

# EAGREVIEW



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WILLIAM H. BARR  
COLLEGE OF  
AGRICULTURE

## Meet the Writers

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



**Pictured from left to right:**

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The newsletter is available for viewing at [ag.missouristate.edu/publications](http://ag.missouristate.edu/publications) and [issuu.com/mostateag](http://issuu.com/mostateag).  
The cover photo is courtesy of Julie Choate.



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## From the Dean



Something that never ceases to amaze me here at the William H. Darr College of Agriculture is the spirit of collaboration and teamwork that exists. When it comes to helping one another, or our students, the faculty and staff in the Darr College of Agriculture are second to none. Throughout our many events each year, such as Salute to Agriculture or the Journagan Cattle Sale, I am continually proud to be a part of such a dedicated group of professionals. In addition, I can always brag on our students and say that because of them we are the College we are today. Our students help the College in so many ways and truly become part of the team, as they work side-by-side with faculty and staff to ensure a fantastic learning, research and working environment.

As a direct result of the hard work and cooperation mentioned above, there have been numerous noteworthy accomplishments in the last year. One major collaboration was the creation of the 5-Year Strategic Plan for the Darr College of Agriculture. This plan provides the guidelines for us to use in our efforts to increase student enrollment and retention, expand both undergraduate and graduate academic programs, grow our global initiatives, and enhance industry partnerships and collaborations. It also outlines how to secure additional resources to better support our academic programming, and cultivate an inclusive learning environment where our students can excel and ultimately serve anywhere across the globe as well trained agricultural and natural resource science professionals.

Another significant achievement was the development of new Ranch Management and International Agricultural Leadership certificates. Furthermore, to continue our proactive efforts we are developing new programs in partnership with Ningxia University and Southwest University in China to enhance international student growth. The addition of these programs allows us greater opportunity to provide exceptional educational programming and study away opportunities for our students as well as positive engagement with our visiting international student base. Current international efforts have provided opportunities for our students to visit Taiwan, China, Brazil, and the Philippines.

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## College of Agriculture Professor serves as Public Affairs Provost Fellow

**By: Sarah Byrd**

Dr. Michael Burton, Professor of Environmental Plant Science and Natural Resources for the Darr College of Agriculture, served as the Provost Fellow for 2018 Public Affairs Conference. As the selected fellow, Burton was responsible for planning the conference and promoting the theme, Sustainability in Practice:

sustainability for the conference.

“I was thrilled that I was selected as provost fellow because I really wanted agriculture to have a voice,” Burton said. “Historically there hadn’t been anyone from agriculture involved in the public affairs, as just an oversight. I want folks to dig down to the

students and the public about the University’s three pillars of public affairs: ethical leadership, cultural competency and community engagement. Before Burton came to teach at Missouri State, he knew the importance of these concepts and built his career upon ethics, global citizenship and good will.



**Dr. Michael Burton speaks at the 2018 Public Affairs conference. Photo Courtesy of Missouri State University Photography**

Consensus and Consequences. Through his teaching load, Burton has taught concepts of sustainability in classes within the College of Agriculture, which allowed him to highlight

reality rather than the popular view.”

The Missouri State University Public Affairs Conference serves to further establish, promote and educate

“Everyone wants to see their students lead ethically and be culturally competent,” Burton said. “Cultural awareness expands both in a domestic sense and also expands in

terms of international aspects. Community engagement has always been a part of my life, as a faculty member, a community member and a church member.”

Building the conference was not a meek task, but Burton did not encounter any aspect that was too challenging. The Public Affairs Support Office was there to assist him as well as Christi Sudbrock, a representative on the Public Affairs Conference Planning Committee from the Darr College of Agriculture.

“I have to congratulate the professional staff that is there and has been planning conferences for thirteen years, things run smoothly because of that institutional memory,” Burton said.

Burton was selected as provost fellow for the conference because of his immense preparedness and his unique perspective on sustainability.

“The professional staff indicated that I was prepared for the interview in ways that the other candidates were not,”

Burton said. “I thought I was just doing what was on the checklist. I really felt a sense of divine inspiration as I was preparing for it.”

Burton knew agriculture would be in the sustainability spot light during the conference and he wanted to challenge those attending to think about sustainability beyond the world’s environment and food systems.

“We found that people often wanted to make recommendations related back to agriculture instead of relating sustainability to something like the medical industry,” Burton said. “I thought, well this just tells us how pervasive the idea is that sustainability has everything to do with our food supply and with our environment. We wanted to look at sustainability in every dimension.”

Burton admitted the only challenge in manifesting the conference was fundraising. After budgetary cuts from former Missouri Governor Eric Greitens, the public affairs conference had

to be shortened. This challenge led to what Burton felt was the conference’s greatest success, a greater level of involvement from Missouri State students.

“The fact that our students pulled together a summit of student organizations was awesome,” Burton said. “I didn’t anticipate that someone would do something like that. But I was thrilled that they did and it was a great success.”

According to Burton, the 2018 Public Affairs Conference had a lasting impact on the University, its students and the people who made it happen.

“Every year, we pull together people from different backgrounds, people who come from different experiences and have an important voice even it is not necessarily one of authority,” Burton said. “What I think our students can get from that is they can be an engaged member of their community. It helps to have expert opinion, but everyone has something to contribute.”

## Missouri State University Pillars of Public Affairs

**Ethical  
Leadership**

**Cultural  
Competence**

**Community  
Engagement**

## Emeritus faculty receive accolades from University

By: Claire Eggerman



**Dr. Bruce Johnson is presented the Don Payton Award for 2018 by University President Clif Smart and Board of Governor's Member Virginia Fry. Photos Courtesy of Missouri State University Photography.**

Dr. Bruce Johnson and Dr. Ben Fuqua were recognized for their accomplishments and contributions to Missouri State University and the Darr College of Agriculture during the 2018 Homecoming celebration. Both were honored at University ceremonies and the Ag Celebration with Alumni and Friends, hosted by the Agriculture Alumni Committee on Saturday, October 20.

Dr. Ben Fuqua was inducted on to the Missouri State Wall of Fame on Friday, October 19, for his work with the Missouri blueberry industry. Fuqua began teaching at Southwest Missouri State University in the

fall of 1973, as a soil scientist. He also served as the first director of the Darr Agriculture Center. Fuqua's goal was to conduct research projects unique to Southwest Missouri gardeners, homeowners and farmers. Fuqua spent 35 years accomplishing those and other goals while working at Missouri State and says he appreciates his time spent at Missouri State University.

"It's a great honor to be inducted into the Missouri State University Wall of Fame, but it's also a very humbling experience. I told my boss, Dr. Anson Elliott, when I turned in my keys, I don't recall very many days I dreaded

coming into work. For someone who has worked there for 40 years that's a pretty good thing."

Dr. Bruce Johnson was inducted into the Missouri State Hall of Fame on the weekend of February 9th and 10th, at the Bears and Lady Bears Basketball game, for serving as the Faculty Athletic Representative from 1996 to 2011. In 2017, Johnson was also inducted on to the Missouri State Wall of Fame for his work with the Darr College of Agriculture. After finishing his PhD in 1970, Johnson took a job in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at Louisiana State University as an agricultural researcher. After working with graduates

from Missouri State, Johnson was impressed with how highly the students talked about the program. Johnson called Missouri State to see if there were any job openings, but at the time there were no vacancies. After a long wait, Johnson was offered a teaching position in agricultural economics, and began his teaching career at Missouri State in 1977. While Johnson served as the Faculty Athletic Director for Missouri State, he worked with student athletes and the Missouri Valley Conference Government structure. Johnson was also appointed to the NCAA Cabinet for his work at Missouri State.

"I was very humbled when I look at the wall of fame where all the names are listed and I knew many of these people probably knew all of them that were on the wall," Johnson said. "I felt

very humbled to be recognized in the same wall of fame are these people because they were just giants I thought and I don't want to put myself in that category but I felt very humbled to be a part of that."

Dr. Anson Elliott served as the department head for the Missouri State Agriculture Department while Johnson and Fuqua taught. He was impressed with their drive to succeed themselves and help others do the same.

"They displayed total dedication to the University, the Agriculture program and most of all the students," Elliott said. "They always spent more time and effort than required and did essential work that received no glory as well as that was well recognized."

Johnson and Fuqua spent a numerous amount of time with

the faculty but as professors, a frequent amount was spent with students. 1981 graduate from the department of agriculture remembers his time spent with Fuqua and Johnson. "As with any of the faculty in Karls Hall, they always had the student's best interest as their priority," Eggerman said. "They were not only found in the classroom but were found supporting student organizations and dedicated to making the Ag Department better."

Both Johnson and Fuqua hope their biggest impact at Missouri State was on the students in the Darr College of Agriculture. Each one hopes their classes and interactions with students gave them insight about how to succeed in careers and how to make their own impact in the agricultural industry.



**Dr. Ben Fuqua being inducted into the Missouri State Wall of Fame, pictured with University President Cliff Smart and Mayor of Jefferson City Ms. Carrie Tergin.**

# Students travel to experience central Missouri agricultural business

By: Sarah Kwast



**Students at Busdieker Farms. Photo courtesy of Nichole Busdieker Jesse.**

This past summer, the first ever Agribusiness Industries Tour, summer 2018 took students to Columbia, Missouri. All agricultural business students must attend an industry tour to fulfill graduation requirements, and up until recently the only time to attend was in January during holiday break. The original industry tour focused on businesses in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas, alternating locations each year. Agribusiness Industries Tour, summer 2018 focuses on small businesses in rural areas across the state of Missouri.

Nichole Busdieker-Jesse, assistant professor of agricultural business, and Christi Sudbrock, instructor of agricultural business, led students on the five-day tour last summer. They believe the new opportunity gives students perspective on jobs not necessarily in larger cities like

the spring industry tour.

“I believe that this gives students another look into what options they might have after they graduate. They may not have thought about where they could work in a smaller community,” Busdieker-Jesse said.

The idea was not only for students to be able to see what businesses they could work for. Busdieker and Sudbrock also wanted students to see what businesses they could partner with if they chose to go back to the family farm.

