

2019

Exchange

Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics

2019 STUDY ABROAD

EXPLORING AGRICULTURE IN EUROPE

NEW FACULTY

DAVID LEHMAN

FEATHERSTONE

REAPPOINTED AS DEPARTMENT HEAD

2019 FACULTY AWARDS

Dr. Andrew Barkley
Dr. Jason Bergtold
Dr. Brian Coffey
Dr. Nathan Hendrick
Dr. Christine Wilson
Dr. Elizabeth Yeager



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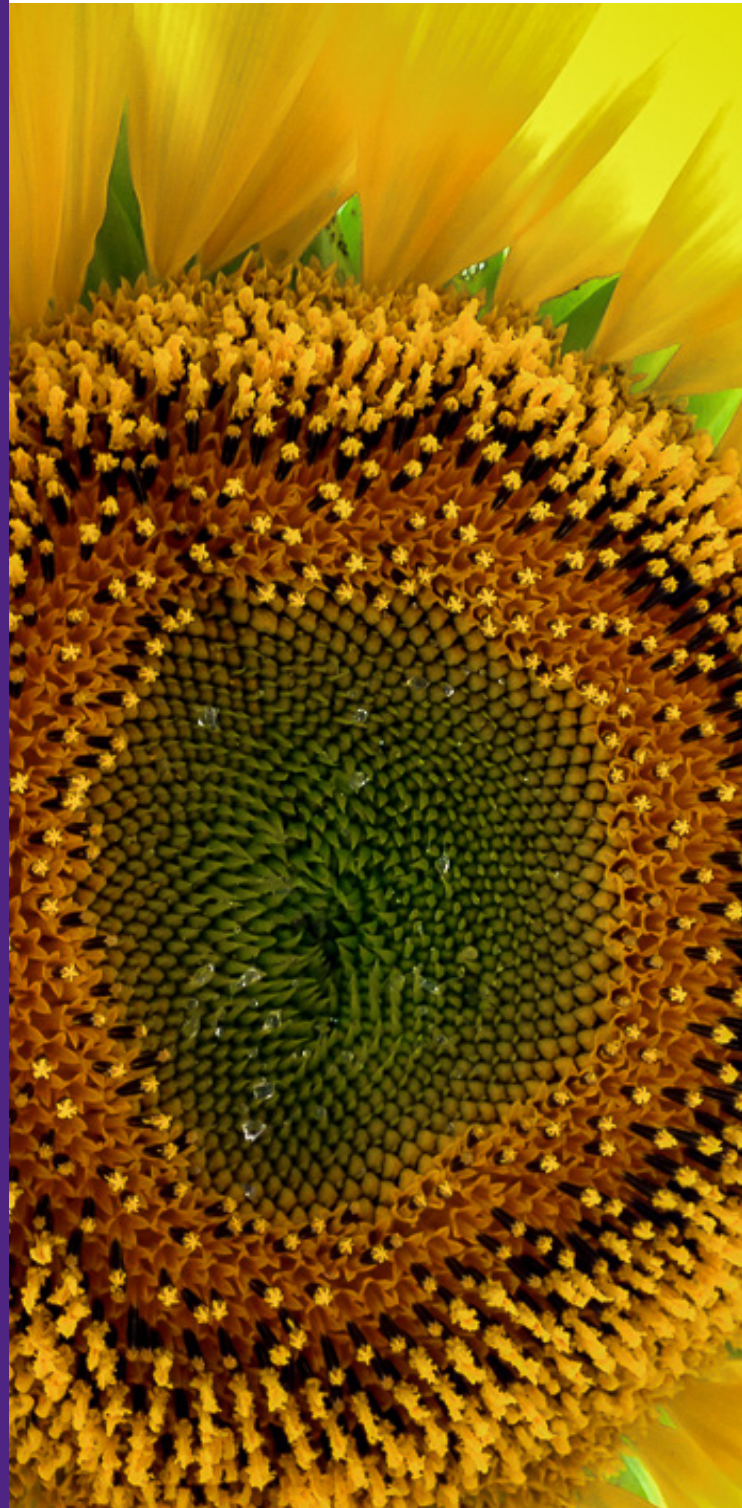
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From the Desk of Allen Featherstone



As the fall semester is upon us we wanted to highlight some of our achievements, activities and future opportunities in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

The ability of our faculty to compete for awards both nationally and internationally reflects the quality of faculty that we have been able to attract and retain. During the last year our faculty were awarded over \$3.5 million in grants and contracts that allows the department to support graduate students and faculty. While obtaining extramural funds is important, the research and the reporting of the discoveries that arise with the support of this funding to lay audiences as well as academic colleagues is vital.

Our focus in the Department of Agricultural Economics continues to be on providing unbiased expertise to guide and educate the food and agricultural sector in a dynamic global environment. We continue to innovate and provide insight into the tough questions facing the agricultural community.

