covered the main points of the amendment, explained the legal aspects and how it is designed to help farmers.

“He was able to remain neutral throughout his speech and did not show bias,” Walker added.

Most students said they appreciated Elliott’s approach of stating the facts

without bias. Then they were able to form their own thoughts on the legal aspects of the amendment.

Michael Hickinbotham, sophomore animal science major and president of the Missouri State University Cattlemen’s Association Chapter, was also in attendance.

“We as young future agriculturalists are affected more than anyone else,” said Hickinbotham. “This can determine whether we have anything to pass on. It protects us.”

In Kleinsorge’s presentation, he explained how the Missouri Farming Rights Amendment is designed to protect Missouri farm families, save thousands of jobs and ensure consumers’ access to quality food.

Ag ambassadors course continues to develop student leaders

By Alexis Koelliker-Gee

Students in the William H. Darr School of Agriculture have the opportunity to enroll in a class that focuses on leadership, and promotes the school and agriculture to future students.

The agricultural ambassadors course is taught by Jim Bellis, assistant to director-student services and public affairs of the Darr School of Agriculture. Bellis said the ultimate goal of the class is developing students into more effective leaders and promoters of agriculture.

It is a class with students of all ages and majors who possess a common goal, a passion for agriculture. Students work together to plan visits to area high schools and community colleges where they inform prospective students about the school of agriculture and answer questions.

Alyssa Cassidy, sophomore agricultural communications major from Fulton, Mo., has taken the course multiple times, and is pleased with what she has experienced and learned.

“It has allowed me to accomplish more than I thought possible for the school of agriculture,” Cassidy said. “It is more about using skills you already possess in a way that helps other students follow their passion and find their place at Missouri State.”

The class meets once per week to discuss upcoming events and to decide how to make the visits the best experience for each audience. In addition, the students analyze previous experiences to make adjustments and improvements for future recruiting events.

During spring semester, students enrolled in the course attended the Heart of America Dairy Conference, hosted numerous events at the Bond Learning Center, visited local high schools and participated in other recruitment events.



Darr School of Agriculture Ambassadors attend Heart of America Dairy Conference in Springfield, Mo.

From top left, Hannah Smith, freshman agricultural education major from Windsor, Mo.; and Miranda Prusik, freshman agricultural education major from Sullivan, Mo.

From bottom left, Brittannie Schuette, junior natural resources major from Richmond, Mo.; Alyssa Cassidy, sophomore agricultural communications major from Fulton, Mo.; and Alexis Koelliker-Gee, junior agricultural communications major from Tonganoxie, Kan.

Dr. Anson Elliott, director of the school of agriculture, explained that courses such as this one contribute to the tremendous growth the school has seen in recent years.

“I believe this class not only informs prospective students, but also mentors the students once they get here,” said Elliott. “The school of agriculture prides itself on connections and lifetime relationships.”

Forum covers ag issues



U.S. Senator Roy Blunt and Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst addressed GMOs (genetically modified organisms) and other current agricultural issues during the Missouri State University Collegiate Farm Bureau Agricultural Forum May 9 at the Christopher Bond Learning Center, William H. Darr Agricultural Center, Springfield, Mo. Left, U.S. Senator Roy Blunt explains that there is a lot of misunderstanding about GMOs.

Right, Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst updates forum attendees on issues that Farm Bureau is currently engaged in on behalf of Missouri farmers, including the Farming Rights Amendment.



Darr School of Agriculture alumni banquet raises \$12,000

By Colleen McKay

Last October about 250 Missouri State alumni attended a banquet at Bond Learning Center to learn about new editions to the school and to raise money for scholarships. The event raised \$12,000 to be allocated to work-ethic scholarships.

“The Missouri State University (Darr School of Agriculture) Alumni Association held this event with hopes of reenergizing the group and gaining more members,” said Christine Sudbrock, coordinator of outreach and instructor in agricultural business.

Guest Speaker Jerry Crownover, former school of agriculture professor, spoke to the alumni about giving back to the school.

“His positivity and uplifting spirit helped to achieve the event’s intended purpose—raising money for scholarships,” said Sudbrock.

A silent auction and live auction were held. The auctions offered a variety of donated items from local business and members of the community. A John Deere riding mower donated by Larson Farm & Lawn, Inc., from Rogersville, Mo., also was raffled.

“The \$12,000 raised for the work-ethic scholarships will be awarded to students in good academic standing and who are active members in the agricultural community,” stated Sudbrock.

Also in attendance at the event was President Clif Smart, who recognized



Alumni looks at all the silent auction items.

Dr. Anson Elliott’s 35 years of service at Missouri State.

Elliott was asked why he left teaching at major league schools to come to MSU. He said, “for the friendliness. Missouri State had the big school feel, but the small school friendliness. The 35 years at Missouri State have gone by quickly. It’s easy to get involved with the lives of the students and help them realize their potential.”

“My favorite part of teaching at Missouri State is being able to keep things on a personal level and interact with every one of my students,” said Elliott.

The MSU School of Agriculture Alumni Association will hold another banquet during homecoming week fall 2014.

“The school of agriculture has plans to make the alumni banquet an annual event,” said Sudbrock.



Alumni browse through the silent auction offerings.

Sheila Wear, long-time per course faculty (right), and her class displaying their finished wreaths from the floral design class.



Dr. Elliott receives the Missouri Agriculture Educator of the Year Award

By Tiffany Faughn

Dr. Anson Elliott, director of Missouri State University Darr School of Agriculture, recently received the Missouri Agriculture Educator of the Year Award. The award was presented by Gov. Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, at the Governor's Conference on Agriculture in Kansas City, Mo.

Elliott chose to attend the event in January to listen to presentations on current agricultural issues and to watch Janet Adkinson, former Missouri State University graduate, receive the Agricultural Journalist of the Year Award. Adkinson is a farm broadcaster living in Washington, D.C., working for RFD TV, Nashville, Tenn., and is the current president of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters.

Elliott said he was thoroughly surprised when he realized he also was receiving an award.



"I was honored, humbled and surprised," said Elliott.

Elliott has been employed with Missouri State University for over 35 years. As director of the school of agriculture, Elliott said he spends much of his time

engaging students in the classroom and in off-campus agricultural activities.

Elliott also said receiving awards such as the Missouri Agriculture Educator of the Year is simply a byproduct of the joy and sense of achievement of serving students.

In May Elliott also received an award from the MSU Board of Governors. The award citation reads:

Board of Governors

Be it known

to all those who read these letters that in recognition of distinctive work and accomplishments in support of the Missouri State University public affairs mission.

W. Anson Elliott

is a recipient of

Faculty Excellence in Public Affairs Award
2013-2014 Academic Year

Darr School of Agriculture adding to faculty team

By Traci Bailey and Jennifer Main

The William H. Darr School of Agriculture continues to grow, including addition of faculty. An agricultural communications faculty member has been hired and the school is searching for a professor in natural resources.

For years there has been an agricultural communications curriculum path under general agriculture. The increasing number of students following the discipline has resulted in the need for a full-time staff member.

Samantha Warner, who has a bachelor's degree from the MSU Darr School of Agriculture and a master's degree in agricultural communications from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla., has been hired for the agricultural communications faculty position.

Warner, originally from Archie, Mo., will be developing an agricultural communications curriculum with the goal of designing and implementing a specific agricultural communications degree program. Warner's other responsibilities will include teaching, agricultural advocacy and promoting the Darr School of Agriculture.

The school of agriculture also is looking for an assistant professor of natural resources. The retirement of several teachers in this area has prompted the need for the position.

The teaching responsibilities for natural resources will include forestry, wildlife habitat enhancement, and soil and water conservation. Additional responsibilities will include grant-writing, publication of research results, advising undergraduate and graduate students, and public relations.

The school of agriculture has a number of opportunities for natural resources education at multiple MSU facilities including the Woodlands, a 161-acre native hardwood teaching/research facility within 30 minutes of campus; the Shealy Farm, a 250-acre forage and timber acreage; Journagan Ranch, a 3,200-acre learning center, and other campus resources.