“Some of our students want to go back to the farm. And we want them to know how a grain elevator works, or how to receive a farm loan through companies like FCS Financial,” Busdieker-Jesse said.

In addition to showcasing smaller communities, the tour was necessary due to the growth of the agricultural

business program at Missouri State University. In recent years, the program and the Agriculture Industry Study has grown to where some students may have to delay graduation because of limited availability for the tour. Adding the summer tour gives students another option to participate so they may not have to delay graduation especially those graduating in the fall semesters according to Busdieker-Jesse.

As long as there is student interest, the Agribusiness Industries Tour will be offered again Summer 2019. According to Busdieker-Jesse there was a great response from businesses who want the tour to stop at their business again.

“The students really had great questions and were interested in the businesses. We had a great group of students for the first tour,” said Busdieker-Jesse.



## Missouri State University Founder's Club recognizes supporters within the Darr College of Agriculture

**By: Elizabeth Knipp**

On August 11, the Agriculture Alumni Committee, along with Dr. and Mrs. Elliott, were inducted into the Missouri State University Founder's Club. Both inductions took place at a ceremony held in the Davis-Harrington Welcome Center. According to the Missouri State University Foundation, this recognition is bestowed upon individuals, committees, and businesses who financially support and promote higher education for Missouri State.

Since 1983, the Founder's Club has recognized private donors who have given a

minimum contribution of \$10,000 to the University. The Agriculture Alumni Committee was presented with a medallion at the reception upon being inducted into the Founder's Club. April Wilson, an Agriculture Alumni Committee member, explained the opportunities to continue to support students upon induction.

"The funds that we get go through the Founder's Club, where it is put back to our students. We never want to stop investing in the students," Wilson said.

Wilson tributes the success

of the committee to the Darr family and their generosity. The Darrs, and other private donors recognized through the Founder's Club contribute to student success. Matt McDonough, the Director of Development for Alumni Relations, works with the Founder's Club and sees the benefits of having a recognition society in place for financial support.

"The support of our donors allows us to do things here at Missouri State that would not be possible otherwise," McDonough said. "We've raised money



**Members of the Agriculture Alumni Committee accept their Founder's Club induction plaque. Pictured L to R: Marc Allison, April Wilson, Clif Smart, Matt Wommack, Christi Sudbrock and Carrie Crews. Photo courtesy of Missouri State University Photography.**

each year with the idea for it to support students, so it can be manifested in different ways, [such as] scholarship support.”

In addition, funds through the Founder’s Club can be used to directly support different departments and colleges within Missouri State.

For the Agriculture Alumni Committee, these funds will continue to support the College of Agriculture.

“I had a good experience here and I’ve got a great career because of being here,” Wilson said. “So, my husband and I feel the need to give back.”

Serving on the committee along with many other supporters of the College of Agriculture has been a way for Wilson to give back to her alma mater.

The Agriculture Alumni Committee’s goal for the future is to continue to ensure students

have optimal opportunities and experiences during their tenure at Missouri State.

In addition, former director of the College of Agriculture, Dr. Anson Elliott, and his wife, Mrs. Betty Elliott, were honored and awarded with a silver medallion at the banquet.

“It is an honor for Missouri State University and the Missouri State University Foundation to recognize Dr. and Mrs. Elliott for their continued support of the University and the William H. Darr College of Agriculture,” said Stephanie Smith, Senior Director of Donor Relations and Special Events. “Their service and generosity have created a lasting legacy, which not only impact Bears of today, but generations of Bears to come.”

Dr. Elliott has seen the impact these funds have on past generations of college students and continues to want to see the

College of Agriculture thrive in the future.

“The exceptional programs that the Darr College of Agriculture has been able to provide is only possible through the many donations, of all sizes, that our alumni and friends have given to augment the state allocations and student fees,” Dr. Elliott said. “Over the years, as we shared our deep appreciation to the many donors to MSU Agriculture, Betty and I wanted to be a part of gaining the joy of providing gifts and seeing the positive effects they made on our many students, staff and faculty.”

Through these recognitions, both the Agriculture Alumni Committee and the Elliotts’ goal is to continue to work hard for the betterment of the college.

“We are humbled and honored that we can be a part of this group,” Dr. Elliott said.



**Dr. Anson Elliott and wife Betty Elliott accept their Founder’s Club induction plaque. Pictured L to R: Clif Smart, Mrs. Betty Elliott, Dr. Anson Elliott. Photo courtesy of Missouri State University Photography.**

## Hamilton joins plant science department

**By: Claire Eggerman**

In January 2018, Cheri Hamilton became the newest addition to the plant science department.

Hamilton graduated from Missouri State University in 1992 with a bachelor of science in agronomy. She then accepted a position at Anheuser Busch while beginning her masters degree at Arkansas State University. In a little over two years, she was almost finished with a masters degree in plant science. Hamilton's husband took a job back in the Springfield, Missouri, area. After returning to Springfield, she owned and operated her own greenhouse business. Twenty years later, Hamilton still had the dream of obtaining a masters degree.

Hamilton has always wanted to teach others about plant science.

"If you have talked to me a few times, you know I love to talk and I love plants," Hamilton said. "So if you combine the two, it's perfect. It's important to know the different aspects of the plant whether one is majoring in plant science or not."

After establishing her greenhouse business, Hamilton went to Anson Elliott, director of the School of Agriculture at the time, and asked if there were any teaching positions available. Elliott told Hamilton in order to teach she needed to obtain a masters degree. That day, Hamilton enrolled in classes.

With the environmental plant science and natural resources department growing, by January 2018 it was time to add another teaching position. Melissa Remley, assistant professor in environmental plant science,



**Pictured is Mrs. Cheri Hamilton, new instructor of environmental plant science. Photo Courtesy of Claire Eggerman.**

believed Hamilton was perfect person for this position because of her vast knowledge of plants and successful operation in the field.

"She was in one of my classes earning her masters degree and then she went on the plant science trip to China. This was my first trip with a group of students. I was able to get to know Cheri well on that trip," Remley said. "She was very knowledgeable about plants. When she graduated with her masters, we knew she wanted to teach and we knew that she would be perfect because of her excitement about plant science."

Graduate plant science student Alyssa Travlos, said "Cheri has so

much to offer for plant science," Travlos said. "Her knowledge on horticulture education and experiences in the real world is something that makes her very relatable, easy to talk to, and fascinating."

Hamilton views teaching others about plant science as an enjoyment and hopes to share her knowledge and spark the interest of plant science for students.

## Crews receives Honorary FFA State Degree

By: Claire Eggerman

Carrie Crews, Administrative Assistant at the Darr Agricultural Center, received her honorary State FFA Degree on April 19, 2018, in Columbia, Missouri, at the Missouri FFA Convention.

Honorary State FFA Degree candidates are chosen by nomination from the six districts that make up Missouri FFA and the Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association (MVATA). Each district can only nominate one individual. The Missouri FFA Executive Committee, Missouri FFA state officers, and Missouri FFA state staff may also nominate individuals to receive recognition. Once the individuals are selected, all nominees are considered by the Missouri FFA Executive Committee and approved by the delegates at the Missouri State FFA Convention.

Crews never had the opportunity to be involved in an FFA organization in high school. However, she said she realized the importance of FFA and why Missouri State University supports FFA, when she transferred jobs from the Missouri State Mountain Grove campus to the Springfield campus in 2011.

Steven Rogers, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education supervisor of the Southwest District, said Crews is crucial to FFA success.

“Carrie goes above and beyond to make every FFA member and Ag Teacher feel welcome,

is extremely organized and professional, and her joy in serving others is contagious,” Rogers said. “Her service to Missouri FFA has helped us accomplish our mission of making a positive difference in the lives of FFA members.”

According to Crews, one word to describe the day is: incredible. Crews attended the Convention and dinner held for the induction class with her husband. While there, she met fellow recipients ranging from people in the agricultural industry, the academic field, and support staff from across the state. After receiving her award, Crews was met backstage by FFA leadership, Southwest Missouri agriculture instructors, and Darr College of Agriculture faculty and staff and students. Crews said she considers those people family and was blessed by their support.



**Carrie Crews with Missouri FFA State President Paxton Dahmer and Missouri FFA State Secretary Regan Ragsdale after receiving her Honorary State FFA Degree. Photo Courtesy of Missouri FFA Association.**

“Sharing the joy of receiving the Honorary State FFA Degree, surrounded by people I love and admire, means the world to me,” Crews said. “It is because of you; students, coworkers, Southwest area FFA teachers, and our industry, that I truly love my job. I am so grateful for the honor, but I am more grateful for the opportunity to serve the FFA organization.”

## College of Agriculture hosts largest Career Fair to date

By: Shelby Harman



**Students meet with ADM about potential internships and careers. Photo courtesy of Mike Klem.**

The Darr College of Agriculture hosted the sixth annual career fair specifically for the College of Agriculture. This year was the biggest event to date, with 26 companies representing multiple areas of the agricultural industry. To kick off the event, the College of Agriculture hosts a workshop to help students develop and critique their resume and receive tips and advice on professional networking. This is a three-day event, where company representatives speak to agriculture classes the first day, attend the career fair itself on the second day, and interview candidates for potential internships and careers on the final day. Agricultural communications faculty provide students with free professional headshots.

Through the Career Fair, students have received internship

and job offers. Hannah Lipe, a Murphy Family Ventures representative at the 2018 event, graduated from the College of Agriculture in December 2017 with a degree in Animal Science. Lipe said she met her current employer through the Career Fair the fall of her senior year and now is working out of their Nevada office as a department head.

Students have been able to develop professional skills by attending the career fair. Thomas Eggerman, senior environmental plant science-crop science major from Lockwood, Missouri, is one student that has benefitted from attending.

“Attending the career fair has allowed me to gain professional networking, experience in interviews, and it helped me meet industry professionals from a variety of different companies.”

Eggerman hopes the contacts

and skills he has gained through attending the Career Fair will help him find a full-time position after graduation.

Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) Territory Colleague Development Manager and Bjorn Wilkerson has been attending the College of Agriculture Career Fair since it started four years ago. Being a 2012 alumnus of the College of Agriculture, he has seen growth both in the College and the Career Fair over the years.