In this edition of the Exchange, you'll see updates on our progress to build capacity within Uganda's Makerere University's agricultural economics program. We will share our Student Study Abroad trip to the Netherlands, and the continued successes of our faculty and students. We are pleased to introduce a new faculty member, David Lehman, who will be enhancing our interaction with industry in agricultural sales. We are excited to announce one of our students, Clara Wicoff, was chosen as a 2019 Harry S. Truman Scholar. Manzamasso Hodjo, one of our Ph.D. candidates, has taken on a new leadership role at the University level. Madhav Regmi, one of our Ph.D. graduates, received the outstanding graduate student teaching award in the College of Agriculture. Dr. David Barton received recognition for his career of service to the Cooperative community. The Master of Agribusiness program introduced a new Animal Health Certificate designed for professionals wanting to add value to their organization. We also look forward to some of our fall activities like the Department of Agricultural Economics Scholarship Banquet and the Alumni Tailgate Party.

Please take time to learn more about the activities of our department. We also encourage you to share your career and family developments so we can keep your fellow alumni informed. Please e-mail me afeather@ksu.edu or Thomas Reust, our communications coordinator, at tomreust@ksu.edu with information you would like to share with the department.

GO CATS!

Dr. Allen Featherstone
Department Head, Professor, Master of Agribusiness Program Director

Dr. Wilson - Three Awards for Outstanding Teaching



Dr. Christine Wilson received the Kansas State University 2019 Presidential Award for her excellence in teaching, advising and administration of the Department of Agricultural Economics Undergraduate program on May 7, 2019. The award is the highest achievement given to faculty by the university. This year, Dr. Wilson also received the 2019 David Mugler Outstanding Teaching Award from the College of Agriculture, and the Agricultural

and Applied Economics Association Distinguished Teaching Award - More Than 10 Years Experience.

Wilson teaches four undergraduate courses every year for the department, and strives to provide the best learning experience for her students. She serves as the director of the undergraduate

student program for the Department of Agricultural Economics and is an advisor for nearly 40 students within the department.

Wilson says she was inspired to teach agricultural economics through her experiences with previous faculty members within the department. She believes their support and instruction helped her achieve her goal of conducting research and teaching agricultural economics as a career. Wilson says she especially enjoys when students are engaged with her classes and subject matter, and teaching gives her the ability to share her passion for agricultural economics.

“When I teach a class and we’re talking about a new concept, I love when the students’ eyes light up when they really understand it and how it can be applied to real world issues,” Wilson said.

Wilson’s advice to other professors stems from her experiences in academia. She urges faculty members to be organized, and prepared for the classroom. She notes that successful faculty members are fully engaged with their students, and passionate about the subject matter they teach.

Dr. Beth Yeager - Undergraduate Outstanding Teaching



Dr. Elizabeth Yeager received the 2019 Commerce Bank and W.T. Kemper Foundation Undergraduate Outstanding Teaching award on May 7, 2019. The award recognizes faculty who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to educate and provide the best experiences for students at the university. Yeager teaches Farm and Ranch Management, Commodity Futures, Introduction to Computer Decision Tools for Agribusiness, and Optimization Techniques for Agricultural

Economics for the Department of Agricultural Economics.

Yeager says she has always wanted to teach, and teaching at a university level allows her to take her research results directly to her students in the classroom. In particular, teaching agricultural

economics allows her students to use their skills acquired in her classroom immediately into their professional careers. In fact, Yeager brings in industry speakers to highlight key concepts and issues seen in the current global marketplace.

“I hope the students see the value of some of the less popular concepts such as keeping detailed records of their farm operation after they take my course,” says Yeager.

In addition to teaching, she advises over 30 students. This allows her to get to know each student, and work with them individually to help with their plans to achieve their career goals.

“I have advisees who feel comfortable coming in and telling me about their day, and it allows me to be their advocate on campus,” says Yeager.

Shawn Drew, CEO of Commerce Bank says, “The partnership with the W.T. Kemper Foundation began over 20 years ago and continues as a wonderful way to recognize teaching excellence. Our heartfelt thanks and congratulations go out to this year’s recipients.”

Graduate Student Internship



Gabriel Blair, M.S. student, was a Commodity Analyst for INTL-FCSTONE. “Doing an internship during Graduate School can be an eye-opening experience. I followed in depth how the Cocoa and Coffee trading division works. Working with incredible people and in a highly dynamic environment, I can see that K-State Ag Econ prepares its students to face the industry’s challenge and be competitive in the job market,” said Blair.

Dr. Jason Bergtold - Excellence in Graduate Teaching



Dr. Jason Bergtold received the College of Agriculture Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award. The award recognizes faculty members for their excellence in graduate teaching performance, advising and mentoring. The award specifically recognizes those who teach at least one 700 level or higher course during the school year.

Bergtold enjoys teaching graduate students as they are able to tackle some of the more in-depth concepts involved in the agricultural industry. He teaches optimization techniques, advanced econometrics at the Ph.D. level, and a field level course in discrete choice modeling along with three other undergraduate courses.

Bergtold's graduate students dig into the nuts and bolts of complex logistic and marketplace systems by applying advanced economic mathematical models to help expand their knowledge of how these complex functions work. Bergtold is an expert in the field of econometrics and says he enjoys teaching and researching in the field of applied agricultural economics.

"We're able to have a real impact on how these systems work, and give our students efficacy in being able to describe and analyze the functions we find in today's global marketplace."