The school of agriculture is in the selection process and the position should be filled this summer.

"What an exciting time for our school, as we have had retirement of wonderful professors in our natural resources department," said Anson Elliott, director of the Darr School of Agriculture. "We look forward to gaining new direction and expansion in this and the agricultural communications area,"

Student athletes balance athletics with academics

By Lauren Ashton

Several Missouri State student athletes are calling the William H. Darr School of Agriculture home while pursuing degrees in various agricultural fields.

It is no secret that the Darr School of Agriculture has grown in the past few years. Part of that growth can be accredited to the growing number of student athletes majoring in agriculture.

One of the athletes is football star Caleb Schaffitzel from Fair Grove, Mo. He is a senior pursuing a degree in wildlife conservation and management. Schaffitzel is a 4.0 GPA student who has received multiple awards, including the Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award. Schaffitzel has taken home some of the football team's top honors including recognition as both Team MVP and Media Player of the Year for two years in a row.



When asked how he manages his time between football and classes, Schaffitzel responded, "Managing the two together simply takes dedication to both. Mornings and evenings are times focused on class, while early mornings and afternoons are dedicated to football."

Another athlete is Kallen Grim, senior animal science major from Highlandville, Mo. Grim is a roller hockey player. Grim has made the Dean's List all four years, and has received an All-American Scholar Athlete award and an agricultural scholarship. His team has won nationals at the Division 1



(B) level and this year made the Elite Eight. Grim has found a way to balance his sport with classes.

"With many agriculture classes having the option of being taken online and the ones that aren't being offered earlier in the day, it is not too difficult to work and schedule around games and practices," stated Grim.

As a member of the handball team and one of the top-16 women handball players at the collegiate level, Colleen McKay from Plattsburg, Mo., gave her opinion on balancing her studies along with sports.

"It's not hard to be involved in agricultural programs and be a member of the handball team," McKay said. "It's all about time management."

McKay was Valedictorian of her high school graduating class and received the Provost Scholarship. Her athletic accomplishments include Missouri State women's doubles champion and being a member of the top women's handball team in the nation.

McKay has been accepted to veterinary school at the University of Missouri-

Columbia. McKay, senior animal science/pre-veterinary major, chose agriculture for her undergraduate degree because, from her perspective, the school of agriculture teaches more on the animal aspect she preferred than the biology pre-vet program does .



On left: Colleen McKay playing handball.



From left, Bobby Hofstetter, Mark Mareth, Doug Kras and Tucker Dunaway from Alpha Gamma Sigma fraternity, celebrating after performing in Greek Jam and winning the competition during Greek Week.

Jim Bellis continues to inspire

By Marissa Tucker

“It’s very intimidating, having an article written about you,” joked Jim Bellis, assistant to director–student services and public affairs of the Darr School of Agriculture, as he sat at his desk in Karls Hall.

Bellis has been teaching and advising students at Missouri State for five years. In December 2013, his right leg was amputated below the knee because clear cell sarcoma, a form of cancer, was found in his lower leg.

“Things happened very fast,” said Bellis. “We knew they were going to take the foot, and we were relieved that the body scans had told us that the cancer hadn’t spread.”

“I don’t remember the pain. I don’t remember the negative things. I remember the great love that was shown to me,” said Bellis.



“So many people have commented about the photo posted to the Caring Bridge website the day after my surgery,” Bellis shared. “My middle daughter Joanna lives in Nashville and Jonathan (Bellis’ son who has just finished his first year at MSU School of Agriculture) was in Taiwan during the time I was in the hospital. I knew we had to post a picture that told without words that their Dad was alright. I got up on my walker and posed with my wife Carla and oldest daughter Jamie, with grins on our faces, while a nurse took our picture with my phone.”

Bellis said he had no notion that anyone else would care to see it, but in two days there was over 3,000 people who contacted the website to keep updated on his recovery.



Before and after his surgery, Bellis said he was shown tremendous support by the Missouri State family.

“I would be stopped in the elevator by someone asking if they could pray for me,” said Bellis. “A lot of folks understand prayer.”

“You certainly do feel the hand of God when you have that much prayer support,” he added.

Bellis has been a mentor and personal cheerleader for many students, so supporting and encouraging him when he was in need was a natural response.

Those familiar with Bellis understand that his good nature and dedication for students make conversations with him enjoyable and encouraging. Personality colors are almost always referenced in Bellis’ general education program (GEP) class, and he usually inquires about student hometown connections like high school teachers, former MSU graduates or other acquaintances. Advisement meetings with Bellis quickly evolve into an in-depth discussion of internships, career goals, and preparation for the future. Somehow students leave his office at the top of the stairs with a schedule for next semester and reassurance that their career choice is a great fit.

Because of his dedication, Bellis recently received the Dr. Earle Doman Student Commitment Award. He was selected for the honor by MSU’s Student Government Association.

As a result of his amputation, Bellis has his prosthesis adjusted weekly and has a CT scan every three months. The scans continue to show no signs of cancer.

In interaction with others, Bellis steers the conversation away from his personal situation and toward the students he diligently encourages and promotes.

In true Bellis fashion, he said, “I would rather be proud of our students’ successes and enjoy helping them reach their goals.”

November scholarship banquet highlights



Agriculture Alumni Student Employment and Character Award Daniel Potter, graduate student, emphasis in animal science from Springfield, Mo. (left), accepts the award from Mark Allison, alumnus, 2007.



Agriculture Alumni Scholarship Susan Dawley, alumna, 1982 (left), presents the award to Kimberly Clem, junior animal science major from Williard, Mo.



Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship Wilma Jean Lower (left), presents the award to Corey Simmons, sophomore animal science major from Cameron, Mo.



Marilyn R. Daniel Equine Scholarship Sue Webb, senior instructor (left), presents the award to Colleen McKay, junior animal science major from Springfield, Mo.



Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship Tara Chitwood, granddaughter of William H. Darr (left), presents the award to Brittanie Schuette, junior natural resources major from Richmond, Mo.



The Dr. Bruce Johnson/Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Scholarship Emily Quas, junior animal science major (left), accepts the award from Dr. Bruce Johnson, emeritus.

SCHOLARSHIPS	RECIPIENTS	HOMETOWN
AG Alumni Student Employment and Character Award		
Sophomore	Anna Klem	Kirksville
Junior	Anthony J. Carter	Everton
Senior	Cassandra O'Hara	Kirkland, Ill.
Master's	William Boyer	Cadet
Master's	Daniel Potter	Springfield
Master's	Caroline Tyler	Sweet Springs

SCHOLARSHIPS	RECIPIENTS	HOMETOWN
Agriculture Alumni Scholarship*		
Freshman	Nicole Clark	Linn
Freshman	Adrianna Waters	Crane
Sophomore	Bradley Dillner	Pilot Grove
Sophomore	Taylor Walker	Goodman
Sophomore	Logan Wheatley	Rich Hill
Junior	Kimberly Clem	Willard
Junior	Rachel Treppler	St. Louis

Craig E. Arnett Memorial Agricultural Scholarship		
Senior	Stephanie Baker	Russelville

Craig E. Arnett Memorial Equestrian Scholarship		
Senior	Kelsey Lauberth	Bonnots Mill

Gayle Ashley Horticulture Club Scholarship*		
Senior	Noelle Mollhagen	Cabool

Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship*		
Freshman	Jesse Carroll	Warrensburg
Freshman	Katelyn Stracke	Springfield
Sophomore	Corey Simmons	Cameron
Junior	Kaitlin Lawrence	Mt. Vernon

Marilyn R. Daniel Equine Scholarship		
Sophomore	Colleen McKay	Springfield

Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship*		
Freshman	Jonathan Bellis	Aurora
Freshman	Carley Brucks	Glasgow
Freshman	Shayla Coale	Ash Grove
Sophomore	Alyssa Cassidy	Fulton
Sophomore	Kaleb Killingsworth	Ash Grove
Sophomore	Rebecca Travis	Frankford
Junior	Mia Mann	Leonard
Junior	Brittanie Schuette	Richmond
Junior	Laura Wolf	Tipton
Senior	Sylvia Garnett	Stella
Senior	Nicole Markway	Eugene

