



# A G R E E V I E W

Volume 30

Spring  
2012





Dr. W. Anson Elliott, director of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, addressing Ag Forum attendees.

## From the Director

The Ag Review again highlights the pride in the activities of Missouri State University agriculture students.

Our alumni continue communicating pride in the traditions they enjoyed, and now see are being continued and expanded. The same core value of demonstrating a teachable attitude, respect and being responsible for actions are still the standards expected.

The support of many friends, donors and alumni has made the changes possible. The result is the William H. Darr School of Agriculture with expanded facilities now

reporting directly to the provost. We also enjoy the expansion into distinct units of Animal Sciences; Plant Science and Natural Resources; and Agricultural Business, Education and Communications.

Our success in providing the competitive edge our students enjoy depends upon your continued contribution of talents, contacts and finances.

The joy we get in interacting with our present students is only rivaled by getting reacquainted. Come see us.

**Anson Elliott**

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Thank you to all who contributed photographs to the 30th edition of Ag Review. Among them are: Jim Bellis, Christine Sudbrock, Sue Webb, Samantha Warner, W. Anson Elliott, Pam Turner, Lynzee Glass, C.J. Odneal, Xu Chen, Lori Padgett, Samantha Sellers, Martin Kaps, Photographic Services, Club officers, and most especially, Joyce Cutright with her agricultural communications class.

## Statistics Fall 2011

| Class             | Men        | Women      | Total      | Major Enrollment  |            |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|---|------------|
| Freshmen          | 26         | 41         | 67         | General Agriculture                                     | 17         |
| Sophomores        | 45         | 46         | 91         | General Agriculture/Agriculture                         | 20         |
| Juniors           | 56         | 63         | 119        | General Agriculture/Communications                      | 9          |
| Seniors           | 75         | 70         | 145        | Agronomy  | 26         |
| Graduate Students | 14         | 17         | 31         | Animal Science  | 122        |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>216</b> | <b>237</b> | <b>453</b> | Agricultural Business/Agricultural Enterprise Mgmt      | 26         |
|                   |            |            |            | Agricultural Business/Agricultural Finance and Mgmt     | 25         |
|                   |            |            |            | Agricultural Business/Agricultural Marketing and Sales  | 26         |
|                   |            |            |            | Environmental Plant Science/Crop Science                | 8          |
|                   |            |            |            | Environmental Plant Science/Horticulture                | 14         |
|                   |            |            |            | Horticulture  | 22         |
|                   |            |            |            | Natural Resources                                       | 12         |
|                   |            |            |            | Technology Education                                    | 4          |
|                   |            |            |            | Agricultural Education                                  | 32         |
|                   |            |            |            | Wildlife Conservation and Management                    | 59         |
|                   |            |            |            | College of Natural & Applied Science (Graduate Masters) | 16         |
|                   |            |            |            | College of Natural & Applied Science (Accelerated)      | 5          |
|                   |            |            |            | Plant Science (Graduate Masters)                        | 8          |
|                   |            |            |            | Plant Science (Accelerated)                             | 1          |
|                   |            |            |            | Agricultural Secondary Education (Graduate Masters)     | 1          |
|                   |            |            |            | <b>Total</b>  | <b>453</b> |

## Scholarship and Awards Banquet Sponsors

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 MFA, Inc. Regional – 2002 – 2011  
 PFI Western Store – 2003 – 2011  
 Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce – 2005 – 2011

### Ag Review is mailed to:

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Alumni and Emeritus           | 4,600 |
| Current agriculture students  | 450   |
| Sponsors                      | 150   |
| High Schools                  | 400   |
| Given away at fairs and expos | 550   |

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## Student Veteran Steve Urie receives his diploma

by Curtis Russell

Numerous veterans have degrees from Missouri State University's William H. Darr School of Agriculture. This May U.S. Coast Guard Veteran Steve Urie, Bolivar, Mo., joined this important group when he received a bachelor's degree in horticulture.

After eight years in the Coast Guard, Urie was honorably discharged. He then had the opportunity to move his family closer to home where his children could enjoy their grandparents. When Urie returned to Bolivar he started Double U Landscaping & Lawn Care, which he has been operating for about 15 years. Through the years Urie recognized that some of his potential clientele were looking for contractors with a degree in horticulture. Knowing he had the experience but lacking a degree, Urie enrolled at MSU.



Steve Urie with his children. From left: Preston, Joseph and Jacqueline.



Urie said he is already benefiting from the opportunities a degree offers.

Urie also wanted to earn a degree to set an example for his children. He has hopes that all three of his children will seek degrees beyond high school. His oldest son is currently attending Ozarks Technical Community College to receive his diesel mechanics degree. His two younger children are looking forward to following their father's and older brother's paths by making plans to further their education.

Urie also has earned a chef's degree from a school of culinary arts. After his children have graduated, Urie plans on moving to Hawaii where he can enjoy his love for water, food and landscaping.

Steve (left) in 1995 on patrol in the Gulf of Mexico near South Padre Island.

## Alpha Gamma Sigma's Porkfest raises funds for the Wounded Warriors Project

by Nick Noll

Since the beginning of Alpha Gamma Sigma's presence on Missouri State University's campus, they have sponsored a fundraiser in the spring called Porkfest. Porkfest is an event where the men of Ag Sig smoke pork, make sandwiches and sell them to benefit their philanthropy, now the Wounded Warriors Project.

"I think the Wounded Warriors Project is a great organization that does wonderful things for this nation's veterans and I'm proud that our fraternity can directly help

our soldiers in any way possible," said Alpha Gamma Sigma President Tommy Lee, Williamsburg, Mo.

*"This year's Porkfest was the best we've had in some years."*

The organization has plans to do Porkfest bigger and better every year to become a more substantial contributor to the Wounded Warriors Project.

Even though the weather didn't cooperate for this April's fundraiser, Ag

Sig still had quite a turnout. They ended up making more than expected and now have over \$1,000 to send to the Wounded Warriors Project.

"I'd really like to thank Alpha Delta Pi for letting us use their house's yard for Porkfest this year. It really helped put us in a central location and got us a lot more visitors to stop by and enjoy a meal," said Lee. "This year's Porkfest was the best we've had in some years. We've already started planning and getting more sponsors for next year's event to make it bigger and better!"

# Ag Expo allows students to explore Missouri State University agriculture

by Katelyn McCoy

The Missouri State University agriculture freshman orientation class hosted a group of high school juniors and seniors for an introduction to the William H. Darr School of Agriculture. The class spent weeks planning the expo.

“We spent numerous class periods planning and perfecting various areas of the expo. Planning was a little challenging because there were so many people working on the same project, but it was made easier when we divided into specific committees,” said animal science major Emily Quas, Ozark, Mo.

Throughout the day, the visiting students had the opportunity to hear speakers within the school of agriculture, have a glimpse into campus life and interact with MSU students.

Jim Bellis, assistant director of the school of agriculture, gave insight on the accomplishments of the school of agriculture. Along with Bellis, club presidents within the department reported student participation in each club and activities offered.

The day progressed with a skit performed by the class, which highlighted information about agriculture majors and careers.

“I really enjoyed the ice-breaker! Watching you guys play the game, dressing up, dancing and feeling welcomed would probably be my favorite parts of the whole experience,” said Anisha Compton, a senior from Branson High School.



High school students enjoy a skit performed by MSU students during Ag Expo.

Groups of high school students were divided for campus tours led by ag leader students. This gave Missouri State students a chance to interact with the potential recruits. After lunch at a campus dining hall, the students regrouped for a trip to the Christopher S. Bond Learning Center for activities including a Veteran’s Day tribute and a tour.

“I hope this program continues to grow, because it is extremely informative, fun and far from a waste of our time,” said Compton. “It gives students that chance to open up and try something new, to break out of their shell, and I couldn’t think of a better way to do it.”

# Environmental plant science major combines agronomy and horticulture

by Cassie Reid

Following encouragement from university administration, the William H. Darr School of Agriculture merged the previous majors of agronomy and horticulture into environmental plant sciences.

Dr. Michael Burton, associate professor of agronomy, said this change reflects the growing movement of citizens to become more focused on conservation and sustainability.

Burton explained that the shift to one major modernizes courses and also makes the curriculum more personalized to the student’s interests, while creating a larger community of plant science majors.

This change will benefit the school of agriculture by creating well-rounded students who are prepared for their career field.

“Students without a 4-H or FFA background will recognize agriculture in its role in the food-and-fiber industries, and the increasing environmental and sustainability movements,” Burton said.



Agronomy student evaluates soil data on-site.



Horticulture class visits Wickman Gardens, Springfield, Mo.

# American FFA Degree prominent in school of agriculture

by Traci Bailey

A recent survey of agriculture students enrolled in the William H. Darr School of Agriculture at Missouri State University indicates approximately 60 percent of respondents have obtained the American FFA Degree.

The American FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA and made significant accomplishments in their Supervised Agricultural Experience. Approximately 3,500 American FFA Degrees are handed out each year at the National FFA Convention. Less than half of one percent of all FFA members are recipients, making it one of the organization's highest honors. The Missouri FFA Organization had the highest number of American Degree recipients with 482. California was second with 291. Recipients receive a gold American FFA Degree key with their award.

American FFA Degree recipients have met rigorous criteria. They have received the Greenhand, Chapter, and State FFA Degrees, and were a member of FFA for at least three years. Recipients have completed three years of high school agricultural classes or two years of high school and one year of college agricultural classes, maintained a "C" grade average or better and graduated from high school one year prior to the National FFA Convention in which their degree is awarded.



Twin sisters, Dakots S. Arthur (left) and Cheyenne A. Arthur with their American Degree certificates.

Members submit detailed SAE records which demonstrate outstanding planning, managerial and financial skills. They have earned and productively invested at least \$7,500, or have earned and productively invested at least \$1,500 and worked 2,250 hours beyond scheduled school hours through their SAE. Members also have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and participated in community service activities.

MSU student and American FFA Degree recipient Chase Brewer, senior general agriculture major, from Thayer, Mo., said speaking skills, record keeping, self confidence and people skills were qualities he gained from the experience.

"The preparations I had to take to receive my American FFA Degree have really prepared me for my future endeavors," said Alison Bos, senior agricultural communications major, from Billings, Mo.

The importance of hard work, dedication, commitment and perseverance were key terms Bos used in describing her experience. "Being able to walk across the stage at the National FFA Convention is something I will never forget," said Bos.



Stephanie Morgan with her American FFA Degree certificate. Morgan received the award during the 2010 National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Ind.

"The confidence I gained through working in my diversified crop and livestock SAE helped me obtain valuable internship opportunities. Those internships will help me in my chosen profession in agricultural communications," said Stephanie Morgan, junior agricultural communications major, from Lamar, Mo.

Sixteen Missouri State students were awarded the American FFA degree in 2011. They were: Cheyenne A. Arthur, Dadeville; Dakota S. Arthur, Dadeville; J. T. Asher, Greenfield; Ryan Carr, Carthage; Taylor M. Casey, Monett; Nathan Charles Eagleburger, Buffalo; Cassandra Fisher, Skyline; Kyle Francka, Pleasant Hope; Erin Lynn Reynolds, Bolivar; Nolan Grant Rapp, Northeast Vernon County; Emily Scott, Osceola; Cara Marie Spencer, Northwestern; Quaid C. Taylor, Ozark; Erin Woody, Mount Vernon, Elysia Bushey, Mountain Home, Ark. and Alicia Asher, Greenfield, Mo.