Makerere University Grant Project in Uganda

The Department of Agricultural Economics is working with Makerere University, Uganda to support their efforts to build the capacity of the Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics (DANRE) with a 2-million-dollar grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development (BHEARD) program received six applications for the grant. The KSU Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas Tech University, and Purdue University made it to the next round of evaluations, and the KSU Department of Agricultural Economics was the final selection. The grant allows the Department of Agricultural Economics and DANRE to work together to build a new paradigm for their operations.

The program has four objectives:

1. Help DANRE with overall strategic planning, and a road map for the future of the program.
2. Begin to move DANRE away from their current style of Ph.D. programs focusing purely on research, and into the U.S. style of graduate level educational programs involving coursework alongside research.
3. Support DANRE's mission to deliver policy relevant research to support quality of life improvement programs for Uganda by Ugandans.
4. Integrate the DANRE program into the international academic arena.

The changes created by the program were daunting in their size and scope. They include a curriculum overhaul within Makerere University's graduate program, increased use of secondary

sources data in research to bolster a longer term perspective within their research, and increased focus on the needs of local and national policy makers. However, leaders from both departments have seen substantial benefits from the structural changes implemented by DANRE.

Agricultural Economics Department Head, Dr. Allen Featherstone, says as the USAID program nears the final year of its mission, DANRE research initiatives have already made a positive impact in Uganda, "We have seen success within DANRE's program with policy makers enabling them to make decisions supported by unbiased research from the department."

Featherstone believes these successes have helped speed the process of adoption of practices developed by DANRE and their KSU Department of Agricultural Economics partners, "The first few years were challenging, but now measurable accomplishments are providing a good foundation for the way forward."

As the USAID grant is ending, Featherstone says the key will be to sustain those improvements and with the Agricultural Economics department supporting DANRE faculty and staff in the years ahead. Three Ph.D. candidates from Agricultural Economics are heading back to Makerere soon to enhance the networks and support structures being built between the two universities. Florence Lwiza, Ph.D. candidate, is expected to graduate in 2020, Asha Nalunga, Ph.D. candidate, is expected to graduate in 2021, and Paul Aseete, Ph.D. candidate, is also expected to graduate in 2021.

"They're the future of our work," says Featherstone. "What they bring back to Makerere will provide invaluable insight and help ensure continuation of DANRE's success."

Dr. Nathan Hendricks - WAEA



Dr. Nathan Hendricks received the 2019 Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA) Outstanding Published Research Award. Hendricks was given the award for his paper entitled “Potential Benefits from Innovations to Reduce Heat and Water Stress in Agriculture”.

His research estimated the impacts of heat and water stress on rental rates for nonirrigated cropland in the Midwest. Hendricks used an

econometric model to simulate the estimated economic impacts of climate change by 2050. He hopes policymakers will be able to use the results of the article to inform their decision making to mitigate damages from climate change. For example, Hendricks’ research shows the impact of innovations targeting heat stress might yield more results than those that target water stress in midwestern crops.

WAEA recognizes excellence in the profession by presenting annual awards. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding research. The evaluation criteria: (1) importance of the problem or subject, (2) quality of work, (3) significance of the results, and (4) effectiveness of reporting.

Dr. Brian Coffey and Dr. Andrew Barkley - NACTA



Dr. Brian Coffey and Dr. Andrew Barkley received the 2019 Jack Everly Journal Award from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA). This is one of two annual journal awards from NACTA, and is given for articles published in the peer-reviewed NACTA Journal. It is chosen from all the NACTA Journal articles in a given year.

“Evaluation of Teaching in Departments of Agricultural Economics” by Brian Coffey and Andy Barkley, was published in the March 2018 issue of the NACTA Journal. “We did the research for this article a couple of years ago. The goal was to survey departments of agricultural economics at land grant universities to see how they evaluate teaching and teaching activities in terms of tenure and promotion,” said Coffey.



Kansas Farm Management Data

Throughout the years, the Kansas Farm Management Data program has provided researchers with information that is vital to research in the agricultural industry. The Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA) began in 1931 and have been important Departmental partners since inception. The partnership provides farm records from across the state that provides the Department “real world” data to provide evidenced based research and outreach.

The research generated from the data has been used in multiple testimonies to policymakers in the House and Senate both at the state and national levels. In recent years, research from this data has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Economist magazine as well as industry publications.

“KFMA data is pivotal in providing the basis for unbiased and actionable research for policymakers and producers. The information provides a competitive advantage for the

Department,” says Agricultural Economics Department Head Dr. Allen Featherstone.

Currently, roughly 2,000 Kansas producers are members of the KFMA. Since 1984, 120 articles have been published using information provided by the KFMA. Fourteen of the articles have been published in the leading Agricultural Economics Journal, the American Journal of Agricultural Economics. In addition, KFMA has provided information that has led to publications in some of the top economics journals such as the Journal of Econometrics, the Review of Economics and Statistics, and Land Economics. As a measure of the importance of the research using information from the KFMA, the average citations per article is greater than 35 according to Google Scholar with 79 articles having more than 10 citations. The KFMA data allows research results to directly flow into extension programming to ensure producers are given the information necessary to flourish in today’s marketplace.

New Teaching Faculty David Lehman



David Lehman teaches courses in Agricultural Sales and Food and Agribusiness Marketing. He is the advisor for NAMA. He has taught at K-State for 14 years, including previous roles as an instructor in the Department of Marketing and Associate Director of the National Strategic Selling Institutes.

