

RAYMOND JOSEPH THOMAS

Kansas State University

Department of Agricultural Economics

331-H Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506 | (832)-418-8469 | rjthoms@ksu.edu |

rayjthomas1996@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Kansas State University, Manhattan KS

Doctor of Philosophy in Agriculture Economics

Current

Research Topic Area: Production & Natural Resource Economics

Major Professor: Dr. Timothy Dalton

Kansas State University, Manhattan KS

Master of Science in Agriculture Economics

2020

Major Professor: Dr. Keith D. Harris

Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View TX

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

2018

Concentration: Agribusiness

GPA (3.65)

RESEARCH EXPERINCE

Graduate Research Assistant, Agricultural Economics, KSU

Present

Research Topics: Agribusiness Management, Marketing, Customer Perception, Customer Behavior, Pet Food, Online Customer Review Analysis, Value-added

Graduate Research Assistant, Diversity Programs Office, KSU

Present

Research Topics: Diversity & Inclusion, Diversity Programming, Student Recruitment & Retention

National Research Trainee, National Science Foundation,

2020-23

Research Topic: Soil Quality Indicators, Land Values, Natural Resource Management

KSRE Summer Research Fellowship, Agricultural Economics, KSRE

2018

Research Topics: International Ag., International Development, Market Structures

PROFESSIONAL EXPERINCE

Kansas State College of Agriculture: Diversity Programs Office (DPO)
Graduate Student Assistant, Manhattan KS

Present

- Work as a Graduate Student Mentor for the Kansas State Project Impact Program,
- Assist undergraduate students with academic programs by helping with navigating class schedules and enrolment, organizing, and coordinating DPO summer programs,
- Conducting literature reviews and writing journal articles for DPO research.

Winfield United Marketing

Professional Products Group Marketing Intern, Minneapolis MN

2019

- Developed and implemented pricing models to aid the business unit in pricing products effectively,
- Compiled bidding documents from regional managers into a database for price reference,
- Conducted market research on competitor prices, ecommerce presence, and offered products (fertilizers, pesticides, etc.)

Prairie View College of Agriculture Marketing Department

Jr. Media Relations Specialist, Prairie View TX

2017 – 18

- Communicated the mission and goals of the college with alumni, congressional contacts, and other groups of interest,
- Recruited prospective students provide opportunities for current students, gather resources or support for the department,
- Expanded department reach in the community through extension programs, photography, newsletters, social media, and email.

Agworkers Insurance

University Student Representative, Fort Worth TX

2015 – 18

- Served as the student representative for an insurance company that specializes in servicing employees in agriculture,
- Planned meetings with student led organizations to expand target markets and reach new demographics,

- Set up and worked booths at school and agriculture events to garner interest from students, faculty, & staff

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

Undergraduate Statistics Intern, Austin TX

2015 - 18

- Assisted in conducting surveys and statistical analysis for agricultural production and supplies of food and fiber
- Prepared reports related to price of good, farm labor, wages, weather, and other aspects of the farm industry
- Assisted in organizing and hosting pre-survey planning events and workshops for survey teams and enumerators

RELATED SKILLS

Statistical Data Analysis Tools:
Stata, R-Studio, GAMS

Microsoft Tools:
Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.

Survey Development Tools:
Qualtrics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Kansas State University

Instructor AGE 115 - Agriculture Economics Decision Tools (2 Credits)

2022

Course focused on teaching useful applications of tools found in Microsoft Excel to first- and second-year students in preparation for higher level agriculture economic courses. (24 students)

Kansas State University

Teaching Assistant - Principles of Agriculture Economics

2020

Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

Kansas State University

Teaching Assistant - Principles of Agribusiness Management

2018,19

Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERINCE

Prairie View A&M University Costa Rica Study Abroad

2018

Studied land resources economics, land use regulation, tourism as a source of revenue in agriculture, sustainable production practices, and international trade deals in Costa Rica

Prairie View A&M University Central Mexico Study Abroad **2017**
Studied the processing of meat and dairy products, sanitation practices and regulation, and analyzed trade agreements while evaluating international relations at institutes in Central Mexico

Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M Namibia Study Abroad **2016**
Studied cultural pluralism and impactful photojournalism techniques as they relate to agricultural production while traveling through five countries in Africa.

CONFERENCE PRECEEDINGS

Raymond Thomas & Tim Dalton, *“Analyzing the Adoption & Intensity of Carbon Farming Practices in the U.S.”* Poster Presentation, International Food & Agribusiness Management Conference, Earth University, Costa Rica, June 2022

Raymond Thomas, Matthew Myers, Aamanda Tian, Mykel Taylor, Jisang Yu, and Dustin Pendell *“Impact of Confined Animal Feeding Operations on Agricultural Land Values in Kansas”*, Westerns Agriculture Economics Association Conference, Santa Fe NM. June 2022

Zelia Wiley, Summer Santillana, **Raymond Thomas**, Lonnie Hobbs, Jr., and Andrew Barkley, *“Bridging Differences Through Understanding in the KSU College of Agriculture”*, Oral Presentation. 2022 Michael Tilford Conference. Washburn University. October 6-7, 2022.