“Our goal by coming to different career fairs is to find the right fit for the job,” Wilkerson explained. “We want to get to know people by learning their goals and ambitions, not just by their resume.”

As the College of Agriculture continues to grow enrollment numbers, they hope to also expand the Career Fair in both diversity of companies and number of opportunities available to students.

## College of Agriculture welcomes new students

By: Claire Eggerman

The Darr College of Agriculture held its annual All Student Picnic on Tuesday, August 28, at the Bond Learning Center.

Students, faculty and staff played yard games, ate food and welcomed new students to Missouri State University. Students met club representatives from the 20 College of Agriculture student organizations to discover opportunities for involvement.

Anna Roth, senior agricultural communications major from Altenburg, Missouri, served

as the host for the evening and represented multiple College of Agriculture student organizations.

“The picnic shows them that we are a big family,” Roth said. This is a great opportunity for students to find clubs in areas that they are interested in, as well as getting to meet our faculty and staff.” Landon Rodgers, freshman biology major from Willow Springs, Missouri believes the picnic was a great way to network with others. “I grew up in a really small town and coming here to Springfield

and moving here to Missouri State is kind of a culture shock. Going to the picnic and living in the Agriculture LLC, you make those connections with people who have the same major and same passions as you do,” said Rodgers.

The College of Agriculture hosts the Welcome Back picnic annually to encourage new and returning students to fellowship and see how opportunity can have an impact on their collegiate careers.

**Students gather for fellowship and to participate in the picnic activities. Photo Courtesy of Mike Klem.**



## Agriculture Living-Learning Community provides new home to freshman students

**By: Elizabeth Knipp**

As Missouri State University's enrollment numbers continue to grow, interactive on-campus housing options have been expanded for students to utilize. The Agriculture LLC is one of 15 campus residence hall communities where students with common interests can interact and live on the same floor.

"I think the biggest benefit is being around people with the same interests as you. A lot of the people will be in the same classes as you. If you're struggling with something,

you and your roommate can work together," said freshman agriculture education major Ashley Redmon from Branson, Missouri.

Out of 102 freshman students enrolled within the Darr College of Agriculture, 10 males and 12 females live in Wells House where the Agriculture LLC is located. In conjunction with science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) majors, the second and third floors of Wells House provide ways for students to stay connected to agriculture. For cell and molecular biology

major Landon Rodgers, the Agriculture LLC allows him to remain rooted in agriculture.

"Even though I'm not majoring in ag, I still claim to be involved within the industry," Rodgers said. "After college I plan to have my own production agriculture operation back home."

Rodgers also credits the LLC with helping his initial transition from a small-town to living in the middle of a large campus.

With this being the third academic year the Agriculture LLC has operated, the College of Agriculture continues to invest



**Freshmen agriculture students stand in front of Wells House, where the Agriculture LLC is located. Pictured L to R: Ashley Redmon, Kate Bunch, Grace Del Vecchio, Addie Matthews, and Brenna Long. Photo Courtesy of Claire Eggerman.**

in helping students find a home within Missouri State. Julia Probst, past Resident Assistant (RA) to the Agriculture LLC, saw firsthand how students became more interested in events going on within the college.

“If you have one person that goes to the floor wanting join Cattleman’s or (Collegiate) FFA, they will all do it as a group because they are all friends and will want to do the same thing,” Probst said.

As campus-wide freshman enrollment continues to climb, students are able to use LLCs as a way to make new friends and create academic study groups.

Katie Colip, Coordinator of Residence Life, credits LLCs with being high impact programs that help students become further invested in their experience at Missouri State. LLCs are incorporated with

service learning as a way for students to think critically and become immersed in the campus community while at Missouri State.

“LLCs are a retention effort of the University,” Colip said. “And our goal for all Living Learning Communities is that students feel connected to Missouri State.”

Incoming freshman students can request to join an LLC when completing the on-campus housing application after admittance into the University.



## PFI Western provides scholarships to future Missouri State agriculture students

**By: Shelby Harman**

Every fall since 2014, the Darr College of Agriculture has partnered with PFI Western Store and Missouri Farm Bureau to host Salute to Agriculture. The event brings high school students to the College of Agriculture to see the facilities and interact with current College of Agriculture students. The event is held during the Friday night of the weekend the of the

PFIWestern.com Invitational for the Professional Bull Riders (PBR).

Students come to Springfield and are served dinner. In addition, they participate in games and contests before they go to JQH Arena to watch the PBR. Cortney Little, public relations manager for PFI Western Wear, has been devoted to increasing the size of the

Salute to Agriculture event from year to year.

“We started out with 666 FFA high school students from 26 schools and the program has grown to 1,438 FFA high school student this year from 43 area schools,” Little said.

This event has continued to grow each year and this year an exciting new opportunity was available for two high school



seniors. PFI Western teamed up with Rick Squibb with Stone County Farm Bureau, Andy Kuntz with Andy's Frozen Custard, Mick Plummer with Farmer's Ag Supply, and Phil Melugin with Phoenix Home Care to provide two high school seniors with a \$2500 scholarship to be used their freshman year of college at Missouri State University. The recipients of the first annual PFI Salute to Agriculture Scholarship were Kensie Darst of Aurora High School and Matthew Huchteman of Dadeville High School.

Jeff Gettys, chair of the Darr College of Agriculture Scholarship Committee, said in order to qualify for the PFI Salute to Agriculture Scholarship, students must be an undergraduate enrolled full-time within the Darr College of Agriculture. The recipients must also have a high school GPA of no less than a 3.0, be an active member of the National FFA Organization and attend the Salute to Agriculture event.

High school agriculture instructors across the state were asked to nominate two of their top seniors that met the requirements decided by donors, in addition to a testimonial explaining why their student deserved the award.

After the applicants were collected, recipients were chosen by a committee of faculty and staff within the College of Agriculture. The two recipients were recognized during the PBR on Friday night.

"Every MSU donor fully

recognizes the significance an education a world-renowned institution can provide an individual moving forward," Gettys said. "I believe this gracious gift gives our leaders of tomorrow an opportunity that they may not have otherwise had, to explore the latest ideas and obtain new knowledge that will only serve to strengthen the United States' largest economic industry."

PFI Western is planning to continue the Salute to Agriculture in the future to help deserving students improve their understanding of the agricultural industry at the Darr College of Agriculture.

"We want these students to go to school in Springfield, graduate, and take what they have learned and use it in the agriculture field," Little said.

Jordan Buck, agriculture instructor at Dadeville High School described scholarship recipient Matthew Huchteman as a dedicated student and FFA member.

"Matthew possesses a

hardworking, self-motivated attitude that is many times hard to find in today's youth," Buck said. "I have always been extremely impressed, not only with Matthew's willingness, but also his ability to accomplish any task that I give to him. Matthew is truly the future of agriculture."

According to Sam Percival, agriculture instructor at Aurora High School, recipient Kensie Darst desires to have an impact on other students' lives in a way that she has been changed through her experience in agriculture classes and being active in FFA. She plans to pursue a career in agricultural education.

Both PFI Western Scholarship recipients' agriculture instructors explained that both students have displayed good character, leadership qualities, and have a passion for the agriculture industry both in and out of the classroom. The College of Agriculture and PFI Western look forward to growing the event and scholarship in the years to come.



**Kensie Darst from Aurora High School and Matthew Huchteman from Dadeville High School, recipients of the PFI Salute to Agriculture Scholarship, are recognized at the PFIWestern.com Invitational PBR Event, September 7-9.**

## Agriculture students attend leadership conference

**By: Shelby Harman**

Eight students represented the Darr College of Agriculture at the Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, November 1-4, 2018. 827 college students from 39 states attended the annual conference.

The conference is designed for undergraduate students pursuing a degree in agriculture or a food-related degree. Students must submit online applications to attend, qualifying applicants are selected to receive a scholarship to cover the cost of the conference. Other attendees are selected according to a college or university sponsorship. Once applications are turned in, a committee in the College of Agriculture selects two scholarship recipients for the university-funded scholarships.

Kara Powelson, Tyler Davis, Ella Snelson, Gabe Palmer, Gabrielle Mueller, Macey Hurst, Michael Ruhlman, and Sarah Mason attended AFA this year from Missouri State. Some of the students from the College of Agriculture were attending for the first time, while others were returning attendees. There are tracks within the program, based on the student's age and number of years in attendance. Tracks are designed to match the student's years in college to help with personal and professional development. AFA's mission is to build bridges for young leaders to foster engagement and innovation in food and agriculture.

Kara Powelson,

senior environmental plant science/horticulture major from Rosendale, Missouri, has attended the conference for four years and described it as a highlight of her college career.

"It's a great place for professional development, networking, and finding your purpose within the agriculture industry," Powelson said.

According to Jim Bellis, Assistant to the Dean of the College of Agriculture, the College of Agriculture has always had a strong presence at the conference.

"I have watched shy freshmen students attend the conference and come back with a different mindset," Bellis said. "I have seen students take the leadership skills they have learned at that conference and bring them back to start new clubs within the College of Agriculture."

AFA allows students to network with industry professionals from all over the United States. Students attended workshops covering career development in business, production, education, sciences and services to help them polish professional skills and prepare students for situations after college.

Ella Snelson, senior agricultural communications and agricultural business major from St. James, Missouri, attended for the first time this year and was pleased with her experience at the conference.

"Attending AFA was an opportunity that allowed me to meet many different industry professionals, attend helpful sessions, and discover potential career choices after graduation," Snelson said.



**Students from the Darr College of Agriculture attending AFA Conference in Kansas City. Front Row from left to right: Kara Powelson, Gabe Palmer, Gabrielle Mueller. Second row from left to right: Tyler Davis, Ella Snelson, Macey Hurst, and Michael Ruhlman. Photo courtesy of Kara Powelson.**

# Non-agriculture majors find place to work in the College of Agriculture

By: Claire Eggerman



**Gabi Moore works on projects to help benefit the College of Agriculture. Photo Courtesy of Claire Eggerman.**

In the fall 2018 semester, the Darr College of Agriculture received some additional help in the office of Karls Hall through the work study program at Missouri State University.