His areas of specialization include agricultural sales, professional selling, new product marketing and agricultural marketing. He received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from K-State in 1989. Lehman's previous work experience includes UMB Bank as a commercial lending and business development officer, 13 years of teaching in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri and the Dow Chemical Company where he started his career in sales.

MAB New Animal Health Management Certificate

Employers in the animal health industry say they need employees with more technical skills in agribusiness, management, policy and regulation to keep pace with the increasing complexity of the global animal health industry. In response, Kansas State University is offering a new graduate certificate for animal health professionals that is tailored to enhance these technical skills.

The animal health management graduate certificate is a 20-credit hour program that provides courses and experiences to equip professionals in the animal health industry with knowledge and skills to make better economic decisions for their companies and its practices. Graduates gain management and economic tools specifically for food and companion animals that enable them to lead and manage organizations in the animal health sector more efficiently.

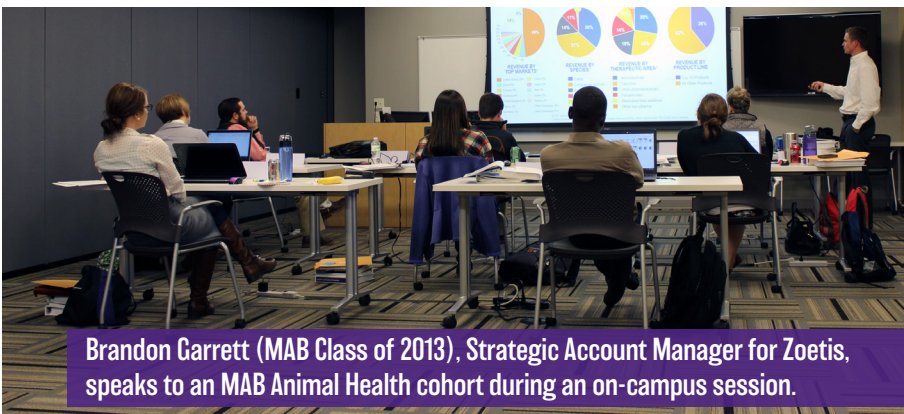
“This online, business-focused graduate certificate will allow professionals in the animal health and companion animal health industry to learn business, economic and management skills they can immediately apply to their companies and practices,” said Allen Featherstone, Professor, Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Director of the Master of Agribusiness program. “With courses taught by faculty and senior experts in the industry, and classmates working in all

sectors of animal health, students will benefit from real-life experiences shared in class.”

The curriculum addresses the redefinition of animal health, the pharmaceutical impact in food supplies, the breadth of species included in animal health, veterinary epidemics, consolidation of companies, increasing regulation, “downstream consumer” influence, workforce diversification and competition for resources in human and animal markets, among other topics.

The animal health management certificate is part of the Master of Agribusiness program, or MAB. The award-winning online program provides business and management skills to professionals in the animal health, food and agriculture sectors. Courses cover finance, economics, risk management, marketing, strategy, policy and other topics, with each course geared toward application to the animal health and agribusiness industries for maximum applicability.

The certificate can be earned as a stand-alone credential or be used as a direct path to the full MAB degree. Classes for the certificate are offered online and face-to-face at the Manhattan and Olathe campuses. More about the certificate, including enrollment options, is at mab.k-state.edu/ahcertificate.html.



Brandon Garrett (MAB Class of 2013), Strategic Account Manager for Zoetis, speaks to an MAB Animal Health cohort during an on-campus session.

The advantages of the MAB program for students and their employers are numerous:

- Employee Development: Investment in high potential employees translates into retention, company growth and development
- Company Return: Student projects are designed to have direct application to their work, allowing their companies to benefit from faculty insight and experience
- Innovation and Delivery: Course materials accessible anytime, anywhere



Study Abroad NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM

Dr. Andrew Barkley and his wife Mary Ellen Barkley have led study abroad tours to Brazil (2011), South Africa (2012), China (2014), and India in (2018). In May of 2019 they went on their latest excursion spanning the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. They work with a travel company experienced in study tours related to agriculture, and have hosted as many as 30 participants all over the globe.

One of the students that went on the most recent journey was Sara Gammon, from Drexel, MO, a sophomore in agricultural economics. Sara blogged much of her journey. Although she has traveled extensively, she says she values each new experience to journey abroad.

“I enjoyed visiting the Netherlands, and companies like Barendse-DC. They have 30 hectares of greenhouses and specialize in growing orange bell peppers. They produce over 30,000 kilos of peppers a day and 95% are exported to Europe, the United States, and Japan,” says Gammon.

Barkley says his criteria for picking tour destinations is based on what is most important for agriculture and agribusiness in Kansas and the U.S. He says they usually focus on the “BRIC” nations (Brazil, Russia, India and China), but a recent article in National Geographic about the Netherlands opened up the

possibility that the students could learn about some amazing advances in food production, processing and distribution taking place in the Netherlands.

According to the article, the Netherlands is the second largest global exporter of food by dollar value after the United States. They do it with the help of technology and huge greenhouse complexes that blanket the countryside. Inside the climate controlled buildings they produce copious amounts of potatoes and onions, and more than a third of all vegetable seeds come from the tiny country.