# School of agriculture draws in state FFA officer

by Taylor Loges

With hard work, experience and dedication to the Missouri FFA Association, freshman agricultural business major Kollen Chapman was able to reach his goals of becoming an Area 7 State FFA Officer while attending Missouri State University.

*“I liked Missouri State’s atmosphere when I was visiting the school of ag, and it had that home feeling of close friendships.”*

“I liked Missouri State’s atmosphere when I was visiting the school of ag, and it had that home feeling of close friendships,” Chapman said.

Chapman had to devote his time to numerous FFA responsibilities. There are various events that state officers attend and coordinate, including FFA Camp, National FFA Convention, Greenhand motivational conferences and Missouri FFA Convention.

“At each one of these events we try to give back to what has been given to us in the past, but we realize that the FFA members made just as much impact on us as we did them,” Chapman said.

Chapman said he balanced his duties as a state officer and a first-year college student by keeping up with his studies, and keeping good relationships with his professors and the other FFA state officers.

“My favorite thing about being on the state FFA officer team is getting to meet as many new FFA members as possible,” Chapman

said. “This is especially memorable when you see that member achieve a goal they have been working for.”

Chapman said he was motivated to become a Missouri FFA officer by the impact other state officers had on him during his early FFA career.

“I decided that I wanted to give back to the members just as others before me had, and become a role model to many FFA members across the state of Missouri,” Chapman said.

While in high school Chapman, who grew up on a small farm, was an active member of the Osceola FFA Chapter. As a freshman, he attended Greenhand Motivational Conference, and later state and national FFA conventions.

Chapman’s Supervised Agriculture Experience included fruit production, hauling square bales in the summer, and cutting green BBQ wood and dry firewood for Gates BBQ in Kansas City, Mo. Chapman served as the chapter vice president, chapter president and Area 7 FFA Reporter.

“The year of being a state FFA officer is nothing less than exciting and inspiring, but it will fly by faster than you think,” Chapman said. “I would encourage anyone that wants to give back and have the experience of a lifetime to run for a state FFA office.”



Missouri FFA Officer Kollen Chapman with President Barack Obama during the president’s attendance at the White House Rural Economic Forum in Peosta, Iowa, August 2011.

## MSU School of Agriculture enrollment is up

by Nicole Markway

The William H. Darr School of Agriculture increased enrollment by 21 students this fall, bringing total enrollment to 435.

Jim Bellis, assistant director of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, attributes the increase to instructors who have dedicated their lives to Missouri State University School of Agriculture.

“Working hard together, the instructors have committed personal time and resources to serve and recruit students,” Bellis explained.

“Trust and respect are a serious part of the reason William Darr, Leo Journagan and others are willing to make an investment in the school of agriculture,” Bellis added. “They trust that the

agriculture leadership will be good stewards of donations to the school's future. Of course, Dr. Elliott's leadership for over three decades is no doubt the number one reason we are who we are today."

Students have joined together for recruitment activities through classes such as agriculture leaders, where students develop

*Bellis said there are more agriculture job opportunities than agriculture graduates.*

ideas and programs to build enrollment. The class was originated by Dr. Anson Elliott several years ago.

"Through ag leaders, we get to travel to high schools and promote the school of agriculture, allowing us to relate to them, because we were in their shoes a year ago," said Emily Wilbers, freshman wildlife conservation and management major, from Wardsville, Mo.

Bellis also stated with the exciting additions that have occurred in the past three years growth was inevitable.

"With the addition of Journagan Ranch, the dedication of the Bond Building and other improvements at the Darr Center and Pinegar Arena, and with the remodeling of Karls Hall 10 years ago, everything is in place for enrollment to explode," Bellis said.

Bellis said there are more agricultural job opportunities than agriculture graduates. He said the school of agriculture has earned the reputation of taking care of students.

"Faculty and staff go out of their way to make Karls Hall a home away from home for all agriculture majors," Bellis said. "We get to assist students in life-changing activities and the feedback from them is often immediate and very rewarding."

## Missouri State University student elected national DTA president

by Samantha Warner

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Delta Tau Alpha National Convention was held at the University of Central Missouri April 5-7. During the convention Casteel Kirk, junior agricultural education major, from Urbana, Mo., was elected as the National DTA President.

DTA is an academic honor society founded here at Missouri State University by Professor John D. Schatz in 1960. Kirk said the organization was built around the idea of developing high standards of scholarship, leadership and character among agriculture students.

"This position means that I get to network with other individuals in agriculture that place a high value on academics," Kirk said. "I am excited about the opportunity to serve as national president for an organization that is truly dedicated to agriculture."

Over the next year Kirk's duties will include serving as the chair for all national meetings and writing a monthly newsletter called *The Achiever*. She also will communicate with DTA chapters around the country on a monthly basis and visit chapters in the Midwest region.

Other MSU students attending national convention were Cheyenne Shipps, senior animal science major, from Dadeville, Mo., and Shana Austin, senior agricultural business major, from Butler, Mo., as well a chapter advisor Dr. Elizabeth Walker, assistant professor of animal science.



MSU Delta Tau Alpha quiz bowl team receives second at the national competition. From left: Dr. Bud Kennedy from Arkansas State University, Casteel Kirk, Shana Austin, Cheyenne Shipps and Dr. Elizabeth Walker.

"During the three-day convention, attendees attended sessions and mixers, participated in a quiz bowl and Ag Olympics, and toured the World War I museum and Bayer Crop Sciences facilities in Kansas City," Kirk said.

Kirk, Shipps and Austin made up the MSU team for the quiz bowl competition. They received second place in the double-elimination contest. During the contest they were asked questions on various subjects such as agricultural business, plant and soil sciences, and animal science.

# Clubs and competitive teams active in 2011-2012

## Agronomy Club



**Advisor:** Dr. Mike Burton  
**Mr. Tom DeWitt**  
**President:** Nolan Rapp  
**Vice President:** Katie Gronniger  
**Secretary:** Nathan Ryan  
**Treasurer:** Zachary Straatman  
**Activities:** Stream Cleanup on South Creek, trash pickup on Chestnut Expressway, attended American Society of Agronomy Collegiate Soils Contest in region 5, qualified for national contest in 2010 and placed 12th. Last fall placed 8th in NACTA soils contest in Coffeeyville, Kan.

## Alpha Gamma Sigma



**Advisor:** Dr. Melissa Hudson  
**President:** Tommy Lee  
**Vice President:** Zac Chumbly  
**Secretary:** Brian Austin  
**Treasurer:** Grant Hinton  
**Warden:** Weston Paulik and Kyle Winchell  
**Recruitment:** Maclean Kelly  
**Academic:** Kyle Winchell  
**Historian:** Nick Noll  
**Social Chair:** Doug Kras  
**Athletic Chair:** Nick Noll  
**Activities:** Homecoming, Greek Week, Red Rose Formal, Gathering of the Herd, Porkfest, social exchanges, IFC recruitment, community service and academic programming.

## Collegiate Farm Bureau



**Advisor:** Dr. Anson Elliott  
**Mr. Jim Bellis**  
**President:** Samantha Warner  
**Vice President:** Casteel Kirk  
**Secretary:** Kayla Benedict  
**Treasurer:** Sylvia Benedict  
**Public Relations:** Emily Scott  
**Recruitment:** Cara Spencer  
**Activities:** Host Ag Forum, Farm Bureau Legislative Day at the capitol, National Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference, Missouri Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Missouri Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference, collegiate discussion meet at state and national levels, monthly meetings, Salute to Agriculture basketball game, and numerous other activities.

## Alpha Gamma Rho



**Advisor:** Dr. Anson Elliott  
**Noble Ruler:** Steven Hoaglin  
**Planning:** Nate Ryan  
**Historian:** Connor Erwin  
**Scholarship:** Nolan Rapp  
**House Management:** Scott Lee  
**Finance:** Kollen Chapman  
**Membership Dev.:** Cory Dummit  
**Recruitment Chair:** Ben Ballhorn  
**Recruitment:** Dale Larson  
**Activities:** Ronnie Ocello  
**Risk Management:** Timothy Pierce  
**Alumni Relations:** Donnie Woods  
**Activities:** Host Backwoods Bash and Ball Blast, attend national leadership seminars every year and national conventions every other year.

## Block & Bridle



**Advisors:** Dr. Melissa Hudson  
**Dr. Beth Walker**  
**President:** Elysia Bushey  
**Vice President:** Dakota Arthur  
**Secretary:** Cheyenne Arthur  
**Treasurer:** Ben Howard  
**Activities:** Host an annual cattle show and a fitting clinic, and the club is planning a cattle sale this coming fall.

## Collegiate FFA



**Advisor:** Dr. Jim Hutter  
**President:** Casteel Kirk  
**Vice President:** Nolan Rapp  
**Secretary:** Kayla Benedict  
**Treasurer:** Clayton Gray  
**Activities:** Run the parliamentary procedure contest at national and state FFA conventions, and host recruitment booths for the school of agriculture at both conventions. Host Farmer for a Day in which first graders from Greenwood visit the Darr Center for agricultural workshops, and volunteer for Adopt-A-Street on National between Bennett and Sunshine streets.

## Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha



**Advisor:** Dr. Beth Walker  
**President:** Casteel Kirk  
**Vice President:** Cheyenne Shipps  
**Secretary:** Heather Gerity  
**Treasurer:** Shana Austin  
**Activities:** Host professional speakers, study nights, monthly meetings, attend national convention and host an annual wreath-making fundraiser. DTA also sponsors a scholarship for the school of agriculture.

## Horticulture Club



**Advisors:** Dr. Pam Trewatha  
 Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers  
**President:** Heather Gerity  
**Vice President:** Toby Back  
**Secretary:** Catherine Waldbuesser  
**Treasurer:** Janell Melton  
**Activities:** Hold a bulb sale each semester, and visit local gardens and parks.

## Pre-Vet Club



**Advisor:** Dr. Dennis Schmitt  
**President:** Aaron Gibbons  
**Vice Presidents:** Lena Woodard  
**Secretary:** Zenetta Slabbert  
**Treasurer:** Jackie Breeden  
**Public Relations:** Valerie Bilich  
**Technical Support:** Cliff Merriman  
**Activities:** Hold a Biannual Charity Dogwash for the Humane Society, went to vet school open house, and sponsor guest speakers.

## Intercollegiate Riding Teams

### Ranch Horse Team



**Advisors:** Dr. Gary Webb  
**President:** Daniel Potter  
**Secretary:** Kelsey Lauberth  
**Treasurer:** Jessica Rader  
**Activities:** The MSU Ranch Horse Team competes in ranch riding and working cow horse shows throughout the year. The team members train and show their horses competitively against other schools and individuals around the region

## Horsemen's Association



**Advisors:** Ms. Sue Webb and  
 Dr. Gary Webb  
**President:** Alison Bos  
**Vice President:** Micala Penton  
**Secretary:** Katie Griffith  
**Treasurer:** Daniel Potter  
**Activities:** Horsemen's members planned and hosted two Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Western Horse shows, volunteered with the therapeutic riding program hosted at Missouri State and participated in area equine events/activities including visiting local horse farms, rodeos, horse races and visiting local 4-H clubs. They held equine judging clinics, assisted with FFA contests, participated in May Day activities and participated in organization activities.