The Dr. Bruce Johnson/Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha		
Junior	Emily Quas	Ozark

Farmers Coop Livestock Marketing Scholarship*		
Sophomore	Mikayla Buckner	Fair Grove
Senior	Danielle Moomey	Mt. Vernon

FFA Scholarship		
Freshman	Zachary Davis	Marshfield
Freshman	Brittany Eagleburger	Buffalo

SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS HOMETOWN

FFA State Officer Scholarship

Freshman Jonathan Bellis Aurora
 Freshman Morgan Coday Seymour

FCS Financial Scholarship

Sophomore Cassey Reid Springfield

Ben and Janis Fuqua Scholarship

Senior Logan Martin Battlefield
 Senior Billy Thigpen Willard

Jack Gordon Memorial Scholarship

Junior Katherine Kemme Springfield

Greene County Farm Bureau Award

Junior Matthew Brooks Fair Grove
 Junior Justin Mauss Bois D'Arc

Dennis M. and Janice K. Grisham Scholarship*

Junior Haley Stockton Bernie

Christian Robert Hirsch Memorial Scholarship*

Senior Brian Austin Butler

Harry and Marion James Agronomy Scholarship*

Sophomore Olivia Jaco Whitewater

Arnie Johnson Agriculture Scholarship

Senior Aren Dameron Chilhowee
 Senior Devon Priester Springfield

Dr. Norman Justus SWMVATA Scholarship

Junior Lauren Garoutte Galena

Glenn E. and Ruth Z. Karls Agriculture Scholarship*

Freshman Emily Hix Harrisonville
 Sophomore Mallory Early Leeton
 Sophomore Taylor Mize Campbell
 Junior James Tucker Willard
 Junior Raymond Winfrey Humansville
 Junior Gretchen Wood Clarence
 Senior Alyssa Mackey Ozark

Benjamin Charles Kruse Memorial Scholarship

Freshman Wyatt Long Aldrich

James P. and Margaret S. Landreth Scholarship*

Freshman Brian Bueker Higginsville

Liberty Bank Agricultural Business Scholarship

Freshman Courtney Hall Creighton
 Senior Erin Woody Stotts City

MFA, Inc. Scholarship*

Junior Brian Bunton Lamar

H. Lewis Miller Endowed Scholarship*

Freshman Rebecca Tyler Sweet Springs

Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture

Sophomore Izabella Michitsch Russellville
 Senior Ryan Carr Carthage

Ed Pinegar Scholarship*

Junior Shelby Epperson Willard
 Senior Kelsey Scott Willard



Ben and Janis Fuqua Scholarship Dr. Ben Fuqua, emeritus (left), presents the award to Billy Thigpen, senior natural resources major from Willard, Mo.



Christian Robert Hirsch Memorial Scholarship Brian Austin, senior agricultural marketing and sales major from Butler, Mo. (left), receives the award from Dr. Jon Wiggins, emeritus.



Dr. Norman Justus SWMVATA Scholarship Angel Roller, vice president for SWMVATA (left), presents the award to Lauren Garoutte, junior agricultural education major from Galena, Mo.



Glenn E. and Ruth Z. Karls Agriculture Scholarship Dr. Martin Kaps, research professor (left), presents the award to Raymond Winfrey, junior agricultural finance and management major from Humansville, Mo.



James P. and Margaret S. Landreth Scholarship Marty Lueck, manager, Journagan Ranch (left), presents the award to Brian Bueker, freshman wildlife conservation and management major from Higginsville, Mo.



Ed Pinegar Scholarship Ty Heavin (left), presents the award to Kelsey Scott, senior animal science major from Willard, Mo.

November scholarship banquet highlights *cont.*

SCHOLARSHIPS	RECIPIENTS	HOMETOWN	AWARD	RECIPIENTS	HOMETOWN
Howard Pyle Memorial Scholarship*	Freshman John Freese	Ozark	Distinguished Service Award Ms. Mary Sheid		
	Freshman Austin Reedy	Windsor			
Vernon Renner Scholarship*	Freshman Jerri Henry	Washburn	The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Outstanding Freshman Award	Sophomore Brad Dillner	Pilot Grove
	Sophomore Joshua McCormick	Lees Summit			
	Junior Jennifer Morganthaler	Bois D'Arc	W. Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award	Senior Melissa Bueker	Higginsville
	Senior Melissa Bueker	Higginsville		Senior Ryan Carr	Carthage
	Senior Lora Drake	Hume		Senior Nichole Markway	Eugene
	Senior Sylvia Petersen	Springfield		Senior Noelle Mollhagen	Cabool
	Senior Zachary Straatmann	Villa Ridge		Senior Caleb Schaffitzel	Fair Grove
				Senior Zachary Straatmann	Villa Ridge
S & H Farm Supply Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship	Freshman Hannah Smith	Windsor	Junior Rachel Treppler	St. Louis	
	Junior Chalene Fecht	Springfield			
John D. Schatz Scholarship*	Senior Dana Gray	Rogersville	Glenn E. Karls Senior Excellence Award	Senior Zachary Straatmann	Villa Ridge
Dennis and Phyllis Schmitt Graduate Scholarship	Master's William Boyer	Cadet			
	Master's Ken Harmon	Springfield			
Schnelle Sparkman Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture Award	Junior Emily Dilley	Pattonsburg			
Helen Spangler Smith Agriculture Scholarship*	Senior Nicole Fletcher	Springfield	Vernon Renner Scholarship	Dennis and Phyllis Schmitt Graduate Scholarship	
J.N. Smith/FCS Financial Memorial Scholarship	Sophomore Jared Jacobs	Drexel	Dr. Karl Wilker, professor (left), presents the award to Lora Drake, senior agricultural education major from Hume, Mo.	Dr. Dennis Schmitt, professor (left), presents the award to William Boyer, graduate student, emphasis in animal science from Cadet, Mo.	
	Sophomore T-Asia Mays	St. Louis			
	Junior Avis Oswald	Urich			
	Senior Kallen Grim	Springfield			
Stanlie H. and Belva Ross Spangler Memorial Scholarship*	Senior Jessica Sokolic	Spokane			
David F. Stanke Memorial Scholarship*	Sophomore Victoria Hart	Springfield	Stanlie H. and Belva Ross Spangler Memorial Scholarship	Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Family Memorial Scholarship	
	Sophomore Jessica Ratliff	Naylor	Dr. Gary Webb, professor (left), presents the award to Jessica Sokolic, senior animal science major from Spokane, Mo.	Christine Sudbrock, coordinator of outreach (left), presents the award to Erin Reynolds, senior animal science major from Bolivar, Mo.	
Charles and Patricia Stufflebeam Agricultural Scholarship*	Senior Gabrielle McCollum	Poplar Bluff			
Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Family Memorial Scholarship*	Senior Erin Reynolds	Bolivar			
Uncle Tom Watkins Memorial Scholarship*	Sophomore Marissa Tucker	Cassville			
	Junior Marisa Foster	Strafford			
White River Valley Electric Cooperative Scholarship	Junior Taylor Loges	Sweet Springs			
	Senior Ethan Owens	Slater			

*Denotes endowed scholarship



Distinguished Service Award
Ms. Mary Sheid, CEO/Owner, Physical Therapy Specialists (left), receives the award from Dr. Anson Elliott, director of Darr School of Agriculture.



The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Outstanding Freshman Award
Dr. Anson Elliott (left), presents the award to Brad Dillner, sophomore agricultural finance and management major from Pilot Grove, Mo.



Glenn E. Karls Senior Excellence Award
Dr. Anson Elliott (left), presents the award to Zachary Straatmann, senior environmental plant science/crop science major from Villa Ridge, Mo.



W. Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award
Top from left, Melissa Bueker, senior wildlife conservation and management major from Higginsville, Mo.; Ryan Carr, senior agricultural education major from Carthage, Mo.; Nicole Markway, senior agricultural marketing and sales major from Eugene, Mo.; Noelle Mollhagen, senior environmental plant science/horticulture major from Cabool, Mo.; and Caleb Schaffitzel, senior wildlife conservation and management major from Fair Grove, Mo. Bottom from left, Zach Straatmann, senior environmental plant science/crop science major from Villa Ridge, Mo., and Rachel Treppler, senior agricultural communications major from St. Louis, Mo.



Douglas W. Darr Graduate Scholarship
Virginia Darr and William H. Darr present the award to Alison Bos, graduate student, emphasis in agricultural communications from Billings, Mo.



Douglas W. Darr Graduate Scholarship
Virginia Darr and William H. Darr present the award to Paige Jenkins, accelerated graduate student in plant science from Bolivar, Mo.



Douglas W. Darr Graduate Scholarship
Virginia Darr and William H. Darr present the award to Emily Scott, accelerated graduate student, emphasis in agricultural business from Springfield, Mo.

Stallion donation builds strong foundation for the equine program

By Anna Klem

The donation of a stallion to the William H. Darr School of Agriculture has boosted activity within the equine breeding program.

Last fall, Jack Rollins of Villa Ridge, Mo., graciously donated Heza Freckles Boon, also known as Playboy. Rollins also donated a few mares to the program.



Dr. Gary Webb, professor of animal science said that this addition continues to benefit the program by building a greater foundation and increasing the number of outstanding horses.

“He is a proven stallion with offspring that have done well in competition,” Webb said.

Prior to the donation, Playboy received \$30,000 in National Cutting Horse Association earnings.

Playboy is used in teaching, research and outreach at the university, including undergraduate breeding courses and graduate research.

“We used the stallions for demonstrating equine AI (artificial insemination) in class and also for semen preservation research that the graduate students do,” Webb said. “There is currently a project in progress.”

Webb explained that in the past few years the horse market has been weak, so the program was not breeding mares. He added, however, that the market has been gradually strengthening, which is enabling the program to begin breeding again. Webb also explained that many of the horses housed at The Darr Center are getting older, so there is a need for new stock.



One of Playboy's fillies, Sweet Pea, with her dam Peanut.

Last year four mares were bred to Playboy.

Webb said that while the program likes to see a good pedigree, athleticism and confirmation, these foals also show good disposition, which is what the program is seeking.



Nathan Eagleburger, senior agricultural business major from Buffalo, Mo., shows a young calf at Ag and Urban Fest at Ozark Empire Fairgrounds in Springfield, Mo.



Exhibitors at the 2014 Bear Classic diligently showing their animals.

Laverne is still leaving her mark on the equine program

By Courtney Hall

Who is sassy, multi-talented, trustworthy and a hard worker? That would be SMSU Pines Goodbar (Laverne), one of the founding mares of the Darr School of Agriculture equine program.

Laverne was born May 3, 2001, at the Darr Agricultural Center. Her mother Goodbar Vision (Rosie) was one of the first mares purchased for the equine program. Rosie was the first horse Dr. Anson Elliott, director of the school of agriculture, purchased for use in the intro to riding class. Rosie gave birth in 2000 to Laverne's full brother, SMSU Visionary, who is still at Missouri State University.

Laverne can do it all. She has been used for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association shows in horsemanship and reining, graduate studies in exercise and nutrition research projects, the intro to riding course, and has been a therapeutic horse for the Equilibrium Therapy Center. She also is used for the Missouri State Ranch Horse Team and in 2013 Laverne received seventh place at nationals in the working-cow horse division.

Sue Webb, senior equine instructor and coordinator of the Darr Agricultural Center, has watched Laverne grow up the past 13 years.



"Laverne is a miss grumpy pants, but she is always easy to catch. She will eat any diet and works hard every time she is used," Webb said. "She has never forgiven me for dressing her up as a raccoon for Halloween during a therapeutic riding session!"

Cassie O'Hara, senior animal science major from Kirkland, Ill., has spent lots of time with Laverne during her two years at MSU. This past year O'Hara used Laverne on the ranch horse team.

"She is like a wonder pony! She pokes around for beginners, lopes patterns for horsemanship and reining in IHSA, and then goes and works cattle for ranch horse," O'Hara stated. "Laverne is a horse with a sassy personality. If she could have it her

way, she would just be loping with speed the entire time."

Laverne has given many students memories they will never forget.

"It was an awesome experience to ride her working the Hereford cattle when we took pictures for the USA Today article," O'Hara said.

O'Hara lives at the equine facilities and sees how Laverne interacts with all of the other horses.

"It is funny to watch her when we feed pastures. She goes along to each pan, and gets a bite from each and every one until she finds one she likes," O'Hara said. "She is like the taste tester and has to make sure all the food is up to par."



Darr School of Agriculture, along with Missouri Farm Bureau and PFI Western Store, sponsor the Salute to Agriculture event which hosted FFA members from across southwest Missouri. Bull riders visit with students before they attend the PBR (Professional Bull Riders) event held in JQH Arena at Missouri State University. This was the largest Salute to Agriculture event ever hosted.

Beef cattle production takes practical approach

By Kelsey Laubert

The beef cattle production class kicked off the spring 2014 semester with the opportunity for over 30 students to experience a new professor, enhanced curriculum and an altered perspective on the current beef cattle industry.

Mike Klem, the coordinator of business and support services of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, taught students using practical methods and showed them how to convert previous in-class knowledge to hands-on learning experiences.



Kerstine Whittaker and Dakota Arthur freeze branding cull cows at Pinegar Arena.

Klem used a different approach on the typical classroom education when he modified the course to be more hands-on by offering expanded experiences in field trips, practicums, lab work, guest speakers, event planning/management and life-based projects. Students participated in weekend trips to Missouri State University's Journagan Ranch, traveled to breeding/feeding operations, and planned their involvement in the Spring Ag and Urban Festival.

Students had the opportunity to help design the class by asking questions, allowing Klem to customize the class to students' interests and concerns.

"Being very unfamiliar with cattle prior to this class, I can confidently say now that I have a better understanding of the overall production process and maintenance



Beef cattle production class gathers before their field trip to Veterinarian Jason Salchow's custom-grazing operation in Billings, Mo.

procedures in handling/caring for beef cattle," stated Rachel Treppler, a senior agricultural communications major from St. Louis, Mo.

Klem introduced students to methods and management strategies other than the standard ones, such as variations in grazing plans, husbandry tactics and handling methods. He geared lesson plans toward helping students better understand the importance of sustainability and creating an industry that will be successful for future generations.



Erica Wagenknecht and Rachel Treppler show off their cattle grooming skills at the Spring Ag and Urban Festival.

Providing students the opportunity to directly interact with beef cattle instead of relying on a textbook was a strategy Klem implemented to get students more involved in their education. Many students had previously taken courses such as nutrition and physiology, and reproduction, but had not had the opportunity to directly work with cattle.

"Beef production has been one of the best classes I have taken at MSU and it has been very hands-on learning," said Kerstine Whittaker, junior animal science major from Republic, Mo. "We were able to visit actual cattle producers and tour their facilities. This class has been very informative and I am so grateful to have gotten the opportunity to take classes like this at MSU."

The overall enthusiasm of students involved in the class prompted the school of agriculture to considering offering this course more than one semester per year.



Missouri State competitive equine teams experience growth

By Kassidy Hicks

With the addition of new members in the equine program, the Missouri State University equine teams have had increased success, with double the number of regional qualifiers on the equestrian team and double the number of top-ten finishes at the National Collegiate Championship for the ranch horse team.

The MSU equestrian teams, western and hunt seat, are coached by Susan Webb, senior animal science instructor for the Darr School of Agriculture. The teams collectively have grown to approximately 25 riders. This year, the teams traveled to other universities across the Midwest for Intercollegiate Horse Show Association competitions and hosted shows in Springfield.