Dr. Barkley says while the visits to agricultural industries is important, the opportunities to meet others passionate about agriculture from different places is invaluable. He says they learn about new customs, cultures and in doing so find a deeper understanding of themselves. Barkley believes that taking students out of their comfort zones enriches their lives and gives them new perspectives they would otherwise miss by staying home.

This study abroad trip included stops at the Clara Maria Clog and Cheese Farm. Learning that Gouda Cheese originates in the Netherlands, they tasted many flavors: sweet rosemary, whiskey, Italian, natural, garlic and chives, taco, hot chili and mustard flavors.



UM AND LUXEMBOURG

They visited Levoplant, one of the country’s largest orchid producers, growing more than 5.5 million plants every year. They learned about Dutch horticulture at Tomato World and saw the innovation and technology that they use in striving to be a solution to the world food challenge.

Next on their agenda were stops at the Dutch Water Authority and to Maeslant Storm Surge Barrier, the largest port in Europe; the U.S. Embassy; the Anne Frank House Museum; Van Beek Veal Farm and Wageningen University and Research. Other stops included a chocolate factory, potato farm, the largest greenhouse area in the world, a wind farm, a dairy farm, and canals in Amsterdam.

“Study abroad tours provide an experiential component that allows students to understand the global dimensions of the food and agriculture industry. Whether the country is a direct competitor to the Kansas producer or an important producer of agricultural products not produced in Kansas, students quickly understand that as they progress through their careers, production across the globe will affect the profitability and sustainability of their businesses” says Allen Featherstone, Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics.



Top left to right and down: Study abroad group visiting Barendse-DC company greenhouses, De Vlottenburg dairy farm, rows of orchids from the Levoplant Orchid farm, a rack of Gouda cheese from the Clara Maria Clog and Cheese Farm, a potato sack race at Leven van de Wind farm.

Clara Wicoff Awarded the Harry S. Truman Scholarship



Senator Pat Roberts and Clara Wicoff

While most students were relaxing on spring break, Clara Wicoff was busy interviewing for her next step in becoming Kansas State University's newest Harry S. Truman Scholar. Wicoff is a junior in Agricultural Economics, from Iola, Kansas. Wicoff said she was told that she had been selected with a phone call from Kansas State University President Richard Myers. "I was nervous at first, and didn't really know what the call was about," says Wicoff. "

Wicoff plans to pursue a masters degree in public policy and work directly with policymakers to enhance their ability to confront the problem of domestic hunger. She was mentored by one of those policymakers, Department of Agricultural Economics Alumna, and former Kansas Department of Agriculture Secretary Jackie McClaskey.

"McClaskey helped me round out my presentation for the scholarship application by talking about my interests and how to translate that into what is really important to me," says Wicoff. "She also helped me see how to make my passion my career."

"It comes as no surprise that Clara has received this prestigious scholarship, making her the University's 35th Truman Scholar," Kansas State University President Richard Myers said. "Clara has an excellent record of leadership, public service and academic achievement to complement her passion for promoting food security. As an exemplary K-State student and undergraduate researcher, she is helping the university live up to its mission to improve quality of life for all people."

"I'm looking into fighting domestic hunger issues, and especially in regard to children," says Wicoff.

Wicoff is a member of the University's Honor and Integrity Council, the Center for Risk Management Education and Research Student Fellows, and Blue Key Senior Honorary. In addition, she is a Legislative Fellow for the Kansas Grain and Feed Association, a member of the Cargill Fellows Program and a student worker for the Kansas Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Lodging Program. She also serves on the Riley County and City of Manhattan Food and Farm Council. She is the events coordinator for the College of Agriculture Ambassadors and previously served as the alumnae relations director for her sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta. In summer 2018, she served as a committee intern for the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. She also served as state vice president for Kansas FFA from 2016-2017.

*"The University's
35th Truman Scholar"*

In addition to the Truman scholarship, Wicoff has received a Kansas State University Presidential Scholarship and a Kansas State University Kassebaum Scholarship and is a National Merit Scholar. She is a 2016 graduate of Iola High School and the daughter of Joel and Lisa Wicoff.

Wicoff joins a legacy of past Harry S. Truman scholars from the Department of Agricultural Economics. Those include Tim Riemann, who was awarded the scholarship in 1998, and Leslie Turner, who was awarded the scholarship in 2002.

Madhav Regmi - Graduate Student Teaching Award



The 2019 Richard Elmore Brown Outstanding College of Agriculture Graduate Student Teaching Award went to Agricultural Economics Ph.D. candidate Madhav Regmi. The award is highly competitive and requires a rigorous vetting process.

Regmi says he's honored to receive the award, "I'm very grateful to my students, the Department of Agricultural Economics, and my

peers for their support."

Regmi's teaching method is student centered and focused on engaging the students with the topic material to gain the best teaching result.

"I believe the passion for the topic builds a bridge between the student and the teacher," says Regmi. "It is an incredible experience and I'm so grateful and honored to have been given the opportunity to teach a new generation of students about agricultural economics."