Raymond Thomas, Zelia Wiley, and Lonnie Hobbs, Jr., *“The Effectiveness of Virtual VS Hybrid Graduate Recruitment Programs at an 1862 Institution”*, Poster Presentation. MANRRS 36th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference. Jacksonville, FL. March 23-26, 2022.

Zelia Z. Wiley, Andrew Barkley, Lonnie Hobbs, Jr., **Raymond Thomas**, and Summer Santillana, *“Assessment of Undergraduate Diversity Attitudes and Experiences during COVID-19 in the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University”*, Oral Presentation. 2021 Michael Tilford Conference. Lawrence, KS. October 17-18, 2021.

Raymond Thomas, Kara Ross, and Vincent Amanor-Boadu, *“Factors that Influence Market Participation for Smallholder Maize Farmers in Ghana”*, Poster Presentation. MANRRS 31th Annual Career Fair and Training Conference. Overland Park, KS. March 25-29, 2019.

REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

L. Hobbs, Jr., Z. Z. Wiley, **R. Thomas**, S. Santillana, and A. Barkley (2022) *“An Evaluation of Undergraduate Student Diversity Experience in the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University”* *Agriculture Teaching & Economic Research Journal*

L. Hobbs, Jr., Z. Z. Wiley, and R. Thomas (2021), Assessing the Success of the 2020 Kansas State Research and Extension Summer Research Program: A Virtual Research Experience. Professional Agricultural Workers Journal, 8(1), 5.

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

L. Hobbs, Jr., Z. Z. Wiley, and R. Thomas, "The Impact of Multicultural Student Belongingness at 1862 Institutions", Under Review

R. Thomas, Z. Z. Wiley, and L. Hobbs, Jr., "Diverse Tools for Success: Fostering Positive Experiences through Educational Diversity Forums", Under Review

R. Thomas, Z. Z. Wiley, and L. Hobbs, Jr., "Food and Agriculture Science Graduate Research Programs for Multicultural Undergraduate Students", Under Review

WORK IN PROGRESS

R. Thomas, M. Myers, A. Tian, M. Taylor, J. Yu, and D. Pendell "Impact of Confined Animal Feeding Operations on Agricultural Land Values in Kansas"

R. Thomas, K. Ross, and V. Amanor-Boadu, "Factors that Influence Market Participation for Smallholder Maize Farmers in Ghana"

L. Hobbs, Jr., Z. Z. Wiley, S. Santillana, R. Thomas, and A. Barkley. "Assessing Campus Climate for College of Agriculture Students at Kansas State University"

AWARDS

National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT)	2021-23
Nolan and Jean M. McKenzie Graduate Student Fellowship	2022
1st Place, PAWC Graduate Oral Competition	2021
American Royal Scholarship	2020
George Washington Carver Spirit of Innovation Award	2019
National MANRRS Conference Graduate Research Poster Contest 1st Place	2019
Cum Laude Honors	2018
USDA 1890 Land Grant University Honors Scholarship Recipient	2014 - 18
Farm Credit MANRRS VIP Scholarship	2017
Prairie View A&M University Houston Alumni Scholarship	2017,18
Gilman International Study Abroad Scholarship	2016
Prairie View A&M University Scholarly Male Award	2016
Dean's List	2014 - 17
Prairie View A&M University Agriculture Scholarship	2014
Eagle Scout - BSA Troop 56, Atascocita, TX	2012

ORGANIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Related Sciences (MANRRS)
Graduate Students of Agriculture Economics Association (GSAE)
Graduate Student Council (GSC)
Kansas State Center for Risk Management Education & Research Fellow (CMER)
National Science Foundation R3 NRT Scholar
KSU Black Faculty & Staff Alliance
Coordinator of Recruitment and Events Search Committee
SGA Intercultural Leadership Council
President’s Committee for Multicultural Student Affairs

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Diversity Advocate (GSC)	Present
Graduate Student Vice President (MANRRS)	Present
Co-Coordinator, KSRE Summer Research Fellowship Program	Present
Social Chair (Graduate Students in Agriculture Economics)	2022
Region 3 & 4 Graduate Student Vice President (MANRRS)	2019 -20
DPO Undergraduate Supervisor	2018 -21
Vice-President, PVAMU MANRRS Chapter	2017-18

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

National MANRRS Conference	2017 - 22
Region IV Cluster Meeting, MANRRS	2018 - 22
Northeastern Agriculture & Resource Economics Association Scholar	2022
Professional Agricultural Workers Conference	2020
NASDA Winter Policy Conference Diversity Summit Scholar	2020
Kansas State Research and Extension Fellow	2018
USDA Student Diversity Outreach Program Scholar	2018

GRANTS

KSU Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences Grant	2022
Environmental Defense Fund Soil Carbon Grant	2022