The newest work study student is Gabi Moore. Moore is a freshman at Missouri State University and is from St. Louis, Missouri. Unlike other work study students working in the College of Agriculture, Moore is a nursing major. Since elementary school, Moore knew she wanted to become a nurse. Moore was impressed by the time and support the nurses gave to her and her loved ones, and hopes to do the same in the years to come.

The work study program is an opportunity for students at Missouri State to work on campus while being a full

time student. The College of Agriculture has work study jobs which give students an opportunity to work on campus.

Alyssa Killingsworth, Academic Administrative Assistant, says, “Work study students have a huge impact on the College of Agriculture. Those students are a large part of our student workforce that help with the daily function of the college. We truly enjoy our work study students and would be lost without them. Work study provides a close working relationship between faculty/staff and those students who take on work study position. I love coming to work every day and seeing our work study students and our student workers- they make everything more fun.”

Moore has enjoyed her work study experience, “Working in

the College of Ag has benefited me by the people that I’ve met. Rhonda and Alyssa are the sweetest and they always manage to brighten my day. I love getting to work with fellow work study students because they’re always so funny and goofy, and they’ve been really welcoming. Also, the students that I’ve had to opportunity to interact with are always so nice, and I enjoy being able to answer any questions I can” says Moore.

Work Study student, Makayla Vandiver, believes it is essential to have non ag majors working in the College of Agriculture.

“They give us a different perspective on things. Sometimes we forget that not everyone was raised with an agriculture background and they don’t understand why we do what we do,” said Vandiver. “So, having someone present from a different background makes you realize that you have to make changes or that there may be a better solution to a problem.”

Moore is thankful for the skills that this job has taught her and she will continue to utilize these skills in her career in the future.

“Learning to work with people in an office setting has been a new experience, and I think it has helped me a lot,” said Moore.

For more information on work study programs at Missouri State University go to <https://www.missouristate.edu/studentemp/work-study.htm>

## Missouri State graduate student researches Goji berry greens

**By: Sarah Kwast**

Jesse Carroll, plant science graduate student in the Darr College of Agriculture is pioneering research in the United States with Goji berry greens. According to Carroll, Goji berries are a super fruit known for their health benefits and are primarily grown in China. In the United States, research is slim on Goji berries, and even less research exists on the benefits of their greens. Carroll's goal is to jumpstart research on Goji berries in the United States, and to determine if Goji berries are able to be grown for greens production in the Southwest Missouri region. To perform his research, Carroll used three cultivars for his project: 'Big Lifeberry', 'Sweet Lifeberry' and 'Vermillion Sunset'. Carroll chose these cultivars because they were readily available in the United States. After completing a study abroad trip to Ningxia, China, with the College of Agriculture, Carroll was fascinated by the work researchers were doing on Goji greens and berries. Carroll's research is the first of its kind in the United States to

his knowledge, where much of the framework for his research came from the Ningxia campus partnership with Missouri State University. When assembling his research, word of mouth was primarily how he received his information.

"A lot of the technical stuff, plant spacing, row spacing, what varieties to use, the Ningxia campus was really helpful with all of that," Carroll said.

Dr. Melissa Remley is advising Carroll on his research. She said it helped to have Goji berry researchers from China visit during the research process. They gave advice learned through their own research endeavors.

When asked about Goji berry production in the United States, Carroll said there is not a considerable amount of production. Most production is small-scale, focusing on a niche market developing in the United States.

"With all the health crazes over superfruit in the United States, I believe there is room for growth in the market of Goji berry production," Carroll said.

While Goji berries have been grown for over 2500 years, Goji greens have only been commercially produced in China for the past few decades, according to Carroll.

In addition to his research on

the Goji berry greens, Carroll also looked at the effects of air root pruning on the Goji plants. The purpose of this part of the research was to see if air root pruning was a viable option to help the plants grow if they prune them using this method. Air root pruning is when roots are exposed to too much oxygen causing them to dry out and die. This will then cause the plant to respond by producing more roots and hopefully more vegetative production. Carroll's final results showed air root pruning had no effect on the increased cultivation of Goji berry greens. He believes this is because the Goji berries were not subjected to root pruning long enough in the greenhouse to receive the most benefits from the pruning technique.

Final results for greens research concluded that in greens production, 'Big Lifeberry' produced the greatest amount of greens of the three varieties. It also produced the most desirable shoots for greens production. Carroll also found that the climates are similar enough that it is possible to cultivate Goji berries and Goji greens in the Midwest.

Carroll said while Goji berry greens are confirmed as safe to consume, he would like to do more research on the varieties used in this study for nutrition and safety before recommending these cultivars for consumption. Carroll will be graduating with his master's degree in December. He hopes Goji berry research is continued at Missouri State and is looking forward to more results in the future.



**Jesse Carroll, Cady Goble, and Nathan Johnson working to plant Goji berry plants. Photo courtesy of Jesse Carroll.**

# Taiwanese students study agriculture at Missouri State University

**By: Elizabeth Knipp**

The Darr College of Agriculture hosted six students and one professor from the National Chung Hsing University located in Taichung, Taiwan, as part of an international exchange program this semester. Spending a total of six full days in Missouri, the students travelled throughout the state to be immersed in Missouri agriculture and experience American culture.

In addition to time spent in Springfield, students spent a day in St. Louis to tour the Bayer Center and visited the Gateway Arch. When the group visited Jefferson City and Columbia, they visited the Missouri Capitol, met with the Missouri Director of Agriculture, Chris Chinn, and toured a Missouri Soybean Association research farm.

Ben Travlos, agricultural business and economics graduate student from Ashland, Missouri, was part of the group from Missouri State that traveled with them as they traveled to Jefferson City and Columbia.

"A lot of the Taiwanese students were plant pathology majors, so it was really cool taking them to places where they could witness and see plant breeding first hand for soybeans," said Travlos.

While in Springfield, students witnessed events within the College of Agriculture, including the Journagan Ranch Sale. In addition, they participated in a hydroponics class and met with

Missouri State students who were part of the 2018 exchange. Freshman agriculture education major Madison Turner from Buffalo, Missouri, was a part of the welcoming committee to take the Taiwanese students around campus and introduce them to Missouri State faculty, staff and students. She credits this exchange as a vital piece of her education and hopes to pass along her experiences to her future agricultural students.

"I will advocate to my students about the importance of respecting cultural diversity and exploring different educational opportunities at the international level," Turner said.

For Professor Ching-Ying Huang, this trip meant more than seeing the sights of Missouri.

Huang, a food science and biotechnology professor at National Chung Hsing University, said she saw interesting topics for possible future research projects while in Missouri.

"Finding new things with the young generation is my favorite part of being able to travel on international trips," Huang said. "I think this state [Missouri] is very different. The people and the environment are very nice. They have a very good technique in agriculture. That is what I want to share with our college and friends in Taiwan."

Traveling in America presented many cultural differences to the Taiwanese students while they visited. For all six of them, this was their first time visiting the U.S. Tina Cheng, forestry major, saw firsthand the vastness of the agricultural industry in Missouri.

"The land is so big. In Taiwan, everything is crowded. Here, you have to go far away to see one neighborhood," Cheng said.

From experiencing new foods to learning about agriculture, the exchange offered growth for the participants.

"It's one thing to expect to go there and explain what we grew up with in regard to farm operations. But it is another for them to actually see it and have hands on experience with this," Travlos said.

Getting to travel abroad aligns with Missouri State's pillar of cultural competence. Travlos will never forget his time spent in Taiwan through the exchange.

"It opens your eyes and your heart a little more. You get to view the world in a different perspective," Travlos said.

Five Missouri State students within the College of Agriculture, along with students from Nebraska and Kansas, reciprocated the exchange by traveling to Taiwan on October 26 through November 4.

## College of Agriculture sophomores use outdoor skills to work with campus grounds

**By: Elizabeth Knipp**

Brittany Byram and Meghan Seibert, both originally from Franklin County, Missouri, have been student workers with the Missouri State University Grounds Crew since September. According to Seibert, jobs range from cleaning up construction sites and the grounds after football games. In addition, they help landscape the campus as seasons change.

“We basically do everything with grounds,” Seibert said.

To cover the 225 acres Missouri State resides on, the campus is divided into zones, which allow workers to be assigned to certain areas. Byram and Seibert, along with four other workers, ride with zone supervisors and assist them in cleaning up specific areas.

Working campus grounds requires a 10-hour minimum requirement each week. For Byram and Seibert, there have been no issues fitting in their work responsibilities. In most cases, they are able to work more hours



**Brittany Byram, sophomore plant science major, kneels down to pull weeds in her work zone as workers prepare for the winter season. Photo courtesy of Katie Franken.**

than initially required due to the flexibility that comes with working campus grounds.

“I start at 7 a.m., but Meghan starts at 12:30 p.m.,” Byram said. “They really work with our class schedules.”

Working on campus grounds is a way for both students to gain knowledge and have hands-on

experience relating to their majors and future careers. Seibert, a wildlife management major, sees the direct benefits of working the grounds on a

large campus.

“Dealing with plants around campus and managing the land area here is a good [learning] point for me,” Seibert said.

Byram is interested in pursuing plant science, so working directly with plants on campus has increased her knowledge on the subject.

While there are many on-campus jobs at Missouri State, Byram credits this job experience with being able to work with welcoming people in a work-friendly environment.

“If you need a good job while you’re at Missouri State, I would recommend this,” Byram said.

For more information regarding campus ground jobs, contact ground services through the facilities management division at Missouri State.



**Meghan Siebert, sophomore wildlife management major, stands next to the all-terrain vehicles used by campus ground employees to transport tools and debris from campus zones.**

## Missouri State Forestry Club places in 2018 Foresters Conclave

By: Sarah Byrd

In the spring of 2018, the Missouri State Forestry Club traveled to Stevens Point, Wisconsin, to compete in the sixty-sixth annual Midwestern Foresters Conclave, hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The team took first place in the mystery competition, a competition where the challenges remain secret until teams are selected and ready to begin. The 2018 competition combined Christmas tree identification, measurement, transportation and stacking. This challenge required team members to work together and apply skills learned inside the classroom and through external experiences. For winning the team received a crosscut saw valued at \$2,000.