Dr. David Barton - Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame

Dr. David Barton was inducted into the Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame by the Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC) on March 20, 2019. At the banquet, David Barton, Professor Emeritus of the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics and Director Emeritus of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, was celebrated for the accomplishments in his career as an educator, consultant and cooperative executive. Dr. Barton made cooperatives more profitable and leaders more effective through his research projects and educational programs over the years.

Dave Christiansen, CEO of Mid-Kansas Cooperative (MKC) in Moundridge, Kansas, spoke to David's contributions, "I can think of no other individual who has touched and impacted more cooperatives in Kansas. For decades, he has been the go-to-guy for board of directors to turn to when seeking counsel. In addition to Kansas Cooperatives, Dr. Barton has worked with cooperatives across the nation to strengthen the cooperative system."

David Barton was born in Utah to a farming/ranching family. He had his own membership in a local co-op through buying feed for his show animals and was active in 4-H and FFA. David went to Utah State and discovered his passion in studying Agricultural Economics. He obtained his masters and doctorate degrees at Purdue University and in 1973, David started his career at Cornell University. In 1976, he joined the faculty at Kansas State University and started making his mark in Extension with management training and research. In the early 80s, the KCC approached KSU's Department of Agricultural Economics with a plan to enhance co-op education and research. A public-private partnership, the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center (ACCC), was established in June 1984 and David Barton served as the

reputation for high quality programming and top-notch cooperative research, especially in the areas of cooperative finance and governance. He built a team with Dr. Michael Boland, who at the time was a fellow professor in the department, to support the mission of the ACCC and further enhance cooperative education research and outreach. Agricultural Economics Department Head, Dr.



Allen Featherstone, reflected on David's impact on extension, "His legacy is the founding of the ACCC and that legacy will last into the future. David was excellent at developing a curriculum for his extension program and that's a value we're working to instill in other faculty in the department."

Over the years, Dr. Barton educated and advised thousands of cooperative leaders, including boards of directors, management teams and executives, on finance, strategy, governance and leadership issues. He wrote many articles, book chapters and papers, conducted numerous financial planning projects and made presentations all over the world on cooperative issues. He established local and national cooperative education programs that continue to be impactful to the cooperative community. David remains involved with cooperatives, currently serving as the CFO of ACES (Agricultural Cooperative Employment Services). Carl Dickinson, CEO of Central Valley Ag Cooperative (CVA) summed up David's impact, "He has been a leader and more than anything, he taught us about the business of agriculture."

David served in leadership positions for many years on a number of boards and committees in industry organizations, including the KCC and the American Institute of Cooperation. When he retired, cooperative leaders from around the nation donated to establish a David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship. John McClelland, retired CEO of the Garden City Cooperative in Garden City, Kansas, summed up David's leadership, "Dr. Barton has been a leader in the cooperative movement in Kansas, the U.S. and globally. He not only understands cooperatives but can explain them in a compelling way to students both in the classroom and in industry. He has an applied knowledge to balance out his theoretical understanding that makes him a trusted advisor. He created environments where we (me and other managers) could learn from each other and network under his guidance. It would be impossible to measure his economic effect on Kansas cooperatives and their farmer members."

A video tribute was created by the KCC for Dr. Barton's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, available at <https://acc.k-state.edu/about/ACCCHistory.html>. The Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame exhibit is on permanent display at the Kansas State Fair.



Founding members of the ACCC, Standing: Galen Rapp, Byron Carpenter, Jim Dooley, Bob Broeckelman, Harley Foulks, Dr. David Barton, Darwin Francis, Fritz Gwin, Dr. John Riley, Dr. Richard Phillips Sitting: Dr. Milton Manuel, Dr. John Dunbar, Nancy Kantola, Paul "Pete" Anderson

inaugural director of the center until his retirement. The center has an advisory board comprised of cooperative and university leaders who help guide and support the director. The mission of the ACCC "is to support educational programs that enhance the understanding of the nature and role of cooperatives in our society." David took that mission very seriously and through his research, financial planning projects and cooperative education programs established a local, national and international

Leadership: President of Graduate School Council



Agricultural Economics Ph.D. candidate, Manzanasso Hodjo, is serving as the president of the Kansas State University Graduate Student Council. As part of his service as president, Hodjo recently spoke at the 2019 spring graduate student commencement. Hodjo delivered a speech highlighting the opportunities available to the graduating class.

“It is an honor to be a part of the ceremony and recognize all of your hard work leading to this day,” said Hodjo. “Without your active involvement and service, we wouldn’t have made such an impact on the quality of life for graduate students here at the University.”

Hodjo says he appreciates the time and effort it takes to stand up into those roles, and balance academic duties as well, but it is well worth it.

“I have always felt leadership is about service, and a chance to make a difference,” said Hodjo.

Hodjo says he is also grateful that his peer, Agricultural Economics Ph.D. student Hannah Shear, is preparing to step into the role of president in the upcoming term.

Hodjo received his M.A. in Agricultural Engineering at Lome University, Togo, in 2008. He received a Msc in International Development at Hankuk University for Foreign Students, South Korea, in 2012. Hodjo went on to get a M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics at New Mexico State University in 2016. He is currently working on his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics with research focusing on spatial production analysis, and new technologies adoption impact analysis.