### Hunt Seat Team



**Activities:** Riders have the option to ride western, hunt seat or both and are sanctioned with the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA). The teams compete in Zone 7, Region 5 and show at universities across the region. This year they had four riders - Cari Prince, Sarah Fuller, Alison Bos and Micala Penton - who qualified for regionals on the western team. Bos was reserve champion in individual advanced western horsemanship and moved on to semi-finals in Delaware where she placed 7th out of 16.

### Western Horse Show Team



## Clubs and competitive teams active in 2011-2012 *cont.*

### Sigma Alpha



**Advisor:** Ms. Christine Sudbrock  
**President:** Taliaa Pendergrass  
**1st VP:** Casteel Kirk  
**2nd VP:** Justine Chastain  
**Secretary:** Erin Durphy  
**Treasurer:** Melissa Bueker  
**Rush Chair:** Hillary Schmitz

**Activities:** Sigma Alpha is a professional agricultural sorority that strives for achievement in scholarship, leadership, and service to help foster academic excellence and professional development for women in agriculture. In doing this we participate in many fundraising, philanthropy, sisterhood and social events each semester.

### Soil Judging Team



**Advisor:** Mr. Tom DeWitt  
 Dr. Michael Burton  
**President:** Nolan Rapp  
**Secretary:** Zach Straatmann

### Trap & Skeet Team



### The Wildlife Society



**Advisors:** Dr. Michael Burton, Ag  
 Dr. Lynn Robbins, Biology  
**President:** Allison Keefe  
**Vice President:** John Ward  
**Treasurer:** Allison Bleich  
**Secretary:** Beth Boring  
**Public Relations:** Taliaa Pendergrass  
**Activities:** Worked with prescribed burns, trapped wildlife, planted rain gardens, and developed and maintained contact with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

**Advisor:** Dr. Jon Wiggins  
**President:** Craig Meissen  
**Vice President:** Cory Slusher  
**Treasurer:** Matt Brooks

## MSU's Block and Bridle Club holds annual livestock show

by Aren Dameron

The Block and Bridle Club held their annual livestock show April 28 at Pinegar Arena. The show included commercial animals, breeding livestock and showmanship.

Elysia Bushey, Block and Bridle president, said she was very excited about this year's show. According to Bushey, Block and Bridle underwent major changes this year as many students on last year's executive board graduated. She said this year's show was a test for ideas the club wanted to implement.

Besides the show, Block and Bridle has many other activities planned for next school year, including hosting a fitting clinic, developing a judging team and participating in fundraising events.

"Block and Bridle is an organization for people with an interest in livestock to come together and educate the community," Bushey explained.



Block and Bridle members preparing buckets as prizes for the show winners.



Riding in the rain on the Journagan trail ride.



Katie Spruell and her horse Judy assist with an agricultural photography class.



Learning how to ride through water.

## Missouri State Ranch Horse Team offers unique experiences

by Alison Bos

Students now have the opportunity to join the Missouri State Ranch Horse Team, the school of agriculture's newest student organization.

The ranch horse team is available for students who wish to participate in ranch horse shows and activities. It is a club-sports team that participates in the American Stock Horse Association, National Versatility Ranch Horse Association and Foundation Quarter Horse Registry.

Currently, the club consists of eight members and is advised by Dr. Gary Webb, professor in animal science. Most members use Missouri State's horses, but they are given the option to use their own. They train and condition their horses to compete in ranch-trail, ranch-pleasure, reining and working cow-horse events.

The team hosts up to four shows and clinics per year at Missouri State's Pinegar Arena. They travel to at least three regional shows during the year. When they compete, the team's main goal is to represent the university as a diversified sports team.

Practice is a major part of being successful on the ranch horse team. The team practices up to three times per week to prepare for ranch horse events. Practicing allows members to work one-on-one with their horses and get an idea of what it takes

to have a horse capable of working on a ranch.

Daniel Potter, a junior animal science major, from Bentonville, Ark., competed on the team this year. Potter said he enjoys the team because it represents history and methods that worked on American ranches for decades.

"The working ranch horse was a completely irreplaceable tool for ranchers for so long and in many places still is," Potter said. "It is cool to be a part of something that is rooted in necessity rather than luxury."

The ranch horse team is different compared to other equestrian teams where students ride several different horses throughout the year. The ranch horse team gives students opportunities to work with and develop an individual horse throughout the year, as well as the chance to grow as a trainer in multiple disciplines.

Students who have an interest in ranch horses and ranch horse competitions are encouraged to join. The club seeks to grow in numbers to continue keeping the ranch horse heritage alive.



Daniel Potter and Durrell Dixon at a show at NEO College in Miami, Okla.

# New Journagan Ranch practicum class offers hands-on experience

by William Boyer

Hands-on application of the knowledge acquired in the classroom was the goal of the new Journagan Ranch practicum class offered spring 2012 at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture. Students experienced what life is like during calving season at the ranch in Mountain Grove, Mo.

According to Dr. Melissa Hudson, assistant professor of animal science at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, 25 students, who were enrolled in upper-division animal science classes, signed up to take part. These students traveled to the ranch and helped with calving season as well as other ranch duties.

Students had options for receiving credit. They could sign up to help on the ranch for one weekend and write a 300-500 word reflection to earn extra credit in one of their upper-division animal science classes. Or, they could sign up for two weekends, work a minimum of 32 hours, and write a 600-1000 word reflection to earn one-credit-hour for AGS 492 special problems course.

Participating students were allowed to stay overnight at the Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station dormitory and reported to the ranch in the morning. While there, students spent time with ranch employees to gain calving season experience.

Marty Lueck, Journagan Ranch manager, said he wanted the opportunity to be practical and provide hands-on experience to enhance what students had learned in the class room.

“I want students to have a good experience when they come,” stated Lueck as he discussed goals for the practicum class.

The experience also was a good one for Lueck. He said it was enjoyable to interact with students by answering questions about the ranch and about their futures in the world of agriculture.

According to Hudson, the main goals of the practicum were to get the ranch extra hands during calving season and to get students hands-on learning experiences.



Agricultural education major Ryan Carr, Carthage, Mo., checks a calf’s weight at Journagan Ranch.



Transfer students tour the William H. Darr School of Agriculture facilities.



## Alumni come for a visit

by Micaela King

Twenty-six active members and their mothers along with alumni and their mothers gathered at Missouri State University for the first Sigma Alpha Alumni Day.

The day included tours of the Christopher S. Bond Learning Center, Springfield, Mo., a slideshow presentation

about the chapter activities, lunch and a tour of Journagan Ranch and the Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Following these activities, the ladies returned to the Bond Center for dinner. After dinner, Carla Bellis presented True Colors, a personality test, followed by presentations from Keri Clark on Froghook Jewelry and Whitney Wiegert on Mary Kay products.

“The Missouri State Sigma Alpha Alumni Day was an amazing experience for me,” said current sorority member Kelsie Young, Aurora, Mo. “Our chapter had never had an Alumni Day and it was exciting to get to know the women who helped set our foundation, as well as start a new tradition in our chapter. The time we spent getting to know our alumnae, current active sisters and our mothers was priceless.”



Sigma Alpha members and their mothers and alumni along with their mothers visit Journagan Ranch.

# MSU Therapeutic Riding Program continues to serve

by Chelsea Carter

Giving students a broader understanding of therapeutic riding and offering an integrated service-learning opportunity is the main purpose of the therapeutic riding program as described by Susan Webb, an equine studies instructor at Missouri State University. The therapeutic program works to serve children and adults with disabilities by offering qualified equine therapy. This program has been running for 16 years, providing services through the William H. Darr School of Agriculture.

Traditionally the program was based on a partnership between MSU and Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks. This spring, however, the class worked with the Equi-Librium Therapy Center. Webb said the director and format remains the same, just the cooperative organization has changed.

Webb said this two-credit hour course offered in the spring gives students the chance to make a difference in someone's life. Students also are able to see first-hand the relationship between horses and individuals with specific disabilities.

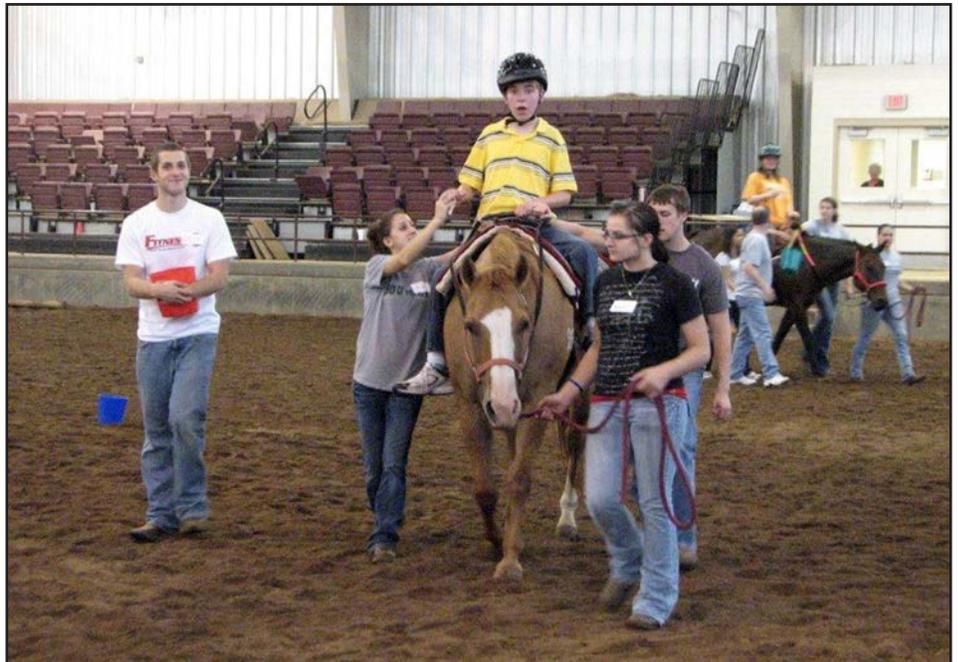
Some of the activities that take place in this course include discussing the horse's senses and learning techniques for desensitizing them, studying horse behavior, discovering specific types of

horses and evaluating them as potential candidates for therapy, teaching lessons to special-needs groups, and gaining knowledge of safety, handling, grooming and body position to control the horse.

Webb said as part of the integrated service project, each student must log a certain number of hours assisting with the therapy program on campus or another program of their choosing. She also said this spring every student had to develop and present a lesson to the participants.

There are many benefits of participating in this program—physical, psychological, social and educational. Webb said horseback riding for the disabled is recognized as one of the more progressive forms of therapy offered today.