“One of the reasons our team won is that they came together better than any other group and very quickly decided who needed to be responsible for what,” Goerndt said.

Forestry graduate student, Jim Criger, served as the club president during the 2018 Conclave and was present for the club’s winning competition.

“It was a team effort,” Criger said. “Each school submitted four members, but they had no idea what they were going to do. In this particular case, it was fortuitous, each member was able to pull on their individual strengths. They didn’t just win, they creamed them.”

The Forestry Club’s next venture will be making and

selling holiday wreaths to raise money to attend the 2019 Midwesterners Conclave, hosted by Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

The Missouri State Forestry Club was founded in 2016 by Dr. Michael Goerndt, assistant professor of forestry and natural resources. The club was created to provide a way for Missouri State students to become more involved in the growing forestry industry, and to promote forestry education at Missouri State.

“Part of having a successful, fledgling program is to get people to come and be a part of it,” Goerndt said. “I instigated the club and the demand from student rose once they found out such a thing was possible.”



Shawn Miller, Josh Neptune, Hailey Johnston and Stewart McCollum, members of the Missouri State Forestry Club pose with axes. Photo Courtesy of Mike Klem.

## Animal science student wins public affairs writing contest

By: Sarah Byrd

In the spring of 2018, animal science graduate student Delaney O'Donnell from Fredericksburg, Virginia, won the Missouri State University Michael N. Compton essay contest. The contest required submission of an essay on the topic of sustainability. O'Donnell wrote a 900-word essay about food scarcity and the challenges of providing food for the world's growing population, a topic she has long been captivated by.

"I have always had an interest in food security. I saw some instant connections that I could write about. Like, sustainability and addressing the problem of a growing population." O'Donnell said.

The prize for winning the contest was \$500 cash for O'Donnell and a \$500 donation to a charity of her choice. O'Donnell chose Equi-librium

Therapy Center, an equine therapy ranch east of Springfield, Missouri, where she volunteers. Sponsorship for the Michael N. Compton essay contest is provided by the Institute for Development of Ethics And Leadership (IDEAL) and the Alpha Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity at Missouri State. Started by Michael N. Compton in 2012, IDEAL is a non-profit organization operated by the alumni of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity. IDEAL is committed to developing the ethics and leadership skills of the men in the fraternity. According to the essay contest website, Compton envisioned the contest as a vehicle to support the public affairs mission of the University.

The 2019 theme is Unity in Community. O'Donnell hopes all writers choose a topic they are passionate about.

"I have always enjoyed the public affairs at this University," O'Donnell said. "I think it is interesting that the University puts such a focus on not just what we do while in school but what we do outside as well. It's something very unique."

O'Donnell enjoyed the experience of writing and winning the contest and hopes to aid and continue to educate the public about sustainable food production.

The following is an excerpt from O'Donnell's essay:

"The fundamental question is how should we - active engaged citizens in a democratic nation - discover the truth about the food we eat, the practices used to produce it, and the policies surrounding it? What is safe and what is dangerous? How do we separate facts from fiction? How do we decide who is telling

the truth and who is telling lies? We cannot all go read the myriad amounts of scientific literature, inspect the peer-reviewed journal articles, and carefully contemplate every blog post, book, and internet article about every issue in agriculture. But we can look to what we do when deciding on issues in other disciplines of study."



Delaney O'Donnell pictured with Sigma Pi members and owner of Equi-Librium at Public Affairs Conference. Photo courtesy of Missouri State Photography



## ACT members place in national communications contest

**By: Sarah Kwast**

During the summer of 2018, Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) members participated in the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow's (NACT) Critique and Contest. For this competition, students can submit writing samples, photography, graphic design pieces and social media plans to be judged against other student work from collegiate agricultural communications students across the country.

"The Critique and Contest is a great way for members to gain feedback from industry professionals about their different portfolio submissions, and also is a way for members to get their names out there for future employment," said Anna Roth, Missouri State ACT president and senior agricultural communications major.

Four Missouri State ACT members placed in this year's

competition. Olivia Loges, senior agricultural communications major from Sweet Springs, Missouri, placed fourth in the long personality story division. "I thought it would be a good way to see my work against other competitors and other agricultural communications majors from different schools. The critiques were great to see how professionals in the industry viewed my submission", said Loges.

Julie Choate, agricultural communications graduate student from Pleasant Hope, Missouri, placed second in the photo series division. In regard to her participation in the contest Choate said she wanted to support the contest and receive recognition and feedback for the pieces she put time into.

Samantha Riley, agricultural communications graduate student from Salem, Missouri,

placed first in the animal photo division.

Emily Lewis, senior agricultural communications major from Higginsville, Missouri, placed fifth in the animal photo division. Lewis also placed first in the Video Advertisement Production division.

Instructor of Agricultural Communications and ACT Advisor Katelyn McCoy encourages students to participate in the contest. "There's nothing more valuable to a young professional than learning how to take constructive criticism and learning to make themselves better," said McCoy.

The Critique and Contest happens every year at Ag Media Summit, a conference hosted for agricultural communications professionals from across the country. This year's convention was held in Scottsdale, Arizona.



**Julie Choate (left) and part of her winning photo series (top middle), and Emily Lewis (right) with her winning photo submission (bottom middle). Photos courtesy of Choate and Lewis.**

## College of Agriculture extends study away trip to Brazil

By: Sarah Byrd

Since 2014, students of the Darr College of Agriculture have traveled to Maringa, Brazil, to study international agriculture. The trip was first initiated by Brad Bodenhausen, director of the International Training and Leadership Center at Missouri State University. To get the program started, Bodenhausen enlisted the help of Christi Sudbrock, instructor of agricultural business, who possessed a passion for international business.

On average, 15 students and two faculty members travel to University Unicesumar in Maringa after a visit from Brazilian students to the United States. Lasting relationships between Missouri State and University Unicesumar have allowed for the ten day trip to be extended to eight weeks from May 29th-August 6th.

“It’s incredibly cost effective for us and our partner University Unicesumar to do a longer term program,” Sudbrock said. “It adds value to the students’ experience and now, we can slow down and focus on the educational experience for students.”

With the extended trip, students will live on campus at Unicesumar and receive between two and four hours of Portuguese instruction daily. While there, students will study soil fertility, cultivation, beef genetics and veterinary care. Costs associated for the trip total \$5,070, which includes airline tickets to Maringa,

accommodations in university dormitories for eight weeks, and have on-campus meals. Transportation will be provided to and from farms and facilities. Students will receive nine credit hours of practicum experience to put toward their program at Missouri State.

Alyssa Killingsworth, Academic Administrative Assistant for the College of Agriculture began coordinating travel this fall for the 2019 trip. Killingsworth said students will gain experience outside of what is expected.

“They [students] come back as leaders who say hi to exchange students in the hall or go out of their way to make the students feel welcome,” Killingsworth said. “This opens the doors for students to interact and connect with people, which in agriculture, is one of the biggest things you can do.”

Killingsworth said the study away trip aligns with two of the three pillars of the Missouri State public affairs mission.

“It goes along with cultural competency,” Killingsworth said. “I think that would be the major one we hit on. Also ethical leadership comes out of it, because they come back realizing that the world is different

from what they thought because they hadn’t seen it all.”

Courtney Hall, agricultural communications graduate student, from Creighton, Missouri, went on the ten-day trip in 2017.

“I cannot fit my love for the country of Brazil into a few sentences,” Hall said. “The atmosphere is something you can only understand by seeing yourself. The trip was one of the greatest experiences of my life.”

Hall said lengthening the trip would be very beneficial for students.

“Ten days was not enough in my opinion. It felt like we were rushing it a bit throughout the days.”

Registration for the 2019 trip is currently open, and scholarships for study away costs are available. Information on coordination meetings, scholarships and the trip can be found in the administrative office of Karls Hall.



**Missouri State Agriculture students visit Maringa, Brazil, to study international agricultural practices. Photo courtesy of Mike Klem**

## Ag Ambassadors serve the College of Agriculture

By: **Shelby Harman**



**Fall 2018 Darr College of Agriculture Ambassadors. Back row left to right: Justen Leifer, Casey Watkins, Ty Rinne, Megan Wix, Jim Bellis. Middle row left to right: Miranda Hofstetter, Mackenzie Courthouse, Hannah Talty, McKelli Shaw, Lacie Reed. Front row: left to right: Adrienn Allen, Emily Selby, Hunter Blalock.**

Each semester students in the Darr College of Agriculture have the opportunity to be Agriculture Ambassadors for Missouri State University. The Agriculture Ambassadors serve as advocates for agriculture and the University by traveling to career fairs, farm shows and high schools across the state promoting the College of Agriculture.

To be an ambassador, students must enroll in a class taught by Jim Bellis, assistant to the dean of the Darr College of Agriculture. Students have the choice to take a one or three credit hour class.

Miranda Hofstetter, senior animal science major from Sullivan, Missouri, has been an Ag Ambassador for three semesters.

“My favorite thing about being an Ag Ambassador is being able to help students figure out why the College of Agriculture is the best fit for them,” Hofstetter said. “This

has allowed me to better improve my communications skills with others.”

Adrienn Allen, junior agricultural business: finance and management major, has only been an ambassador for one semester, but she said being an ambassador has allowed her to be involved on campus, even though she commutes.

“I remember being in the high school student’s shoes when I was trying to decide on what to do with my future,” Allen said. Sharing my story with these potential students could help them.”

Each student is required to visit two high schools and present about the College of Agriculture in addition to attending other recruitment events.

“Presenting in front of students helps create real world experience for these college students,” Bellis said. “Whether they are

agricultural communications majors or agricultural business majors, the experiences are relevant and help strengthen student’s communication skills.”

This year the Ambassadors are working to increase the presence of the College of Agriculture in high school classrooms. They will be making graphics to recognize students that have chosen to attend the College of Agriculture. The graphics will help illustrate the success students have had through attending the College of Agriculture.