Graduate Student Internships and Employment



Raymond Thomas, M.S. student, interned with Winfield United Division of Land O’Lakes. His major responsibilities were identifying the top 50 products in each of their product segments, running price analysis, and establishing new prices based on his findings. Their primary product segments include aquatics, golf, lawn care, ornamental, and pest control and range from fertilizers and plant nutrients to traps and pesticides. He was also tasked with collecting bidding information from regional managers to help them bid more efficiently. Raymond feels his class skills have been extremely helpful as the primary way he analyzed price was through regression analysis.



Whitney Bowman, M.S. student was an intern, with the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Whitney assisted Committee staff with covering issues surrounding agriculture, nutrition, and forestry. She spent time covering briefings and hearings, and doing research and analysis on issues as they came before the Committee. She relied on her analytical skills and Extension experience she gained during her Agricultural Economics Master’s program at Kansas State. “I’ve gained a new understanding of the interrelation of American agriculture, and I’m anxious to finish my thesis this fall,” said Whitney.

Employment accepted by Graduate Students

Ajewole, Kayode. Ph.D. Research Agricultural Economist, USDA-Economic Research Services
Armah, Ralph. Ph.D. Instructor, Accra, Ghana
Carls, Emily. M.S. Illinois Farm Business Farm Management Association
Chen, Bowen. Ph.D. Postdoctoral Scholar, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign
Clymer, Amanda. M.S. Farm Credit Services of America, Omaha, NE
Cullop, Jared. M.S. Farm Loan Officer, USDA FSA, Emporia, KS
Dennis, Elliott. Ph.D. Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Masi Godoy, Pedro. M.S. Financial Analyst, Ag Econ Department, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
Minnix, Luke. M.S. Minnix Farms, Scott City, KS
Myers, Matthew. M.S. Loan Officer, Banner Capital Bank, Beaver City, NE
Nakelse, Tebila. Ph.D. Policy Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations, Rome, Italy
Obembe, Oladipo. Ph.D. Post Doc, South Dakota State University, SD
Pitts, Allison. M.S. N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Regmi, Madhav. Ph.D. Assistant Professor, New Mexico State University
Simmons, Vivian. M.S. Student, PricewaterhouseCoopers, IL
Tyree, Trevor. M.S. Product Specialist at Tyree Ag, Inc., Kinsley, KS

Dr. Allen Featherstone Reappointed



Dr. Allen Featherstone was recently reappointed Department Head for the Department of Agricultural Economics in the spring of 2019.

The Department of Agricultural Economics mission includes Teaching, Research and Extension. Featherstone sees serving in the office as an honor. He believes one of the greatest challenges and opportunities, is the recruitment and retention of the best economic researchers and faculty.

“We currently employ many talented researchers and educators in the department,” says Featherstone. “I think our focus should be on continuing that trend, and finding new ways to recruit the best and the brightest to our program. It is their research that is tackling the real world issues seen in the agricultural industry today.”

Featherstone believes alumni and friends of the program will benefit from seeing the department continue to perform at the highest levels. “Many of our alumni are invested in providing scholarships and funding to the department,” says Featherstone. “With restricted budgets coming from the state, it becomes even more important to engage with our alumni and friends to cultivate the lasting legacy of excellence in the program.”

Featherstone was appointed at Kansas State in 1986. As a leading agriculture finance scholar, he has studied land markets, investment decisions, mergers in the financial services industry, the probability of agricultural loan default and loan loss severity, the influence of taxes on farmland, and alternative federal tax systems. His production economics research has investigated issues such as ground water allocation in irrigated crop production, comparison of returns under alternative tillage systems, the costs of risk, interactions of weather soils, and management on corn yields, analysis of the returns to farm equity and assets, and analysis of the optimizing behavior of Kansas farmers, examining the stability of estimates using duality, and examining the application of a new functional form for estimating production relationships.

Kendal Frazier Ag Econ Distinguished Alumnus



The Department of Agricultural Economics is pleased to announced the 2019 Distinguished Alumnus, Kendal Frazier, Chief Executive Officer for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA).

Frazier has been a part of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association for over 34 years. During that time Frazier lead initiatives to curb declines in demand for beef in the mid 90s, and led efforts to institute policies to protect the beef industry. Frazier also was instrumental in coordinating the beef industry response to cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

Frazier previously served as Chief Operating Officer, for NCBA. Prior to working at NCBA, Kendal was the Vice President of Communications for the former National Cattlemen’s Association (NCA).

Frazier was raised on a diversified livestock and grain operation in southern Kansas and has extensive professional experience in agriculture and in the beef industry. His background includes work as a radio and television farm broadcaster at WIBW Radio/TV in Topeka, Kansas. Before joining NCA, he served as Communications Director for the Kansas Livestock Association. He has extensive experience in agricultural communications.

Recently, the National Agri-Marketing Association named Frazier as it’s inaugural Ag Association Leader of the year.

Kendal believes the beef industry remains very strong at this time with record supplies of beef being produced. He also notes the NCBA has positioned itself well in national policy matters through strong representation in Washington, D.C.

He is a graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Economics. Kendal and his wife, Cindy, live in Centennial, Colorado. Frazier was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus title at the 2019 Annual Department of Agricultural Economics Scholarship Banquet.