The western team had nine members qualify for the regional competition, which was held at the MSU Pinegar Arena. These nine members included Anna Klem, sophomore agricultural communications major from Kirksville, Mo.; Cassie O'Hara, senior animal science major from Kirkland, Ill.; Lauren Ashton, freshman agricultural communications major from Lee's Summit, Mo.; Megan Mothershead, junior animal science major from Sikeston, Mo.; Jack Powderly, cell and molecular biology major from Eureka, Mo.; Courtney Hall, freshman agricultural communications major from Creighton, Mo.; Bailey Mill, behavioral neuroscience major from Kansas City, Mo.; McKenzi Payton, junior criminology major from Springfield, Mo.; and Kelsey Ellis, freshman cell and molecular biology major from Lee's Summit, Mo. Mill placed first at the regional level and advanced onto the semi-final national competition. In addition to qualifying individuals, the team placed third overall in the region.

The semi-final national competition was held at the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. Mill competed against 15 other riders in her division, where she placed sixth.

"It couldn't have been a better experience," said Mill in regards to her time spent in Ohio.

One hunt seat team rider, Nichole McCoy, a former student at MSU from Springfield, Mo., competed at regionals and advanced on to zones, which were held in Wisconsin where she finished second.

In addition to the equestrian team, the Missouri State Ranch Horse Team had a busy and successful show season. The ranch horse team is coached by Dr. Gary Webb, professor of animal science. They competed in shows and participated in clinics throughout the region. The ranch horse team competed in events such as reining, trail, ranch pleasure and working-cow horse.

This year, in addition to hosting local ranch horse shows, the ranch horse team had the opportunity to travel to Loveland,



Bailey Mill rides her first round mount, George, at the IHSA semi-final championships in Findlay, Ohio.

Colo., in April for the American Stock Horse Association National Collegiate Show. Representing MSU at the national competition were Brittany Rucker, senior animal science major from Edmond, Okla.; William Boyer, graduate student from Potosi, Mo.; Daniel Potter, graduate student from Bentonville, Ark.; and equestrian team members Mill, Ellis, Hall and O'Hara.

In the novice division, Hall placed seventh and Rucker placed 10th overall. In the non-pro division, Boyer placed ninth and Potter placed 10th overall. The team finished seventh in the overall competition.

"This year we were successful at the National Collegiate Championship Show and finished with 13 top-ten finishes, up from seven at last year's National Show," explained Potter.



Gary Webb demonstrates the log drag trail obstacle at the ASHA Horse Show held at the Darr Ag Center this past fall.

Faculty receive grants benefiting the Darr School of Agriculture

By Brittany Rucker

The William H. Darr School of Agriculture faculty members have obtained thousands of dollars worth of grants benefiting collegiate programs offered to students studying agriculture in Missouri.

Christine Sudbrock, instructor of agricultural economics, and Dr. Gary Webb, professor of animal science, worked with faculty from other universities in order to receive this grant titled Linking to Focus on Agriculture Sustainability and Food Security (LFASFS). The funding is for graduate and undergraduate research, and for the development of agricultural advocacy and sustainable agricultural related courses.

The \$277,000 grant from the US Department of Agriculture is being applied in a combined effort to increase sustainable agriculture and agricultural advocacy studies available to undergraduate and graduate students from Missouri State University, and other universities including Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., and University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Mo. The grant also provided funding supporting undergraduate and graduate research projects.

The LFASFS grant will fund classes to help prepare students to become our nation's next generation of effective agricultural leaders and advocates. The grant also provided funding for an animal science industry tour, directed by Dr. Elizabeth Walker, associate professor of animal science, which allowed students to travel to animal science-based operations throughout the country.

In addition to the LFASFS grant, other faculty members in the Darr School of Agriculture received grants.

Dr. Arbindra Rimal, professor in agricultural business, received an approximately \$600,000 grant through the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The grant focuses on education about food security and is a joint project with four other non-land grant universities in Missouri.

The objectives of this project are to digitally share resources, and provide field courses and internships among partnering institutions, establish an easier transfer process allowing students to transition from a two-year to a four-year institution, encourage undergraduate agriculture students to continue their education to advanced degrees, and develop outreach programs for agriculture students and the community.

This grant also provides the opportunity for students from MSU; NWMSU; UCM, Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo.; and Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Mo., to enroll in courses offered at each institution. This provides for a larger variety of agricultural classes and gives students the chance to take courses not offered at their home university. In addition, the grant funds technological advancements to deliver courses to students attending partnering universities. Courses will be available beginning summer 2014.

Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang, associate professor in the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, was awarded \$146,856 from the USDA for the Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture Program (NLGCA) for a project entitled Expanding Research and Education Capacities on Next-Generation Molecular Marker for Grape Cultivar Improvement. Hwang also was awarded \$304,040 from the USDA to initiate the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Competitive Grants Program project entitled Genome-enabled Genetic Study of Grape Botrytis Bunch Rot Resistance.



Delta Tau Alpha members relax at 2014 National DTA Convention.



The recently-formed MSU Crops Team is the only crops team from Missouri that competed in 2014 regional and national contests.

MSU hosts conference dedicated to agricultural advocacy

By Rachel Trepler and Alison Bos

For the first time, students and faculty from the William H. Darr School of Agriculture collaborated with Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Mo., and University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, Mo., to develop and organize a forum dedicated to agricultural advocacy.

The one-day event, titled Cultivating Conversations, was held at the Bond Learning Center March 20, 2014. The event featured speakers from diverse fields and perspectives, creating an open dialogue with consumers about the production and use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

In 2013, the Darr School of Agriculture received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture funding three main projects including the agricultural advocacy class. The purpose of the class was to plan and host the advocacy forum.

The outreach coordinator for the grant, Christine Sudbrock, Darr School of Agriculture coordinator of outreach, taught the combined agricultural advocacy ITV (interactive video) course along with instructors from the other participating universities.

The students created and distributed a broad-based agricultural survey to acquire the public's perception on agricultural practices. The students used the survey results to determine the topics for the forum. It was determined that the public needed more information on GMOs.

Dr. Gary Webb, associate professor of animal science at Missouri State University, began the conference with a short presentation explaining advocating for agriculture.

"It is critical to the future of agriculture that agriculture professionals become competent in the skills needed to advocate



MSU students and faculty gathering at the advocacy conference with Greg Peterson, (back, fifth from the right).

for agriculture, and converse with the general public about misconceptions and myths about the industry," Webb said.

The conference featured four different speakers who presented content regarding GMOs. The speakers held seminars throughout the day and then formed a panel to answer questions from the audience.

Dr. Mike Burton, associate professor of agronomy at MSU, discussed GMOs in crop production; Dr. Kyle Lovercamp, assistant professor of animal science at UCM, discussed genetic engineering in livestock; Dr. Jeffrey Thornsberry, associate professor of biology at NMSU, presented a biologist's view of GMOs; and Lane McConnell, manager of the Farmers Market of the Ozarks, discussed how consumers perceive GMOs.

The keynote speaker of the event was Greg Peterson, who is a member of the YouTube group Peterson Farm Brothers. Peterson, from Assaria, Kan., and a recent graduate of Kansas State

University, Manhattan, Kan., spoke about the importance of advocating through social media and the power of advocating for agriculture on Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, and other social media. Peterson shared the journey he and his brothers have had while creating music parodies to promote agriculture.

"If farmers do not tell agriculture's story, someone else will," Peterson said.

The Peterson Farm Brothers have told their story through parodies that have gone viral all over the Internet including I'm Farming and I Grow It, Chore, Farmer Style, and Bale. Their videos have had over 30 million global views on YouTube.

Over 200 people attended the forum, including students and faculty from the three participating universities and members of the Springfield community. Plans are already in place for next year's advocacy forum, which will be held at Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Mo.