Agriculture Ambassadors not only provide students with credits, but it serves as real life experience for students that they can take with them beyond their college careers. The ambassadors help build relationships with potential students and show them all the options the College of Agriculture has to offer.

## Club Updates

**By: Club Presidents**

**Compiled By: Sarah Kwast**

This past summer, **Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT)** members participated in the Critique and Contest. Four members were recognized at the NACT Meeting at Ag Media Summit in Scottsdale, Arizona. This year we also attended the NACT Professional Development Conference/National Association of Farm Broadcasters Convention to create connections and interact with industry professionals.

**Alpha Gamma Rho** is a social and professional agricultural fraternity with the motto of “Making Better Men”. Alpha Gamma Rho has been busy this semester with a philanthropy benefiting diabetes research in which we are selling T-Shirts and donating all of the proceeds. Alpha Gamma Rho has welcomed in a very enthusiastic new Fall Rush class. As a fraternity, Alpha Gamma Rho participates in barnwarming, COAG days and street cleanups around Springfield.

Since last winter, **Alpha Gamma Sigma** has steps to enhance our new member program. We have increased the educational value for the new members and have coordinated with our national board to recreate and improve the program.

Within the past year the **MSU Agronomy Club** has been active in several events. The club competed at the NACTA Judging Conference with a Soils and Crops team. The students have also held a stream clean up at Darr Agriculture Center and our Adopt-A Highway program along Chestnut Expressway.

The **Missouri State Beekeeping Club** is currently making Missouri State one of 53 campuses nationwide that are pollinator friendly. We have also have volunteered with campus gardens, and helped out during CoAg days. In the near future, we hope to expand our hives.

**Missouri State Block and Bridle** has been working to start planning our 2019 MSU Bear Classic for this upcoming spring! This year we hope to bring in more numbers than ever before and reward our exhibitors with unique prizes put together by our members.

**MSU Cattlemen's Association** is an affiliate of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association, MCA. As a whole, MCA aims to advance the economic, educational, political, and social interests of the Missouri Cattle Industry. Members host events such as Farm Safety Day and the International BBQ with hopes to aid their members' education in agriculture and better prepare them for a career in the competitive industry.

**Collegiate 4-H** is an organization dedicated to serving 4-H clubs in our area and provide assistance at the local, regional and state level. The club provides opportunities for members to grow through leadership and service by hosting officer trainings and project workshops for members of Missouri 4-H.

This year the **Collegiate Farm Bureau** hosted the annual PFI and PBR Missouri Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture, with a record breaking attendance. In total, we had nearly 1,600 students and volunteers at this event. We also attended State Young Farmers and Ranchers and National Young Farmers and Ranchers in Reno, NV.

**Collegiate FFA** works throughout the year advocating for the Darr College of Agriculture by attending State and National Convention. We also have Farmer For A Day, where we teach third graders about the agriculture industry.

In April, **Delta Tau Alpha (DTA)**, we went to National Convention at Eastern Kentucky University where Dani Plank was elected National President and Danni Hammontree was elected Midwest Vice President. At our chapter level we also inducted 15 new members this past year. In October we sponsored a quiz bowl for the Darr College of Agriculture second annual COAg Days.

This past spring a group of members from **The Forestry Club** traveled to the annual Missouri Natural Resource Conference where they got to meet and visit with many different employers. Wrapping up the spring semester, the club traveled to Wisconsin to compete in the annual Midwest Foresters Conclave. We were able to win a brand new crosscut saw to use in further competition.

**The Horseman's Association** started the semester off volunteering with the Jr. Cattlemen's Ball where we helped guide children through a horseback obstacle course. Our biggest goal with the Horsemen's Association is to further educate all people that have interest in horses and to encourage them to take advantage of all the opportunities here at Missouri State.

**Horticulture Club** is a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in plants. We do activities in the greenhouse such as propagating plants and helping with the spring plant sale. We also volunteer in the campus garden.

As an organization, the **Pre-Vet Club** strives to help further students' interest in the veterinary medicine profession. Members volunteered this year at the National Tiger Sanctuary, Equi-Librium, Equestrian Center. The Pre-Vet Club provides resources and opportunities to assist members in building their resume and gaining experience with animals, while also learning about the prerequisite requirements and application process for colleges of veterinary medicine.

**The Ranch Horse Team** is a club sports team that participates in the American Stock Horse Association, National Versatility Ranch Horse Association, and Foundation Quarter Horse Registry. The members of the team train and condition their horses to compete in various events. The team hosts shows at Pinegar Arena each year and travels to shows throughout the region.

**Sigma Alpha** is a professional agricultural sorority that strives for achievement in scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service. Members focus on professional development, sisterhood activities, and career skills to positively impact the agricultural industry. Sigma Alpha was named the Missouri State COAG Days "Club of the Year" and hosts COAG events such as Barnwarming and Giving Thanks to Ag.

**Trap and Skeet Club** competes in shooting competitions and tournaments across the Midwest. This semester has been focused on increasing membership and creating a safe and fun environment. The team holds meetings and practices at the Andy Dalton shooting range in Springfield, MO.

**The Wildlife Society** has participated in volunteer and research opportunities. Members assisted the Missouri Department of Conservation in collecting data, volunteered with Stream Team and attended the Missouri Natural Resource Conference. Members participated in fire training, where they received Level 1 Certification and can now assist the MDC in prescribed burns.

## 2018 Scholarship Banquet

### Presidential Scholars

Freshman  
Sophomore  
Junior  
Junior  
Senior  
Senior  
Senior  
Senior

Matthew Black  
Riley Williams  
Gretta Buttleman  
Libby Glaser  
Monica Gevers  
Taryn Huffer  
Karlene Negus  
Benjamin Richner

### Agriculture Alumni Scholarship

Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Senior  
Senior

Rikki Beldon  
Victoria Branstetter  
Lacie Reed  
Hayley Seitz  
Alexis Sweeney  
Audrey Wilson  
Morgan Luthy  
Kaitlyn Smalley

### Robert Lee “Bob” Kindrick Outstanding Student Award for Agricultural Industry Study Scholarship

Senior  
Alumni

Samantha Downs  
Johanna Richardson

### Craig E. Arnett Memorial Agricultural Scholarship

Junior

Brandon Chapman

### Gayle Ashley Horticulture Club Scholarship

Senior

Anthony Trent

### Charles Biglieni Memorial Scholarship

Junior  
Senior

Nathanial Forck  
Angela Frederick

### Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship

Freshman  
Freshman  
Junior  
Senior

Matelyn Cobban  
Hannah Wheeler  
Lane Sowder  
Jessica Puhr

### Marilyn R. Daniel Equine Scholarship

Junior

Brittni Boyle

### Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship

Freshman  
Freshman  
Freshman

Kenadee Barnitz  
Grace Del Vecchio  
Wyatt Wilson



**Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship**  
Charles Bumgarner presents to Lane Sowder



**Kindrick Outstanding Student Award for Agricultural Industry Study Scholarship**  
George Hartsfield presents to Samantha Downs



**Craig E. Arnett Agricultural Scholarship**  
Dr. Gary Webb presents to Brandon Chapman



**Charles Biglieni Memorial Scholarship**  
Sue Morris presents to Angela Fredrick

Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Sophomore  
Junior  
Junior  
Senior  
Senior  
Senior

Caleb Kindle  
Dillon Mize  
Elijah Plattner  
Blake Jeffries  
Marcus Martin  
Kara Berrey  
Thomas Eggerman  
Macey Hurst



**Agriculture Alumni Scholarship**  
Marc Alison presents to Morgan Luthy

**Einhellig Family Scholarship**

Senior

Rachel Veenstra

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

Senior

Danni Hammontree



**Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship**  
Tyler Helweg and Sherry Helweg presents to Thomas Eggerman

**Farmer's Cooperative Livestock Marketing Scholarship**

Senior  
Senior  
Senior

Maddison May  
Chrystelle Volckmann  
Morgan Wall

**Farmer's Cooperative Livestock Marketing Scholarship**

Junior  
Junior

Hunter Blalock  
Alexandra Belshe

**FFA State Officer Scholarship**

Freshman  
Senior

Andrea Montgomery  
Desiree Lafontaine



**Dr. R. Bruce Johnson/Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Scholarship**  
Dr. Bruce Johnson presents to Danni Hammontree

**Ben and Janis Fuqua Scholarship**

Senior  
Senior

Mary Books  
Shelbi Mundy

**Jack Gordon Memorial Scholarship**

Junior

Brittni Boyle

**Greene County Farm Bureau Scholarship**

Senior

Evan Barry

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

Junior

Ben Greer

**Christian Robert Hirsch Memorial Scholarship**

Senior

Stewart McCollum



**Farmer's Cooperative Livestock Marketing Scholarship**  
Sue Webb presents to Chrystelle Volckman

**Irwin Farms Scholarship**

Freshman

Megan Schlichting

**Harry & Marion James Agronomy Scholarship**

Senior

Mary Brooks

**Dr. Norman Justus/SWVATA Scholarship**

Senior

Miranda Reynolds

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

Freshman

Kathryn Horner

Sophomore

Brittany Byram

Sophomore

Mary Lampert

Sophomore

Laura Motley

Junior

Jennifer Horn

**Benjamin Charles Kruse Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

Katelyn Wray

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

Freshman

Gabriel Palmer

**MFA, Inc. Scholarship**

Junior

Brenna Hammen

Senior

Jessy Maddux

**H. Lewis Miller Endowed Scholarship**

Freshman

Megan Schlichting

**Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Scholarship**

Freshman

Gerrit Brouwer

Senior

Zakary Banks

**Missouri Seedmen's Association Ron Cowan Memorial Scholarship**

Senior

Cassidy Brown

Senior

Kara Powelson

Senior

Jacob Rapp

**Quail Forever Gateway Chapter Scholarship**

Senior

Albert Weathersbee

**Ed Pinegar Scholarship**

Senior

Hannah Smith

**Howard Pyle Memorial Scholarship**

Freshman

Jacob Gray

Sophomore

Paityn Yates

**Vernon Renner Scholarship**

Junior

Grant Denbow

Senior

Jessica Burns

Senior

Morgan Luthy

Senior

Drake Markgraf

Senior

Ella Snelson



**Benjamin Charles Kruse  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Diane Olson presents to Katelyn Wray



**MFA, Inc. Scholarship**  
Dr. Arbindra Rimal presents to Jessy  
Maddux



**H. Lewis Miller Endowed  
Scholarship**  
Rocky Miller presents to Megan  
Schlichting



**Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Family  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Dr. Melissa Remley presents to Randi  
Sharley