“Having the ability to control the horse provides a confidence boost for the riders and allows them to face challenges and show responsibility through teamwork,” Webb said. “They have a sense of accomplishment when their goals are met, which builds self-esteem and inspires them to do more.”



Megan Case leads Clyde with Robbie riding. Robbie has participated in the therapeutic riding program for 12 years.



Representative Vicky Hartzler toured the Bond Learning Center.

# Missouri State University students are headed to Sri Lanka

by Stephanie Morgan

A new international opportunity for Missouri State University students is being offered for fall semester 2012. This course will allow students to travel to the island nation of Sri Lanka to study human-elephant conflict.

Dr. Dennis Schmitt, alumni professor of reproductive biology in the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, introduced the 17-day course.

Schmitt said this program will allow students to study firsthand the various initiatives concerning interactions between people and wild Asian elephants. With Sri Lanka's growth in agriculture, more people are moving to the area of the elephant's natural habitat.

The participating students will have the opportunity to observe elephants in Minneriya National Park and at the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage. They also will visit the Elephant Transit Home, where 40 baby elephant orphans are fed several times a day. Also on the agenda, is a visit to the Ringling Brothers Center for Asian elephant Research at Rajarata University

where they will meet with local experts from the department of wildlife as well as university faculty.

Schmitt said this is an opportunity for students to gain a further understanding on the elephant's role in the Sri Lanka culture by touring historic and religious sites.



Project representative standing outside the guest bungalow at one of the national parks near the Elephant Transit Home, Sri Lanka. From left: Dalip, building contractor; Dr. Schmitt, MSU alumni professor of reproductive biology; and Kink McCoy, vice president of human relations for Feld Entertainment, parent company of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey.



Staff recording weekly weights of baby elephants. From left: S. Mohan, Rajarata University doctorate candidate and Dr. Santiapillai, emeritus professor on wildlife at the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, Sri Lanka.

Four students, Schmitt and his wife Phyllis will leave Aug. 1 for Sri Lanka. Students participating in the course are Ellie Swift and Sharissa Stewart, biology/chemistry majors; Caroline Frogge, animal science and pre-vet major; and Ken Harman, senior keeper at Dickerson Park Zoo and a graduate student working under Schmitt.

Students will be staying in a bungalow built specifically for students and visiting scientists. The bungalow is located at a national park near the Elephant Transit Home.

"This (human-elephant conflict study program) is expected to be an ongoing program," Schmitt said.

# November scholarship banquet highlights



## Agriculture Alumni Scholarship

Samantha Sellers, junior animal science major, from Caruthersville, Mo. (left) receiving the award from Susan Dawley.



## Craig E. Arnett Memorial Scholarship

Colt Whitesell, sophomore animal science major, from El Dorado Springs, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Gary Webb, professor.



## Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship

Daniel Kahre, senior agricultural education major, from Miller, Mo. (left), receiving the award from William H. Darr, and Virginia Darr.



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

Casteel Kirk, junior agricultural education major, from Urbana, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Bruce Johnson, professor, retired.



## Farmers Coop Livestock Marketing Scholarship

Daniel Potter, junior animal science major, from Bentonville, Ark. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Benjamin Onyango, associate professor.



## FFA State Officer Scholarship

Kollen Chapman, freshman agricultural business major, from Osceola, Mo. (left) receiving the award from Dr. Jim Hutter, associate professor.

| SCHOLARSHIPS | RECIPIENTS | HOMETOWN |
|--------------|------------|----------|
|--------------|------------|----------|

### Agriculture Alumni Scholarship\*

|           |                  |                |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| Senior    | Rowena Woode     | Barnhart       |
| Senior    | Tyler Harding    | Doniphan       |
| Junior    | Mary Ann Boro    | Springfield    |
| Junior    | Samantha Sellers | Caruthersville |
| Sophomore | Heather Gray     | Carthage       |
| Freshman  | Lauren Dresch    | Independence   |
| Freshman  | Jacob Phillips   | Marshall       |
| Freshman  | Kimberly Clem    | Willard        |

### Craig E. Arnett Memorial Agricultural Scholarship

|           |                |                   |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| Sophomore | Colt Whitesell | El Dorado Springs |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|

### Craig E. Arnett Memorial Equestrian Scholarship

|        |               |          |
|--------|---------------|----------|
| Junior | Micala Penton | Columbia |
|--------|---------------|----------|

### Gayle Ashley Horticulture Club Scholarship\*

|        |              |            |
|--------|--------------|------------|
| Senior | Megan Brandt | Koeltztown |
|--------|--------------|------------|

### Henry and Grace Carr Farm Scholarship\*

|           |                 |            |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| Sophomore | Cheyenne Arthur | Greenfield |
| Sophomore | Dakota Arthur   | Greenfield |

### Marilyn R. Daniel Equine Scholarship

|           |                |       |
|-----------|----------------|-------|
| Sophomore | Hanna Thornton | Crane |
|-----------|----------------|-------|

### Douglas W. Darr Leadership Scholarship\*

|           |                 |            |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| Senior    | Alison Bos      | Billings   |
| Senior    | Samantha Warner | Archie     |
| Senior    | Daniel Kahre    | Miller     |
| Junior    | Ashley Kelly    | Loma Linda |
| Sophomore | Sylvia Garnett  | Stella     |
| Sophomore | Emily Scott     | Quincy     |
| Freshman  | Laura Wolf      | Tipton     |
| Freshman  | Avery Casey     | Sheldon    |
| Freshman  | Mia Mann        | Leonard    |
| Freshman  | Nicole Markway  | Eugene     |

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

|        |              |        |
|--------|--------------|--------|
| Junior | Casteel Kirk | Urbana |
|--------|--------------|--------|

### Farmers Coop Livestock Marketing Scholarship\*

|           |                 |                  |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------|
| Junior    | Daniel Potter   | Bentonville, Ark |
| Sophomore | Katelyn Kellams | Portageville     |

### FFA Scholarship

|          |                 |            |
|----------|-----------------|------------|
| Freshman | Matthew Brooks  | Fair Grove |
| Freshman | Lauren Garoutte | Galena     |

### FFA State Officer Scholarship

|          |                |         |
|----------|----------------|---------|
| Freshman | Kollen Chapman | Osceola |
|----------|----------------|---------|

### FCS Financial Scholarship

|           |                |            |
|-----------|----------------|------------|
| Sophomore | Kayla Benedict | Flemington |
|-----------|----------------|------------|

### Jack Gordon Memorial Scholarship

|        |                |         |
|--------|----------------|---------|
| Junior | Taressa Rankin | Lebanon |
|--------|----------------|---------|

**SCHOLARSHIPS      RECIPIENTS      HOMETOWN**

**Harry and Marion James Agronomy Scholarship\***  
 Freshman      Cassie Reid      Bosworth

**Arnie Johnson Agriculture Scholarship**  
 Junior      Alexis Jennings      Ozark

**Dr. Norman Justus SWVATA Scholarship**  
 Freshman      Miranda Durr      Pleasant Hope

**Glenn E. and Ruth Z. Karls Agriculture Scholarship\***  
 Sophomore      Kelsey Lauberth      Bonnets Mill  
 Sophomore      Benjamin Howard      Eldon  
 Freshman      Aren Dameron      Chilhowee  
 Freshman      Katelyn McCoy      Ozark  
 Freshman      Samantha Kent      Fair Grove  
 Freshman      Emily Quas      Ozark  
 Freshman      Taylor Loges      Sweet Springs

**Benjamin Charles Kruse Memorial Scholarship**  
 Junior      William Boyer      Old Mines

**James P. and Margaret S. Landreth Scholarship\***  
 Freshman      Kara Ruether      Lebanon

**MFA, Inc. Scholarship\***  
 Freshman      Alicia Asher      Urbana

**H. Lewis Miller Endowed Scholarship\***  
 Freshman      Colleen McKay      Springfield

**Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture**  
 Junior      Cara Spencer      Rothville  
 Freshman      Brian Bunton      Lamar

**Ed Pinegar Scholarship\***  
 Senior      Kacie Smith      Springfield

**Howard Pyle Memorial Scholarship\***  
 Freshman      Justin Mauss      Bois D'Arc

**Vernon Renner Scholarship**  
 Senior      Bethany Markway      Eugene  
 Junior      Scott Lee      Nevada  
 Junior      Paige Jenkins      Bolivar  
 Senior      Kelsie Young      Aurora  
 Sophomore      Melissa Bueker      Higginsville  
 Freshman      MacKenzie Oswald      Urich

**John D. Schatz Scholarship\***  
 Sophomore      Noelle Mollhagen      Cabool

**J.N. Smith/FCS Financial Memorial Scholarship**  
 Senior      Heather Gerity      Jefferson City  
 Sophomore      Cory Slusher      Benton  
 Freshman      Zachary Straatmann      Villa Ridge

**Stanlie H. and Belva Ross Spangler Memorial Scholarship**  
 Senior      Katie Griffith      Butler  
 Junior      Brandon Jackson      Buffalo



**Arnie Johnson Agriculture Scholarship**  
 Alexis Jennings, junior animal science major, from Ozark, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Christine Sudbrock, director of outreach.



**Glenn E. and Ruth Z. Karls Agriculture Scholarship\***  
 Benjamin Howard, sophomore animal science major, from Eldon, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Melissa Hudson, assistant professor.



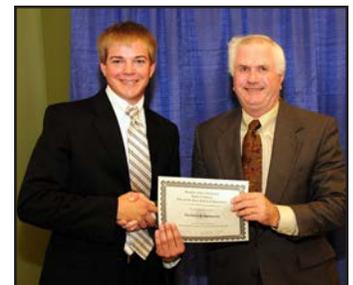
**Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Scholarship**  
 Brian Bunton, freshman agricultural business major, from Lamar, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Blake Hurst.



**Vernon Renner Scholarship**  
 Bethany Markway, senior agricultural education major, from Eugene (left), receives the award from Tom DeWitt, soils instructor.



**John D. Schatz Scholarship**  
 Noelle Mollhagen, sophomore horticulture major, from Cabool, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Pam Trewatha, professor.



**J.N. Smith/FCS Financial Memorial Scholarship**  
 Zachary Straatmann, freshman agricultural business major, from Villa Ridge, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Dr. Ben Fuqua, professor.

## November scholarship banquet highlights *cont.*

| SCHOLARSHIPS  | RECIPIENTS          | HOMETOWN    |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| <b>David F. Stanke Memorial Scholarship*</b>                      |                     |             |
| Sophomore   | Devon Priester      | Springfield |
| <b>Charles and Patricia Stufflebeam Agricultural Scholarship*</b> |                     |             |
| Freshman  | Clifford Merriman   | Rolla       |
| <b>Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Memorial Family Scholarship*</b>        |                     |             |
| Junior  | Cheyenne Shipps     | Dadeville   |
| <b>Uncle Tom Watkins Memorial Scholarship*</b>                    |                     |             |
| Junior  | Megan Case          | Linwood     |
| <b>White River Valley Electric Cooperative Scholarship</b>        |                     |             |
| Junior  | Gabrielle Coleman   | Marshfield  |
| Sophomore   | Alex Bollman        | Ash Grove   |
| <b>Dennis and Phyllis Schmitt Graduate Scholarship</b>            |                     |             |
| Graduate  | Preston Cody Dalton | Springfield |

\*Denotes endowed scholarship

**Robert F. Thomson, Jr. Memorial Family Scholarship**  
Cheyenne Shipps, junior animal science major, from Dadeville, Mo., (left) receiving the award from Eric Ling.