2019 AAEA Award Winners

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association presents awards



Dr. Brian Briggeman received the Distinguished Extension Program: Group Award for his project: “Impact of Tax Reform Legislation on Agricultural Cooperatives.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed working with my colleagues on important tax issues for cooperatives. Being recognized by AAEA for our work is truly an honor.” - Dr. Brian Briggeman



Dr. Glynn Tonsor was awarded the 2019 Distinguished Extension/ Outreach Program Award with more than 10 Years Experience.

“It has been my goal to build an integrated Extension and Research program focused on contemporary meat and livestock economic topics with an eye towards truly helping stakeholders throughout Kansas, the country, and world. This award encourages me to sustain this effort.” - Dr. Glynn Tonsor



Dr. Christine Wilson received the 2019 Distinguished Teaching with Ten or More Years of Experience Award.

“It is a distinct honor to be recognized by my colleagues with the pinnacle teaching award in our profession.”
- Dr. Christine Wilson



Hanna Ruder Coffman received the AAEA 2019 Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award for “Impact of Khat Production on Household Welfare in Amhara Region of Ethiopia” paper. Dr. Ben Schwab served as her Committee Chair.



Hannah Shear
Ph.D. Student
1st Place Extension
Award

“Implementation and Economic Impacts of a Traceability Program on Beef Industry Stakeholders”



Whitney Bowman
M.S. Student
2nd place Extension
Award

“Beef Up Profitability: Where to Focus Management for Success”



The 2019 AAEA Case Study competition winning team. Kaitlyn Dinges, Chelsea Arnold, and Christina Stander rose above ten other Universities to take home 1st place at the annual AAEA meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Aleksan Shanoyan and Dr. Brian Briggeman served as advisors for the team.

Agricultural Commodity Futures Conference



The 2nd Annual Agricultural Commodity Futures Conference was held in Overland Park, KS in April 2019. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the Center for Risk Management Education and Research (CRMER) sponsored the event which explored a range of current questions and topics facing the agricultural futures markets. The conference hosted around 300 attendees.

The conference included presentations and discussions from leading academic researchers, as well as distinguished voices from the private and governmental sectors. Panels and participants explored a range of current questions and topics facing the agricultural futures markets.

Program highlights included a keynote speech from Ambassador Gregg Doud, Chief Agricultural Negotiator, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. CFTC Commissioners Brian D. Quintenz, Rostin Behnam, Dawn D. Stump, and Dan M. Berkovitz presented a roundtable discussion.

The conference also heard from the former Chairman of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Christopher Giancarlo. He spoke to attendees about the importance of innovation in agricultural markets. Giancarlo told attendees that market tools, such as the Options program developed by Kalo Hinemen, were created to help stabilize producer income during the periodic up and down trends in the commodity exchanges.



He believes that going forward researchers and producers should follow in Hinemen's footsteps and keep finding new ways to help support the agricultural market place, and

the opportunities that lie within technological advances coming

in the near future. Giancarlo stated that the new Chairman of the CFTC, Heath Talbert, would be focused on continuing the mission of supporting agriculture.

This year's panels included:

Getting Your Fill: Futures Trading Matching Algorithms – Alternatives, How They Function, and Effect on Market Performance, moderated by Dr. Art Barnaby, Professor Emeritus from the Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Back to Basis: Grain and Oilseed Futures Convergence – Storage-Rate Structure, Delivery Methods, and Delivery Accessibility, Moderated by Michael V. Dunn, Senior Policy Advisor, Steptoe and Johnson LLP and former Acting Chairman and commissioner, CFTC. Based on research from Dr. Mykel Taylor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Known Unknowns: Futures Markets' Responses to Scheduled Market Reports – Release Timing, Access, Time-outs, and Market Reactions, moderated by Jim Newsome, President, Commodity Markets Council

Unknown Unknowns: Futures Markets' Responses to Significant News Events, moderated by Bob Petersen, Executive Director, Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City

Hot Topics: Risk Management Across the Dairy, Pork, and Energy Sectors, moderated by Mel Gunewardena, Chief Market Intelligence Officer, CFTC

The conference was a marked success according to the Center Director of CRMER, Dr. Ted Schroeder, "We are pleased with the continued partnership with CFTC as we look at the need to effectively manage risk in commodity markets."

During the two-day conference, several speakers from government, academic research and business sectors offered presentations and discussions.



Ag Econ Department Awards \$206,560 in Scholarships

The 2019 Alumni and Scholarship Banquet will be held October 4th at the Alumni Center at 5:30pm. More than 110 Scholarships totaling \$206,560 will be given this year from the department's donors. The students receiving these awards are among the best, brightest and hard working students and they are worthy of this recognition. The College of Agriculture also awarded another \$134,600 in scholarships to Agricultural Economics students.

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1961

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1923

The first Agricultural Economics M.S. degree was offered

1918

Became the Department of Agricultural Economics



1912

Founded as the Department of Farm Management

1863

The State Agriculture College was established

Agricultural Economics majors prepare to work in fields like agricultural marketing, farm management, agricultural finance, and natural resource use and management. Of the 36,967 members of the U.S. labor force with this degree, fewer than 300 are unemployed. Unlike some other agriculture workers, agricultural economics majors have a relatively high average salary of \$71,634 a year.



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