**S & H Farm Supply Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship**

Senior

Erika Cooperman

**Dennis and Phyllis Schmitt Animal Science Graduate Scholarship**

Graduate

Paul Stark

**Dr. J.N. Smith/FCS Financial Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

**Senior**

Isabelle Smith

**Isabelle Smith**

**Stanlie H. and Belva Ross Spangler Memorial Scholarship**

Freshman

Senior

Senior

Kenadee Barnitz

Stewart McCollum

Teanna Simpson

**David F. Stanke Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

Sarah Thomas

**Charles and Patricia Stufflebeam Agricultural Scholarship**

Senior

Makenzie Nichting

**Robert F. Thomson, Jr Family Memorial Scholarship**

Junior

Randi Sharley

**Pamela Borden Trewatha Horticulture Scholarship**

Senior

Myranda Alford

**Cody R. Uber Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

Katelyn Wray

**Theodorakos Vuilmott Sports Agriculture Scholarship**

Sophomore

Caleb Albertson

**Waite Scholarship**

Graduate

Adam Uhls

**Uncle Tom Watkins Memorial Scholarship**

Sophomore

Samantha Michaelis



**Waite Scholarship**

Dr. Mike Burton presents to Adam Uhls



**Citizen Leadership Award in Agriculture**

Dr. Anson Elliott presents to Rachel Veenstra



**Citizen Leadership Award in Agriculture**

Dr. Anson Elliott presents to Macey Hurst



**Citizen Leadership Award in Agriculture**

Dr. Anson Elliott presents to Stewart McCollum

# Darr College of Agriculture Graduates

## Spring 2018

Karli Aberle	Owensville	Animal Science-BS
Zayne Aldrich	Neosho	Natural Resources-BS
Marisa Alford	Festus	Animal Science-BS
Lena Alsup	Springfield	Agriculture Education- BSED
Bentley Bearden	Springfield	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Jonathan Bellis	Aurora	Plant Science-MS
Bryce Bentley	Saint Louis	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Brooke Benz	Ironton	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Jillian Bertz	Mayview	General Agriculture-BS
Jacob Black	Richland	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Jacob Boring	Seymour	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & gt-BS
David Bower	Winston Salem,NC	Plant Science-MS
Eric Boyer	Cedar Hill	Wildlife Consvrt &Mgt-BS
Tyler Buelow	Cape Girardeau	Plant Science-MS
Jacob Cheney	Odessa	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Shayla Coale	Ash Grove	Nat and Appl Sci-MS
Jamie Coin	Crane	Animal Science-BS
MaeKayla Cole	Vinita, OK	General Agriculture-BAS
Arielle Coleman	Appleton City	Animal Science-BS
Cale Comstock	Deerfield	Animal Science-BS
Jennifer Costa	Branson	Natural Resources-BS
Barbara Crawford	Bolivar	Animal Science-BS
James Criger	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Brye Crites	Springfield	General Agriculture-BAS
Camille Crume	Aurora	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Austin Curry	Strafford	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Kaylyn Dalbom	Jefferson City	Natural and Applied Sci-MNAS
Karen Dalbom	Jefferson City	General Agriculture-BS
Tasha Dame	Stotts City	Animal Science-BS
Lindsay Daniel	El Dorado Springs	Natural Resources-BS
Zachary Davis	Marshfield	Plant Science-MS
Blake Davis	Marshfield	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Benjamin Denbow	Licking	Natural Resources-BS
Michael Dennigmann	St Charles	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Dustin Devore	Ava	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS
Joy Eakins	Sparta	Animal Science-BS
Dusty Ellett	Richland	Animal Science-BS
Aaron Espy	Marshfield	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Michael Fenske	Purdy	Agriculture-MS
Matthew Fielder	High Ridge	General Agriculture-BS
Bridget Flynn	Defiance	Animal Science-BS
Kyle Francka	Buffalo	Plant Science-MS
Dreanna Gottman	Macon	Animal Science-BS
Ty Gramley	Black Diamond, WA	Agriculture Education-BSED
Ryan Greiwe	Foristell	Natural Resources-BS
Makalyn Gutshall	Adrian	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Samantha Halley	Stockton	Natural Resources-BS
Cody Hamacher	Jefferson City	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Hutton Hammen	Purdy	General Agriculture-BS
Cassidy Harper	Springfield	Animal Science-BS

Matthew Hendrickson	Jamestown	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Matthew Hoffman	Rogersville	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Hunter Holly	Platte City	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Shirley Hughes	Mountain Grove	Agriculture-MS
William Jemes	Grovespring	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & MGt-BS
Channing Jenkins	Aurora	Animal Science-BS
Kerri Johnson	Warsaw	Agriculture-MS
Logan Johnston	Jasper	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Kaleb Jones	Carthage	General Agriculture-BS
Kourtney Jones	Rogersville	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Clara Jungermann	Moscow Mills	Agricultural Communications-BS
Christopher Kaiser	Lebanon	Natural Resources-BS
Blake Karraker	Edmond,OK	Natural Resources-BS
Levi Keatts	Marionville	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Kyleigh Keith	Parkville	Animal Science-BS
Erin Kitsmiller	Nevada	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Carl Knuckles	Springfield	Plant Science-MS
Emily Koepke	Cuba	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Danielle Kothe	Troy	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Adam Kumm	Walnut Grove	Natural Resources-BS
Hayden Lee	Jefferson City	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Cheston Malam	Bucyrus	Natural Resources-BS
Nikolas Manley	Stella	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Wenonah Marlin	Marshfield	Agriculture-MS
Curtis Martin	Willard	Natural Resources-BS
Mercer Martin	Springfield	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Nicolas Matheney	Brookfield	Animal Science-BS
Darrel McCann	Stoutland	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Amanda McConnell	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Ethan McNeill	O'Fallon	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Mykah Meador	Wyandotte,OK	General Agriculture-BS
Zane Medley	Everton	General Agricultrue-BS
Victoria Meyer	Moscow Mills	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Hannah Miller	Ullin, IL	Agricultural Communication,BS
Jeffrey Miller	Rolla	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-Bs
Hunter Myers	El Reno, OK	General Agriculture-BAS
Collin Nice	Jefferson City	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Sydney Nichols	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Delaney O'Donnell	Henrico,VA	Animal Science-BS
Genna Owen	Kansas City	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Arial Peace	Alton	General Agriculture-BS
Matthew Phillips	Saint Robert	Natural Resources-BS
Cydnee Piper	Bronaugh	Agriculture Education-BSED
Megan Prather	Linn Creek	Animal Science-BS
Melanie Preston	Webb City	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Ran Qi	Springfield	Natural & Applied Sci-MNAS
James Quisenberry	Buffalo	Plant Science-MS
Destiny Redmon	Republic	Animal Science-BS
Jessica Reel	Bois D Arc	Animal Science-BS
Makayla Reynolds	Huntsville	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Ariana Rich	Kansas City	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Johannah Richardson	Gerald	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Cody Salmon	Harrison,AR	Animal Science-BS
Steven Schneider	Springfield	Plant Science-MS

Makenzie Schwalm	El Dorado Springs	Animal Science-BS
Kelsey Singleton	Saint Charles	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Amy Smith	Aurora	Animal Science-BS
Chelsey Soradling	Phillipsburg	Animal Science-BS
William Springer	Lake St. Louis	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Elizabeth Stanley	Nixa	Animal Science-BS
Dolores Stark	Cleveland	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Marissa Stevens	Crane	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Shelby Stiehr	Rosebud	Animal Science-BS
Li Su	Hangzhou City, China	Plant Science-MS
Madelynn Swaney	Saint Louis	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Raysha Tate	Purdin	Agriculture-MS
Logan Taylor	Houston	Agriculture-MS
Cheryl Taylor	Springfield	Plant Science-MS
Laura Thompson	Iberia	Agriculture Education-BSED
Cortnie Tingler	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Collin Toedtman	Rogersville	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Auryetta Torres-Jeffrey	Florissant	Animal Science-BS
Catie Tune	Rolla	Animal Science-BS
Jonathan Twyman	Niangua	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Michelle Uchtman-Coulter	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Haleigh Wallace	Bolivar	Agriculture Education-BSED
Justine Wasser	Mascoutah,IL	Env Plant Sci/ Crop Sci-BS
Adrianna Waters	Crane	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Elatia Webb	Highlandville	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Amanda Wecker	Reeds	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Crosley Welch	Branson	Natural Resources-BS
Adam Winter	Columbia	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Austin Witt	Bois D Arc	Agricultural Communications-BS
Dylan Woolfolk	Wann, OK	Agr Bus/ Enterprise Mgt-BS
Dylan Wright	Ozark	General Agriculture-BAS
Tanner Wyse	Orrick	Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Logan Yearsley	Crocker	General Agriculture/Comm-BS
Trent Zeigenbein	Richland	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS

## Summer 2018

Sandra Arthur	Flemington	General Agriculture
Talmus Ayers	Piedmont	Animal Science
Eric Boyer	Cedar Hill	Wildlife Consvrt. & Mgt.
Tyler Bradford	Springfield	Natural & Applied Sci.
Jacob Cheney	Odessa	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt.
Brian Crews	Norwood	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt.
Zachary Davis	Marshfield	Plant Science
Michael Fenske	Purdy	Agriculture-MS
Joshua Gorman	Licking	General Agriculture
Jo Ann Hopkins	Strongsville, OH	Plant Science
Alexis Keegan	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt.
Cory Keith	Ash Grove	Plant Science
Carl Knuckles	Springfield	Plant Science
Alex Macomber	Kirksville	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt.