There are more freshmen than ever in Karls Hall

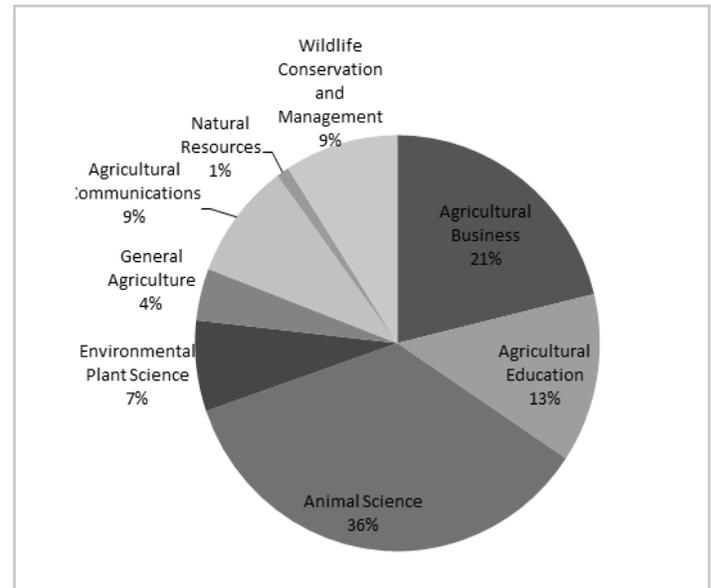
By Bridget Schumer

According to Missouri State University records, the first-time, new-in-college enrolled freshmen agriculture students for fall 2013 made history. Records dating back to 1962 indicate the class was the largest ever with 82 freshmen, up 7.89 percent from the previous year.

In a past university article, Missouri State University President Clif Smart credited generous donors for increasing opportunities within the Darr School of Agriculture and indicated those opportunities were some of the main reasons high school seniors choose to study agriculture at MSU.

Looking a little deeper into the freshmen class, most of the members come from southwest and central Missouri, with some coming from out of state. The class has members from Oklahoma, Illinois, Indiana, California and North Carolina.

Majors for the freshmen are in all disciplines with animal science having the largest number - 29.



high school and when I visited, Mr. Bellis was awesome. The entire school wanted to work with me, not just tell me what I should do.”

Dr. W. Anson Elliott, director of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, said there are multiple reasons why high school seniors are choosing to study agriculture at MSU.

“I believe that students see the importance of agriculture because the population in the world is increasing and there is a local food movement that has heightened awareness,” said Elliott. “Students realize we have a caring staff and faculty, excellent facilities, and a friendly student body.”

When reflecting on the growth, Jim Bellis, assistant to director–student services and public affairs for the Darr School of Agriculture, said that when he was a district supervisor for Missouri agricultural education, he appreciated the way students were taken care of at MSU.

“Growth started with Dr. Elliott over 35 years ago with his attitude toward students—to take care of one student at a time,” explained Bellis.

Bellis said Elliott’s student-centered focus led to a number of key donations to the school of agriculture, starting with William H. Darr’s support then leading to the donations of the Journagan Ranch, Shealy Farm and recently the Woodlands.

“These donations wouldn’t have come to MSU had it not been for Dr. Elliott’s commitment to students and the agricultural industry,” said Bellis.

Bellis added that the expectation is that the school of agriculture will continue to see dramatic growth. He credited the growth to increased educational opportunities, and the addition of faculty and staff.

Freshman Fall 2013 Representation	
Area in the State	Number of Students
Southwest	30
Central	21
South Central	17
Northeast	5
Northwest	2
Southeast	2
Out of State	
Illinois, Indiana, California, North Carolina, Oklahoma	

Alesha Wilson, from Hunnewell, Mo., is a member of the fall 2013 freshman class, majoring in agricultural business and enterprise management. She said smaller class size was one of her reasons to become a bear.

“The school of agriculture offered class sizes I wanted, a wide variety of degrees and they had a viticulture program,” said Wilson. “I started working with Missouri State my junior year in

Missouri universities embark on an animal industry tour

By Lindsey Spencer

Summer 2013 Dr. Elizabeth Walker, associate professor of animal science at Missouri State University, along with instructors from two other Missouri universities, led a group on their first collaborative animal industry tour.

Walker was the lead instructor who organized the trip. Dr. Kyle Lovercamp, assistant professor of agriculture at University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, and Dr. Arley Larson, associate professor of agricultural sciences at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, also helped in the planning process. The group toured industries in Kansas and Nebraska including Heartland Cattle Company, McCook, Neb.; McCarty Dairy, Rexford, Kan.; Pharo Cattle Company, Cheyenne Wells, Colo.; and Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan.

At Heartland Cattle Company, students saw a chute that was designed from Temple Grandin's suggestions. Grandin, professor of animal science at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colo., is nationally known for her design of livestock chutes that reduce stress on animals. Grandin's experience as a person with autism contributed to her ability to relate to animals. Using Grandin's guidance, Heartland Cattle Company built a curved chute which allows animals to follow their natural instincts.

The group visited McCarty Dairy where they toured the facility and learned about the daily routines. This specific plant makes Dannon yogurt with milk from Jersey dairy cows.

While at Pharo Cattle Company the group learned about sustainable management practices such as rotational grazing and calving in sync with nature. For example, in natural selection if a cow is dry and cannot produce and wean a calf every year she is culled.



The animal industry group touring the McCarty Dairy facility.

The group also toured Kansas State University. The university is big in sheep production, and students learned about raising sheep and how to tell the difference between wool types.

"This trip was one of the highlights of my summer. I met a lot of friends and learned a ton about various animal industries that I hope to apply to my future," UCM student Matthew George said.

Walker and her colleagues will be embarking on their second animal industry tour May 19-23. Students from MSU and the other two Missouri universities will be traveling southwest to Oklahoma and Texas. They will tour various animal-related industries including Oklahoma State University's Department of Animal Science, Stillwater, Okla.; Kim Baker Ranch, Fairview, Okla.; and Cattleman's Choice Feedyard, Inc., Gage, Okla.



Graduates

Summer 2013

Brandon R Bruce	Lamar Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci-Accel-MNAS
Megan L Case	Linwood Kan.	Animal Science-BS
Xu Chen	Palestine Texas	Plant Science-Accel-MS
Hui Ge	Londi, Hunan, China	Plant Science-MS
Jordan L Kinder	West Plains Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Brett E Littleton	Keytesville Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Aaron Magnuson	Highlandville MO	Natural & Appl Sci-MNAS
Heather E McCallister	O Fallon Mo.	Plant Science-Acc-MS
Jarred L Meyer	Gilliam Mo.	Natural & Appl Sci-MNAS
Jessica M Rader	Marshfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Nathan A Ryan	Nevada Mo.	Agonomy-BS
Surya D Sapkota	Chitwan, Nepal	Plant Science-MS
Tonya R St John	Nevada Mo.	General Agriculture/Ag-BS
Tyler S Swope	Monett Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Xinyi Zhang	Jinan, China	Plant Science-MS



Agricultural communications class members produce the Ag Review. Bottom row from left; Colleen McKay, senior animal science major, Plattsburg, Mo.; Molly Garver, senior agricultural education major, Carthage, Mo.; Lindsay Spencer, senior animal science major, Chesterfield, Mo.; Brittany Rucker, senior animal science major, Edmond, Okla.; Savanna Stanley, freshman agricultural communications major, Ojai, Calif.; Courtney Hall, freshman agricultural communications major, Creighton, Mo.; Lauren Ashton, freshman agricultural communications major, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Kassidy Hicks, sophomore animal science major, Osage Beach, Mo.; Anna Klem, sophomore agricultural communications major, Kirksville, Mo.; Rachel Treppner, senior agricultural communications major, St. Louis, Mo.; Lindsay Hill, senior animal science major, Lawrence, Kan.; Second row from left; Eric Testerman, sophomore wildlife conservation and management major, Buffalo, Mo.; Kelsey Lauberth, senior animal science major, Bonnots Mill, Mo.; Dale Larson, senior agricultural business major, Monett, Mo.; Bridget Schumer, freshman agricultural communications major, Perryville, MO.; Karen Dalbom, senior agricultural business major, Branson, Mo.; Colby Nieder, senior agricultural business major, Amsterdam, Mo.; Logan Clements, junior agricultural business major, Lamar,