**Schnelle Sparkman Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture Award**  
Jason Obermann, sophomore animal science major, from Monett, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Wayne Schnell.



**Greene County Farm Bureau Award**  
Kody Killingsworth, senior agricultural business major, from Ash Grove, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Tom Huff.

| AWARDS   | RECIPIENTS             | HOMETOWN          |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Schnelle Sparkman Farm Bureau Salute to Agriculture Award</b>       |                        |                   |
| Sophomore  | Jason Obermann         | Monett            |
| <b>Greene County Farm Bureau Award</b>                                 |                        |                   |
| Senior   | Kody Killingsworth     | Ash Grove         |
| Senior   | Benjamin Vanhooser     | Dadeville         |
| <b>State Fruit Experiment Station Grape and Wine Interns</b>           |                        |                   |
| Senior   | Xu Chen                | Springfield       |
|  | Raul Rosas             | St. James         |
| <b>Grape Biotechnology Progam Internship</b>                           |                        |                   |
| Senior   | Heather McCallister    | O'Fallon          |
| Senior   | Shae Honesty           | Hazelwood         |
| <b>Journagan Ranch Internship</b>                                      |                        |                   |
| Junior   | Weston Paulik          | Eldon             |
| Senior   | Daniel Amick           | El Dorado Springs |
| <b>Distinguished Service Award</b>                                     | The Alumni Association |                   |
| <b>The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Outstanding Freshman Award</b> |                        |                   |
| Sophomore  | Emily Scott            | Quincy            |
| <b>W. Anson Elliott Citizen Leadership Award</b>                       |                        |                   |
| Senior   | Samantha Warner        | Archie            |
| <b>Glenn E. Karls Senior Excellence Award</b>                          |                        |                   |
| Senior   | Alison Bos             | Billings          |



The Alumni Association receives the **Distinguished Service award** from Dr. Anson Elliott, director.



**Greene County Farm Bureau Award**  
Benjamin Vanhooser, senior agricultural business major, from Dadeville, Mo. (left), receiving the award from Tom Huff.



**The Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha Outstanding Freshman Award**  
Emily Scott, sophomore agricultural education major, from Quincy, Mo. (left), receives the award from Dr. Anson Elliott, director.



**Glen E. Karls Senior Excellence Award**  
Alison Bos, senior agricultural communications major, from Billings, Mo. (left), receives the award from Dr. Anson Elliott, director.

## Two agriculture students receive MSU Citizen Scholar Award

by Lora Drake

Two agricultural communications students were recognized as citizen scholars at the December 2011 Board of Governors meeting. Alison Bos and Samantha Warner were among the six Missouri State University students recognized.

There has only been one other agriculture student receive this university award. Hollie Elliott received the award in 2008.

The Board of Governors' Citizen Scholar Award annually recognizes six full-time students who have made significant accomplishments while enrolled at one of the Missouri State University campuses. Preference is given to upper-class students who have contributed to the university, advanced the university's public affairs mission, have been significantly engaged in extracurricular accomplishments, and/or have participated in significant service activities in the community.

"I realize that the school of agriculture strives to help our students achieve the public affairs mission on a regular basis, even though we don't always realize it," said Warner.

Warner, a senior, from Archie, Mo., was nominated by Dr. Anson Elliott, director of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture.

Warner is a member of Collegiate Farm Bureau, where she is currently the president. She also is a member of Collegiate FFA, Delta Tau Alpha and Phi Eta Sigma.

"I was extremely honored and humbled. It is a prestigious award and I never thought I would be nominated, not to mention chosen for this award," said Warner. "I'm thrilled I was able to represent the school of agriculture by being selected for this award."



Alison Bos (left) and Samantha Warner receive 2012-2013 MSU Citizen Scholar honors.



Bos, a senior, from Billings, Mo., was nominated by Dr. Gary Webb, professor of animal science.

Bos is a member of the Horsemen's Association, where she is currently serving as president and is on the Missouri State University Equestrian Team where she has been a regional qualifier for three years and a semi-final qualifier for two years. Bos also is a member of Delta Tau Alpha and served as a peer leader for one semester.

"It was one of the greatest feelings in the world to find out I was selected as a Citizen Scholar," Bos said. "Words really cannot express the feeling I felt. Receiving this award is a true honor. Being nominated was a great feeling in itself. It made me realize that my hard work has paid off, and also made me realize just how much God has blessed me."

"I could not have received this award if it was not for the faculty in the school of agriculture, and I am truly grateful for their support," Bos said.

# Markway selected to attend National Ag Day in Washington D.C.

by Ashley Winfrey and Nicole Markway

Missouri State University student Bethany Markway, senior agricultural education major, from Eugene, Mo., was selected by Agriculture Future of America to attend National Ag Day on March 8 in Washington D.C.

AFA selects 40 collegiate men and women to travel to Washington, D.C.

While visiting Capitol Hill, students attended a luncheon and networked with other students passionate about agriculture and the legislative process.

As a precursor to National Teach Ag Day, March 15, six students had the honor to teach agriculture to inner city children. Markway was one of the



*“I am not only proud to be one of the six students chosen to represent the agriculture industry, but also proud to represent Missouri State University.”*

during National Ag Week and to participate in training sessions, where students learn to better understand policies and regulations that impact agriculture. They also meet with legislators and advisers.

few chosen to teach a seventh grade class in a Washington D.C. school. Markway’s lesson consisted of food-and-fiber production, the essential role of agriculture in the economy, and the role

that agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.

“I was enlightened to see the education of agriculture in inner city schools,” said Markway. “I am not only proud to be one of the six students chosen to represent the agriculture industry, but also proud to represent Missouri State University.”

# Paige Jenkins serves on Board of Governors for Missouri State University

by William Boyer

Paige Jenkins, of Bolivar, Mo. and a junior at Missouri State University, was confirmed by the Missouri Legislature as MSU’s student governor Feb. 22.

Jenkins will serve a two-year term as student governor. In her role with the board, Jenkins will attend all meetings with the Board of Governors as well as serve as a non-voting representative of student interests.

“One perk of being on the board is getting to hear other board members brag about the achievements of agriculture students,” Jenkins said when asked about the most rewarding part of her job. “The board really has a high respect for agriculture. Our achievements aren’t going unnoticed.”



Paige Jenkins with her dad Gary Jenkins, from Bolivar, Mo., at the MSU West Plains campus Annual Auction. Jenkins attends various MSU events as part of her duties as student board member.

Outside of board meetings, Jenkins serves on the student affairs committee for the Board of Governors. She also was selected to serve as a student representative on the presidential-search committee with other faculty and community members.

Jenkins served as the chief sustainability commissioner of the MSU Student Government Association before taking on her student governor responsibilities. She is an agronomy major with a minor in Mandarin Chinese, and has been accepted into the accelerated plant science master’s program in the William H. Darr School of Agriculture.

“I’ve found that agriculture has given me common ground with several of the board members and community committee members,” Jenkins said. “It is exciting to find others who share my passion for agriculture.”

## National FFA officer candidate reflects

by Taylor Casey

“The experience of running for a national office is crazy. It’s hard, it’s frustrating and there are so many times you just want to throw in the towel,” expressed National FFA Organization officer candidate Samantha Warner.

Warner grew up on the family farm, near Archie Mo., where her family operates a row crop and cattle farm. In her youth she was involved in 4-H and loved agriculture. Joining FFA was a natural next step, but Warner said she would have never guessed how much it would impact her life and the person she has become.

Warner began her leadership roles in high school where she served as chapter secretary, vice president and president. Her Supervised Agriculture Experience included operating her own cake decorating business called Clover Country Cakes. She also raised and showed Limousin cattle. According to Warner, FFA gave her the confidence she needed to do anything she put her mind to. Warner added that FFA has helped prepare her to succeed personally as well as professionally.



Samantha Warner and her mother Janice Warner, from Archie, Mo., with her congratulatory letter saying she made it to the last round of National FFA Officer interviews.

“I have learned how to be a leader, a role model and a team player,” Warner said. “I have gained public speaking skills, interpersonal communication skills and other soft skills employers are looking for in potential employees.”

Warner served as the 2009-2010 Missouri FFA State President. During her term, Warner said she was touched by many individuals and felt that because

people invested in her, she wanted to invest in FFA members across the country.

“I strongly believe that a student who seems to be ‘average’ can become extraordinary with a little bit of coaching and a whole lot of support and encouragement,” Warner said. “Growing up I was a very shy girl, and believe that FFA taught me to step out of my comfort zone and be proud of the talents I possess.”

Warner said the sense of confidence that FFA helped to instill in her and the experience she had as a state officer greatly impacted her decision to run for a national office.

“I did not think that it was for me,” reflected Warner. “I did not have the super-bubbly personality that you often see in national officers, but I realized that if I did not try I wouldn’t be putting everything FFA has taught me to work.”

Warner said even though she was not elected, she was glad she went through the process.

“I have realized since not getting elected, I can still make a difference in young people’s lives, even if I am not wearing a blue jacket,” Warner said.

## VESTA’s Missouri coordinator moves to Springfield campus

by Samantha Warner

After working for six years at the Missouri State University Mountain Grove campus, Carrie Crews, Missouri’s Viticulture and Enology Science and Technology Alliance (VESTA) coordinator, relocated to the administrative office in Karls Hall. Crews made the move because her husband accepted a teaching and coaching position in the Willard School District.

“I love the people and getting to know the students,” Crews said when asked about her favorite part of moving to Karls Hall.

VESTA is a cooperative effort among 17 colleges and universities across the country, as well as various state agricultural agencies, vineyards and wineries. The stated goal of the program is to offer viticulture and enology courses via distance education by utilizing various online-delivery technologies and giving students the opportunity for hands-on experience at local vineyards and wineries.

Crews said the partnership is funded by a \$4.9 million grant through the National Science Foundation. The MSU William H. Darr School of Agriculture serves as the program office for the partnership. Michelle Norgren is VESTA national center director and is principal investigator for the National Science Foundation grant.

Crews said she devotes two-thirds of her time working for VESTA, but is happy she also works for the school of agriculture. Even though Crews didn’t grow up on a farm, she said both parents have agricultural backgrounds. Crews has a degree in agriculture and is happy to utilize her education.

“It is rewarding and interesting to see ag move to the next generation,” Crews said. “I work with some great people, and it is fun to see students get jobs, internships and move on in the world.”



## Dr. Jon Wiggins is retiring, but still will be around

by Steven Urie

Dr. Jon Wiggins, retiring professor at Missouri State University, willingly shares his views on life, kids, motorcycles, family, and of course, retiring. He has spent a total of 34 years on staff at Missouri State University, and served two years working in public schools as an agriculture teacher.