## Summer 2018 Continued

Wenonah Marlin	Marshfield	Agriculture-MS
Esther Nelson	Springfield	Plant Science
Sydney Nichols	Springfield	Animal Science
Ran Qi	Springfield	Natural & Applied Sci.
Chantz Reese	Mountain Grove	Animal Science
Paula Welter	Pleasant Hope	General Agriculture

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## Fall 2018

Brian Andrews	Strafford	Natural Resources- BS
Rayanna Bailey	Springfield	Plant Science-MS
Zakary Banks	Bolivar	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Kennedy Banta	Vinita, OK	General Agriculture/ Agr BS
Justin Bechtel	Lees Summit	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Shawn Bevoden	Union	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Cody Birkner	Saint James	Natural Resources-BS
Christopher Black	Ballwin	Natural Resources-BS
David Bower	Winston Salem, NC	Plant Science-MS
Tyler Bradford	Springfield	Natural & Applied Sciences-MS
Megan Brannen	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Erica Brattin	Springfield	Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt-BS
Justin Briggs	Sullivan	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Clifford Brookshier	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Joel Butler	Republic	Plant Science- EP Dept-MS
Sarah Byrd	Springfield	Agricultural Communications-BS
Rachel Call	Centertown	Animal Science- BS
Jesse Carroll	Warrensburg	Plant Science-MS
Logan Chaney	Humansville	Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt- BS
Megan Chapman	Willard	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Julie Choate	Pleasant Hope	Agriculture-MS
Jacqueline Constantin	Katy, TX	Plant Science-MS
Lesley Craig	Springfield	Animal Science
Zachary Davis	Marshfield	Plant Science-MS
Elizabeth Davis	Half Way	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Anna Dietrich	Chesterfield	Env Plant Sci/ Crop Sci-BS
Samantha Downs	Nixa	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Colton Drollinger	Pierce City	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Thomas Eggerman	Lockwood	Env Plant Sci/ Crop Sci- BS
Haley England	Springfield	Animal Science- BS
Austin Fairchild	Springfield	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Angela Frederick	Paris, AR	Animal Science
Adam Gan	Richland	Natural Resources-BS
Cady Goble	Springfield	Plant Science-MS
Kyle Haley	Neosho	General Agriculture- BAS Clayton Hamilton
Clayton Hamilton	Republic	General Agricultural-BAS
Eric Hankins	Stockton	Agriculture-MS
Allison Hannah	Clever	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Sarah Harmon	Seneca	Animal Science-BS
Kacie Heidlage	Wentworth	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS

Jordan Hicks	Hartville	General Agriculture-BS
Hunter Hindman	Cherryville	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Robert Hofstetter	Sullivan	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Cole Johnston	Springfield	Agriculture Education-BSED
Kourtney Jones	Rogersville	Env Plant Sci/ Horticulture-BS
Leah Kellogg	Bothell, WA	Plant Science-MS
Benjamin Kirse	Kansas City	Natural Resources-BS
Madison Kittilstad	Springfield	Animal Science-BS
Charles Krasuski	Mountain View	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Ryan Langer	Wentzville	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Alexander Mareth	Monett	Animal Science-BS
Drake Markgraf	Springfield	Wildlife Consrvt & Mgt-BS
Sawyer Marlay	Cameron	General Agriculture-BS
Wenonah Martin	Marshfield	Agriculture-MS
Joycie Martinez	Joliet, IL	Animal Science-BS
Maddison May	Galena	Animal Science-BS
Timothy McDaniel	Saint Charles	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Kendra McKinnis	Fair Grove	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Leslie Mott	Grovespring	Agriculture Education-BSED
Lindsey Mott	Grovespring	Animal Science-BS
Levi Mounce	Cassville	Env Plant Sci/ Horticulture-BS
Shelbi Mundy	Springfield	Natural Resources-BS
Frianca Nance	Collins	Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS
Lee Neidigh	Jasper	Animal Science-BS
Larry Nichols	Joplin	General Agriculture-BAS
Riley Phipps	Lamar	Agricultural Communications-BS
Julia Probst	Waterloo, IL	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Shannon Pulsipher	Bolivar	Env Plant Sci/ Horticulture-BS
Russell Reel	Republic	Natural Resources-BS
Samantha Riley	Springfield	Agriculture-MS
Cody Seaman	Fordland	Natural Resources-BS
Teanna Simpson	Thayer	Agriculture Education-BSED
Donald Sommese	Branson West	Natural Resources-BS
Jarek Srnka	Ozark	Env Plant Sci/Horticulture-BS
Geoffrey Stafford	Marionville	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Braden Stefan	Jasper	Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS
Clare Stowe	Union	Animal Science-BS
Lucas Swiney	Bunker	Agr Bus/ Agr Mkt & Sales-BS
Beau Talley	Laddonia	Agr Bus/ Agr Fin & Mgt-BS
Alyssa Travlos	Willard	Plant Science-MS
Rachel Veenstra	Hartville	Env Plant Sci/Crop Sci-BS
Sarah Vehige	Wentzville	Animal Science-BS
Devin Wilkerson	Buffalo	Agriculture Education-BSED

## Faculty and Professional Staff

Dr. Ron Del Vecchio, Dean

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

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

### **Per Course**

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

### **Animal Science**

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

### **Per Course**

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

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

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

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

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

### **VESTA**

Ms. Michelle Norgren Director

### **Plant Science and Natural Resources**

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

### **Professional Staff**

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

### **Per Course**

Ms. Lori Padgett Landscape Design  
 Mr. Timothy Stanton Forestry and Fire Management  
 Mr. Tim Russell Ozarks Wildlife  
 Ms. Wenonah Marlin Floral Arranging  
 Ms. Sheila Wehr Floral Design  
 Mr. Jerry Austin Wildlife Conservation  
 Mr. Clint Dalbom Wildlife Conservation  
 Dr. Anson Elliott Food Security

Ms. Cassandra Clark Missouri Program Coordinator

### **Shealy Farm**

Mr. Joe Webb Farm Operator

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

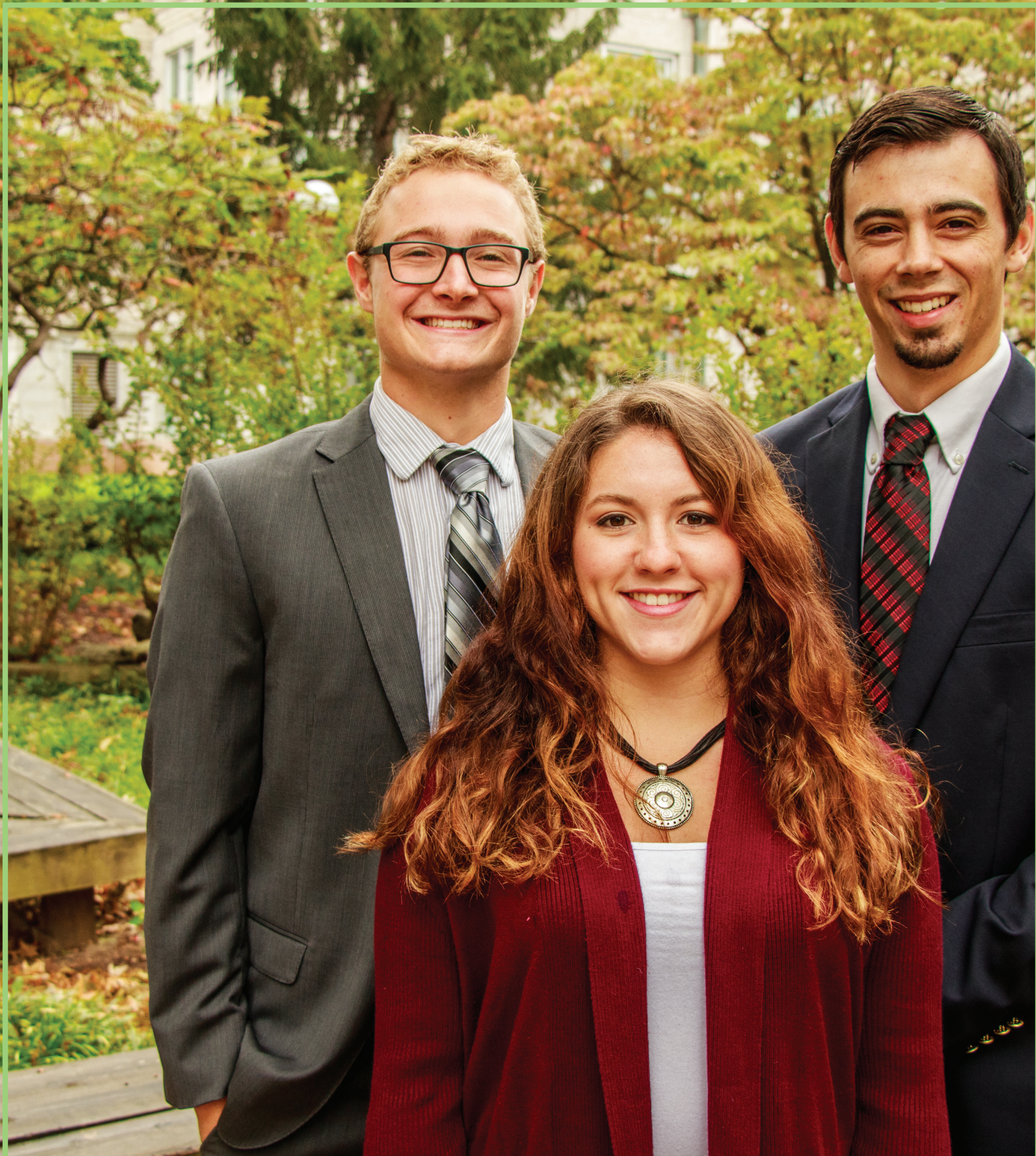
Mr. Mike Klem Coordinator Business & Support Svc.  
 Ms. Sue Webb Coordinator  
 Mr. Justin Sissel Farm Manager  
 Ms. Carrie Crews Administrative Assistant II

### **Journagan Ranch**

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

### **Emeritus Faculty and Staff**

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



**Missouri  
State**<sup>™</sup>

WILLIAM H. DARR  
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AGRICULTURE