Fall 2013

Cheyenne A Arthur	Greenfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Dakota S Arthur	Greenfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Blake A Ash	Aurora Mo.	General Agriculture-BAS
Stephanie R Baker	Russellville Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Benjamin T Ballhorn	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS Natural Resources-BS
Randall S Beard	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Megan A Bolda	Higginsville Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Melissa M Bueker	De Soto Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Chelsea N Carter	West Plains Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Roxanne M Clemens	Ozark Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Mathew O Crates	Marshfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt&Mgt-BS
Christopher R Cunningham	Deepwater Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Blake I Duncan	California Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Brent A Elliott	Meta Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Leslee P Ewers	Stella Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Sylvia D Garnett	Diamond Mo.	Plant Science-Accel-MS
Joshua C Glasson	Marshfield Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Horticul-BS
Seth T Greer	Rolla Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Cameron M Hance	Seymour Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Tiffany L Harris	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Steven P Hoaglin	Eureka Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
David S Hoene	Sullivan Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Micaela R King	Morrison Mo.	Horticulture-BS
Melissa J Krueger	Chesterfield Mo.	Plant Science-MS
Brandt T Levinson	Jasper Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Jenilee F Martin	Springfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Gabrielle M McCollum	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Logan C McGhee	Broseley Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Taylor R McLane	Vienna Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Rachel L Meyer	Marshfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Adam G Miller	Cabool Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Noelle P Mollhagen	Mount Vernon Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Danielle O Moomey	Defiance Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Chelsey A Orf	Columbia Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci-Accel-Ag-MNAS
Micala R Penton	Strafford Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci-Accel-Ag-MNAS
Kathleen K Phelps	Schell City Mo.	Agonomy-BS
Nolan G Rapp	Lincoln Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Derek C Riggs	Springfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Ronald E Robinson	Stockton Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Derek S Stockton	Ozark Mo.	General Agriculture/Ag-BS
Quaid C Taylor	Mount Vernon Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Forrest P Thompson	Sweet Springs Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci--Ag-MNAS
Caroline M Tyler	Preston Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Zachary D Wallace	Fair Grove Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Jacqueline Wheeler	California Mo.	Natural Resources-BS Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Brock A Wilson		

Mo.; Tiffany Faughn, junior agricultural communications major, Shell Knob, Mo.; Abigail Sudbrock, junior agricultural business/marketing and sales major, Centralia, Mo.; Austin Reedy, freshman agricultural communications major, Windsor, Mo.; Marissa Tucker, sophomore agricultural communications major, Cassville, Mo.; Grace Erdos, junior agricultural communications major, Rogersville, Mo.; Alexis Koelliker-Gee, junior agricultural communications major, Tonganoxie, Kan.; Jennifer Main, senior agricultural business major, Bois D' Arc, Mo.

Spring 2014 (prospective)

Alicia D Asher	Urbana Mo.	Ag Education-BSED	Logan C Kennedy	Neosho Mo.	Animal Science-BS
James T Asher	Fair Grove Mo.	Ag Education-BSED	Gregory A Kent	Reeds Spring Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt&Sales-BS
Brian A Austin	Butler Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS	Brandie M Kettmann	Ozark Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Traci G Bailey	Richland Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS	Tiffany D Landoll	Monett Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS
Kayla D Benedict	Flemington Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci-Accel-MNAS	Dale G Larson	Monett Mo.	General Agriculture/Ag-BS
Johnathan N Blakey	Ava Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Jarred M Lewis	Anderson Mo.	Ag Education-BSED
Alison L Bos	Billings Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS	Seleene C Lewis	Anderson Mo.	Ag Education-BSED
Brian M Bunton	Lamar Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS	Michael A Liebig	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Ent. Mgt-BS
Elysia M Bushey	Mtn Home Ark.	Ag Education-BSED	Cole D Long	Aldrich Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
James G Calhoun	Nixa Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Alyssa R Mackey	Ozark Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Ryan E Carr	Carthage Mo.	Ag Education-BSED	Nicole L Markway	Eugene Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Anthony J Carter	Everton Mo.	Natural Resources-BS	Logan J Martin	Battlefield Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
		Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS	Joshua D Moore	Springfield Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Kelsey F Cole	Neosho Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS	Cassandra R O'Hara	Kirkland Ill.	Animal Science-BS
Loren Collision	Springfield Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS	Alexis L Patten	Elkland Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Eric L Cottle	Valley Park Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS	Jeffery B Peace	Alton Mo.	General Agriculture/Ag-BS
Trevor D Cunningham	Crane Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS	Samuel R Percival	Bolivar Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS
Aren S Dameron	Chilhowee Mo.	Animal Science-BS	Chad P Rericha	Imperial Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Dustin W Devore	Ash Grove Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS	Erin L Reynolds	Bolivar Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Dani B Downing	Grove Okla.	General Agriculture-BAS	Kyle D Richner	Buffalo Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Lora A Drake	Hume Mo.	Ag Education-BSED	Caleb J Schaffitzel	Fair Grove Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Erin A Durphy	Kirkwood Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS	Emily N Scott	Springfield Mo.	Nat&Appl Sci-Accel-MNAS
		Natural Resources-BS	Kelsey L Scott	Willard Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Nathan C Eagleburger	Buffalo Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Cheyenne Shelton	La Russell Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
		Animal Science-BS	Ashley A Shilling	Ozark Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Tyler E Earl	Springfield Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Fin & Mgt-BS	Daniel S Shilling	Joplin Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Shelby E Epperson	Willard Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Taylor A Short	Mansfield Mo.	General Agi/Comm-BS
Shayla S Faubion	Springfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS	Christopher R Skaggs	Springfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Nicole Fay Fletcher	Springfield Mo.	Ag Education-BSED	Jessica L Sokolic	Spokane Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Charles W. Fowler	Hartville Mo.	Animal Science-BS	Lindsey F Spencer	Chesterfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS
Joshua C Franks	Hollister Mo.	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS	Samuel A Stewart	Poplar Bluff Mo.	Natural Resources-BS
Molly A Garver	Carthage Mo.	General Agriculture/Ag-BS	Kristyn M Stidham	Springfield Mo.	General Agi/Comm-BS
Morgan J Guy	Springfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS	Zachary K Straatmann	Villa Ridge Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Shane T Harms	Marshfield Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS	Rachel J Treppler	St. Louis Mo.	General Agi/Comm-BS
Cayla R Henson	Strafford Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Parin Triratanachat	Phasi Charoen, Thailand	Animal Sci-BS
IraShae S Holland	Lewiston Idaho	Natural & Appl Sci-MNAS	Jaimie R Tyler	Russellville Mo.	Horticulture-BS
Shae S Honesty	Hazelwood Mo.	Plant Science-MS	Lauren E Updyke	Kirksville Mo.	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Benjamin M Howard	Springfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS	Erica L Wagenknecht	Nevada Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Allie N Irwin	Nevada Mo.	Ag Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS	Brittany M Walters	Camdenton Mo.	Ag Education-BSED
Paige J Jenkins	Bolivar Mo.	Plant Science-AG-Accel-MS	Erin L Woody	Stotts City Mo.	Ag Bus/Ag Mkt & Sales-BS
Amy R Johnson	West Plains Mo.	Env Plant Sci/Horticul-BS	Abigail A Zender	Springfield Mo.	Animal Science-BS
McKenzie E Jones	Fulton Mo.	General Agriculture-BS			
Maclean M Kelly	Springfield Mo.	Natural Resources-BS			



Former MSU student returns as faculty

By Jennifer Main and Alison Bos

Dr. Melissa Remley has joined the faculty at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture as a new assistant professor within the environmental plant science and natural resources unit.

Remley is originally from East Moline, Ill. She completed her undergraduate and graduate work at Missouri State University where she studied horticulture and plant science. She obtained her Ph.D. in 2010 from the University of Missouri in plant, insect and microbial sciences.

Remley teaches soils, soil fertility and plant nutrition, advanced soil fertility, plant science lab and GEP. She also advises students majoring in plant science, natural resources and wildlife conservation, and graduate students studying plant science. In addition, she is co-advisor of the agronomy club.