During his years of service at MSU, Wiggins taught agricultural-power and agricultural-construction classes. Wiggins also has taught vocational-technical teachers how to train their students and helped prepare those teachers for the Missouri certified test for public teaching. He has been advisor for the MSU Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity and the MSU Trap and Skeet Team.

Wiggins said it was a blessing to be able to teach about things that you can enjoy - mechanics, electronics, and more importantly, life lessons to the younger generation.

Wiggins is known for telling stories and giving advice, often comical. He frequently brings the latest in public



events to the classroom, like Zebra Mussels invading our streams, or Asian Carp jumping in boats and causing harm to fishermen. And concerning influences in his life, Wiggins shared that the movies Easy Rider and Animal House were big on

his list, just another example of his laid-back attitude and unique sense of humor.

Wiggins remembers his students fondly. "It would be nice if all or any of my former students would just send me a Christmas card once in a while," Wiggins said.

And about retiring - "Less responsibility and ratings was going to be a nice change, and I am glad to be leaving at the top of my game," Wiggins said. "You see, replacement for our jobs is so fast that you don't know if you made a difference, until later in life when you see the larger picture."

Wiggins said he is looking forward to having more time and not being rushed, riding his motorcycle more and spending time with his family. He will continue to teach a few courses and continue as sponsor for the trap and skeet team.

Traveling has always been important to Wiggins and his family. He has taken motorcycle trips to California and Alaska, and now has plans for a trip to New Zealand and a long river ride across Tennessee.

## More students participate in MSU Trap & Skeet

by Cory Slusher

The Missouri State University Trap and Skeet Team underwent some major changes this year, including appointing officers who led to getting more students involved.

The team now consists of 17 members, including seven that traveled to compete around the U.S. The team members were supported by the Missouri State University Student Organization Funding Allocation Council and local fundraisers.

The team hosted the annual Bear Invitational Tournament at the Ozark Shooters sports complex in Walnut Shade, Mo. The tournament consisted of American trap, American skeet, wobble trap, doubles trap and sporting clays. Members also helped score and pull rounds at the annual Springfield Rod and Gun Club's Hunters Open Tournament.

The MSU team competed at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, Mo.; University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, Mo.; University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Mo.; Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan.; University of Iowa,



The MSU Trap & Skeet Team at Bear Invitational.

Iowa City, Iowa.; University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.; and at the National Intercollegiate Clay Target Championship, San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Jon Wiggins of the school of agriculture is the faculty sponsor for the trap and skeet team. For further information contact Wiggins by email at [jwiggins@missouristate.edu](mailto:jwiggins@missouristate.edu).

## Bond Center Opens

by Staci Haggard

On June 17, 2011, Missouri State University opened their new agricultural facility, the 27,331 square foot Christopher S. Bond Learning Center, with a dedication ceremony honoring former US Senator Bond.

Bond has a history of supporting agriculture in Missouri and led the Missouri congressional delegation in securing federal funding to help with the expense of building the new center. MSU resources and private donations also were used.

The center offers 7,000 square feet of ballroom space and is equipped with two projectors and drop-down screens. The ballroom also is equipped to handle conference calls. It has been used to host the Ag Forum and is the new home of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture Scholarship and Awards Banquet. The ballroom can be sectioned off into six smaller rooms that can be used to host multiple events simultaneously, like different contests during the Southwest District FFA Contest.

The center has a serving kitchen, laboratory, student activity room and a conference room. The building also is home to a 40-person classroom that has interactive television capable for distance learning. This classroom was donated by Ronald L. and Sue Terry.

The center houses a 90-person lecture hall with stadium-style seating that is equipped with Lecture Capture technology, which films the lecture as well as records a screen shot of what is being shown on the computer.

## Bond Learning Center integrates hands-on experience and theoretical learning

by Ashley Kelly

Students of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture no longer have to take a 20-minute drive for a field trip. They can walk out the door of their classrooms in the Christopher S. Bond Learning Center and be face-to-face with agriculture.

“It is a benefit for students to be right next to the animals,” said Lauren Updyke, junior wildlife conservation major, Kirksville, Mo.

The learning center is just 15 minutes from the Missouri State University campus and includes offices, a laboratory, two classrooms and a large multipurpose room, all available for use by teachers, students and staff. The lecture hall even has an animal entrance and pen so that live animals can be brought into the classroom for hands-on experience.

Over 100 students will attend class at the Bond Learning Center each semester.

Many upper-level animal science classes will be held at the Bond Learning Center. Some horticulture classes also are moving to the center.

“This is a great technology for distance students and those students missing class for other school-related activities,” explained Christi Sudbrock, director of outreach for the William H. Darr School of Agriculture.

A unique feature of the lecture hall is that it is designed to allow livestock to be brought into the classroom in a safe and controlled environment. The room is equipped with a drained floor that can handle livestock panels for building pens.

The building also has been used by the community for events such as a 4-H small ruminant camp.

The center is currently seeking silver certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). Buildings with this certification must meet criteria in water and energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, material selection, and sustainable site development.



U.S. Senator Christopher S. Bond in front of the Bond Learning Center.

Some courses that are offered in the new facility are animal breeding, reproductive physiology, vet science, animal nutrition and vegetable production.

“The really great thing about the Bond Learning Center is the ability for professors and students to easily integrate classroom knowledge with hands-on learning experiences,” said Christine Sudbrock, Bond Learning Center coordinator.

“We feel tremendously thankful to all of the generous donors and support from all of the lawmakers and the university for making this wonderful facility a reality,” Sudbrock said.

## Christine Sudbrock joins MSU agriculture faculty

by Melissa Bueker

Christine Sudbrock has joined the William H. Darr School of Agriculture faculty at Missouri State University as the first director of outreach.

Sudbrock, who grew up in Lexington, Mo., is a 2009 Missouri State University graduate with a double major in agricultural communications and agricultural business. She earned a master's in agricultural and consumer economics at the University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

As the director of outreach, Sudbrock coordinates and provides technical support for events held at the Christopher S. Bond Learning Center. She also is the instructor

for agricultural economics I. Sudbrock utilizes Lecture Capture in the classroom to record the lectures for students who are unable to attend class.

"This allows students who we encourage to be involved in activities to not be punished when they miss class," Sudbrock said.

Sudbrock also is the advisor for the professional agricultural sorority Sigma Alpha. A member herself when she was an undergraduate, Sudbrock sets an example for women pursuing careers in agriculture.

"It means a lot to me to be able to give back to a group that did so much for me," explained Sudbrock.



Christine Sudbrock, director of outreach for William H. Darr School of Agriculture.

In the future Sudbrock plans to work toward a doctorate in a cooperative program with the University of Missouri-Columbia. Sudbrock also said she will continue teaching and has hopes to add a variety of new courses for students.

## Alpha Gamma Rho on upward move

by Mary Diebold

With numbers up to a strong 32 members, grade point averages rising and progress on joining Interfraternity Council, Alpha Gamma Rho has become a premier agricultural organization.

Members enjoy participating in many different activities. Some of these activities include Ball Blast and Backwoods Bash. This year's Ball Blast was hosted at Electric Cowboy in Springfield and festivities included music, dancing and good food. Backwoods Bash also was a dance, but it is a themed party where agriculture students and guests get a chance to show off their classiest costumes. Both events host over 400 students and guests.

Funds from these events help sponsor members who attend the National Alpha Gamma Rho Leadership Conference, Denver, Colo., and the Alpha Gamma Rho scholarship, which is presented each year at the scholarship banquet. Funds also support their many philanthropies which include The Child Advocacy Center and the Fund for Testicular Cancer.



AGR members with Dr. Elliott at Salute to Agriculture. Front row: Brad Nichols, Kyle Richner, Bjorn Wilkerson, Dr. Elliott, David Parrack and Steven Hoaglin. Second Row: Shannon McClintock, Jacob Phillips, Kyle Cushard, Daniel Amick, Ben Ballhorn, Connor Erwin, Ronnie Ocello and Jeremy Nelson.

"It's (AGR) given me a true sense of brotherhood and leadership, and also helped me gain real-life contacts that I

will be able to utilize after college. It truly is worth every minute," said AGR Noble Ruler Steven Hoaglin, agricultural business major, from Pleasant Hope, Mo.

# Ag industry study visits over 15 agricultural businesses

by Alison Bos

The agricultural industry study provides students with the opportunity to visit major agricultural companies and learn more about the job market.

In January, before the start of spring semester, Dr. Benjamin Onyango and Dr. Arbindra Rimal, both professors of agricultural economics, and Christi Sudbrock, director of outreach, took 30 students to visit businesses in St. Louis and surrounding areas. They visited over 15 businesses during five days.

During the study students visited several companies including Purina, Osborne and Barr, Monsanto, Federal Reserve Bank-St. Louis, Dot Foods/Holten Meats, Commerce Bank, Rabo Agrifinance, GFK Kynetec, Lange Steggman, Land O' Lakes, American Soybean Association, Missouri Department of Agriculture, Missouri Farm Bureau, FCS Financial and ADM Alliance Nutrition, Inc. It was the first year ADM was added to the list of companies visited.

*“Being able to visit companies that I may work for someday is something I will never forget.”*

Students are given the rare opportunity to visit these major companies in just one week. Onyango said he sees the trip as something that serves as a great asset to students learning about the agricultural industry.

“In just one week, the student covers important aspects of the agricultural industry,” Onyango said. “This is beyond what we teach in our classrooms.”

Visiting companies that could be future employers is a valuable experience. Students are given the opportunity to ask questions about the companies and what they look for when they hire new employees.

“It is all about exposure and industry experience,” Rimal said. “We want to expose students to the working of the agricultural industry.”

Students who participate with the industry study understand the opportunities the study offers. Micala Penton, a junior agricultural business major, from Columbia, Mo., was very pleased with her experience.

“Being able to visit companies that I may work for someday is something I will never forget,” Penton said. “The industry study was an educational experience that has better prepared me for the future.”



Agricultural Industry students at the ADM building in St. Louis, Mo. From left, Lauren Morlok, senior agricultural business enterprise/management major, Montrose, Mo.; Wil Shrable, senior agronomy major, Seymour, Mo.; Cara Spencer, junior agricultural business/agricultural market and sales major, Rothville, Mo.; and Dr. Arbindra Rimal, professor of agricultural economics.

Students must meet a set of qualifications before participating in the industry study. They must have completed at least 60-credit hours. Six of those hours should be in agricultural economics. The week-long industry study provides students with two credit hours.

The agricultural industry study is mandatory for all students seeking agricultural business degrees. It is optional, yet recommended, for students seeking other agricultural degrees. The industry study has been offered for 40 years and will continue to benefit students for years to come.



Agricultural Industry group gathers to listen to an ADM Alliance, Inc. representative at the levy near the ADM building.

# New classes focus on leadership and public relations

by Quaid Taylor

Spring 2012 the William H. Darr School of Agriculture added two new classes geared toward expanding students' business and leadership backgrounds. The two classes are agriculture leaders and public relations (PR) in agriculture.

Students in the agriculture leaders class, taught by Jim Bellis, assistant director of the William H. Darr School of Agriculture, started off the semester participating in projects which focused on their individual interests. In the class, the students developed presentations for Missouri FFA Camp, hosted a transfer-student expo and promoted the school of agriculture. The transfer-student expo was a designated day for students from community colleges to visit Missouri State University.