“I get to work with a diverse faculty and staff. It’s a very exciting time to join the Darr School of Agriculture,” Remley said.

“The growth of the facilities and students is impressive and is offering a lot of new opportunities to our faculty and students.”

Remley is currently setting up a research lab for soil and plant nutrition, and has implemented research with graduate students at the Shealy Farm and Baker’s Acres in forage nutrition.

Remley said she is looking forward to continuing teaching and reaching her research goals here at the Darr School of Agriculture.

“I’ve always enjoyed teaching and getting students excited about how the world works around them,” Remley said. “Whether it’s in lecture, getting hands-on with plant and soil labs, or out in the research fields, it’s my job to help students find their interests, find opportunities, and help them explore their future careers.”

The school of agriculture welcomes Administrative Assistant Rhonda Breshears

By Lindsay Hill

The William H. Darr School of Agriculture students and faculty, who receive email from the school, recognize the name Rhonda Breshears. Breshears joined the school of agriculture team July 1, 2013.

In addition to sending out countless emails, Breshears makes phone calls, helps build current and future courses, handles travel and event arrangements, and many other vital duties.

Breshears is from Kilgore, Texas, and has lived in Springfield for 13 years. Breshears and her husband Johnny have three daughters - Ashley, Larissa and Kristen.

Breshears said her favorite part of the job is the variety. She said she especially enjoys interacting with faculty, staff, alumni and students.

There are a total of four administrative assistants - Rhonda Breshears, Carrie Crews, Jana Kendrick and Ramona Taylor, who is Breshears’ mother.

“They are a good bunch of girls,” Breshears said. “I particularly like Thursdays and Fridays because mom packs my lunch.”



Statistics Fall 2013

Class	Men	Women	Total	Major Enrollment	
Freshmen	34	67	101	General Agriculture	13
Sophomores	63	60	123	General Agriculture/Agriculture	32
Juniors	81	84	165	General Agriculture/Communications	26
Seniors	82	99	181	Agronomy	4
Graduate Students	18	19	37	Animal Science	144
Total	278	329	607	Agricultural Business/Agricultural Enterprise Mgmt	44
				Agricultural Business/Agricultural Finance and Mgmt	43
				Agricultural Business/Agricultural Marketing and Sales	47
				Environmental Plant Science/Crop Science	31
				Environmental Plant Science/Horticulture	34
				Horticulture	6
				Natural Resources	42
				Agricultural Education	45
				Wildlife Conservation and Management	59
				College of Natural & Applied Science (Graduate Master's)	20
				College of Natural & Applied Science (Accelerated)	7
				Plant Science (Graduate Master's)	8
				Plant Science (Accelerated)	2
				Agricultural Secondary Education (Graduate Master's)	0
				Total	607

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Agriculture Founders Club (\$10,000 minimum donation)

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Ag Review is mailed to:

Alumni and Emeritus	4,929
Current agriculture students	576
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Walk-ins	395
Fairs and Expos	550

Darr School of Agriculture

Dr. W. Anson Elliott, Director

Managerial and Support Staff

Karls Hall

Jim Bellis, Assistant to Director—Stdt Serv/Pub Affrs
Jana Kendrick, Administrative Assistant I
Sue Morris, Accounting Specialist
Ramona Taylor, Administrative Assistant I
Rhonda Breshears, Academic Admin Assistant III

State Fruit Experiment Station – Mountain Grove

Pam Turner, Administrative Assistant IV
Leslie Akers, Clerical and Sales
Pamela Mayer, Library Associate and Publications
Jeremy Emery, Field Crew Leader
Randy Stout, Field Crew Leader
Steven Turner, Mechanic
C.J. Odneal, Cellar Technician
Michael Matthews, Physical Plant Foreman
Bob Mosier, Custodian

Darr Agricultural Center and Bakers Acres

Michael Klem, Coordinator Business & Support Svc.
Sue Webb, Coordinator
Justin Sissel, Farm Manager
Christine Sudbrock, Coordinator of Outreach
Carrie Crews, Administrative Assistant II

Journagan Ranch

Marty Lueck, Ranch Manager and Adjunct Faculty
Chad Emery, Russell Driskell, Eric Lueck, Jacob Peterson, Ranch Hands

Shealy Farm

Joe Webb, Manager

Faculty and Professional Staff

Agribusiness, Agricultural Education & Communications

Dr. Arbindra Rimal - Unit Leader Agricultural Economics
Dr. James Hutter Agricultural Education
Dr. Ben Onyango Agricultural Economics
Ms. Christine Sudbrock Agricultural Economics

Per Course

Mr. Travis Elliott Agricultural Law
Ms. Joyce Cutright Agricultural Communications
Mr. Roger Fent Agricultural Sales

Emeritus Faculty and Staff

Mr. Gayle Ashley – Horticulture, 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. Howard Townsend – Entomology, Dr. Jon Wiggins – Technology Education and Ms. Sally McAlear – Administrative Assistant

Graduate Students, Spring 2014 – Pragma Adhikari, Cheyenne A. Arthur, Dakota S. Arthur, Traci G. Bailey, Steven J. Beach, Kayla D. Benedict, MaryAnn N. Boro, Alison L. Bos, William F. Boyer; Melissa M. Bueker, Robin A. Butler, Bryan M. Cizek, Kelsey F. Cole, Cory A. Creed, Dustin W. Devore, Sean M. Edwards, Aaron J. Exner, Joshua C. Franks, Katie A. Griffith, Nicholas L. Guthery, Ken D. Harmon, IraShae S. Holland, Shae S. Honesty, Rachel M. Hopkins, Leann C. Hubbert, Paige J. Jenkins, Jordan L. Kinder, Casteel K. Kirk, Michael Kovens, Eric M. Nyamwange, Samuel R. Percival, Daniel S. Potter, Emily N. Scott, Cheyenne I. Shipp, Elle A. Swift, Brigitte R. Williams, Abigail A. Zender.

Mr. Craig Grisham Agricultural Education
Ms. Jamie Johansen Agricultural Communications
Dr. Pete Smith Farm Management

Animal Sciences

Dr. Gary Webb - Unit Leader Equine Reproduction Science
Dr. Dennis Schmitt Veterinary and Dairy
Dr. Elizabeth Walker Sheep and Goat Science
Ms. Sue Webb Equine Exercise Science

Professional Staff

Ms. Tracy Northcutt Junior Research Scientist

Per Course

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

Plant Science and Natural Resources

Dr. Pamela Trewatha - Unit Leader Horticulture
Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers Horticulture
Dr. Michael Burton Agronomy
Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang Grape Breeding and Genetics
Dr. Martin Kaps Pomology
Dr. Maciej Pszczolkowski Integrated Pest Management
Dr. Wenping Qiu Molecular Plant Virology
Dr. Melissa Remley Plant, Insect & Microbial Sci
Dr. Karl Wilker Enology and Distillation

Professional Staff

Mr. John Avery Horticulture Advisor
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
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Jeremy Emery, a full-time field crew supervisor at the State Fruit Experiment Station, is pruning grapevines for his VESTA project. He will earn his viticulture certificate, then go on to get the Associate of Applied Science degree. VESTA offers online classes with a practicum component that allows professional development for working students.



Students in Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egber's vegetable class work in the Campus Garden.



This waterfall flows at the Woodlands.



Ag Review

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Graduate student Vicki Baumer trapping Spotted Wing Drosophila, a new fruit pest, found in Missouri in 2013.



Victoria Carson, sophomore wildlife conservation and management major, holding an Eastern Screech Owl that she raised during her internship.



Ryan Carr teaching an electronic record book lesson.



Ashley Bryant competing in the ACU Collegiate Clay Target Championships in San Antonio, Texas.



Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang, Bridget Williams, Mia Mann and Li-Ling Chen working in Chen's Karls Hall lab.



Collegiate FFA Member, Taylor Floyd talking to a prospective student at 2014 Missouri FFA Convention.