Two groups in the class focused on recruitment for the school of agriculture. One group set up visits with high schools around Missouri, answering questions and stirring their interest in MSU and the school of agriculture.

When asked if she would recommend this class to other students, Alyssa Mackey, a sophomore animal science major, from Ozark, Mo., said, "It is a great class that helps you get involved in campus life and expand on your leadership skills, even if you do not live on campus."



Agriculture Leaders class in front of Karls Hall. Front row: Eli Martin, Matt Brooks, Aly Mackey, Taylor Loges, Mia Mann and Emily Quas. 2nd row: Katelyn McCoy, Chelsea Holbrook, Samantha Warner, Jim Bellis, Emily Scott, Nicole Markway and Emily Wilbers. 3rd Row: Quaid Taylor, Laura Wolf, Lauren Garoutte, Cassie Reid, Corey Schatt and Tracy Bailey. Back Row: Chase Brewer, Jacob Phillips, Justin Mauss and Kollen Chapman.

The new PR class, taught by Jamie Johansen, adjunct faculty member, helps students gain the knowledge of the new and old rules of marketing and public relations. Class members complete a personal PR plan, a group PR plan for DV Auctions, and learn the importance of social media in agriculture.

"Telling our story (by social networking) rather than spending a lot

of money on huge advertising," is what freshman agricultural business major Taylor Loges, from Sweet Springs, Mo., said she gained from the class. "Yes, I would most definitely recommend this class if you plan to pursue a career in any type of business. You truly learn all aspects of marketing, social media and how to do it for free."



Jamie Johansen hands out the final to her agricultural public relations class as they finish up the first semester of the new course.



Agricultural public relations students prepare to take their final and wrap up their spring semester.

## Students learn to use social media for marketing

by Laura Wolf

A course dealing with public relations, marketing and social media made its debut in 2012 at Missouri State University's William H. Darr School of Agriculture. Jamie Johansen, a graduate of MSU who holds degrees in agricultural education and agricultural communications, teaches the class.

This year's class consisted of 20 students from various agricultural majors. The class roster included students from different age and experience levels including first-year freshmen to graduate students.

The class focused on the significance of social media in the globalized economy of the agricultural industry. Students learned the benefits of various networking sites in a business setting. Classroom discussion topics included updates on agricultural news and issues as they related to media and internet influence.

Successful viral and social media marketing campaigns were examined as well. The class studied past successes and discussed new efforts as online events occurred throughout the semester.

Students completed a six-month social media campaign for a local agribusiness, which challenged them to apply what they had learned.

"What I think sets this class apart from others is how hands-on it is," Johansen said. "Each student creates his or her own blog and must write weekly throughout the semester. They also have the opportunity to choose a local agriculture business for which to create a social media plan. They must work with the business defining goals and analyzing existing social media to create true online engagement. The idea is for the business to put the plan into place and for the students to get a taste of working with clients."

The final project for the class was a year-long public relations plan incorporating the effective use of engaging social media for DV Auctions, an online livestock auction company based in Norfolk, Neb. The company provides online services for livestock buyers and sellers throughout the Midwest.

The class split into groups and worked to develop unique public relations plans, which were presented to the class and DV Auction representative Kevin Johansen. The groups outlined their plan and answered questions from the audience. The proposals will be reviewed by the owners of the company, and ideas from class members have the potential to be used in DV Auction's public relations and marketing.

## Journagan Ranch Civil War murder story revealed

by Sally Lyons McAlear

While standing near the Journagan Ranch machine repair shop on a recent warm spring day—with a gentle breeze blowing over the quiet valleys and hills—it was difficult to imagine the violent killing that occurred during the heat of the Civil War almost 150 years ago. Stories are told that the original owner of this Douglas County land was shot on his front porch. Records about the incident are scarce and the identity of the killer is unknown.

The victim was Richard V. Durham.

And, so the story begins that was researched and written by Sally Lyons McAlear about a lonely headstone and gravesite located on the Journagan Ranch. Read the full story by following this link



Close up of the Masonic emblem at the top of the headstone of Richard V. Durham.



Here lies Richard V. Durham. Photos by Sally McAlear.

<http://ag.missouristate.edu/assets/ag/ACivilWarMurderontheJournaganRanch.pdf>

Sally Lyons McAlear was a longtime administrative assistant for the William H. Darr School of Agriculture. She retired in 2003.

# Graduates

## Summer 2011

Stanley M **Adler** Secondary Edu/Agriculture MSED  
Springfield, Mo.

Staci N **Bass** Plant Science-AG Dept-MS  
Chanute, Kan.

Ru **Dai** Plant Science-AG Dept-MS  
Columbia, Mo.

Claire M **Dohmen** Animal Science-BS  
Brookline, Mo.

Amanda L **Evans** General Agriculture/Agr-BS  
Half Way, Mo.

Kasey Amber **Garrett** General Agriculture-BAS  
Fairland, Okla.

Whitney E **Harrison** Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS  
Cassville, Mo.

Mitchell A **Jackson** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Bolivar, Mo.

Andrew M **McCorkill** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Greenfield, Mo.

Kelsie L **Minton** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Archie, Mo.

Derrick R **Nichols** General Agriculture/Comm-BS  
Warsaw, Mo.

Adam C **Ruesch** Horticulture-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Daymon **Winborn** General Agriculture-BAS  
El Reno, Okla.

Yu **Zhang** Plant Science-AG Dept-MS  
Columbia, Mo.

## Fall 2011

William Breckenridge Cody **Anglin** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Bentonville, Ark.

Traci G **Bailey** Agriculture Education-BSED  
Richland, Mo.

Lindsey Rae **Bain** General Agriculture/Agr-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Branden D **Blaue** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Wellsville, Mo.

Toree L **Bova** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Springfield, Mo.

Patricia S **Brown** General Agriculture-BAS  
Seneca, Mo.

Darcy D **Browning** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Harwood, Mo.

Jocelyn A **Butler** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Republic, Mo.

Amber N **Cobb** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Everton, Mo.

Jennifer L **Cooper** Animal Science-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Michelle L **Cope** Animal Science-BS  
Crane, Mo.

Justin C **Cron** Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS  
Strafford, Mo.

Kyle W **Cushard** Agronomy-BS  
Nevada, Mo.

Preston C **Dalton** Animal Science-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Julie A **Donnell** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Bolivar, Mo.

Krystal M **Drysdale** Nat&Appl Sci/AG/Acceleratd-MNAS  
Springfield, Mo.

Landon L **Eggerman** General Agriculture/Agr-BS  
Lockwood, Mo.

Clinton J **Elmore** Agronomy-BS  
Montgomery City, Mo.

Aubrey D **Erwin** Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Tina Lynn **Eslick** Horticulture-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Krista D **Felber** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Justin D **Frese** Technology Education-BSED  
Springfield, Mo.

Daniel S **Galbraith** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

Ethan L **Grubaugh** Agronomy-BS  
Ozark, Mo.

Adam D **Habluetzel** General Agriculture-BAS  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Jill K **Hankins** Nat&Appl Sci/AG/Acceleratd-MNAS  
Stockton, Mo.

Carly D **Henderson** General Agriculture-BAS  
Dadeville, Mo.

Colten T **Johnson** Agronomy-BS  
Richards, Mo.

Cody S **Jones** Agronomy-BS  
Stockton, Mo.

Kimberly A **Luers** Animal Science-BS  
Walnut Grove, Mo.

Kathi S **Mecham** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Springfield, Mo.

Chad A **Menz** Agronomy-BS  
West Plains, Mo.

Chad A **Moots** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Billings, Mo.

Jayne Lynn **Morrison** Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS  
Ozark, Mo.

David R **Parrack** General Agriculture/Agr-BS  
Macks Creek, Mo.

Annie L **Pearson** Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS  
Hinton, Okla.

Derrick **Phillips** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Aldrich, Mo.

Meggie **Pritchard** General Agriculture-BAS  
Grove, Okla.

Luke E **Rohowetz** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Wildwood, Mo.

Autumn M **Snide** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Urbana, Mo.

Lucas Dmitry **Snodgrass** Plant Science-AG Dept-MS  
Seymour, Mo.

Kalyn N **Stevens** Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS  
Bolivar, Mo.

Michelle L **Tucker** Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS  
Wyaconda, Mo.

Caroline M **Tyler** Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS  
Sweet Springs, Mo.

Rowena A **Woode** Animal Science-BS  
Springfield, Mo.

## Spring 2012 (prospective)

|                               |   |                                 |  |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Jason Lee <b>Bethel</b>       | Horticulture-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.               | Heather E <b>McCallister</b>    | Horticulture-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.                  |
| Kathleen K <b>Billings</b>    | Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.     | Cody E <b>McCann</b>            | Animal Science-BS<br>Falcon, Mo.                     |
| Alison L <b>Bos</b>           | General Agriculture/Comm-BS<br>Billings, Mo.      | Kathryn Jo <b>McDonald</b>      | General Agriculture-BAS<br>Quapaw, Okla.             |
| Megan R <b>Brandt</b>         | Horticulture-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.               | Jeffrey A <b>Meyer</b>          | Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS<br>Hermann, Mo.             |
| Shannon L <b>Cavanagh</b>     | Animal Science-BS<br>Lockwood, Mo.                | Wyatt W <b>Miller</b>           | Nat&Appl Sci/AG/Acceleratd-MNAS<br>Springfield, Mo.  |
| Xu <b>Chen</b>                | Agr Bus/Agr Fin & Mgt-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.      | Brent E <b>Moore</b>            | Plant Science-AG Dept-MS<br>Wentzville, Mo.          |
| Lucy C <b>Chollet</b>         | Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS<br>Overland Park, Kan. | Brad G <b>Nichols</b>           | General Agriculture/Agr-BS<br>Ozark, Mo.             |
| Dorothyann R <b>Coffer</b>    | Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS<br>Rogersville, Mo.  | Derek K <b>Peterson</b>         | General Agriculture/Agr-BS<br>Carthage, Mo.          |
| Justin A <b>Cosgrove</b>      | Technology Education-BSED<br>Warrenton, Mo.       | Megan J <b>Richner</b>          | Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS<br>Harrisonville, Mo.  |
| Tyler Wayne <b>Crites</b>     | Horticulture-BS<br>Bolivar, Mo.                   | William Travis <b>Robertson</b> | Agronomy-BS<br>Strafford, Mo.                        |
| Lauren K <b>Dockery</b>       | Animal Science-BS<br>Nevada, Mo.                  | Raul A <b>Rosas</b>             | General Agriculture-BAS<br>Saint James, Mo.          |
| Jessica R <b>Dowding</b>      | General Agriculture-BAS<br>Meriden, Kan.          | Luther L <b>Roweton</b>         | Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS<br>Bolivar, Mo.           |
| Lauren E <b>Eagles</b>        | Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS<br>Mount Vernon, Mo.   | Ashley D <b>Schnake</b>         | Nat&Appl Sci/AG/Acceleratd-MNAS<br>Mount Vernon, Mo. |
| Charli J <b>Epperly</b>       | Natural & Applied Sci/AG-MNAS<br>Aurora, Mo.      | Kathleen L <b>Schreiner</b>     | Plant Science-AG/Acceleratd-MS<br>Urbana, Mo.        |
| Katie A <b>Griffith</b>       | Agriculture Education-BSED<br>Butler, Mo.         | Samantha Jo <b>Seamon</b>       | Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS<br>Berger, Mo.          |
| Joseph N <b>Henderson</b>     | Technology Education-BSED<br>Springfield, Mo.     | Whitney L <b>Shaw</b>           | Animal Science-BS<br>Walker, Mo.                     |
| Wayd A <b>Jansen</b>          | Wildlife Consvrt & Mgt/AG-BS<br>Branson, Mo.      | Melissa F <b>Shouse</b>         | Agronomy-BS<br>Clever, Mo.                           |
| Daniel A <b>Kahre</b>         | Agriculture Education-BSED<br>Miller, Mo.         | Stephen E <b>Stark</b>          | Env Plant Sci/Crop Science-BS<br>Carthage, Mo.       |
| Kody W <b>Killingsworth</b>   | Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS<br>Ash Grove, Mo.      | Chelsea Lauren <b>Swindle</b>   | Animal Science-BS<br>Doniphan, Mo.                   |
| Phyllisha R <b>King</b>       | Animal Science-BS<br>Lebanon, Mo.                 | Jennifer M <b>Thogmartin</b>    | Nat&Appl Sci/AG/Acceleratd-MNAS<br>Neosho, Mo.       |
| Brooke M <b>Longstreth</b>    | General Agriculture/Agr-BS<br>Moundville, Mo.     | Steven E <b>Urie</b>            | Horticulture-BS<br>Bolivar, Mo.                      |
| Kyle J <b>Mabury</b>          | Agriculture Education-BSED<br>Patterson, Mo.      | Benjamin <b>Vanhooser</b>       | Agr Bus/Enterprise Mgt-BS<br>Dadeville, Mo.          |
| Robert Trenton <b>Manning</b> | Animal Science-BS<br>South West City, Mo.         | Samantha A <b>Warner</b>        | General Agriculture/Comm-BS<br>Archie, Mo.           |
| Bethany M <b>Markway</b>      | General Agriculture/Agr-BS<br>Eugene, Mo.         | Dana Victoria <b>Willis</b>     | Animal Science-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.                |
| Diane L <b>Mayberry</b>       | General Agriculture/Agr-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.    | Rachel M <b>Yocom</b>           | Agr Bus/Agr Mkt & Sales-BS<br>Springfield, Mo.       |
|                               |   | Kelsie E <b>Young</b>           | General Agriculture/Comm-BS<br>Aurora, Mo.           |



# Another successful year for agricultural communications class

by Katelyn McCoy and Laura Wolf

Students acquired valuable career skills and learned from industry professionals in the agricultural communications class taught by Joyce Cutright.

This spring, the class had five successful agriculture professionals as guest speakers. The speakers told the class about their degrees and experiences, and offered advice for those entering similar career fields. Of the five speakers, three are Missouri State University graduates who hold degrees in agricultural communications.

Fourteen students traveled to Columbia, Mo., in April to work in the Missouri FFA Convention media room. In four days, the students, in cooperation with University of Missouri and high school FFA students, wrote over 300 press releases about scholarship recipients, Career Development Event winners, star award winners and more.



Agricultural communications students researching information for the Ag Review. From left: Chelsea Carter, junior animal science major, DeSoto, Mo.; and Ashley Kelly, junior animal science major, Joplin, Mo.



Agricultural communications students working on an article for Ag Review. From left: Micaela King, junior animal science major, Sullivan, Mo.; and Traci Bailey, natural and applied science graduate student, Richland, Mo.



Agricultural communications students researching information for the Ag Review. From left: Cassie Reid, freshman agricultural education major, Bosworth, Mo.; Nicole Markway, sophomore agricultural business/marketing sales major, Eugene, Mo.; and Taylor Loges, sophomore agricultural business/marketing and sales major, Sweet Springs, Mo.

After convention, the class went to work writing articles and captions, and capturing photos for the William H. Darr School of Agriculture Ag Review. Under the supervision of instructor Cutright, the class provided feature stories and helped to edit the annual newsletter. The Ag Review documents the events and accomplishments of the school of agriculture and is the principal communications vehicle to alumni, faculty and staff, and current and future students.



Agricultural communications students working on the Ag Review. From left: Curtis Russell, junior agricultural education major, Diamond, Mo.; and Staci Haggard, senior agricultural business/sales major, Cape Fair, Mo.



Ag Review staff members editing photos for the publication. From left: Pamela Mayer, library associate II, Evans Library of Fruit Science and Ag Review layout and photo editor, School of Ag.; and Will Boyer, junior animal science major, Old Mines, Mo.

The agricultural communications class, under the direction of class instructor Joyce Cutright, provided feature stories for the spring 2012 edition of the Missouri State University Ag Review. Pictured on these two pages are the class members and other Ag Review staff.

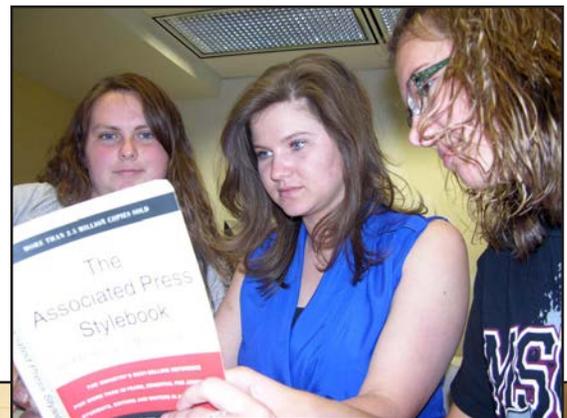


Agricultural communications class members working on press releases for the Missouri State FFA Convention. Back row: Cory Slusher, junior agricultural business major, Benton, Mo. Front from left: Christy Diebold, senior agricultural business major, Tuscumbia, Mo.; and Joyce Cutright, per course instructor for agricultural communications and Ag Review editor, Springfield, Mo.

Photo on right. Students studying The AP Style Book. The three pictured were teacher assistants for the agricultural communications class and editors for the Ag Review. From left: Ashley Winfrey, senior agricultural education major, Humansville, Mo.; Stephanie Morgan, junior agricultural communications major, Lamar, Mo.; and Samantha Warner, senior agricultural communications major, Archie, Mo.



Agricultural communications students working on the Ag Review. From left: Michelle Berri, junior general agriculture major, Springfield; Allison Bos, senior agricultural communications major, Billings, Mo.; Quaid Taylor, sophomore agricultural education major from Ozark, Mo; Christy Diebold, senior agricultural business/marketing and sales major, Tuscumbia, Mo.; and Nick Noll, sophomore natural resources major, Ferguson, Mo.



Agricultural communications students looking through photos for the Ag Review. From left: Melissa Bueker, junior wildlife conservation management major, Higginsville, Mo.; Aren Dameron, sophomore animal science major, Chilhowee, Mo.; Lora Drake, junior agricultural education major, Hume, Mo.; and Laura Wolf, freshman agricultural communications and agricultural education major, Tipton, Mo.



Agricultural communications students working in the media room at the Missouri State FFA Convention. From left: Katelyn McCoy, freshman agricultural communications major, Ozark, Mo.; Taylor Casey, sophomore agricultural business major, Monett, Mo.; and Steve Urie, senior horticulture major, Bolivar, Mo.

# William H. Darr School of Agriculture

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Laurie Wilson, Administrative Assistant II

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Pamela Mayer, Library Associate and Publications  
Jack Atchison, Field and Maintenance  
Jeremy Emery, Field Crew Leader  
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Justin Sissel, Farm Manager  
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Chad Emery, Russell Driskell, Eric Lueck, Jacob  
Peterson, Ranch Hands

## Faculty and Professional Staff

### Agricultural Business, Education, and Communications

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

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Ms. Jamie Johansen Agricultural Communications  
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### Emeritus Faculty and Staff

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### Graduate Students, Spring 2012

Traci G. Bailey, Lindy F. Christofides, Preston C. Dalton, Wesley E. Davis, Dustin W. Devore, Claire M. Dohmen, Krystal M. Drysdale, Joshua C. Franks, Hui Ge, Patrick L. Greenwald, Qiang Guo, Ken D. Harmon, Whitney E. Harrison, Jamie D. Johansen, Jillian D. Kohler, Carrie A. Lamb, Jerrod Lawrence, Kathi S. Mecham, Wyatt W. Miller, Brent E. Moore, Samuel R. Percival, Chase M. Reed, Surya D. Sapkota, Ashley D. Schnake, Kathleen L. Schreiner, Katie L. Spruell, Caroline M. Tyler, Cathleen E. Vought, Jesse L. Young, Xinyi Zhang

## Animal Sciences

Dr. Gary Webb - Unit Leader Equine Reproduction Science  
Dr. Melissa Hudson Beef (Nutrition) Science  
Dr. Dennis Schmitt Veterinary and Dairy  
Dr. Beth Walker Sheep and Goat Science  
Ms. Sue Webb Equine Exercise Science

### Professional Staff

Ms. Tracy Northcutt Junior Research Scientist

### Per Course

Ms. Annie Pearson Equine  
Dr. Jason Salchow Veterinary Science  
Mr. Lyle Whittaker Meat Science

## Plant Sciences and Natural Resources

Dr. Pamela Trewatha - Unit Leader Horticulture  
Dr. Clydette Alsup-Egbers Horticulture  
Dr. Michael Burton Agronomy  
Dr. Ben Fuqua, Emeritus Soils  
Dr. Chin-Feng Hwang Grape Breeding and Genetics  
Dr. Martin Kaps Pomology  
Dr. Mike Roling, Emeritus Entomology/Forestry  
Dr. Maciej Pszczolkowski Integrated Pest Mgt.  
Dr. Wenping Qiu Molecular Plant Virology  
Dr. Karl Wilker Enology and Distillation

### Professional Staff

Mr. John Avery Horticulture Advisor  
Ms. Li-Ling Chen Agriculture Research Specialist  
Ms. Susanne Howard Grape Research  
Dr. Shaista Lunden Grape Biotechnology  
Ms. Marilyn Odneal Horticulture Advisor

### Per Course

Mr. Tom DeWitt Soil & Water Conservation  
Ms. Sheila Wear Floral Arranging  
Ms. Lori Padgett Landscape Design

## VESTA

Michelle Norgren, VESTA Grant Director  
Carrie Crews, VESTA Missouri Coordinator  
Emily Gray, VESTA Administrative Assistant I

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# Ag Forum



Retiring MSU professor Jon Wiggins talking with MSU President Cliff Smart.



U.S. Senator Roy Blunt briefs attendees on current agricultural issues and policy development.



Local farmer Charlie Buckner visiting with U.S. Senator Roy Blunt following the Ag Forum panel.



U.S. Congressman Billy Long answers a question presented at the Ag Forum.



U.S. Senator Roy Blunt talking with MSU's Board of Governors Chairman Gordon Elliott.



MSU students pose at the Ag Forum.

# Ag *Review*

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